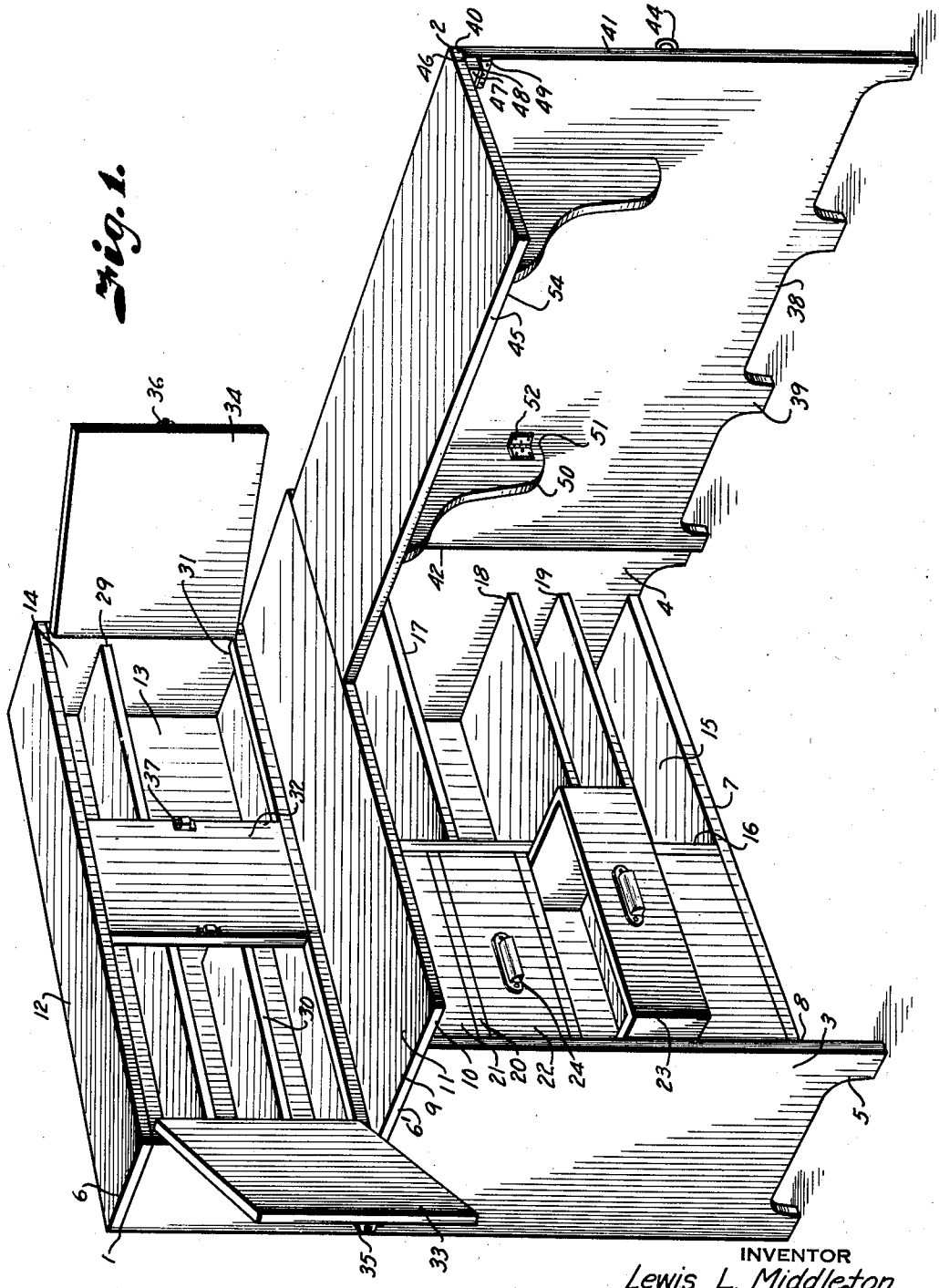
Jan. 2, 1940. L. L. MIDDLETON 2,185,513

CABINET

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Fig. 1.



