April 30, 1957 A. MARINO 2,790,695

EXTENSIBLE BUFFET

Filed March 19, 1956 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

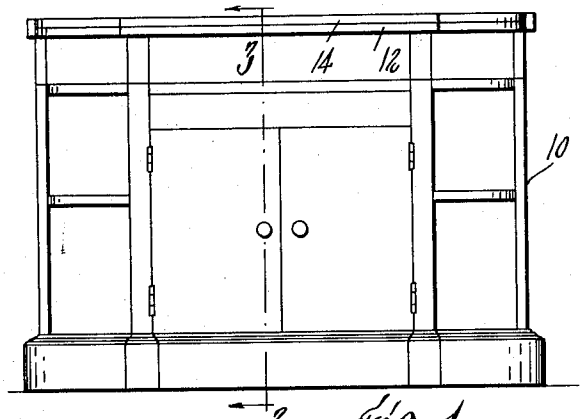


Fig. 1.

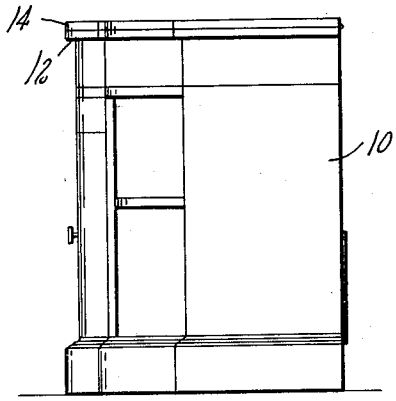


Fig. 2.

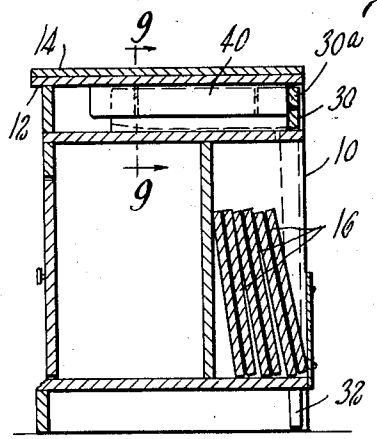


Fig. 3.

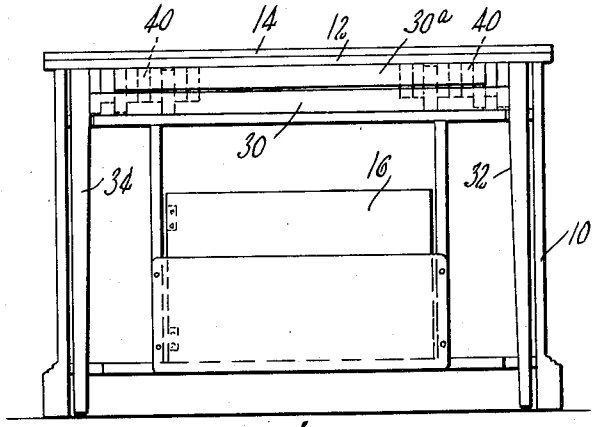


Fig. 4.

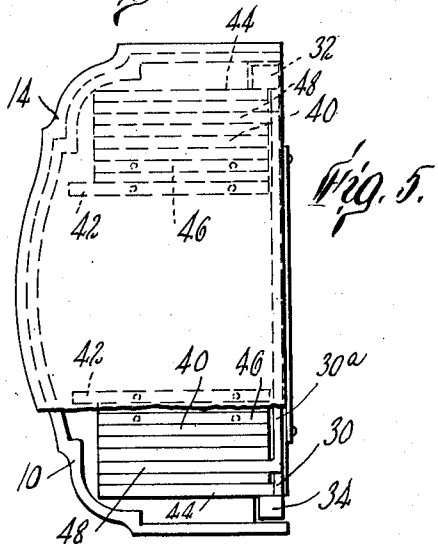


Fig. 5.

