H. L. DREW.

MEDICINE CABINET.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 31, 1920.

1,375,901.

Patented Apr. 26, 1921.

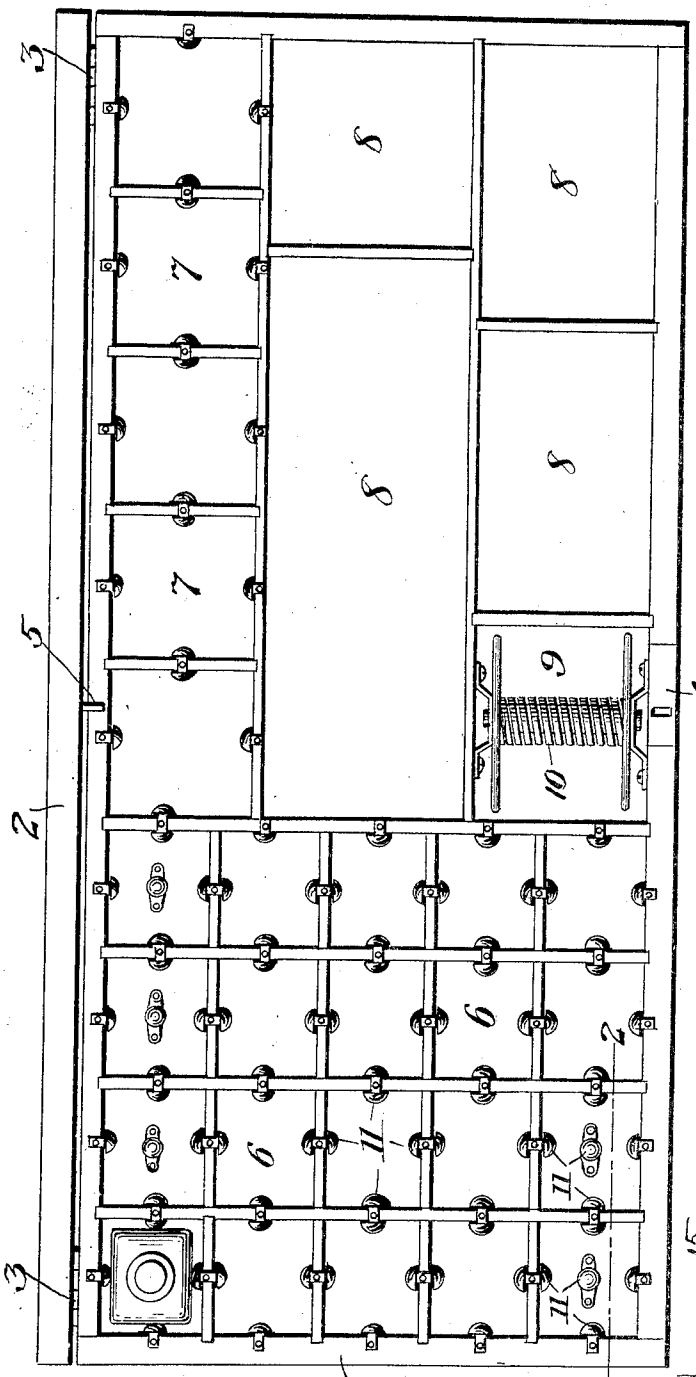


Fig. 1.

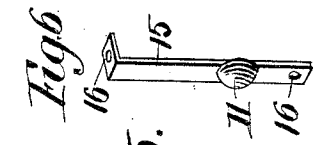


Fig. 6.



Fig. 5.

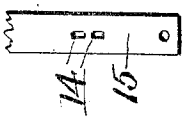


Fig. 4.

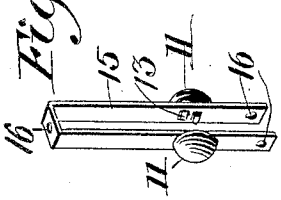


Fig. 3.

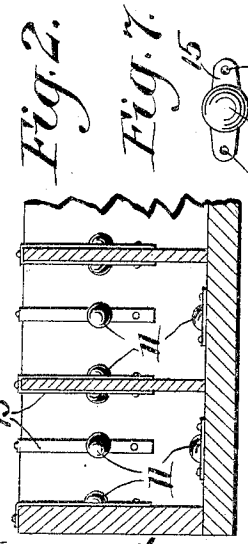


Fig. 2.

Fig. 7.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MEDICINE-CABINET.

1,375,901. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 26, 1921.

Application filed July 31, 1920. Serial No. 400,334.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HAROLD L. DREW, a citizen of the United States, residing at Trinidad, county of Las Animas, State of Colorado, (whose post-office address is 134 East First street, Trinidad, Colorado,) have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Medicine-Cabinets; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to portable medicine cabinets or similar containers comprising a series of compartments or cells for containing bottles or the like, with particular reference to the cushioning device employed for protecting the said bottles and preventing breakage of the same during the transportation or handling of the cabinet or container. The particular form of cabinet illustrated in this application is not only adapted to contain bottles for various kinds of medicine but also small jars containing salve or ointment and also stock sizes of packages or boxes for absorbent cotton, bandages and adhesive tape, making a very complete and desirable cabinet for the purpose intended. The particular object of the invention is the provision of a simple yet efficient means of padding or cushioning the various cells holding the breakable or fragile containers and the like, these cushioning elements being applicable to other types of portable cabinets of a similar nature.