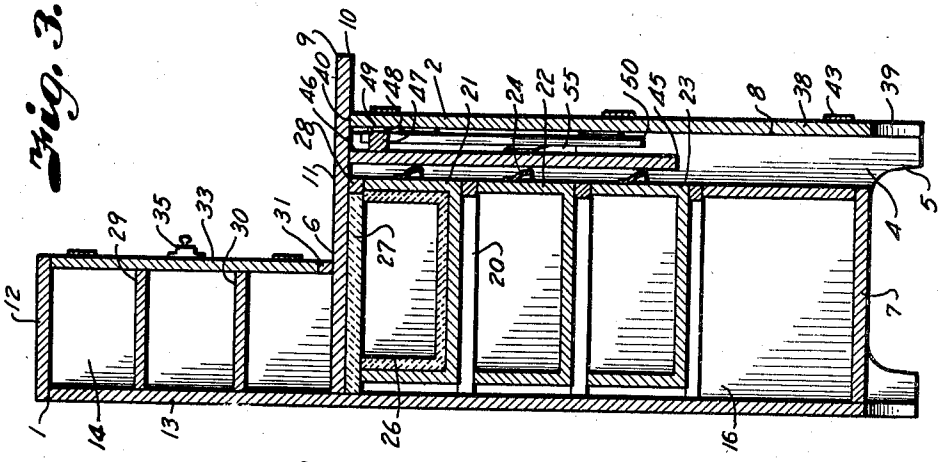
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CABINET

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Fig. 3.



