Nov. 20, 1951 R. B. REID 2,575,530

WALL CABINET

Filed Sept. 24, 1945 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1

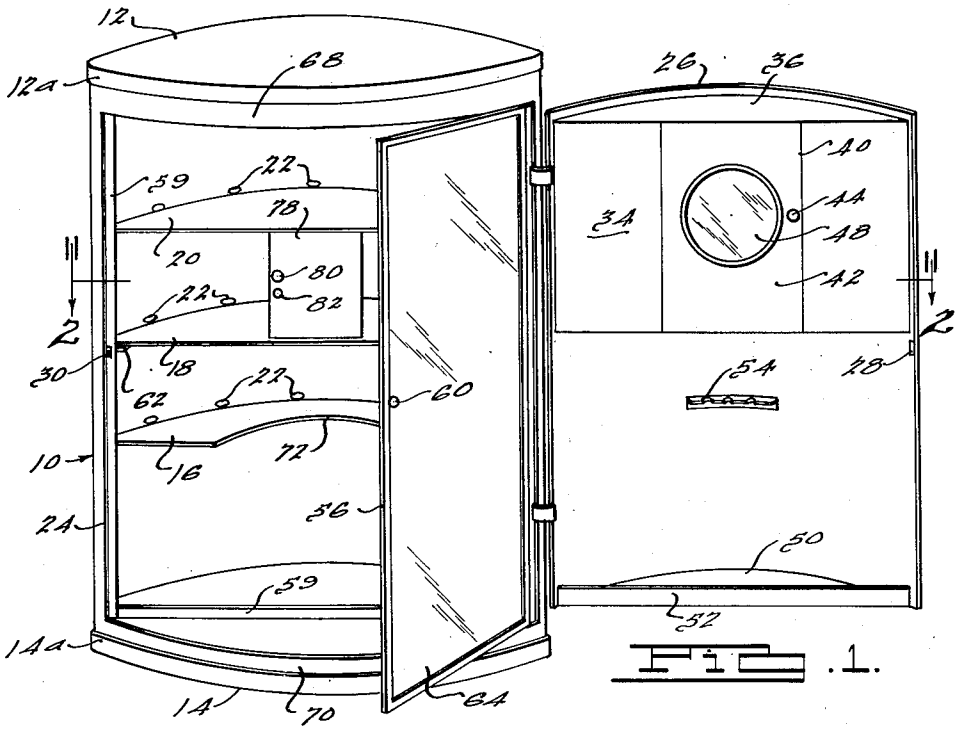


Fig. 1.

