

Sept. 4, 1928.

R. A. DAMBACH
ADJUSTABLE MANTEL SHELF

1,683,168

Filed Jan. 29, 1926

Fig. 1.

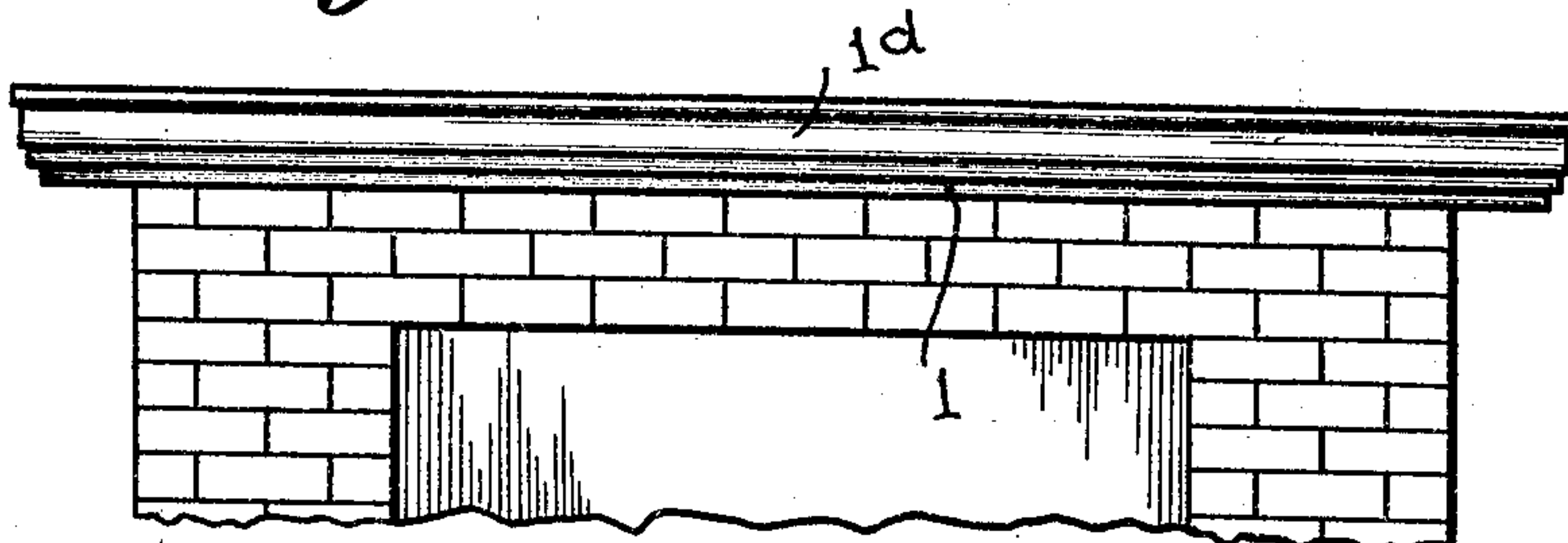


Fig. 2.