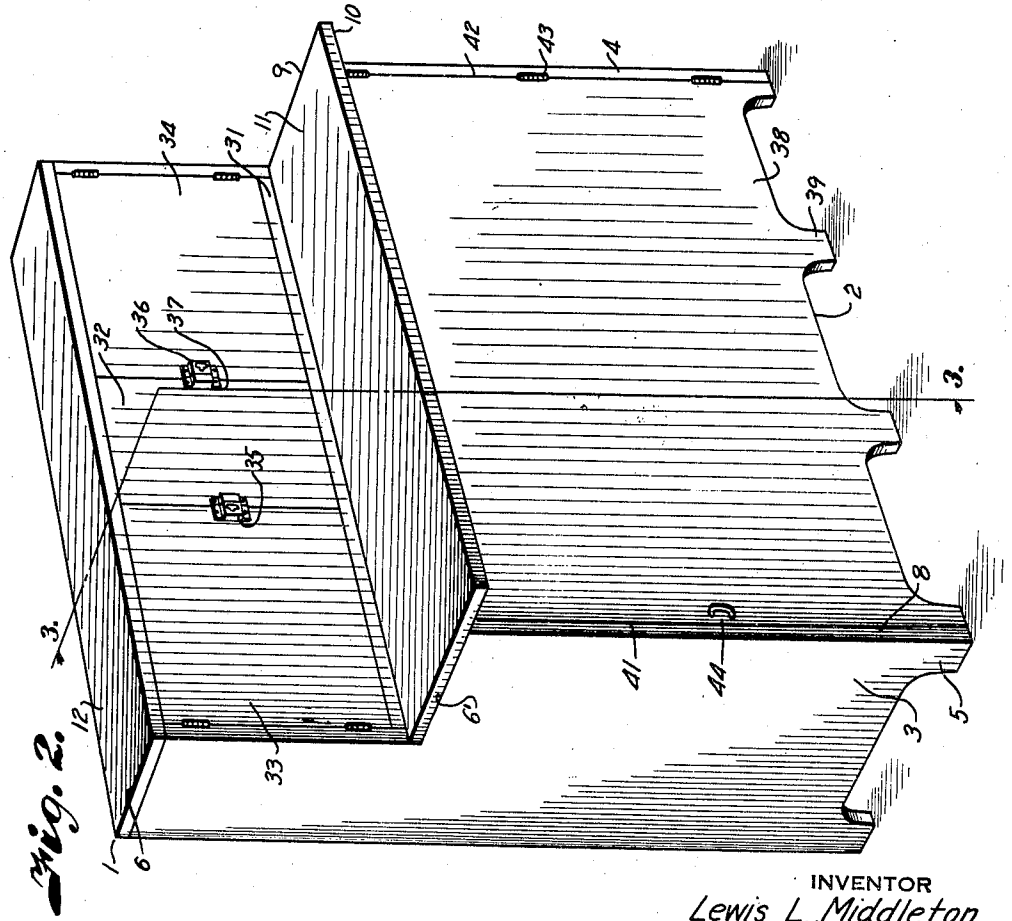


Fig. 2.

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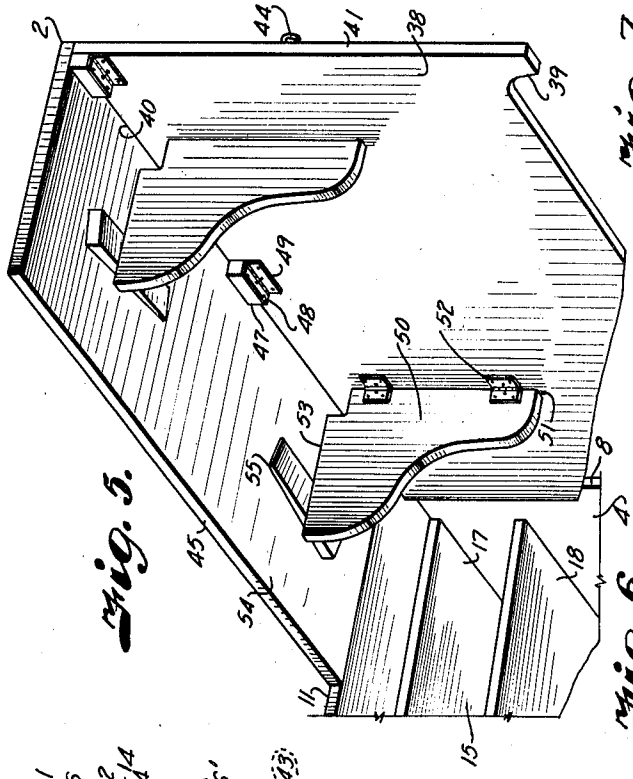


Fig. 5.

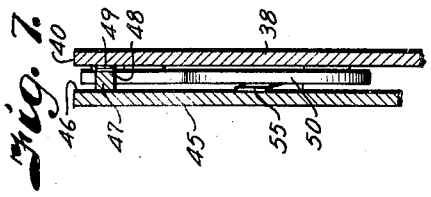


Fig. 7.

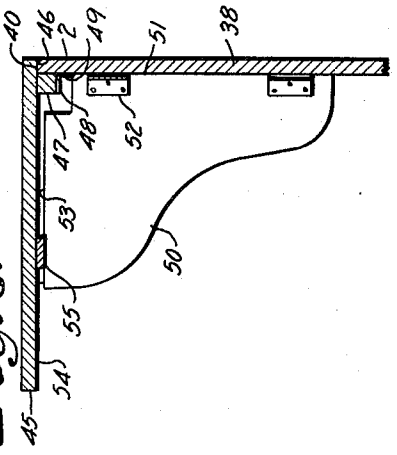


Fig. 6.

