March 22, 1927. 1,621,491

E. BURKE

KITCHEN CABINET

Filed Dec. 19, 1925 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

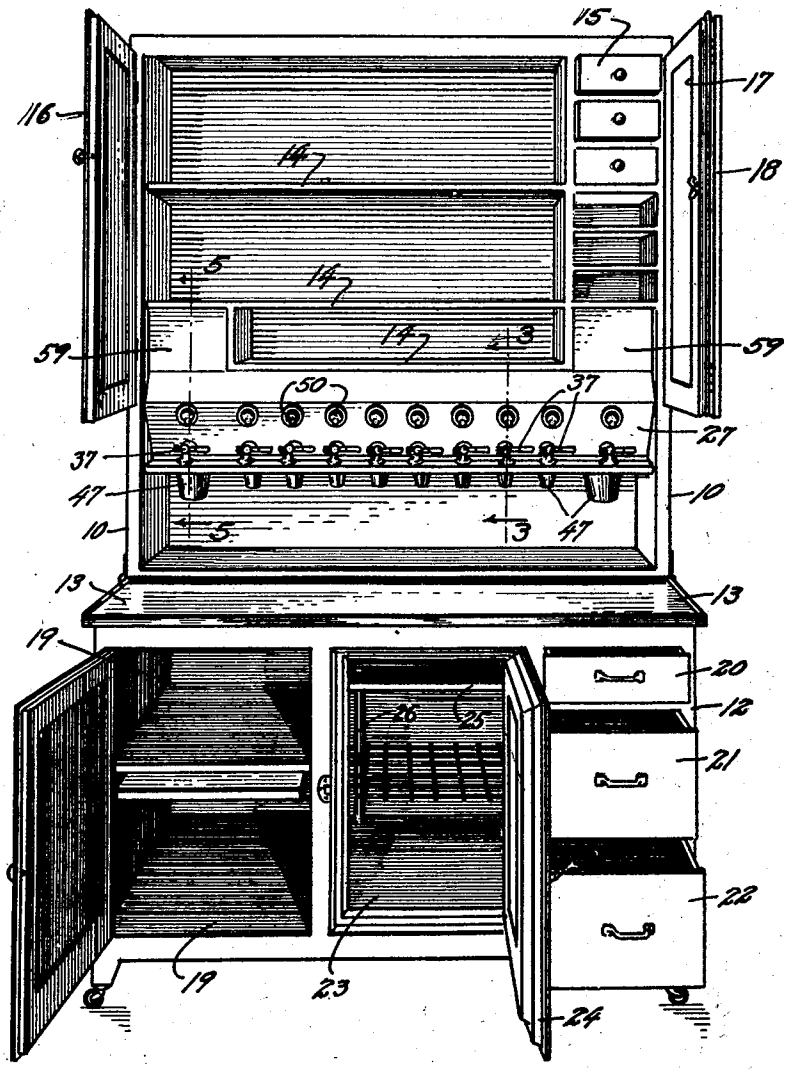


Fig 1

INVENTOR.

EDWIN BURKE

BY

ATTORNEY.