The invention also contemplates the use of practically the same form of cushioning elements, *per se* for the sides of the various compartments and bottom thereof with a modified means of attaching said cushioning elements to the intersecting partitioning members, the sides of the cabinet forming the outside walls of the outside compartments and those positioned between the bottom of the receptacles and the bottom of the cabinet.

Referring to the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 illustrates the invention as applied to the preferred form of cabinet, showing the various and different size cells or compartments with the cushioning elements arranged in their proper positions;

Fig. 2 is a view partly in elevation and partly in section showing the manner of applying the cushioning elements to said compartments;

Fig. 3 is a view of the double arrangement of the cushioning element to be used on the intersecting partitions;

Figs. 4 and 5 are enlarged detail views showing the construction of the cushioning element *per se* and the manner of attaching the same to its supporting member;

Fig. 6 illustrates the single arrangement of cushion-element to be used on the outside wall of the outside compartments; and

Fig. 7 is another form of single arrangement of cushioning element adapted for use on the bottom of each cell or compartment.

Referring to the drawings in detail the invention is illustrated in connection with the preferred form of cabinet or container 1, of box-like form, provided with a cover 2 connected to said cabinet by hinges or the like 3, the cover also being provided with a suitable lock 4 and a coöperating keeper 5.

The interior of the cabinet is preferably divided into a series of uniformly sized compartments 6 for containing bottles, another series of uniformly sized compartments 7 for small jars and the like, and the remainder of the cabinet being subdivided into irregularly sized compartments 8 adapted to hold boxes containing absorbent cotton and surgical bandages. One of the compartments 9 is provided with a spring roller 10 about which is adapted to be wound and dispensed therefrom the usual form of adhesive tape which forms a simple and ready means of storing and handling said tape.

To prevent the breakage of the bottles and jars contained within the cabinet the compartments or cells formed by the various partitions, are provided with cushioning elements 11. These cushioning elements which are preferably made of rubber or similar material are of button-like formation and have formed therein metallic clips 12, said clips being provided with tangs 13 which are adapted to be inserted and secured in openings 14 formed in the metallic strips or supporting members 15. These metallic supporting members 15 may be of either inverted U-shape form carrying a pair of cushioning elements, as illustrated in Fig. 3, or of inverted L-shape carrying a single cushioning element and as illustrated in Fig. 7; the cushioning element is secured to a flat metallic strip, the different forms of

cushioning devices being used in different relations with respect to the various cells or compartments.

Referring to Fig. 3 it will be noted that the supporting member 15 is provided with openings or apertures 16 which are for securing the cushioning device in its proper position. This form of cushioning device is for use on the intersecting partitions forming the side walls of the inside compartments, which construction is clearly shown in Fig. 1.

The cushioning member as shown in Fig. 6, which is of single form, is adapted for use on the outside walls of the outside compartments where it is not necessary to cushion the opposite sides of said walls, a single cushioning element being all that is necessary. This form of cushioning device is also provided with openings 16 which are for securing the same in its proper position in a manner similar to the device as illustrated in Fig. 3.

In order that the bottom of each cell or compartment will also be provided with the necessary cushioning means, the member 15 for supporting this cushioning element is merely a flat plate provided with the necessary securing openings 16, which is clearly shown in Fig. 7. It is to be understood that in all of the different forms of cushioning devices illustrated the same means is employed for securing the cushioning element 11 by means of the clips 12 and tangs 13 to the supporting member 15.

From the foregoing it will be noted that in the construction of this form of cushioning element a very simple device of this character has been produced and one that may be interchangeable, if desired, from one cell to another at the same time having the necessary cushioning effect to prevent any breakage of the bottles or similar fragile containers that might be carried in said cabinet.

What I claim is:

1. A portable medicine cabinet or container, comprising a series of compartments or cells formed by intersecting partitions and the outside walls of the cabinet, each compartment or cell having a series of removable cushioning elements, the walls of the compartments formed by the intersecting partitions being provided with double cushioning elements and the outside walls of the outside compartments with single cushioning elements.

2. A portable medicine cabinet or container, comprising a series of compartments or cells formed by intersecting partitions and the outside walls of the cabinet, each compartment or cell having a series of removable cushioning elements, the walls of the compartments formed by the intersecting partitions being provided with double cushioning elements and the outside walls of the outside compartments with single cushioning elements, said cushioning elements comprising metallic supporting members and pads or buttons attached to said members.

3. A portable medicine cabinet or container, comprising a series of compartments or cells formed by intersecting partitions and the outside walls of the cabinet, each compartment or cell having a series of removable cushioning elements, the walls of the compartments formed by the intersecting partitions being provided with double cushioning elements and the outside walls of the outside compartments with single cushioning elements, each of said double cushioning elements comprising an inverted U-shape metallic supporting member carrying a pair of pads or buttons and each single cushioning element comprising an inverted L-shape supporting member having attached thereto a single pad or button.

4. A portable medicine cabinet or container, comprising a series of compartments or cells formed by intersecting partitions and the outside walls of the cabinet, each compartment or cell having a series of removable cushioning elements, the walls of the compartments formed by the intersecting partitions being provided with double cushioning elements consisting each of an inverted U-shape member, each leg of which carries a pad or button, and the outside walls of the outside compartments having single cushioning elements consisting each of a single strip or supporting member, having secured thereto a single pad or button and means for securing said cushioning device to said partitions and the walls.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

HAROLD L. DREW.