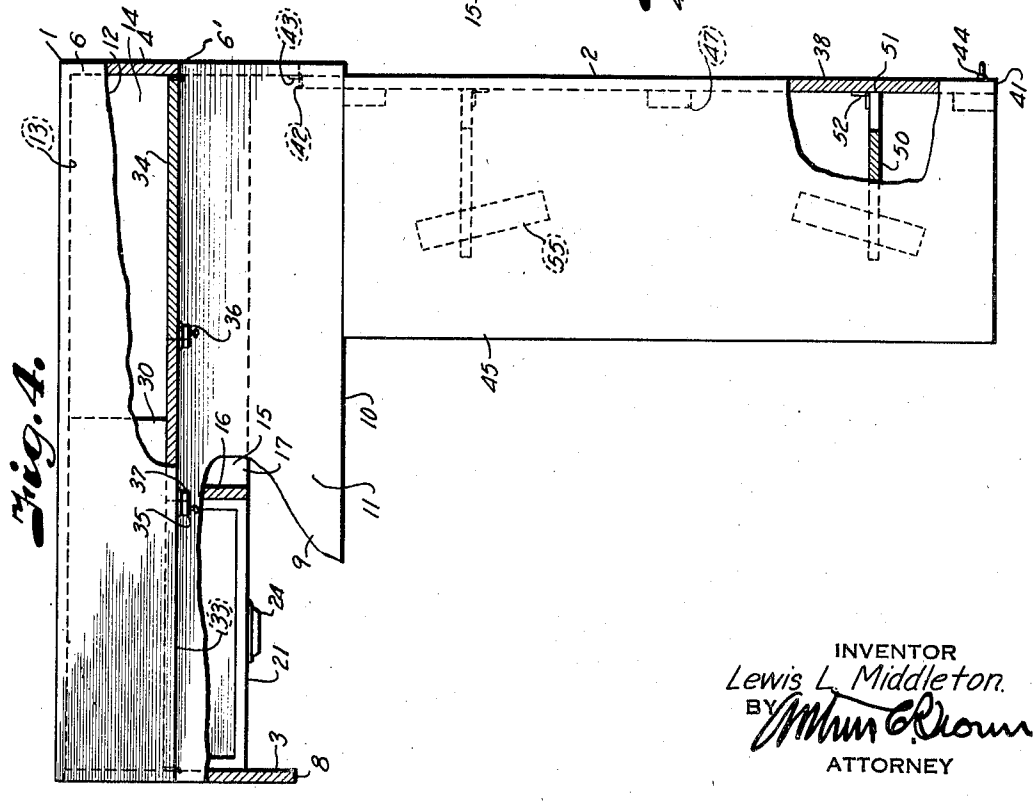


Fig. 4.

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CABINET

Lewis L. Middleton, Kansas City, Mo.

Application April 18, 1938, Serial No. 202,619

4 Claims. (Cl. 312—164)

This invention relates to cabinets particularly adapted for recreation rooms, small banquet halls, and similar places for the storage and service of foods and beverages.

The principal object of the present invention is to provide a cabinet of this character having the appearance of an ordinary article of furniture when not in use, but which is adapted to be extended to form a bar for the convenient service of various forms of beverages, buffet lunches, and the like.

Other important objects of the invention are to provide the cabinet with various shelves and receptacles for storing the various articles and accessories necessary in service of this character; and to provide a cabinet construction which is adapted to harmonize with the room decorations and the other furniture of the room in which it is installed.

In accomplishing these and other objects of the invention, I have provided improved details of structure, the preferred form of which is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a cabinet constructed in accordance with the invention and showing the service bar or counter extended to service position.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the cabinet with the bar in folded position.

Fig. 3 is a vertical section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2 particularly illustrating the positions which the top of the service bar and hinge bracket members assume when in folded position.

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the cabinet when in use as a bar.

Fig. 5 is an underneath perspective view of portions of the service bar, particularly illustrating the manner of supporting the bar top when in operative position.

Fig. 6 is a vertical section through the service bar, with the parts in position as shown in Fig. 5.

Fig. 7 is a similar view showing the bar top and its supporting brackets in folded position.

Referring more in detail to the drawings:

1 designates a cabinet equipped with a service bar 2 that is foldable into the cabinet for giving the appearance of an ordinary article of furniture, as shown in Fig. 2, or extended to the position as shown in Fig. 1 for the service of various beverages, buffet lunches, and the like.