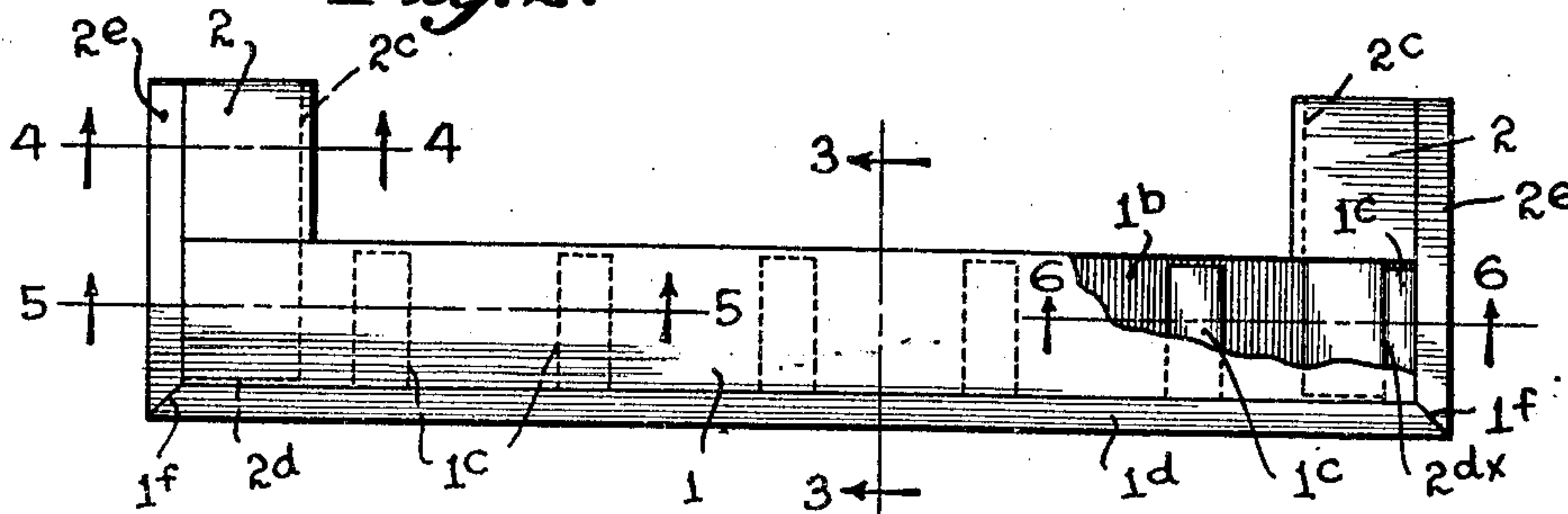


Fig. 3.

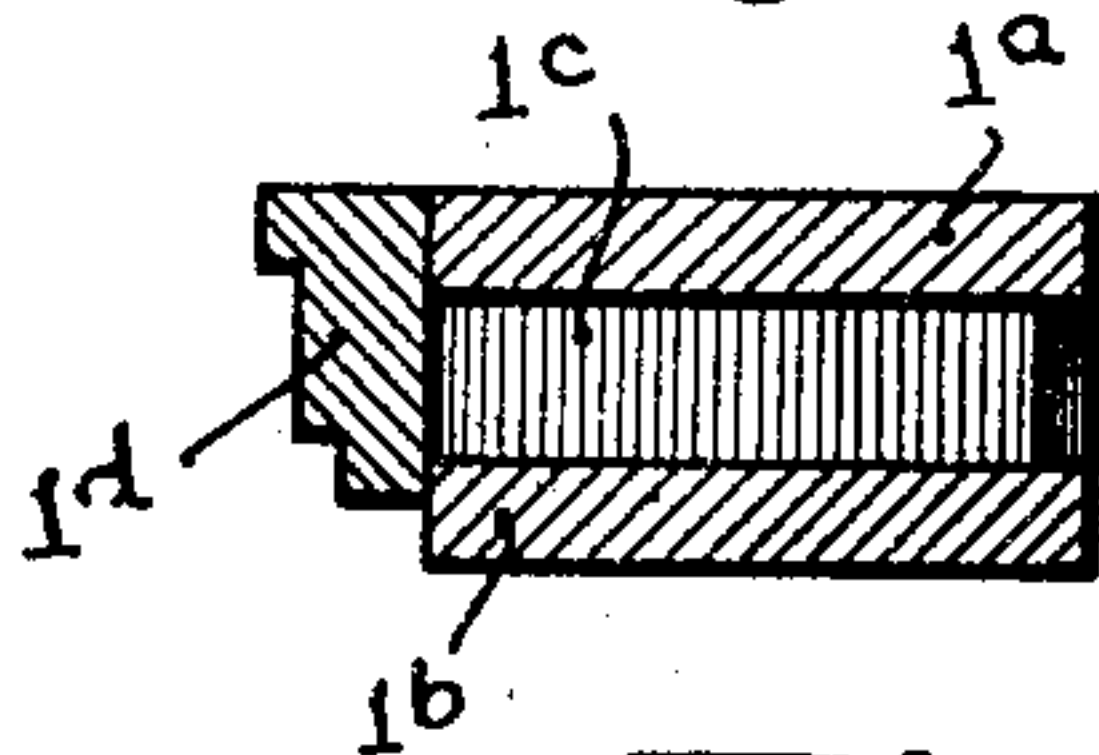


Fig. 4.