March 22, 1927. 1,621,491

E. BURKE

KITCHEN CABINET

Filed Dec. 19, 1925 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

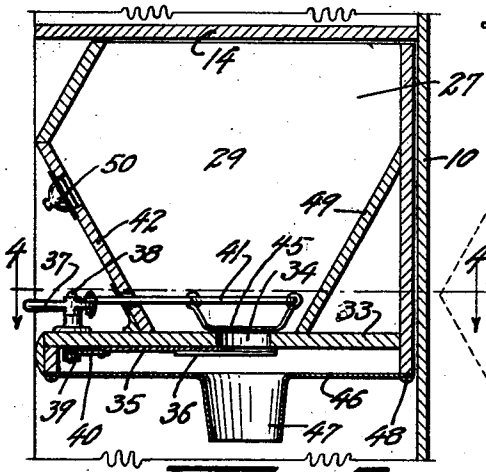


Fig 3

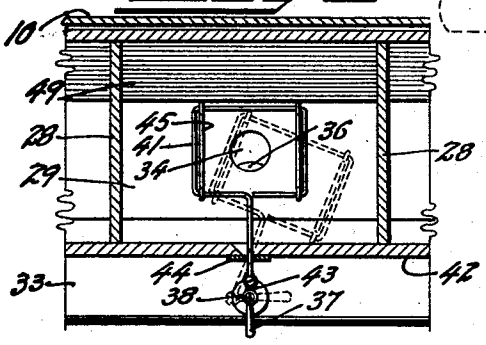


Fig 4

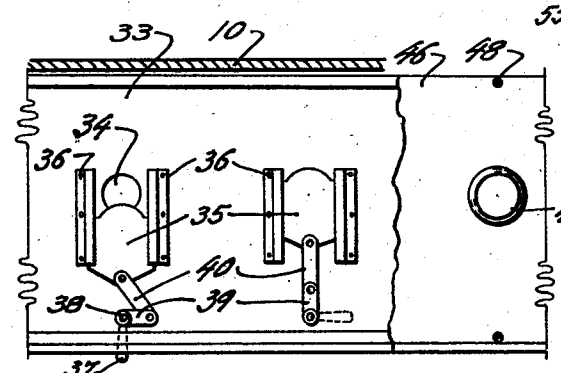


Fig 7

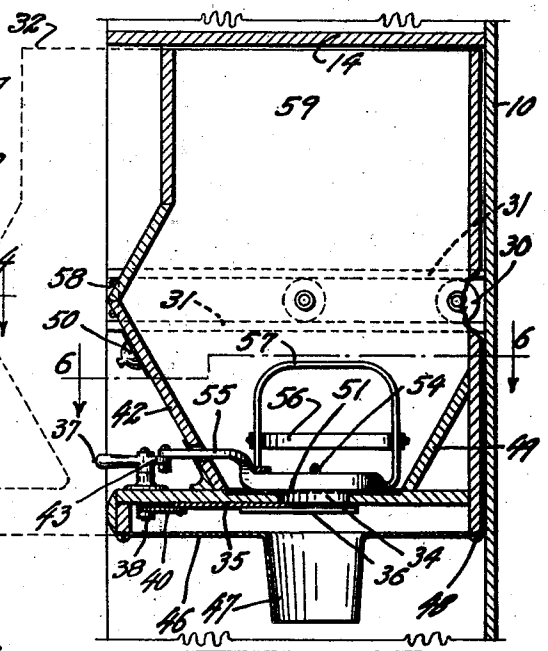


Fig 5

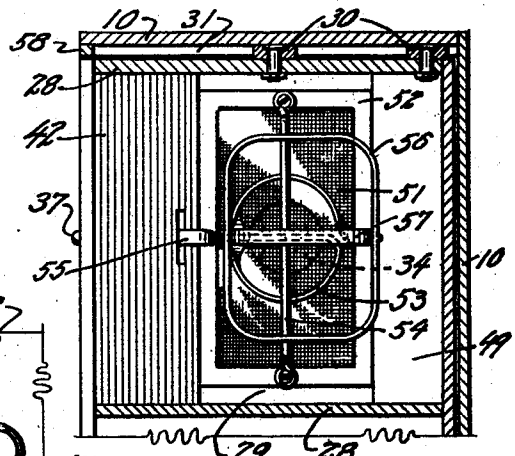


Fig 6

INVENTOR.

EDWIN BURKE

BY

ATTORNEY.

Patented Mar. 22, 1927. 1,621,491

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN BURKE, OF DENVER, COLORADO, ASSIGNOR TO THE MIDWEST CABINET COMPANY.

KITCHEN CABINET.

Application filed December 19, 1925. Serial No. 76,479½.

This invention relates to a cabinet for use in kitchens, and has for its principal object the provision of a cabinet in which the various supplies will be kept in bins from which they can be dispensed by the operation of valves.

Another object of the invention is to so construct these bins that they may be readily refilled or cleaned.

Still another object is to provide visible means for indicating the nature of the contents of each of the bins.

A further object is to provide agitating means in the bins which will operate simultaneously with the valves to loosen any packed material so that it will readily flow.

A still further object is to provide sifting means for such supplies as flour, meal, etc., which will operate simultaneously with the discharge of the material.

With these and other objects in view, which will become more apparent from the following description, I will now proceed to describe my invention in detail, having reference to the accompanying drawings which form a part hereof. In these drawings, like parts are designated by like numerals throughout.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my complete invention.

Fig. 2 is a detail view of the bin bottom, looking upward, partially broken away to show the valve construction.

Fig. 3 is a vertical section through one of the smaller supply bins, taken on the line 3—3, Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a horizontal cross section through the bin of Fig. 3, taken on the line 4—4, Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a vertical cross section through one of the larger supply bins such as might be used for flour, meal, etc., taken on the line 5—5, Fig. 1.

Fig. 6 is a horizontal cross section through the bin of Fig. 5. taken on the line 6—6, Fig. 5.

In Fig. 1, a type of kitchen cabinet is illustrated, consisting of an upper portion 10 and a lower or table portion 12, the latter being provided with a sliding top 13. In the upper portion 10, shelves 14 are arranged for dishes and the like, part of the space being occupied by a series of small drawers 15. These drawers and shelves are covered when not in use by means of a series of hinged doors 16 and 17, the door 17 having a third door 18 hinged upon its edge so as to allow the entire width of the cabinet to be opened without the necessity of unusually wide doors.