The cabinet 1 preferably conforms to the decorative scheme of the room in which it is installed and includes side walls 3 and 4 having footing portions 5 and offset upper edges 6 and 6'. The side walls 3—4 are connected by a bottom 7 located above the footing portions 5 and having its front edge inset inwardly from the lower front edges of the side walls. Also connecting the side walls and having a portion of its ends resting upon the offset 6' is a table top 9 having a forward projecting edge 10 to provide a working space 11 of sufficient size for the convenient preparation of the various foods, drinks or the like, to be served on the bar portion, later described.

A top member 12 is mounted on the upper edges 6 of the side walls and connects with a rear wall 13 that is suitably connected with the side walls and bottom 7 to form upper and lower storage compartments 14 and 15. The lower storage compartment 15 is divided by a partition 16 to cooperate with the side wall 4 in supporting spaced shelves 17, 18 and 19 and with the side wall 3 to support drawer slides 20. The shelves 17, 18 and 19 are suitably spaced to accommodate the various articles to be stored thereon and the front edges thereof substantially align with the forward edge of the bottom 7.

Supported on the drawer slides 20 are drawers 21, 22 and 23 having the front faces thereof aligning with the edges of the shelves and provided with suitable pulls 24. One of the drawers, for example, the upper drawer 21, is preferably lined with insulating material 26 for adapting it to receive refrigerants, such as ice cubes. The under side of the table top directly over the drawer is also lined with insulation 27 to completely insulate the drawer compartment and retard melting of the ice. A horizontal rail 28 may be attached to the end walls and partition 16 to anchoringly support the top where it bridges the lower compartment. The upper compartment 14 is provided with an upper shelf 29 that extends entirely from one end thereof to the other, and a shelf 30 which extends from the wall 3 to a point substantially midway of the compartment. The shelves at one side of the compartment are thus spaced to accommodate glasses and similar small accessories, while the opposite side has sufficient space to accommodate bottles and taller accessories.

Extending across the top of the table is a rail 31 cooperating with a division panel 32 and with the top 12 in forming door openings that are normally closed by doors 33 and 34 which are preferably hinged to the side walls 3 and 4 and provided with locks or latches 35 and 36 adapted to engage with keepers 37 attached to the adjacent side edges of the panel 32.

The service bar 2 includes a vertical panel 38 having feet 39 conforming in shape to the foot portions 5 of the side walls. The panel 38 is of sufficient length and height to completely close the front of the lower compartment so that the side edges 41 and 42 closely fit within the side walls 3 and 4 and to one of which the panel is connected by hinges 43, Figs. 2 and 4, the opposite side of the panel being provided with a handle 44 by which the panel is swung to and from closing relation with the lower compartment of the cabinet.

Connected with the inner upper edge of the panel 38 is a hinged counter top 45 of sufficient width to provide space for serving the foods and beverages in the manner of a bar. The length of the counter top is less than that of the panel so that when the panel is swung to substantially right angles with the cabinet and the top raised, the end thereof adjacent the hinge side of the panel is in position to abut the front edge of the table top 9, and the upper surface thereof lies in the same plane as the surface 11, as shown in Fig. 1. The counter top is connected with the panel so that when it is in the position illustrated in Fig. 1 the front edge thereof is supported upon the upper edge of the panel 38 and the front face thereof aligns with the front face of the panel.

In order to connect the counter top with the panel, the lower face of the counter top is provided with spaced blocks 47 that are fixed thereto in spaced relation with the forward edge thereof to accommodate the edge of the front panel and secured to the blocks and to the adjacent face of the front panel are hinges having leaves 48 secured to the blocks, and leaves 49 attached to the panel 38 as best shown in Fig. 5. The hinges are thus located so that when the counter top is in folded position, illustrated in Fig. 7, it is spaced from the inner face of the front panel to accommodate supporting brackets 50 that have inner edges 51 secured to the inner face of the panel 38 by hinges 52 and which have upper edges 53 adapted to supportingly engage the under face 54 of the counter top when the counter top is lifted to horizontal position and the brackets are swung laterally on their hinges as shown in Fig. 5. To more securely fix the table top in horizontal position the under face 54 thereof carries oppositely disposed wedges 55 which are located in position for engaging the edges 53 of the brackets when they are swung to top supporting position.