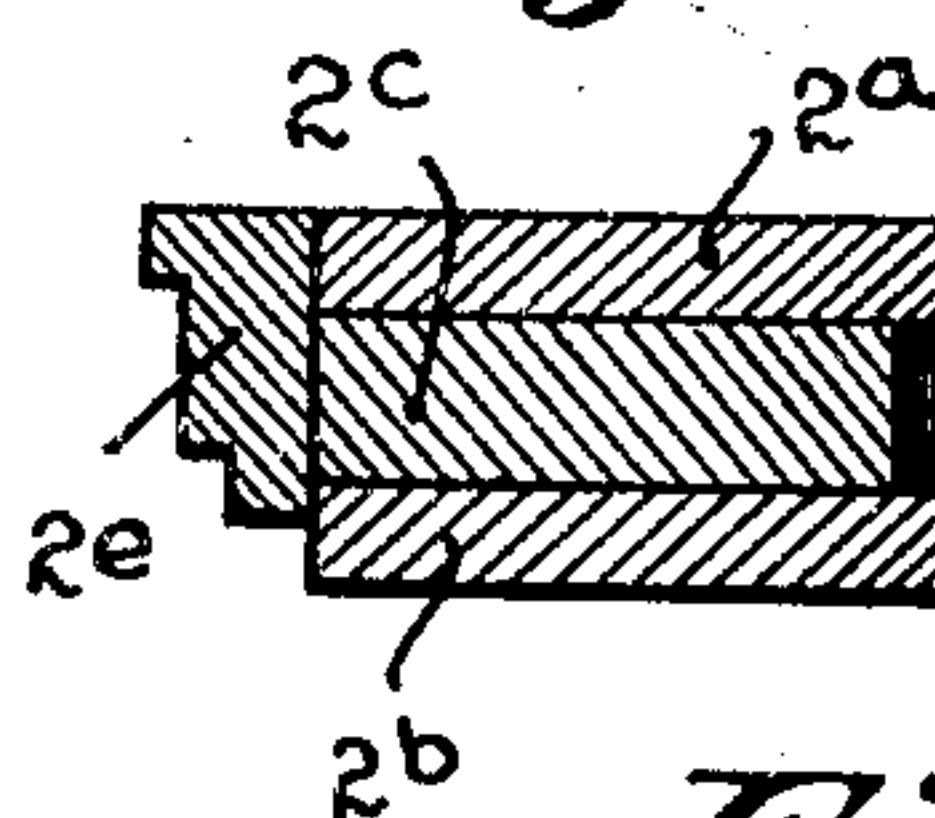


Fig. 5.

