

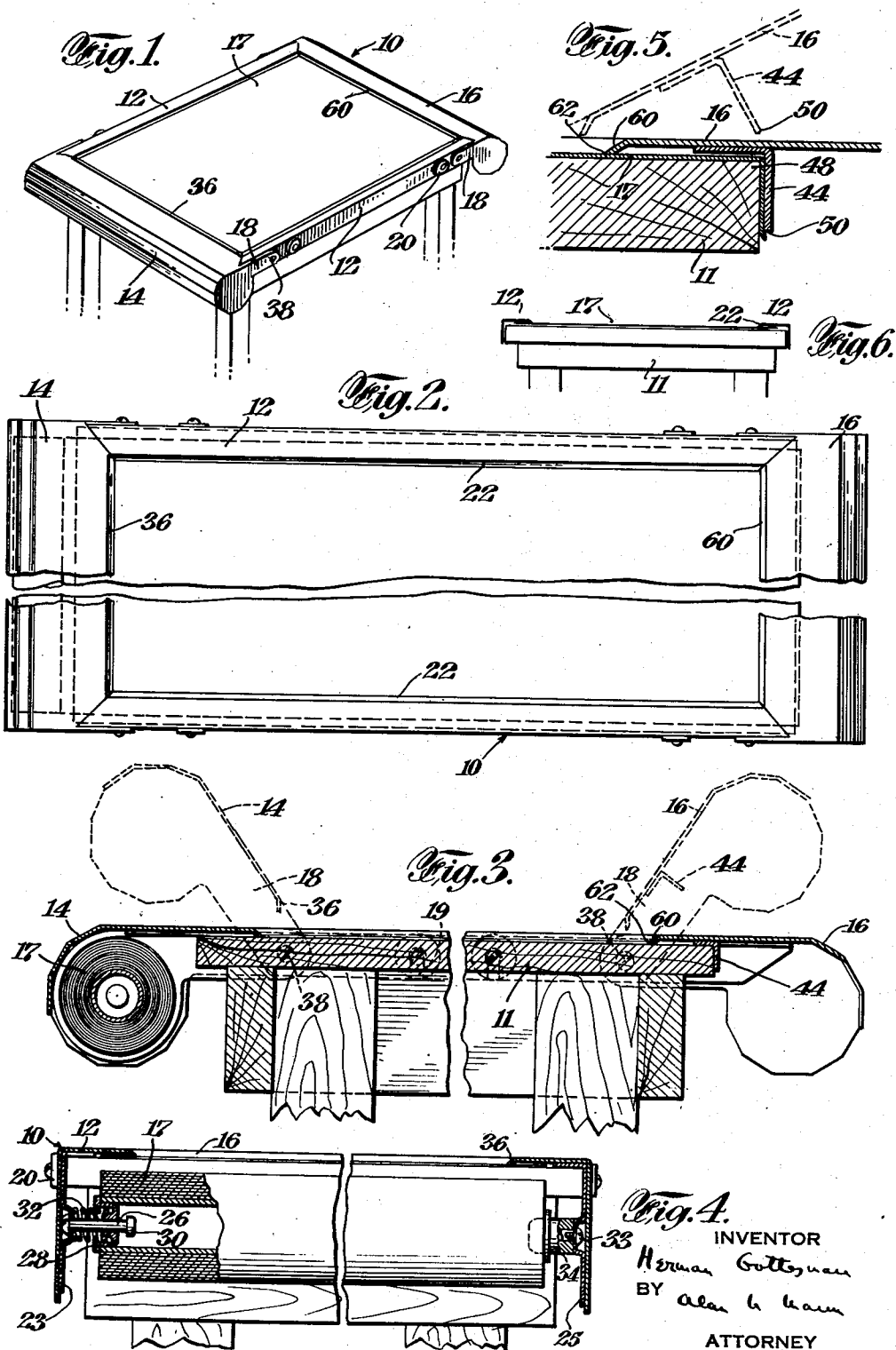
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FRAME FOR COUNTERS AND TABLES

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FRAME FOR COUNTERS AND TABLES

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My invention has to do with a frame for counters and tables through which a covering may be drawn and fitted to the counter or table.