Assuming the cabinet to be constructed as described, and installed along the wall of a room so that the side 4 thereof is spaced from an adjacent wall or other obstruction, its operation is as follows:

The shelves of the various compartments and the drawers are stocked with the necessary articles of service, food stuffs, and beverages necessary in preparing various drinks to be served, the ice being placed in the insulated drawer 21. When the doors 33 and 34 are closed and the counter top collapsed with the panel 38 swung to closed position the articles of service are concealed and the cabinet has the appearance of an ordinary piece of furniture conforming to the decorative effects of the room in which it is installed. When it is desired to extend the bar, the handle 44 is grasped to swing the panel outwardly on its hinges 43 into alignment with the side 4. The counter top 45 is then lifted so that the end thereof swings past the forward end of the table top 11. The brackets 50 are then swung on their hinges so that the edges 53 thereof ride upon the inclined surfaces of the wedges 55 to frictionally retain the brackets in extended position and prevent play in the counter top 45. The shelved storage and drawer spaces in the lower portion of the cabinet are thus exposed and in convenient reach of the attendant, the attendant standing in the angle between the table and bar tops and serving the guests across the bar.

To close the bar the brackets 50 are swung inwardly toward each other against the inner face of the panel 38 and the top lowered to the position shown in Fig. 7. The counter top then drops to the position over the brackets in parallel relation with the panel 38 so that the panel 38 may be swung to position, closing the lower compartment of the cabinet.

From the foregoing it is apparent that I have provided a cabinet which may be constructed to conform to the decorative effects of a room in which it is installed so that it is not objectionably conspicuous as a bar, but which may be readily extended to provide bar service when occasion demands.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A cabinet including a storage compartment having an open front and a table top projecting over said opening, a foldable bar including a front panel closing said opening, means hinging one end of the panel on the cabinet at one side of said opening, a counter top, spacing blocks fixed to the under side of said counter top, hinges connecting the spacing blocks with said panel whereby the counter top is adapted to be swung into a horizontal position with an edge thereof overlapping the upper edge of the panel, and brackets normally retained in the space afforded by the spacing blocks and adapted to be moved into supporting relation with the counter top whereby the counter top cooperates with said table top when the panel is swung from covering relation with said opening to form a bar.

2. A cabinet including a storage compartment having an open front and a table top projecting over said opening, a foldable bar including a front panel closing said opening, means hinging one end of the panel to the cabinet at one side of said opening, a counter top, spacing blocks fixed to the under side of said counter top, hinge means connecting the spacing blocks with said panel whereby the counter top is adapted to be moved to a horizontal position with an edge thereof overlapping the upper edge of the panel, and counter top supporting brackets hinged to the panel and normally retained in the space afforded by the spacing blocks.

3. A cabinet including a storage compartment having an open front and a table top projecting over said opening, a foldable bar including a front panel closing said opening, means hinging one end of the panel to the cabinet at one side of said opening, a counter top, spacing blocks fixed to the under side of said counter top, hinge means connecting the spacing blocks with said panel whereby the counter top is adapted to be moved into a horizontal position with an edge thereof overlapping the upper edge of the panel, and counter top supporting brackets hinged to the panel and normally retained between the table top and said panel in the space afforded by the spacing blocks and adapted to be swung into supporting relation with the counter top so that the counter top forms a continuation of said table

top when the panel is swung from covering relation with said opening.

4. In a cabinet of the character described, connected bottom, side and table top members forming a compartment, the table top member extending forwardly beyond front edges of the side members and forming a working area, a panel movably mounted on one of the side members, and a counter top mounted on the panel movable into coplanar relation to the working area of the table top member, upon moving the panel away from the other side member, to increase the size of said working area, said counter top being of sufficiently less length than the panel to substantially abut and align with a portion of the edge of the table top member when the panel and counter top are moved relative to the compartment and panel respectively.

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