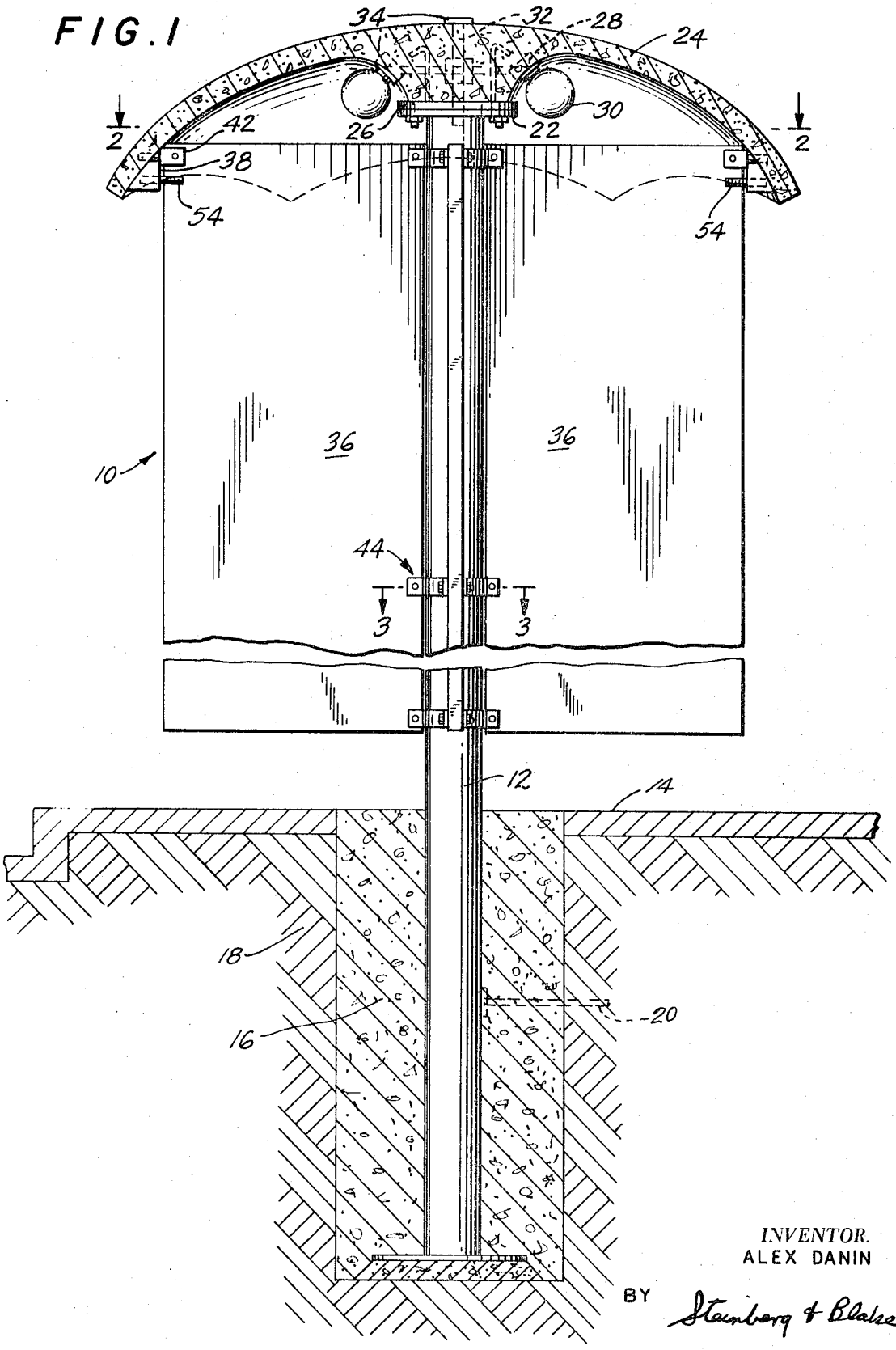
Dec. 1, 1970 A. DANIN 3,543,454

KIOSK

Filed Aug. 15, 1968 4 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1



INVENTOR.
ALEX DANIN

BY Steinberg & Blaise

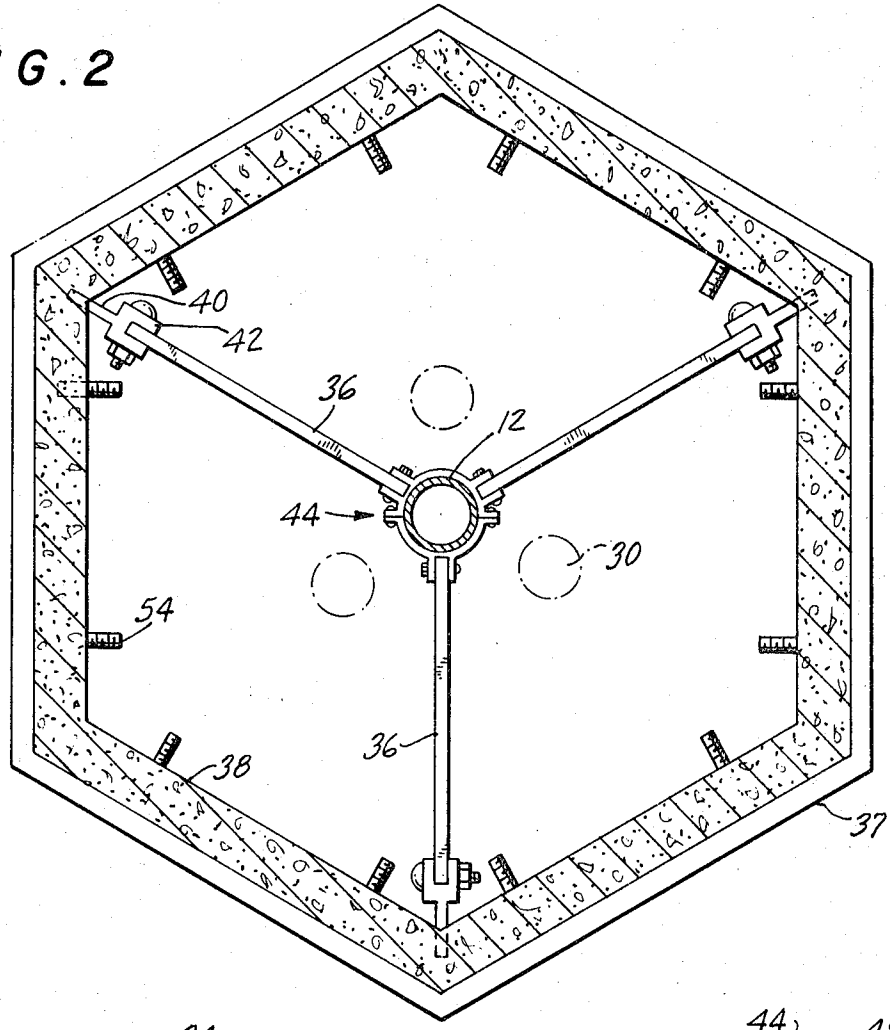
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Dec. 1, 1970 A. DANIN 3,543,454