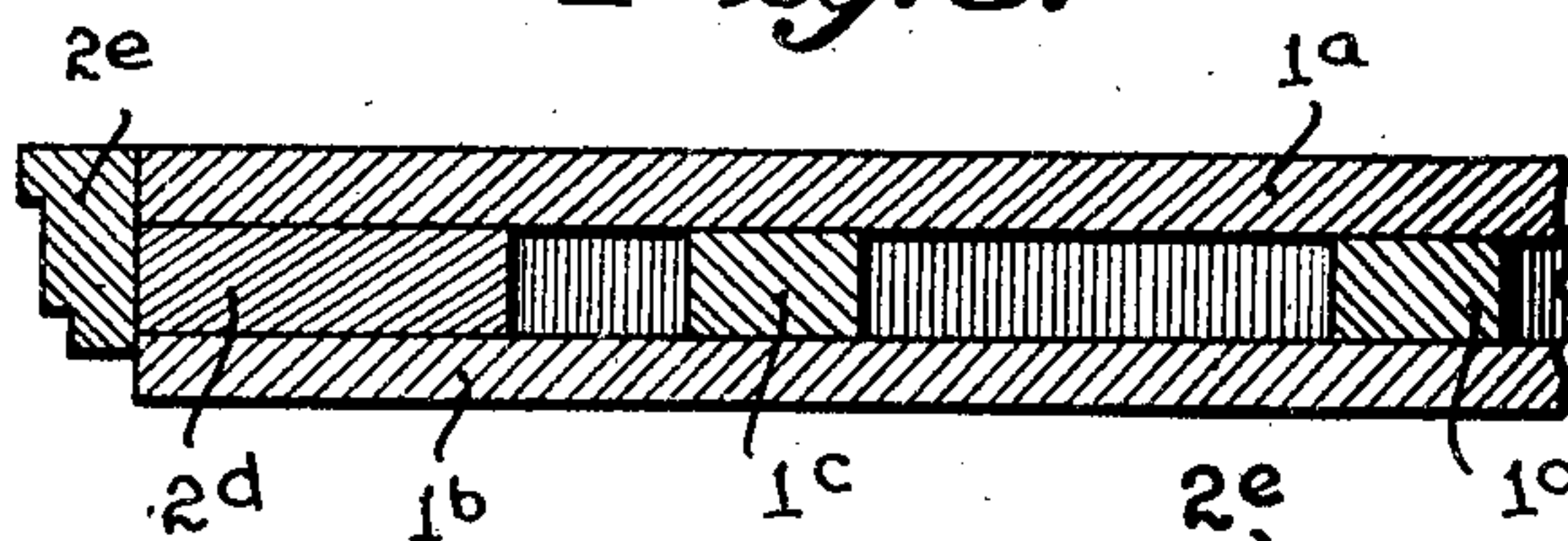


Fig. 6.