Broadly speaking, my invention consists of bar members pivoted on a relatively short radius which release the paper and permit it to pass through the frame when raised and which tension and lock the paper within the frame when lowered. In accordance with my invention, I provide means to hold the roll of paper in position for feeding through the frame and means to prevent the paper overrunning itself while it is being drawn through the frame. Likewise, in accordance with my invention, one of the bar members in lowered position provides a cutting edge against which paper drawn from the frame may be torn. When the bar members are raised, the covering is guided through the frame and held in position by bevelled edges on the marginal guides; and when the bar members are lowered the covering is locked in position by the bevelled edge of one of the bar members.

In the drawing I show one specific embodiment of my invention. I have chosen to illustrate my invention in this particular embodiment because I find that it is the most practical form in which my invention can be used.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the frame fitted to a table top.

Fig. 2 is a top view of the frame.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the frame showing the operation of the pivoted bar members.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view through the center of the roller means showing the operation of this end of the frame.

Fig. 5 is a cross section showing an enlarged portion of a section of the cutting means on one of the bar members of the frame, and

Fig. 6 is a cross section showing the covering passing under the marginal guides of the frame.

The numeral 10 indicates the frame proper. In general, the shape of the frame is determined by the counter or table over which it is fitted. In the drawing I show a conventional frame. Two ends of the frame are formed by marginal guides 12; and the other two ends by bar members 14 and 16 pivoted on brackets 18 having a relatively short axis.

The marginal guides are L-shaped to fit over the edges of the table and are secured to the table by screws 20. The guides are slotted at 19 (as shown in Fig. 3) to hold the screws and to permit movement of the frame vertically when the screws are loosened. The horizontal flange of the guides is bent downward toward the inner edge to form a bevelled portion 22. By virtue of the bevelled edge 22 there is a slight but definite clearance between the top flange portion and the table surface. The bevelled edge 22 abuts the table surface and serves to hold the paper in po-

sition, but owing to the clearance between the guides and the table surface paper can readily pass between the guides and the table surface.

Bar member 14 forms one side of the frame proper. It is the function of this side to hold the roll of paper 17 for feeding through the frame. Actually, the bar member does not hold the roll but serves as a cover for the roll. The roll is held by means affixed to two discs 23 and 25 (shown in Fig. 4) which form parts of the ends of the marginal guides at this side of the frame. Through the center of one of the discs a screw or bolt 26 runs inwardly. Mounted on this screw or bolt is a cup 28 which is held against a nut 20 by means of spring 32. On the opposite disc 25 a screw or bolt 33 running inwardly through the center of the disc holds flanged washer 34 which is free to move on the screw or bolt 33. Both the washer and the cup are formed to fit into the roll on which the paper is wound for insertion into the frame. The pressure exerted by the spring 32 is such that it not only serves to hold a roll of paper in position but it likewise creates enough friction on the bearing surfaces to prevent the paper overrunning itself while it is being drawn from the roll and through the frame.

The bar member 14 consists of a single piece extending across the width of the frame and is supported by brackets 18. The sides of the brackets are shaped to conform, where they overlap, to the vertical flanges of the horizontal guides 12 and the discs 23 and 25. The bar member proper conforms to the discs on which it rests. The inner edge of the bar member is bent downward to form a bevelled portion 36. This bevelled portion on the bar member corresponds to the bevelled portion 22 on the guide members. When the bar member is in lowered position, the bevelled portion 36 holds the paper in position and prevents undue accumulation of paper within the frame. This positioning of the paper occurs in conjunction with the frictional resistance of the bearing surface of roller means which likewise prevent undue gathering of the paper at this point. Rivets 38 hold the brackets 18 so that the bar member may move from raised position to lowered position on a relatively short radius. In the drawing I show a miter joint between the bar member and the marginal guides.

The fourth side of the frame consists of bar member 16 held by brackets 18. In general, bar member 16 has all the elements of bar member 14. However, the bar member at this side of the frame is provided with a thin rail 44 (see especially Fig. 5) which is hung on the underside of the bar member and which runs lengthwise across the bar member. The purpose of this rail is to tension and lock the paper within the frame proper after it has been drawn through the frame. When the bar member is raised the paper is free