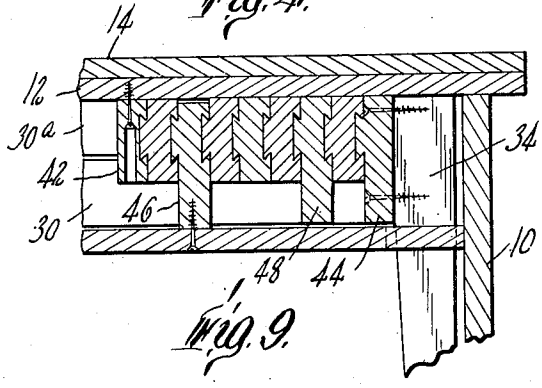


Fig. 9.

April 30, 1957 A. MARINO 2,790,695

EXTENSIBLE BUFFET

Filed March 19, 1956 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

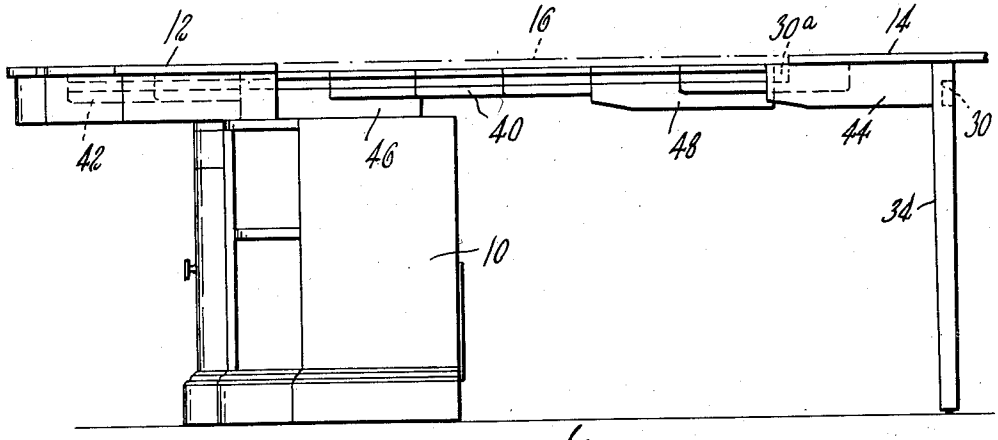


Fig. 6.

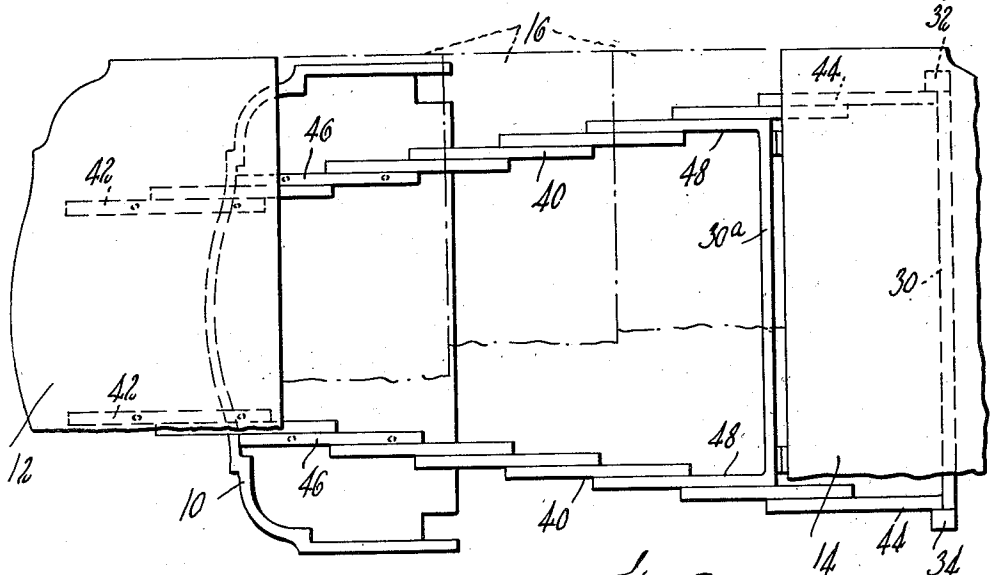


Fig. 7.