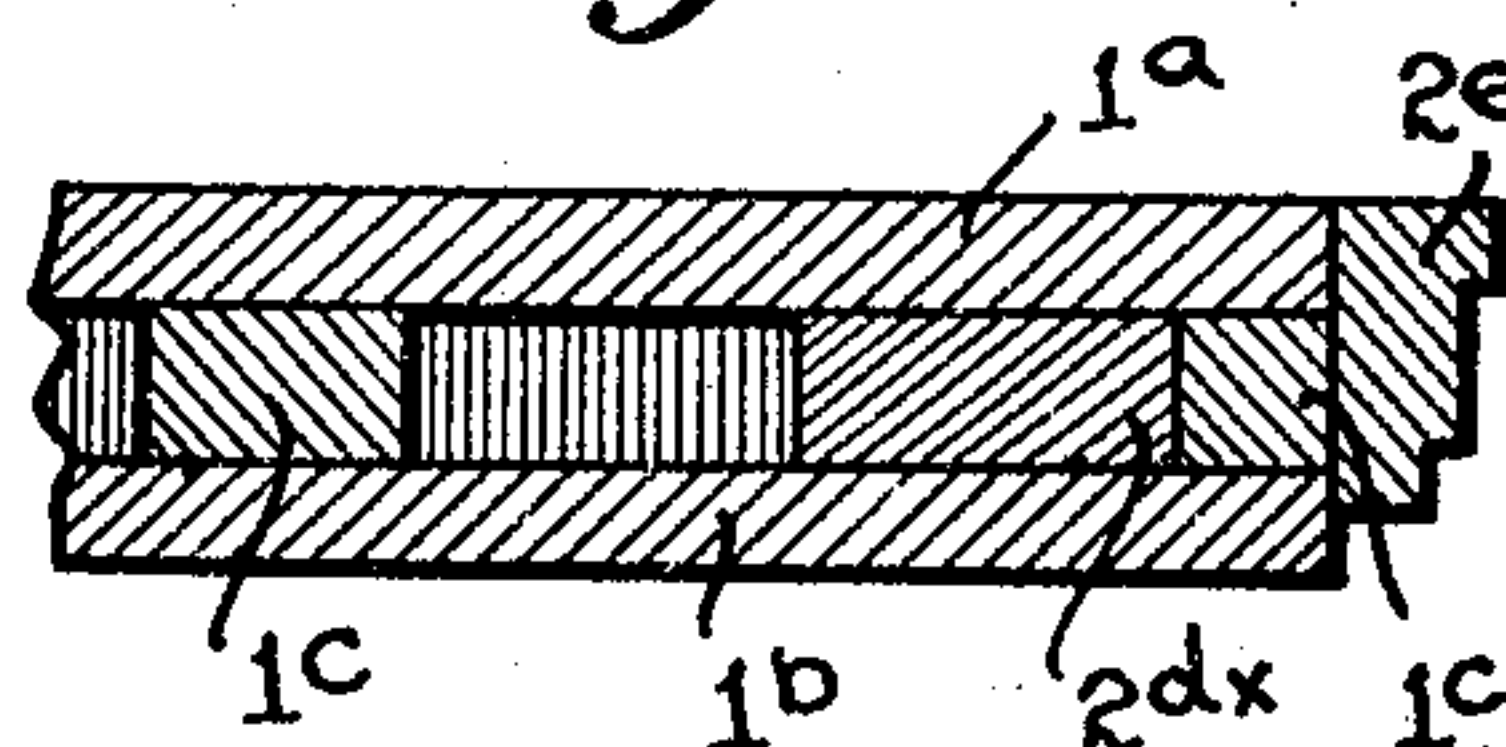


Fig. 8.