to pass through the frame. When the bar member is lowered, the rail 44, owing to the relatively short axis of bracket 18, engages the paper immediately after the rail has passed over the edge 48 of the table. By continuing the downward movement of the bar member the rail continues to tension the paper within the frame and finally, when the bar member is flush with the marginal guides, the rail locks the paper within the frame. At the same time the edge 50 of the rail serves as a cutting edge against which paper drawn from the frame may be torn to remove it from the frame. It is important that bar member 16 should be pivoted on relatively short brackets 18 at this end of the frame. By virtue of the relatively short axis on which it turns, the rail 44 grips the paper immediately after the edge 50 of the rail has passed the edge of the table (see Fig. 5) and tensions but does not tear the paper. The bevelled portion 60 of the bar member 16 is turned down so that when the bar member 16 is in lowered position the edge 62 of the bevelled portion locks the paper within the frame. In that case, the edge 62 definitely presses against the paper and the underlying surface to lock the paper. The edges of the corresponding bevelled portions 36 on the other side of the frame do not press against the underlying surface; but merely abut that surface to maintain the paper in position as it passes through the frame.

The operation of the frame is quite simple. A roll of paper is fitted into position at one end of the frame. Both bar members are then moved into raised position. The paper is drawn from the roll directly through the clearance between the bevelled edges 36 and the underlying surface of the table. After paper has been drawn through the frame the bar members are then moved into lowered position. When the bar member 16 is flush with the table the paper is locked within the frame proper by virtue of the bevelled edge 60. Excess paper is torn off against the rail 50. When the paper within the frame requires changing the bar members are simply raised and the paper pulled through the frame.

Should the paper get out of alignment while it is being drawn through the frame, screws 20 can be loosened and the frame lifted up to ease the passage of the paper through the frame.

I claim:

1. A frame for counters and tables through which a covering may be drawn and fitted over a counter or table which comprises side portions consisting of marginal guides to guide a covering through the frame and end portions consisting of bar members movable to open position to permit the covering to pass through the frame and movable to closed position to hold the covering in the frame.

2. A frame for counters and tables through which a covering may be drawn and fitted over a counter or table which comprises side portions consisting of marginal guides to guide a covering through the frame and end portions consisting of bar members pivoted on a relatively short radius and movable to open position to permit the covering to pass through the frame and movable to closed position to hold the covering in the frame.

3. A structure as specified in claim 2 wherein one of said bar members has a rail mounted thereon which first tensions and then locks a covering in the frame as the bar member moves from open to closed position.

4. A structure as specified in claim 2 wherein one of said bar members has an inner edge bevelled downward to press and lock a covering against an underlying surface when the bar member is in closed position.

5. In a frame for fitting a covering to a counter or table having side portions consisting of marginal guides and end portions consisting of movable bar members, marginal guides bevelled at their inner edge so that the inner edge of said guides abut a covering passing between the inner edge of said guides and underlying surface of counter or table, said abutment being close enough to hold a covering in position as it passes through the frame but not close enough to lock said covering in the frame.

6. A frame for counters and tables through which a covering may be drawn and fitted to counters and tables which comprises side portions consisting of marginal guides and end portions consisting of movable bar members, said bar members being movable so that in open position a covering may be drawn freely through the frame, while in closed position the covering is held locked in the frame.

7. A frame for counters and tables through which a covering may be drawn and fitted over a counter and table which comprises side portions consisting of marginal guides and end portions consisting of bar members, said bar members being movable to open position to permit the covering to pass through the frame and movable to closed position to hold the covering in the frame, one of said bar members having a rail mounted thereon which first tensions and then locks a covering in the frame as the bar member moves from open to closed position; and another of said bar members has a bevelled inner edge adapted to press and lock a covering against an underlying surface when the bar member is in closed position; the aforesaid marginal guides being bevelled at their inner edge so that the inner edge of said guides abut a covering passing between the inner edges of said guides and the underlying surface of a counter or table, said abutment being close enough to hold the covering in position as it passes through the frame but not close enough to lock said covering in the frame and roller means for feeding the covering to said frame whereby the frictional resistance of the bearing surfaces of said roller means prevents overrunning of the covering while it is being drawn through the frame.

8. A frame for counters and tables through which a covering may be drawn and fitted over a counter or table surface which comprises side portions consisting of marginal guides to guide a covering through the frame, and end portions consisting of bar members pivoted on a relatively short radius and movable to open position to permit the covering to pass through the frame and movable to closed position to hold the covering in the frame; and means for holding a roll of said covering and for feeding said covering through the frame structure, said means being mounted at one end of the frame structure and comprising spring means adapted to hold the roll of covering in position for feeding through the frame and adapted to set up frictional resistance against bearing surfaces whereby the covering on the frame is prevented from over-running itself while it is being drawn through the frame.

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