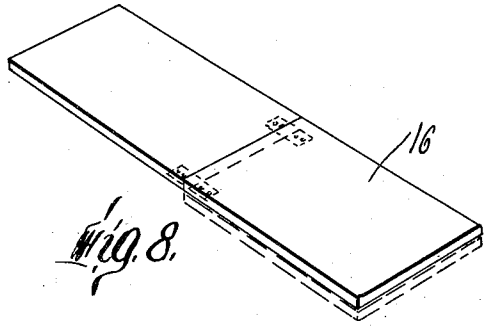


Fig. 8.

United States Patent Office 2,790,695 Patented Apr. 30, 1957

2,790,695

EXTENSIBLE BUFFET

Antonino Marino, Belmont, Mass.

Application March 19, 1956, Serial No. 572,297

5 Claims. (Cl. 312—317)

This invention relates to a buffet or cabinet which is so constructed as to provide a table in which additional leaves may be interposed to provide an extension table.

So far as I am aware, buffets have never heretofore been constructed for extension in both directions to provide a practical table in its extended position as well as the appearance of a buffet in its retracted position. Thus the structure of my invention is adapted for use in any one of a variety of positions including a folded position having the appearance of a conventional buffet, and an extended position providing a double leaf flat top table with one or more interposed leaves. The mechanical features of my construction permit incorporation of bracing and reinforcement adequate to insure a sturdy structure in all positions, including extended position, yet which do not detract from the appearance of the structure particularly in retracted position.

My buffet table is designed to meet the customers' demand for a buffet or side cabinet of conventional appearance which on occasions may be used as a table of sufficiently large size for dining or other purposes. Its advantages will be plainly apparent from the description given herein, when taken together with the drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of the buffet table in retracted position;

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the buffet table in retracted position;

Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional side elevation taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1 of the buffet table in retracted position, showing the storage provided for extra leaves;

Fig. 4 is a rear elevation of the buffet table in retracted position;

Fig. 5 is a plan, partially broken away, of the buffet table in retracted position;

Fig. 6 is a side elevation of the buffet table in extended position;

Fig. 7 is a plan, partially broken away, of the buffet table in extended position;

Fig. 8 is a perspective view of an extra leaf structure; and

Fig. 9 is a partial view of the slide extension structure employed with the buffet table of Figs. 1 through 7.

As will be readily understood from the drawings, my buffet table is adapted for use primarily in two positions, the retracted position illustrated by Figs. 1 through 5, wherein cabinet base **10** supports one leaf **12** positioned directly over said base, another leaf **14** being folded over into a position on top of and substantially co-extensive with said leaf **12** to provide a buffet of conventional appearance; and the extended position illustrated by Figs. 6 and 7, wherein the leaf **12** has been moved to its extended position forwardly beyond base **10**, and leaves **12** and **14** have been separated, and additional leaves **16** inserted therebetween to provide a table.

To describe the construction in detail, the base **10** is of generally conventional appearance with side shelves and central doors and has slidably mounted thereon, by

means hereinafter more fully described, a front leaf **12**, said leaf being arranged for movement as shown in Figs. 1 through 5 directly overlying said base to an extended position, as shown in Figs. 6 and 7, with its front portion forward beyond the front of the base **10** to provide knee room for a person seated at the base end of the table. The rear leaf **14** is hingedly secured to the upper and forward portion **30***a* of a collapsible frame **30**, supported by legs **32** and **34** at its rear and sides, and is adapted for movement about a horizontal axis, as described in my Patent No. 2,152,703. The legs **32** and **34** are preferably rigidly connected to the rear of frame **30** to provide a generally inverted U-shaped structure fitting within the rear portion of the cabinet base **10** (Fig. 4) so that said legs and frame are entirely concealed within, enabling the buffet table to be positioned against a room wall and appear to be a conventional buffet, the extra leaves **16** being stored in the rear portion of the base **10** (Fig. 3) by folding them midway of their length (Fig. 8).