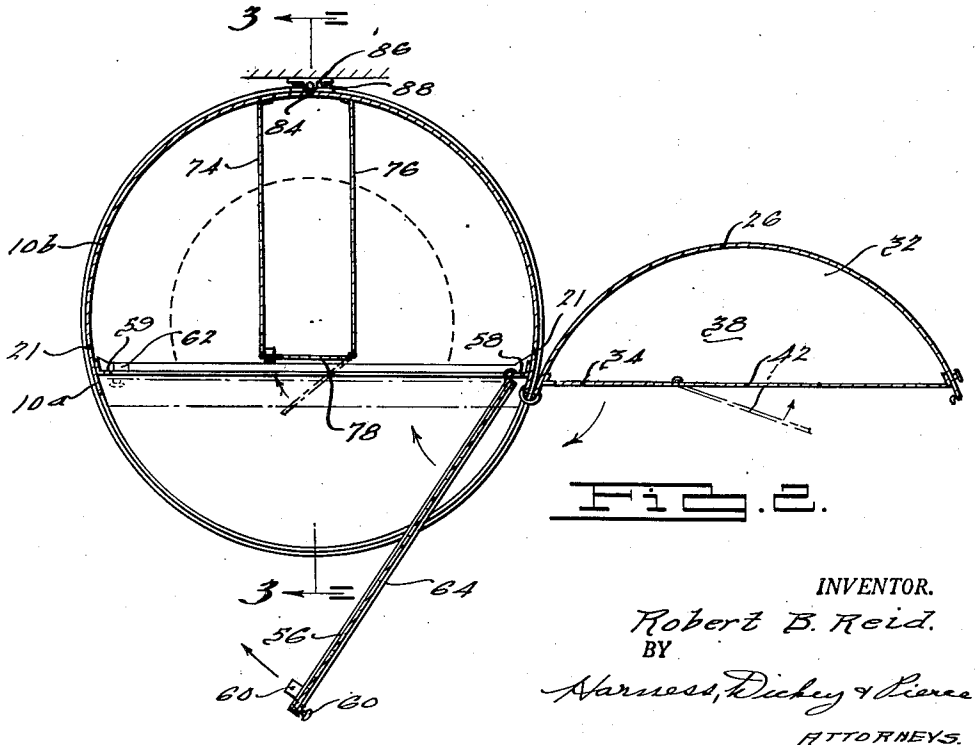


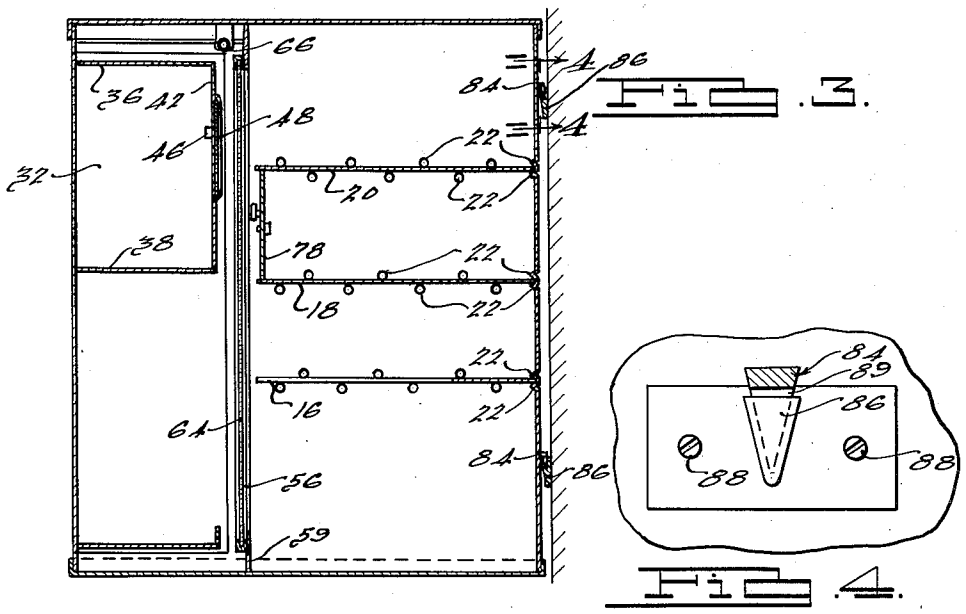
Fig. 2.

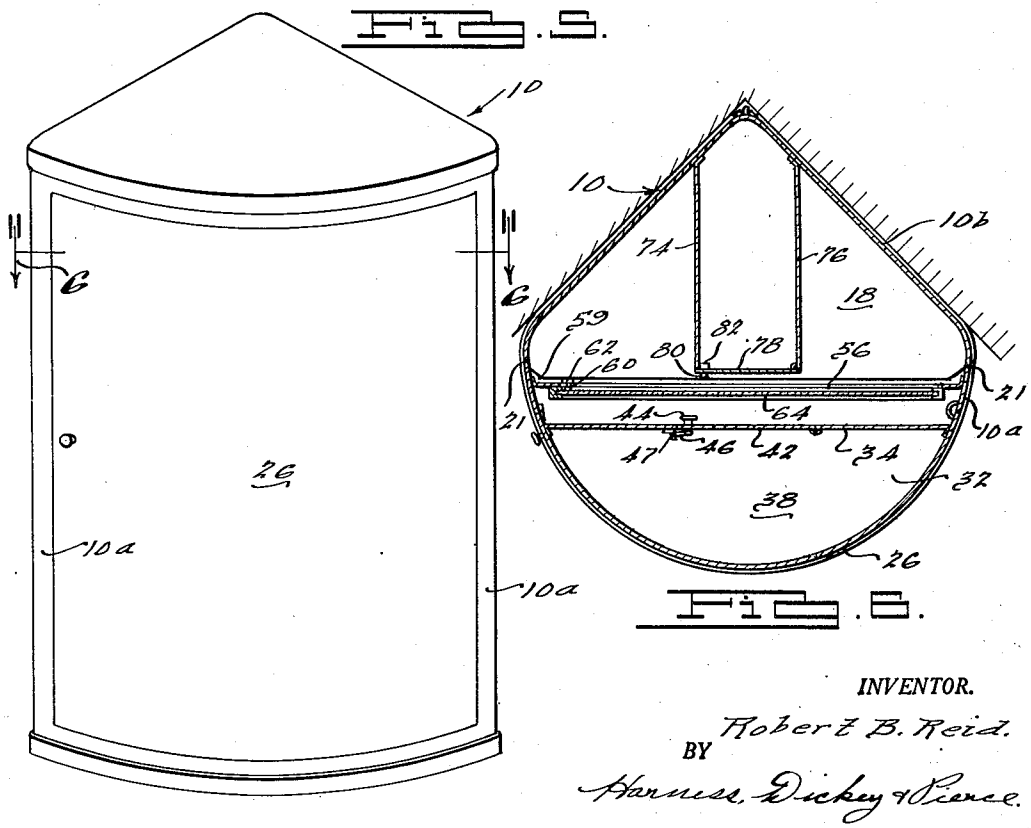
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WALL CABINET