In the lower portion 12 of the cabinet, compartments 19 are provided for pans, pots and the like; a drawer 20 for knives, forks, and other table ware; a drawer 21 which serves as a bread and cake box; and a drawer 22 for miscellaneous supplies. Between the drawers 20, 21, and 22, and the compartments 19, a refrigerator 23 is arranged, closed by means of a refrigerator door 24. The ice for the refrigerator is placed upon a shelf 25 and drains from the cabinet through a drain pipe 26. By placing the refrigerator between the drawers and compartments of the lower portion 12 of the case, these drawers and compartments serve as insulating spaces and help to maintain a low temperature in the refrigerator.

Slidably mounted below the shelves 14, is a bin container 27, which is divided by means of a plurality of partitions 28, into a series of individual bins 29. The bins in the extremities of the container 27 are larger than the remaining bins and extend upwardly to the second shelf 14 of the upper section 10 of the cabinet. The container 27 is carried in the section 10 upon rollers 30 which ride on roller tracks 31 attached to the side members of the section 10. With this construction, the entire bin container 27 may be drawn forward, as indicated in broken line at 32, Fig. 5, so as to allow ready access to all of the bins for cleaning and refilling purposes.

Extending throughout the bin container 27, is a floor 33, having discharge openings 34 which register with the middle of each of the bins, Each of the discharge openings 34 is closed by means of a valve gate 35 which slides in valve guides 36 secured to the bottom of the floor 33. The gates 35 are caused to pass over and away from the openings 34 by means of valve handles 37 having shafts 38, upon which, levers 39 are secured, below the floor 33. These levers are connected by means of connecting links 40 to the gates 35, thus a one-fourth turn of any of the valve handles 37, in

either direction, will fully open the opening 34 of that bin and allow the material therein to discharge through the opening.

To prevent packing of the material, an agitator 41 is provided in each of the smaller bins. This agitator is connected through the forward face 42 of the bin to a lever 43 carried on the valve handle 37, thus effectively loosening the material therein so that it will flow through the openings 34. Each of the agitators 41 is provided with a scraper bar 45 which contacts with the floor 33 and scrapes any material thereon into the opening 34.

Extending throughout the length of the container 27, below the bottom 33, is a funnel plate 46, carrying funnels 47. Each of the funnels 47 registers with one of the openings 34 and serves to guide the material passing therethrough into any suitable container. The plate 46 entirely conceals the operating mechanism of the valves and, since it is constructed as a unit, ready access to the entire operating mechanism may be obtained by the removal of its retaining screws 48.

It will be noted that the forward face 42 of the bin is placed at an angle and cooperates with an angularly placed backing 49 in the bins to direct the material toward the opening 34. In the face 42 of each of the bins, a glass cup 50 is secured which communicates with the bin interior and in which a portion of the material contained in the bin is retained. This gives a visible indication of the nature of the bin contents without the necessity of labels and the like. For the glass cups 50, common coffee percolator tops are readily adaptable.

The flour and meal bins at the extremities of the container 27, have the same valve construction as the bins previously described. In these bins, however, a screen 51 is arranged over the opening 34 and held in place by a frame 52. A sifter 53 rides on the screen 51 and is held thereagainst by means of a cross bar 54. The sifter 53 is operated from the lever 43 on the valve handle 37, by means of an arm 55 connected therewith. The sifter 53 is provided with agitating bars 56 and 57 which serve to loosen the contained material and draw it downward upon the screen 51. To prevent the container 27 from being entirely withdrawn, a stop 58 is placed at the outer extremities of the tracks 31. This stop is held in place by screws, so that it may be readily removed should it be desired to completely remove the container.

While a specific form of the improvement has been described and illustrated herein, it is desired to be understood that the same may be varied, within the scope of the appended claims, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim and desire secured by Letters Patent is:—

1. In a kitchen cabinet, a bin having an opening in the bottom thereof; a screen covering said opening; a gate arranged to close said opening; an agitator arranged to operate over said screen and move the bin contents thereon; an operating handle arranged to simultaneously move said gate and said agitator; and a stationary bar extending over said opening, said agitator arranged to slide between said bar and said screen so as to maintain said sifter against said screen.

2. In a kitchen cabinet a bin; a floor in the bottom of said bin provided with an opening; a sub-floor arranged below said first floor, said first floor projecting beyond the wall of said bin; a series of funnels carried by said sub-floor; a gate arranged to close said opening; a vertical shaft passing through said projecting beyond portion of said floor; an operating handle carried on said shaft above said floor; a crank carried on said shaft below said floor; and a connecting link between said crank and said gate.

3. In a kitchen cabinet a bin; a floor in the bottom of said bin provided with an opening; a sub-floor arranged below said first floor, said first floor projecting beyond the wall of said bin; a series of funnels carried by said sub-floor; a gate arranged to close said opening; an operating handle arranged to operate said gate, said operating handle being carried on said projecting beyond portion of said floor; and an agitator arranged above said opening and extending through the forward face of said bin to an operable contact with said operating handle.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature.

EDWIN BURKE.