KIOSK

Filed Aug. 15, 1968 4 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 2



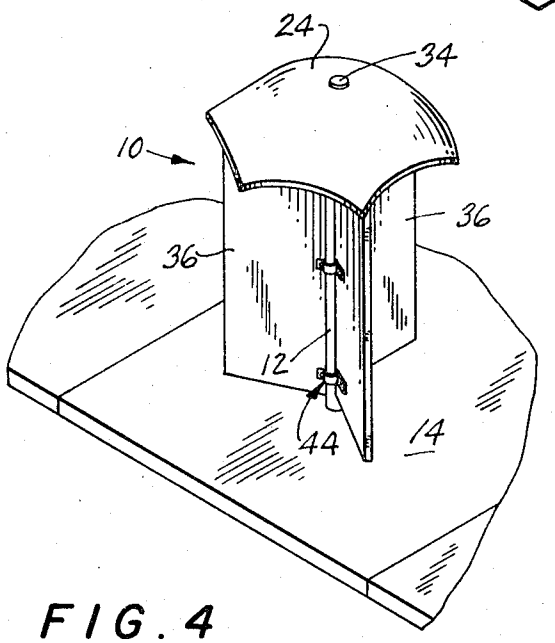


FIG. 4

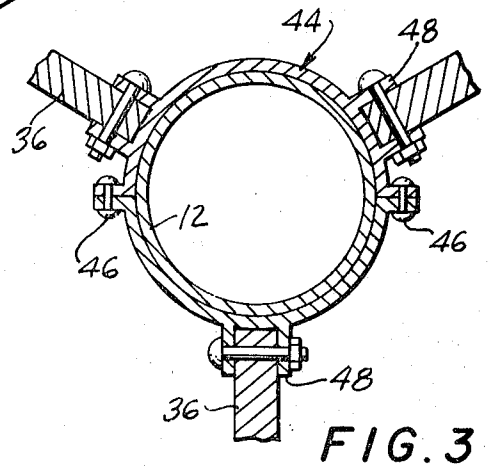


FIG. 3

INVENTOR.
ALEX DANIN

BY Steinberg + Blalea

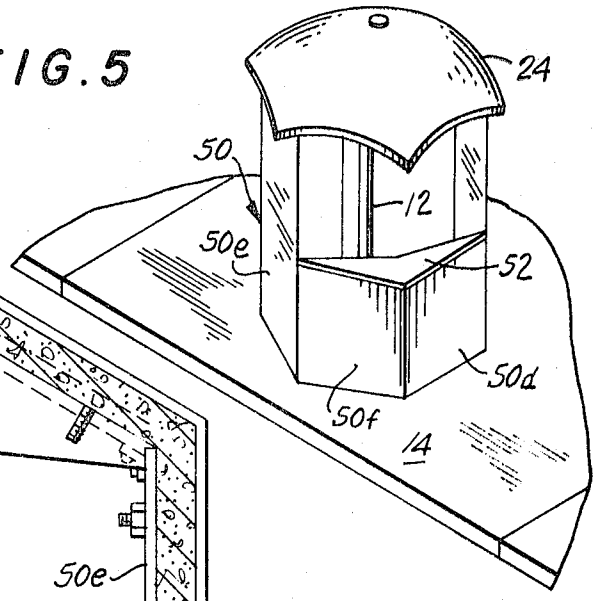
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Filed Aug. 15, 1968 4 Sheets-Sheet 3