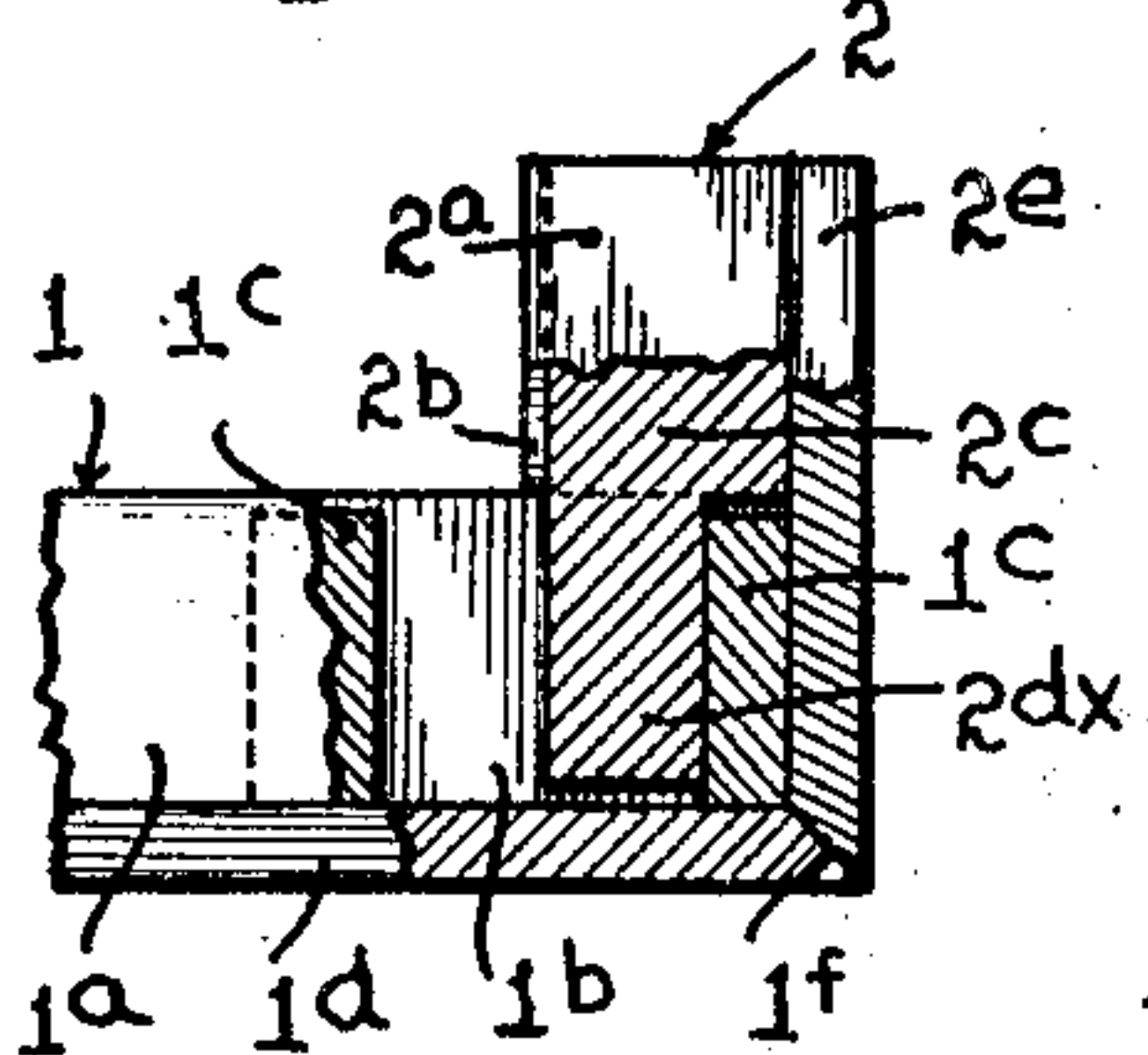
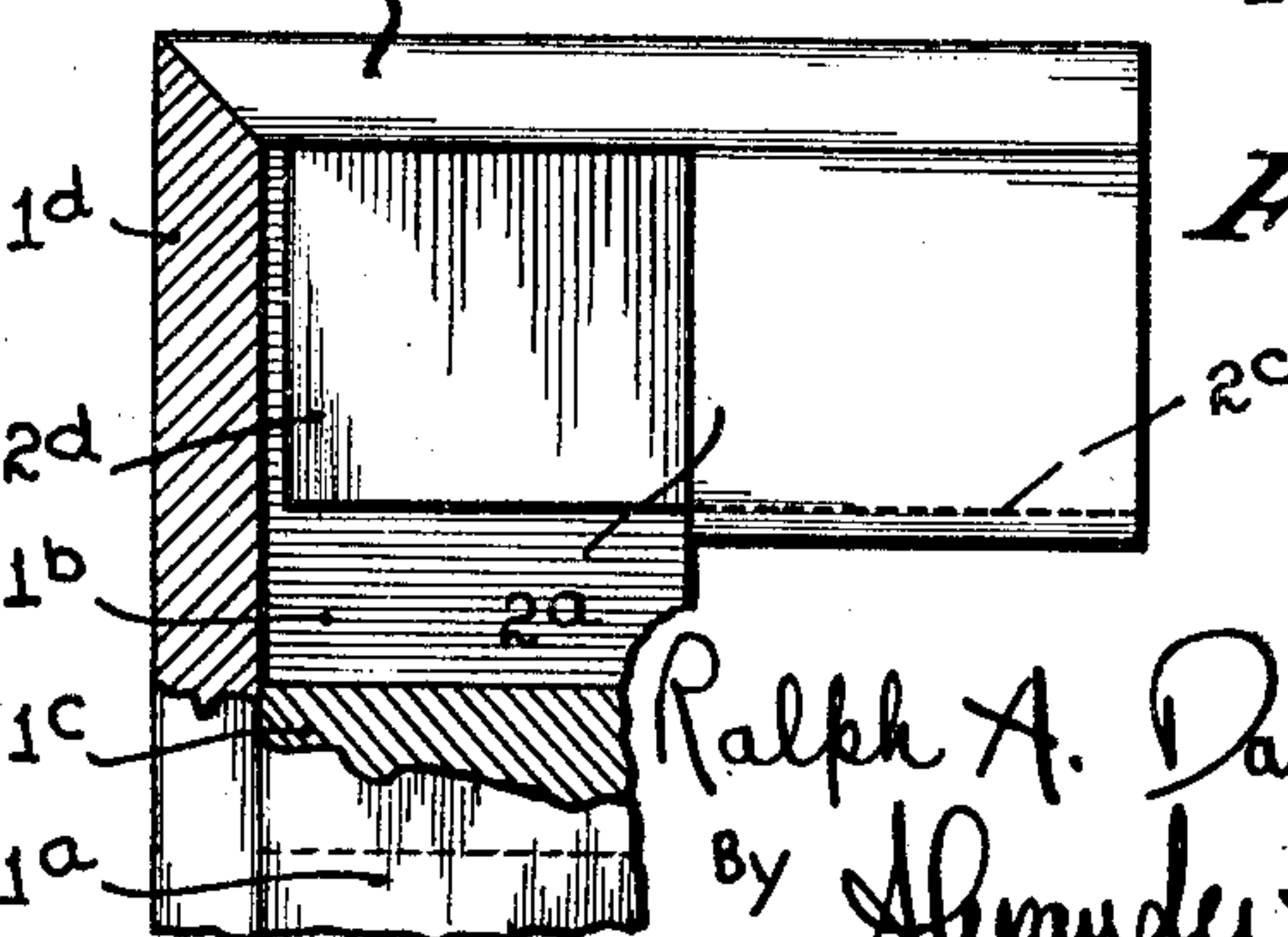


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ADJUSTABLE MANTEL SHELF.