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4 Claims. (Cl. 312—223)

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The invention relates to new and useful improvements in medicine cabinets and the like.

An important object of the invention is to provide a medicine cabinet that has a relatively large amount of storage space.

Another object of the invention is to provide a medicine cabinet that has storage space both in the cabinet and in the door that closes the cabinet.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a medicine cabinet having shelving separated from the rest of the cabinet by an inner door and in which the bottom of the casing forms a supporting shelf in front of the inner door.

Yet another object of the invention is the provision of a medicine cabinet in which a plain mirror is carried by the inner door, a magnifying mirror is mounted on the inner side of the casing door and a lamp is suspended from the top of the casing between said doors so that both of the mirrors are readily available for use when the outer door is opened.

A further object is the provision of a medicine cabinet in which the lamp properly illuminates both of the mirrors when the outer door is open but is shielded from the eyes of a person facing the cabinet by a part of the casing.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a medicine cabinet in which the forward edges of certain of the shelves are set back or recessed to accommodate tall bottles or other containers.

A yet further object is the provision of a medicine cabinet that includes a lock box in the portion containing the shelving.

Another object is the provision of a medicine cabinet in which the inner door can be swung to a position in front of the lamp so that the back surface of the door reflects light from the lamp onto the shelves.

Another object is the provision of a novel method of fabricating the casing and shelves so that the casing rigidly supports the shelves without necessity of bolting or welding the latter.

Another object is the provision of a novel method of fabricating the medicine cabinet whereby a standard front including the casing door can be attached either to a rear portion adapted for mounting on a flat wall or a rear portion adapted for mounting in a corner.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the drawings forming a part of this specification and wherein like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a medicine cabinet embodying the invention,

Figure 2 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1,

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Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2,

Figure 4 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 3,

Figure 5 is a perspective view of a modified form of the invention, and

Figure 6 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of Figure 5.

Attention is first directed to Figures 1–4 which show a cabinet adapted to be mounted on a flat wall surface. This cabinet has an outer casing which comprises a vertical cylindrical wall 10, a top 12 and a bottom 14. Mounted within the casing are a plurality of vertically spaced horizontal shelves 16, 18, and 20. The arcuate rear edges of the shelves abut the wall 10 and the rectilinear forward edges thereof define a chord a substantial distance in front of the center of the cabinet. In order to facilitate assembly of the casing and shelves and to provide a strong rigid structure, the vertical wall 10 is formed of front and rear sections 10*a* and 10*b* which join at approximately the forward edges of the shelves 16, 18 and 20 and are welded together as at 21. The weld material is ground flush with the wall 10 so that the casing has a smooth, finished appearance.

Prior to assembly of the wall sections 10*a* and 10*b* and shelves 16, 18 and 20, the rear wall section 10*a* is formed with spaced rows of projections 22. A separate row of projections is provided for each of the shelves, the projections of each row are staggered and the vertical spacing of the staggered projections is substantially equal to the thickness of the shelves. The projections are preferably formed by a pressing operation in which the material of the sheet 10*b* is deformed or bulged by a suitable die. The shelves are first assembled with the rear wall section 10*b* by positioning the rear edges of each shelf between the staggered projections of its respective row and then drawing the wall section tightly around the shelves. It will be readily apparent that the wall section extends forwardly beyond the widest portions of the shelves and, when clamped in this position, securely holds the shelves and prevents them from moving forwardly away from its inner surface. The front wall section 10*a* is then welded to the rear wall section 10*b* in the manner hereinabove described and as best shown in Fig. 2. When the casing sections and shelves have been assembled, the annular flanges 12*a* and 14*a* of top 12 and bottom 14 are fitted around the ends of the casing and spot welded or otherwise secured thereto. This method of assembly is simple and readily accomplished. It provides a sturdy light-weight unit and the shelves 16, 18, and 20 are rigidly and solidly held without welding, riveting, or bolting the same to the wall 10.