FIG. 5



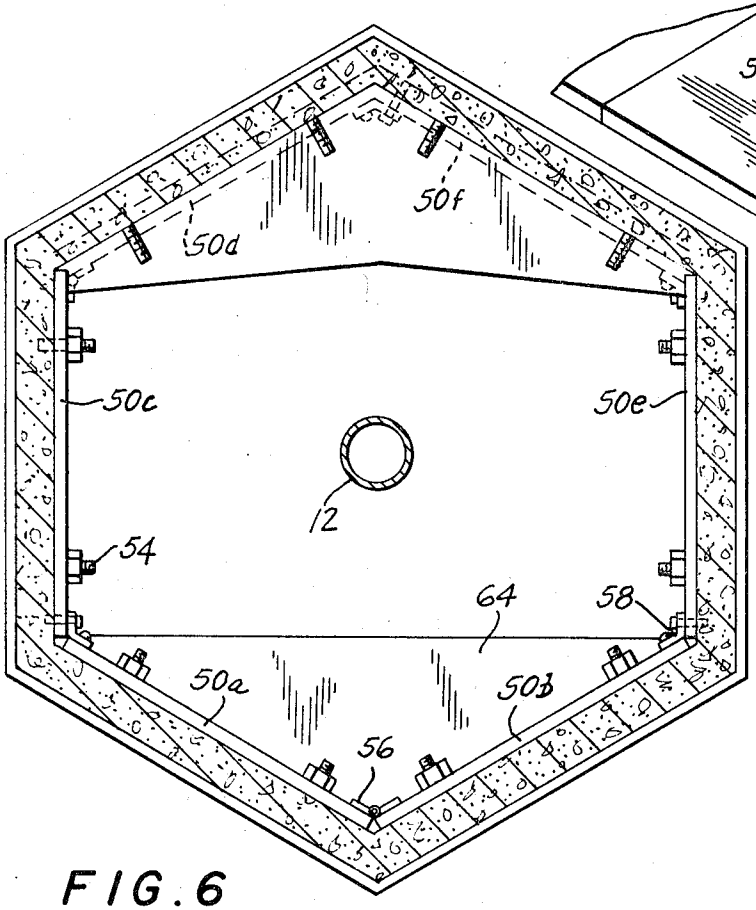


FIG. 6

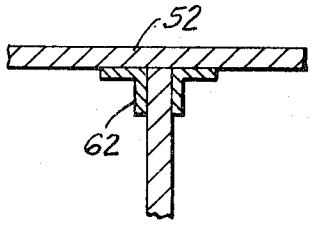


FIG. 9

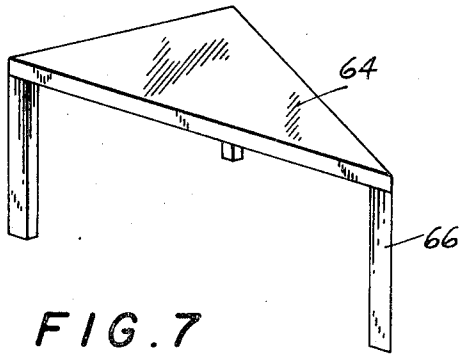


FIG. 7

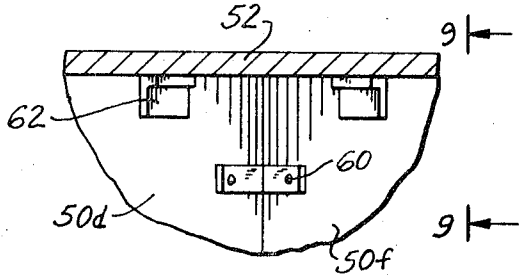


FIG. 8

INVENTOR.
ALEX DANIN

BY Steinberg + Blake

ATTORNEYS

Dec. 1, 1970 A. DANIN 3,543,454

KIOSK

Filed Aug. 15, 1968 4 Sheets-Sheet 4

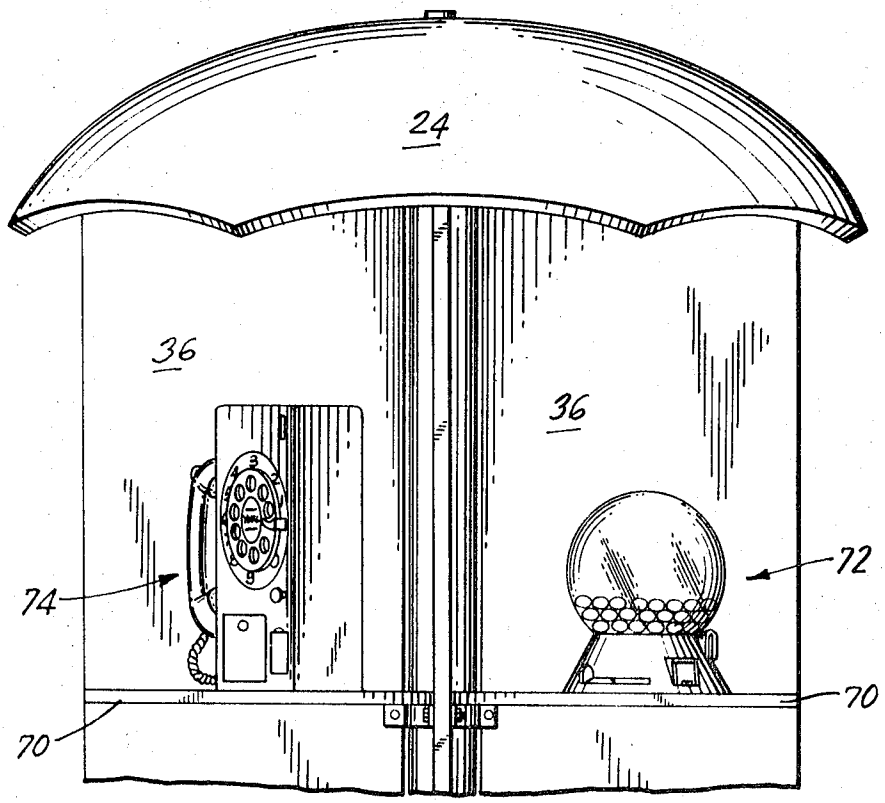


FIG. 10

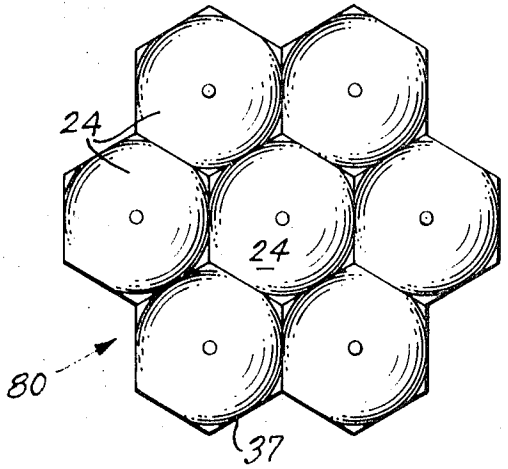


FIG. 11

INVENTOR
ALEX DANIN

BY Steinberg + Blake

ATTORNEYS

United States Patent Office 3,543,454 Patented Dec. 1, 1970

3,543,454

KIOSK

Alex Danin, 1080 Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains, N.Y. 10605

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Int. Cl. E04g 1/343; E04h 1/12
U.S. Cl. 52—36 7 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A kiosk capable of fulfilling a multiplicity of purposes such as providing protection at a bus stop or the like, forming an enclosure from which articles may be sold, providing areas from which advertisements may be displayed, etc. The kiosk has a central column carried by and extending upwardly from a suitable support such as a sidewalk. This column carries at its top end a roof which extends outwardly in all directions beyond the column. A plurality of panels extend downwardly from the roof and each panel is carried at least in part by the roof.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to kiosks.

As is well-known, it is possible for various municipalities to enjoy a certain income from kiosks. For such purposes kiosks may be situated at suitable locations to carry advertising matter, or they may take the form of enclosures used for vending purposes.