Application filed January 29, 1926 Serial No. 34,630.

This invention is an improvement in adjustable shelves for mantels, fireplaces, and the like, and is particularly adapted for use with mantels or fireplaces constructed of wood, brick, tile, stone, plastic material and the like, the adjustable shelves being made in stock widths and thicknesses as hereinafter described, and adapted to be cut, with a saw in the usual mitre box, to any desired lengths to suit different widths of mantels or fireplaces. Such mantels and fireplaces are not of standard width, but vary according to the dimensions of the brick, tile, stone, or other material of which the same is made. Heretofore, because of the fact that mantels and fireplaces are not of standard width, it has been necessary to build up each mantel shelf to suit particular dimensions.

The present invention consists in the novel construction and arrangement of parts as hereinafter described, which will provide adjustable mantel shelves of stock lengths and thickness which can be readily cut and assembled without having to do any particular fitting of parts in order to give to the shelf a neat appearance.

In the accompanying drawings I have illustrated a simple construction of stock mantel shelf embodying the invention, and have described same in the specification with reference thereto, and will summarize in the claims the novel features of construction, and novel combinations of parts, for which protection is desired.

In said drawings:

Fig. 1 is a front view of the upper portion of a brick mantel or fireplace of usual form, provided with my novel adjustable shelf.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the shelf, detached.

Fig. 3 is a transverse section on the line 3—3, Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a transverse section on the line 4—4, Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a longitudinal section on the line 5—5, Fig. 2.

Fig. 6 is a longitudinal section on the line 6—6, Fig. 2.

Figs. 7 and 8 are detail sections through the corners of the shelf.

The adjustable mantel shelf comprises a stock front member 1, and opposite stock side members 2. The stock front member 1 is preferably composite, and formed of a top

board 1^a and bottom board 1^b of suitable dimensions, which are disposed parallel and spaced apart and at the same time connected together by means of interposed transversely disposed spacing strips 1^c. The top and bottom boards 1^a, 1^b may be of any desired thickness, and of any desired kind of wood, whether hard or soft, and may be finished in any desired manner to suit different kinds and finishes of mantels and fireplaces, while the spacing strips 1^c may be made of inexpensive material such as soft wood. The top and bottom boards 1^a, 1^b and the spacing strips 1^c are rigidly united together by any suitable means, such as glue, nails, screws, or otherwise, so that the front member is an integral piece of desired stock length. The front edge of front member 1 is preferably provided with molding or outer plate board 1^d preferably of the same kind of wood and finish as the top and bottom boards 1^a, 1^b, the molding or outer plate board 1^d being of sufficient width to overlap a portion of the bottom board 1^b, as shown, and extending the full length of front member 1, and may be secured to front member 1 by any desired means, such as by glue, nails, screws, or the like. In case the front member 1 should be made relatively thick so that the molding or outer plate board 1^d is not of sufficient width to overlap the bottom member 1^b, but would leave a gap between the lower edge of board 1^d and the upper edge of bottom board 1^b then a board (not shown) might be interposed between the outer plate board 1^d and the front member 1, for same width, or substantially same width as the thickness of the front member 1. The ends of the outer plate board 1^d are preferably mitred, as shown at 1^e, to an angle of 45°, to fit the correspondingly mitred ends of the side members 2.