While the projections 22 are here shown in the

form of inwardly extending bulges or blisters, it is to be understood that the invention contemplates any equivalent construction where projections or lugs are pressed or struck from the wall 10 and located to grip the edges of the shelves 16, 18 and 20 when the parts are corelated and assembled in the manner hereinabove described.

Formed in the front wall section 10a is an opening 24 through which access is had to the interior of the cabinet and mounted in the opening is a hinged door 26. It will be observed that the door 26 is curved transversely so that it conforms with the shape of the cabinet wall 10 when in the closed position and that the swinging edge of the door carries a latch member 28 which engages a catch 30 to releasably hold the door closed.

In the upper portion of door 26 is a cupboard 32 which is readily accessible when the door is open and in which cosmetics and other sundries can conveniently be stored. The cupboard 32 is formed by a front panel 34, top 36 and bottom 38. As best shown in Fig. 2, the front panel 34 is spaced slightly inwardly from the edges of the door 26 and the opposite edges of the panel are bent rearwardly and spot welded or otherwise secured thereto. Top 36 and bottom 38 may conveniently be integral with the front panel 34 and are formed with arcuately curved edges which snugly fit the inner surface of the door. The integral connection between the above parts provides a relatively rigid structure; however, if desired, the top 36 and bottom 38 can be tack welded to the door or formed with inturned flanges and spot welded thereto in the same manner as the front panel 34. In order to provide access to the cupboard 32, the front panel 34 is formed with a relatively large opening 40 which is normally closed by a hinged door 42. Adjacent the swinging edge of the door 42 is an outwardly extending handle 44 and on the inner side of the door is a latch 46 which releasably engages a catch 47 to hold the door closed. Mounted on the outer face of door 42 is a magnifying mirror 48.

At the bottom of door 26 is a transverse shelf 50 which provides additional storage space. It will also be observed that the shelf 50 is positioned below the mirror 48 and is thus conveniently located for supporting cosmetics or various toilet articles. In order to prevent articles from falling or being knocked inadvertently from the shelf 50, the forward edge of the latter is provided with an upstanding lip or guard 52.

Mounted on the inner surface of door 26 between the cupboard 36 and the shelf 50 is a rack 54 for toothbrushes and the like.

The cabinet is also provided with an inner door or panel 56 which closes the portion occupied by the shelves 16, 18 and 20. One side of the door 56 is attached to the vertical wall 10 adjacent the forward edges of the shelves by a hinge 58 and the other side thereof is adapted to swing outwardly through the opening 24, as best shown in Figs. 1 and 2. When in the closed position the door 56 seats solidly against an inwardly extending flange 59 which is welded or otherwise attached to the casing immediately in front of the shelves 16, 18 and 20 and it is normally held in this position by a latch 60 which engages a catch member 62 attached to the underside of shelf 18. Substantially the entire outer surface of the door 56 is covered by a plain mirror 64.

It will be observed that substantially one-third of the top 12 and bottom 14 project forwardly of the door 56 when the latter is closed. Mounted on the projecting portion of the top 12 is a lamp 66 which is preferably in the form of a fluorescent tube. The lamp is substantially as long as the mirror 64 is wide and is positioned directly above the mirror whereby to properly illuminate it.

When the outer door 26 is partially open and the inner door 56 is closed, their respective mirrors 48 and 64 are positioned to reflect light from the lamp 66. Thus, in this position of the doors, both of the mirrors 48 and 64 are properly illuminated so that they can be used simultaneously or singly without moving or otherwise adjusting either the lamp means or the doors. However, if for any reason, it is desired to open the outer door 26 as far as possible so that mirror 48 no longer is properly illuminated the cupboard door 42 can be partially opened to swing the mirror back toward the lamp. In this connection, attention is directed to the fact that door 42 swings to the left although all of the other doors swing to the right.