However, kiosks of this general type are not presently used to any large extent even though they will serve as a source of income for a municipality. The reason why such kiosks are not used to a greater extent is that the costs for constructing such kiosks is so great, as compared to the possible income which can be derived therefrom, that it is not at present economically feasible for a municipality to invest in the construction of large numbers of kiosks.

One of the reasons why the costs involved in the construction of such kiosks are so great is that different constructions are required for kiosks depending upon the purposes to be served thereby. Thus, where a kiosk is to be used for vending purposes it will have one construction, while if the kiosk is simply to be used for advertising purposes, it will have a complete different construction. Furthermore, special problems are encountered with kiosk constructions because of the fact that they are of relatively small size while at the same time being required to withstand severe weather conditions. The result is that conventional kiosks rapidly deteriorate and require high maintenance costs in order to remain in good, usable condition.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is accordingly a primary object of the present invention to provide a kiosk which will avoid the above drawbacks.

In particular, it is an object of the invention to provide a kiosk which can be constructed at an extremely low cost while at the same time requiring minimum maintenance and being capable of withstanding severe weather conditions over a long period of time.

Furthermore, it is an object of the invention to provide a single kiosk construction which is adapted to serve a multiplicity of purposes, so that different kiosk structures are not required for different purposes.

In particular, it is an object of the invention to provide a kiosk which can easily be converted from a construction serving one purpose to a construction serving another purpose.

According to the invention, the kiosk includes a single central column fixed to and extending upwardly from a suitable support such as a sidewalk. At its top end the column carries a roof which extends in all directions outwardly from the column. A plurality of panels extend downwardly from the roof with each panel carried at least in part by the roof. These panels terminate in bottom edges which are spaced above the support which carries the central column. A fastening means is carried by the central column and by the roof for releasably fastening to the roof and column panels which extend radially from the column toward the outer periphery of the roof to provide on the panels surfaces which may be used for advertisements, and this construction also provides between the panels spaces where people may stand beneath the roof to be protected from the weather with such a kiosk being located at a bus stop, for example. It is also possible, however, to provide panels releasably fastened to and extending downwardly from the roof, so as to be carried exclusively by the roof. Such an arrangement of panels is adapted to form an enclosure from which articles may be sold over a suitable counter.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The invention is illustrated by way of example in the accompanying drawings which form part of this application and in which:

FIG. 1 is a partly schematic partly sectional elevation of one possible kiosk construction of the invention;

FIG. 2 is a sectional plan view taken along line **2—2** of FIG. 1 in the direction of the arrows;

FIG. 3 shows part of the releasable fastening means of FIGS. 1 and 2;

FIG. 4 is a simplified isometric illustration of the kiosk of FIGS. 1 and 2;

FIG. 5 is a simplified isometric illustration of another construction where the kiosk has been converted to a different use;

FIG. 6 is a sectional plan view taken in the same plane as FIG. 2 but showing the structure of the kiosk when converted to the use shown in FIG. 5;

FIG. 7 is a perspective illustration of part of the structure in the interior of the kiosk of FIGS. 5 and 6;

FIG. 8 is a fragmentary sectional elevation showing how a counter is carried by the kiosk of FIGS. 5 and 6;

FIG. 9 is a fragmentary sectional elevation taken along line **9—9** of FIG. 8 in the direction of the arrows;

FIG. 10 is a fragmentary elevation schematically illustrating how it is possible for the kiosk of FIGS. 1 and 4 to be adapted to accommodate devices such as telephones, dispensers, and the like; and

FIG. 11 is a top plan view showing how a group of the kiosks of the invention can be assembled into a cluster of any size.

DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring now to the drawings, the kiosk **10** which is indicated in FIG. 1 includes a central column **12**, in the form of a supporting pillar, fixed to and extending upwardly from a suitable support such as a sidewalk **14**. As is indicated at the lower portion of FIG. 1, an elongated lower end of the column **12** is embedded in a body of concrete **16** which is situated in the ground **18** directly beneath the sidewalk **14**.

The central column **12** may be in the form of a hollow steel pipe, having a diameter of six inches, for example, and with this construction suitable electrical conductors **20** which are underground can communicate with the hollow interior of the column **12** for a purpose referred to below.

At its top end the column **12** has a flange **22** by means of which a roof **24** can be fixed to and carried by the column **12** at its top end.

The roof **24** is preferably of a precast concrete construction in which various fittings, fasteners, and the like are embedded as referred to below. The roof **24** is of a generally umbrella-shaped configuration and extends outwardly in all directions from the central column **12**. At its inner central portion, the roof **24** fixedly carries a flange **26** formed with openings regstering with those of the flange **22**, so that suitable fasteners can extend through the openings of the flanges for fixing the roof **24** to the top end of the column **12**.