The side members 2 are each likewise composite, and composed of top and bottom boards 2^a, 2^b, of same size, material, and finish as boards 1^a, 1^b, of front member 1, and a spacing board 2^c, corresponding in thickness to the spacing strips 1^c of the front member 1 is inserted between the boards 2^a, 2^b, and secured thereto. The spacing board 2^c projects beyond the front edges of the boards 2^a, 2^b, to form a tenon as shown at 2^d, of length preferably equal to the width of the boards 1^a, 1^b of the front member 1, the tenon

2^d being adapted to enter into the mortise formed between the spaced boards 1^a, 1^b. Side members 2 are preferably each provided on their outer edge with an outer plate board or molding 2^e similar to that of front member 1, the board 2^e extending to the outer end of tenon 2^d, and as shown the outer ends of board 2^e are preferably mitred to an angle of 45° to suit the correspondingly mitred board 1^a of front member 1. When fitted together the tenon 2^d may be securely fastened between the members 1^a, 1^b by means of glue, nails, screws, or other suitable means, the top and bottom of the side members 2 being flush with the top and bottom of the front member 1.

In order to fit the stock mantel shelf to any desired width of mantel, it is only necessary to cut the members 1^a, 1^b of the front member 1 to the desired length. The ends of outer plate board 1^a however should be mitred to an angle of 45° as above explained. If the cut comes between the spacing strips 1^c so as to leave room for the tenon 2^d of side member 2, the parts can be fastened together as above described. If, however, the cut should happen to come at a point near or at one of the spacing strips 1^c the spacing strip if necessary may be cut also, and moreover the portion of the tenon 2^d in way of the strip 1^c can be cut away as indicated at 2^{d*} in Figures 2 and 8, so that the side member can be readily engaged with the front member notwithstanding the presence of the portion of the spacing strip 1^c at the point where the front and side members are to be united.

The shelf thus constructed to desired dimensions as to width and thickness may be fastened upon the mantel or fireplace in the usual manner, and the space between the side members of the shelf may be filled with any suitable material to make a flush top surface. The angles which the side members 2 make with the front member 1 may be altered, where necessary or desired, in the obvious manner.

I do not limit my invention to the exact form shown in the drawings for obviously changes may be made therein within the scope of the claims.

I claim:

1. An adjustable mantel shelf comprising a front member formed of spaced top and bottom boards, an outer plate board on the front member, side members each comprising spaced top and bottom boards and a member intermediate the top and bottom boards and extending beyond the front ends thereof and adapted to be inserted between the top and bottom boards of the front member; and an outer plate board on each side member closing the space between the top and bottom boards thereof and extending beyond

the outer end thereof and closing the space between the top and bottom boards of the front member at the ends thereof.

2. The herein described adjustable mantel shelf; comprising a front member and side members, each formed of spaced top and bottom boards and interposed spacing strips, the spacing strips of the side members projecting beyond the ends of the top and bottom boards thereof and adapted to be inserted between the top and bottom boards of the front member; and outer plate boards on the said members closing the spaces between the top and bottom boards, the outer plate boards of the side members overlapping the ends of the front member and closing the space between the top and bottom boards of the front member at the ends thereof.

3. An adjustable mantel shelf comprising a front member formed of spaced top and bottom boards, an outer plate board on the front member and having its ends beveled and projecting beyond the ends of the top and bottom boards at the front corners thereof; side members each comprising spaced top and bottom boards and a member intermediate the top and bottom boards extending beyond the ends thereof and adapted to be inserted between the top and bottom boards of the front member; and an outer plate board on each side member closing the space between the top and bottom boards thereof and extending beyond the outer end of said boards and closing the space between the top and bottom boards of the front member at the ends thereof, the outer ends of said side member plate boards being beveled to fit the beveled ends of the plate board of the front member.

4. An adjustable mantel shelf comprising a front member composed of spaced top and bottom boards and spacing strips therebetween; side members each formed of spaced top and bottom boards and spacing strips therebetween, the spacing strips of the side members extending beyond the ends of the top members and adapted to be inserted between the top and bottom boards of the front member at the ends thereof; an outer plate board closing the spaces between the top and bottom boards of said front member, and outer plate boards closing the spaces between the top and bottom boards of said side members and extending beyond the ends of the side members and closing the spaces between the top and bottom boards of the front member at the ends thereof the meeting ends of said plate boards being beveled to form neat joints at the front end corners of the shelf.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I affix my signature.

RALPH A. DAMBACH.