The table thus comprises essentially three separate sections, one comprising base **10**, a second the forward leaf **12**, and the third section comprising rear leaf **14** and the pair of legs on frame **30**. These three sections are connected together by a common slide extension arrangement **40** (Fig. 9) shown in extended position in Fig. 6, and in retracted position in Fig. 5. The end members **42** at the forward end of this slide extension device **40** are fixedly secured to the underside of leaf **12**, the end members **44** at the rear of the slide extension device **40** are secured to the inner side of the frame **30** at legs **32** and **34**, and a pair of slide extension members **46** intermediate said end members **42** and **44** are secured to the top surface of base **10**. The end members are so positioned relative to leaf **12**, that, in retracted position of the slides, the inner edges of leaves **12** and **14** will abut, the upper and forward portion **30***a* of frame **30** being connected to a pair of slide extension members **48** forwardly of rear end members **44** so that legs **32** and **34** and rear extension end members **44** will support rear leaf **14** near its rear edge when extended. Thus, to permit separation of the two table sections from one another, leaf **14** is hinged as shown, not to leaf **12**, but to the forward portion **30***a* of frame **30**, as shown and described in my said patent, the hinges being of such construction that when the back leaf **14** is in the position shown in Figs. 1 through 5, it is spaced above the top surface of frame **30** a distance sufficient to permit leaf **12** to be interposed therebetween. The rear edge of the table leaves provide a flush surface, with the exception of the protruding hinge portions.

From the position shown in Figs. 1 through 5, it is obvious that the two table sections may be separated from one another with the forward table extension moved forwardly with respect to base **10** and the rear table section with its extensible supporting frame **30** carrying legs **32** and **34** moved rearwardly with respect to said base, finally reaching, if desired, the position shown in Fig. 7. Separate leaves **16** (Fig. 8) may then be interposed on the extension slides **40** to provide a suitably large table.

Various modifications of my novel buffet table within the spirit thereof and the scope of the appended claims will occur to those skilled in this art.

I claim:

1. A buffet table of the type described, comprising three independent sections, one of said sections including a cabinet base, a second of said sections including a table leaf supported thereon for sliding movement from a retracted position overlying said base to an extended position with its front edge extending beyond said base, the third of said sections including a supporting frame and a table leaf hinged to said frame for movement about a horizontal axis from a position folded on top of said base

supported leaf in its retracted position 180° to a position abutting and in the plane of the base supported leaf, and extensible slide means connecting said sections, whereby said table leaf sections may be moved to relatively remote positions to permit interposition of an additional leaf intermediate said leaves.

2. A buffet table as claimed in claim 1 wherein said frame includes at least one leg extending downwardly therefrom.

3. A buffet table as claimed in claim 1 wherein said frame is of generally inverted U-shaped configuration fitting within the rear portion of said cabinet base in its retracted position.

4. A buffet table as claimed in claim 1 wherein said table leaf sections are connected to opposite ends of said extensible slide means and said base section is connected thereto intermediate the ends thereof.

5. A buffet table of the type described comprising three independent sections, one of said sections including a cabinet base, a second of said sections including a front table leaf supported thereon for sliding movement on a horizontal plane from a retracted position directly overlying said base to an extended position with its front portion extending forwardly beyond said base, and a third of said sections including a collapsible frame fitting within the rear portion of said cabinet base in collapsed position and having a pair of downwardly extending legs

at its rear portion, and a rear table leaf hinged to a forward portion of said frame for movement about a horizontal axis from a position folded over and substantially co-extensive with said base supported leaf in its retracted position directly overlying said base 180° to a position abutting and in the plane of said base supported leaf, and means extensibly connecting said sections together including a series of expansible slides, said front table leaf section being connected to one pair of end slides of said series and said rear frame portion being connected to opposite end slides and said base section being connected to slides intermediate said end slides whereby said table leaf sections may be moved to relatively remote positions forwardly and rearwardly from said base section to permit interposition of additional leaves intermediate said leaf sections, with said base supported leaf extending forwardly and outwardly beyond said cabinet base and said leg supported leaf extending rearwardly from said base.

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