At the region of its central portion, the roof **24** carries at its underside suitable electrical fixtures in the form of sockets **28** for light bulbs **30**, and the roof **24** may carry a central hollow tube **32** covered by a suitable removable cap **34** and through which electrical communication may be made with the sockets **28** for energizing the lamps **30**. However, through the underground wiring **20** it is possible to extend conductors upwardly along the interior of the column **12** to be electrically connected with the sockets **28**. Thus, either through underground or overhead wiring it is possible to connect the lamps **30** to a suitable source of current, and switches for turning the lamps on and off may be carried directly at the sockets **28**, for example.

The concrete roof **24** also has embedded therein, at the region of its outer periphery, a releasable fastening means serving to releasably fasten to the roof panels **36** which are also fastened to the column **12**. As is apparent from FIG. 2, the roof **24** has an outer peripheral edge **37** and at the region of its periphery an inwardly directed side surface **38** both of which have the configuration of a regular hexagon. At corners of the hexagon **38** which are angularly spaced from each other by 60°, bolts **40** which are embedded in the concrete of the roof **24** project inwardly from these corners and carry at the inner ends U-shaped fastening brackets **42** for respectively receiving outer upper edge regions of the panels **36** which are situated in the radial planes indicated in FIG. 2. At the places where they are received in the brackets **42**, the panels **36** respectively have openings registering with openings in sidewalls of the brackets **42** so that suitable fasteners such as bolts and nuts may be passed through the brackets **42** and the openings in the panels **36** for releasably fastening them to the brackets **42**.

At suitable elevations along the column **12** there are additional fasteners in the form of split rings **44** shown in FIG. 3. These split rings can be releasably fixed to the exterior of the column **12** by being clamped thereon through the fasteners **46**. The split ring **44** has a pair of semicircular portions from one of which two pairs of fastening ears **48** extend while a third pair of ears **48** are integral with and extend from the other of the semicircular portions of the split ring **46**. The pairs of ears **48** are formed with aligned openings and the inner edges of the panels are received between the pairs of ears **48** and have openings registering with those of the ears so that suitable fasteners may be provided for releasably fastening the panels **36** at their inner edges to the split rings **44** which are fixedly carried by the column **12**.

Thus, with this construction the panels **36** will be releasably fixed to and carried by the roof **24** and the column **12** with the several panels **36** defining between themselves compartments situated beneath the roof **24**. It is to be noted that the panels **36**, all of which are identical, terminate in bottom edges which are spaced above the support **14**. For example, the bottom edges of the panels **36** may be situated at a distance of **8** inches above the surface of the sidewalk **14**. The bottom edge of the roof **24**, at its outer periphery may be situated at a height of almost 7 feet above the bottom edges of the panels, while the roof itself may have a total height on the order of one and one-half feet. The diameter of the roof may be on the order of five feet.

Thus, with this simple construction a rugged, practically maintenance-free structure is provided capable of being situated at bus stops, for example. People waiting at the bus stops can poistion themselves beneath the roof **24** and between the panels **36** to be protected from the weather, and at night the lamps **30** can be illuminated. The exterior surfaces of the panels **36** may be rented to advertisers, so that in addition to serving the community as protection at bus stops, the kiosk of the invention can also serve as a source of income for advertisers who wish to place advertisements on the panels **36**. The panels can be made from simple sheets of plywood, so that with the precast concrete roof **24**, the plywood panels **36**, and the simple fixing of a column **12** to the ground, the structure of the invention can be set up for use at an extremely low cost.

The manner in which the kiosk **10** described above appears is apparent from FIG. 4 which shows the sidewalk **14** with the central column **12** extending upwardly therefrom. The panels **36** are shown extending radially from the column **12** with the roof **24** situated thereover. Of course, more than three panels **36** may be used and the size of the structure can be varied.

At certain locations it may be desirable to have vending kiosks, and for this purpose the basic structure of the invention described above can easily be converted to serve as a vending kiosk. As may be seen from FIG. 5 such a vending kiosk will include the same roof **24** and central coulmn **12**. However, in this case the panels **36** are repositioned or replaced by a second group of panels **50** releasably carried by and extending downwardly from the roof **24** at the region of its outer periphery, with these panels **50** being carried exclusively by the roof **24** and forming an enclosure beneath the latter. From this enclosure it is possible for articles to be sold over the counter **52**. Panels may be added to panels **36** to form the second panel group, or a separate group may be provided.

As is apparent from FIGS. 1 and 2, the releasable fastening means includes in addition to the structure shown in FIG. **3** and the bolts **40** and brackets **42**, threaded studs **54** embedded in the concrete roof **24** and projecting inwardly beyond and located adjacent the corners of the surface **38**, these studs **54** being situated at an elevation somewhat lower than the brackets **42** and bolts **40** and being out of alignment therewith.

With this construction, after the panels **36** are removed, the panels **50** can be suspended from the studs **54**, with these panels **50** also terminating in bottom edges spaced above the support **14**. The panels **50** are each provided at the region of their top edge with openings which respectively receive the studs **54**, and then suitable washers and nuts can be applied on the threaded studs to releasably fix the panels **50** to the roof **24** extending downwardly from and exclusively carried thereby.

As may be seen from FIG. 6, the panels **50** includes a pair of panels **50***a* and **50***b* hingedly connected to each other at their adjoining edges by hinges **56**, so that these hingedly interconnected panels **50***a* and **50***b* can be fixed to and extend along a pair of the flat surfaces of the hexagon **38**. A third panel **50***c* is hingedly connected with a relatively short panel **50***d* which extends only to the height indicated in FIG. 5 and which supports the counter **52**. A fourth panel **50***e* is hingedly connected with a second short panel **50***f* which is of the same height a sthe panel **50***d* and which also supports the counter **52**.

The edges of panels **50***a* and **50***b* distant from the hinges **56** carry angle brackets **58** which overlap edges of the panels **50***c* and **50***e* and which are formed with openings receiving bolts passing through the panels **50***c* and **50***e* and the angle brackets **58** which may, for example, be permanently riveted to the panels **50***a* and **50***b*, so that in this way the panels **50***a*, **50***b*, **50***c*, and **50***e* which are directly carried by the roof **24** are all fastened to each other to define the enclosure beneath the roof **24**. The shorter panels **50***f* and **50***d*, which terminate

in bottom edges situated at the same elevation as the bottom edges of the remaining panels, above the surface of the sidewalk **14**, are connected at their adjoining edges by angle brackets **60** identical with the brackets **58**, permanently fixed to the panel **50***d* and releasably fastened with the panel **50***f* by bolts passing through openings of the panel **50***f* which register with openings of the angle brackets **60**.

As is apparent from FIGS. 8 and 9, the counter **52** carries at its underside parallel rows of L-shaped brackets **62** defining between themselves spaces for receiving the top edges of the panels **50***d* and **50***f*, so that in this way the counter **52** is removably supported directly on the top edges of the shorter panels **50***f* and **50***d*.

At the interior of the enclosure formed with this construction shelves **64** are provided for carrying stock. These shelves may have the triangular configuration shown in FIGS. 6 and 7 and have at their corners legs **66** projecting downwardly so that a series of such shelves can be stacked one above the other.

Thus, when it is desired to convert a kiosk from a construction such as that shown in FIG. 4 into a construction such as that shown in FIG. 5, it is only necessary to remove the panels **36** and replace them with the panels **50** releasably fastened to each other and to the roof **24** in the manner described above. The counter **52** is very quickly placed on the short panels and the shelves **64** are quickly situated in the interior of the enclosure so that in an extremely short period of time and with a minimum of labor it is possible to convert the kiosk from the arrangement shown in FIG. 4 to that shown in FIG. 5. The panels of the vending kiosk of FIG. 5 can also carry advertisements at their exterior surfaces.

Of course, it is possible to quickly and easily reconvert the kiosk from the arrangement of FIG. 5 to that of FIG. 4. When the panels of FIGS. 5 and 6 are removed, the counter **52** is simply lifted off the shorter panels, and the fastening brackets **58** and **60** are unfastened, permitting the panels to be removed from the studs **54**. The panels **50***a* and **50***b* can be folded against each other by way of the hinges **56**, and the panels **50***c* and **50***d* can be folded against each other by way of the hinges interconnecting the same. Of course, the counter **52** has previously been removed from the shorter panels. In the same way the panels **50***e* and **50***f* can be folded against each other by way of their hinge interconnection. Thus, the entire panel and counter assembly is broken down and collapsed to occupy a minimum amount of space, and this structure can be stored at any desired location together with the shelves **64**. Then the panels **36** can be set up to provide the kiosk **10** shown in FIGS. 1 and 4. It is to be noted that when this latter kiosk is replaced by that of FIG. 5, the panels **36** also can be placed against each other to occupy an extremely small amount of space and to be stored at any desired location.

When the panels **36** are used to form at least part of the second group of panels **50**, these panels **36** will of course be provided with additional openings wherever required to receive the studs **54**, and it will be noted that whether panels **50** or panels **36** are used, each panel is supported at its top edge only by a pair of the studs **54**. Where panels **36** are used, they can simply hang freely without being interconnected in any way by any hinges or other connecting elements. Thus, it is possible simply to provide a few additional panels **36** which can be added to the panels **36** used for the arrangement of FIGS. 1 and 4, so that such panels **36** can then be used in the arrangement of FIGS. 5 and 6. If there are gaps between the panels or gaps between the top edges of the panels and the curved bottom edges of the roof, such gaps are immaterial or, if desired, may be closed with suitable fillers.

As is indicated in FIG. 10, it is possible to mount in any suitable way between a pair of adjoining panels **36** of the kiosk of FIGS. 1 and 4 shelves **70** which may carry any suitable devices for the convenience of individuals in the vicinity of the kiosk. Thus, the left shelf **70** of FIG. **10** supports a telephone **74**, while the right shelf **70** of FIG. **10** supports a dispenser **72** such as a coin operated machine for dispensing any desired articles.

Referring to FIG. **11**, it will be seen that because of the hexagonal configuration of the outer peripheral edges **37** of the roofs **24** of the kiosk of the invention, any desired number of these kiosks may be located one directly next to the other to form a cluster **80** of the kiosks of the invention. In this way, in the event that the area which is to be covered is substantially larger than the kiosk of the invention, any desired number of the kiosks of the invention can be assembled together into a cluster of the desired size, and because of the hexagonal configuration of the roofs **24**, the roofs of the cluster of kiosks will directly butt against each other to form a continuous, uninterrupted roof structure covering an area of any desired size. The cluster of kiosks can then be used in any desired manner such as to form entirely or in part an enclosure for any desired activities, or the panels can be arranged for display purposes.

Thus, with the exceedingly simple and inexpensive construction of the invention, which is rugged enough to be capable of withstanding all sorts of severe weather conditions, it is possible to provide different types of kiosks at a cost which makes it feasible for a municipality to set up these kiosks and to achieve an added source of income therefrom.

What is claimed is:

1. A kiosk comprising a central column, in the form of a supporting pillar, carried by and extending upwardly from a support such as a sidewalk, a roof carried by said column at an upper end thereof and extending outwardly in all directions beyond said column, a plurality of panels extending downwardly from said roof with each panel carried at least in part by said roof, said panels respectively terminating in lower edges which are spaced above said support, and said lower edges of said panels and said suport defining between themselves a vertically extending space which is completely free and unobstructed, and releasable fastening means releasably fastening said panels to said roof so that said panels may be removed or replaced while said roof remains connected with said column.

2. A kiosk comprising a central column, in the form of a one-piece supporting pillar, carried by and extending upwardly from a suport such as a sidewalk to a predetermined height which remains unchanged, a roof carried by said column at an upper end thereof and extending outwardly in all directions beyond said coumn, a plurality of panels extending downwardly from said roof with each panel carried at least in part by said roof, said panels being carried exclusively by said roof and defining an enclosure which is situated beneath said roof, and releasable fastening means releasably fastening said panels to said roof so that said panels may be removed or replaced while said roof remains connected with said column.

3. The combination of claim **2** and wherein a counter extends between a pair of said panels to provide a surface over which articles may be sold from the interior from said enclosure.

4. A kiosk comprising a central column, in the form of a supporting pillar, carried by and extending upwardly from a support such as a sidewalk, a roof carried by said column at an upper end thereof and extending outwardly in all directions beyond said column, and a plurality of panels extending downwardly from said roof with each panel carried at least in part by said roof, said panels having inner edges connected to said column and outer edges connected to said roof, said panels being situated in planes, respectlvely, which extend radially from said column.

5. A kiosk comprising a central column, in the form of a suporting pillar, carried by and extending upwardly from a support such as a sidewalk, a roof carried by said column at an upper end thereof and extending outwardly

in all directions beyond said column, and a plurality of panels extending downwardly from said roof with each panel carried at least in part by said roof, a fastening means being carried by said roof and column for releasably fastening to said roof and column panels which extend radially from said column as well as for releasably fastening only to said roof panels which extend downwardly from said roof and define an enclosure beneath said roof.

6. A kiosk comprising a central column, in the form of a supporting pillar, carried by and extending upwardly from a support such as a sidewalk, a roof carried by said column at an upper end thereof and extending outwardly in all directions beyond said column, and a plurality of panels extending downwardly from said roof with each panel carried at least in part by said roof, a support means carried by at least one of said panels for supporting thereon a device to be used by individuals at the kiosk, said support means taking the form of a horizontal shelf extending between and carried by a pair of panels, and a device which is supported by said shelf being a telephone, dispenser, or the like.

7. The combination of claim 5 and wherein at least some of said panels which are fastened only to said roof are identical with panels capable of being fastened to said roof and column while extending radially from the latter,

so that the same panels which are used to extend radially from the column may also be used to extend downwardly from the roof to define at least part of an enclosure beneath said roof.

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PRICE C. FAW, JR., Primary Examiner

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52—28, 73, 79, 80, 237