Another desirable feature of this unique mounting and corelation of parts is that, when door 56 is partially open as shown in Fig. 1, its rear surface reflects light from the lamp into the rear of the cabinet. In practice it has been found that reflected light from the door softens shadows cast by the shelves 16, 18 and 20 and otherwise assists in diffusing the direct light rays more or less uniformly through the cabinet and between the shelves.

It will be observed that the top of opening 24 is spaced substantially below the top 12 of the casing and that the bottom of the opening is spaced substantially above the bottom 14 of the cabinet. The portion 68 of the vertical wall 10 which extends above the opening 24 is disposed directly in front of the lamp 66 and serves as a shield or baffle which prevents the lamp from shining directly into the eyes of the person using the cabinet. The portion of the casing bottom 14 which projects forwardly of door 56 provides a convenient shelf in front of the mirror 64 and the portion 70 of the vertical wall 10 which extends below the opening 24 provides an upstanding flange at the edge of the shelf which prevents articles from falling or being inadvertently knocked therefrom.

As shown in Fig. 1, the forward edge of the lower shelf 16 is cut back or recessed, as at 72, to accommodate tall bottles or other containers on the bottom of the cabinet.

The space between the two upper shelves 18 and 20 is divided by horizontally spaced vertical partitions 74 and 76 and the space between the partitions is closed by a hinged door 78. The latter opens to the right in the same manner as the outer door 26 and the inner door 56 and is provided with a handle 80 and a lock 82. Partitions 74 and 76 and door 78 form a lock box within the cabinet that may be used for any suitable purpose such as storing dangerous medicines or drugs.

The cabinet is attached to a flat wall surface by male and female brackets 84 and 86. Male brackets 84 are welded or otherwise rigidly attached at the rear and adjacent the top and bottom of vertical wall 10 and female brackets 86 are mounted in similarly spaced relation on the wall surface by wood screws 88 which preferably are fastened through the plaster and studs for security. As best shown in Fig. 4, the male brackets 84 are provided with flat, essentially triangular downward extensions 89 which

fit snugly in correspondingly shaped sockets provided in the female brackets 86. The weight of the cabinet holds the extensions 89 pressed solidly into the sockets. By reason of their flat surfaces and triangular shape, the extensions 89 hold the cabinet rigidly positioned and prevent it from swinging or rocking from side to side.

The cabinet hereinabove decribed is adapted primarily for mounting on a flat wall surface. Attention is now directed to Figs. 5 and 6 which illustrate a modified cabinet construction adapted for corner mounting. The latter cabinet is identical with the one hereinabove described except that the rear wall portion 10b is substantially L shaped in transverse section instead of arcuately curved and the shelves 16, 18 and 20 are substantially triangular in plan to conform with the cabinet wall. The front wall portion 10a and its various accessories and appurtenances are identical in size and shape with the front portion of the cabinet first described. Thus, the front portion of the cabinet can be made as a unit and seam welded in the manner hereinabove described to either the cylindrical rear portion shown in Figs. 1–4 or the triangular rear portion shown in Figs. 5 and 6. This arrangement permits standardization of the entire front portion of the cabinet whereby to expedite manufacture thereof and greatly reduce the cost to the ultimate purchaser.

It is to be understood that the forms of the invention herewith shown and described are to be taken as preferred examples of the same and that various changes in the size, shape and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A wall cabinet comprising a casing having a top, a bottom and a vertical surrounding wall, the latter provided with an opening; shelving mounted in said casing with the forward edges thereof spaced inwardly from the front of the casing; a door hingedly mounted in the casing, when in the closed position said door being disposed entirely within the casing and adjacent the forward edges of the shelving so that said top and bottom of the casing project forwardly of the door and the projecting portion of the bottom constitutes a supporting shelf in front of the door; a mirror on the front of said door; and light means mounted on the projecting portion of said top, said light means being disposed in front of the door when the latter is in the closed position whereby to illuminate the mirror and behind the door when the latter is open or partially opened, the rear surface of the door being light reflecting whereby said door, when partially opened, reflects light from the light means into the interior of said casing.

2. A wall cabinet comprising a casing having a top, a bottom and a vertical surounding wall, the latter provided with an opening; shelving mounted in said casing with the forward edges thereof spaced inwardly from the front of the casing; a door hingedly mounted in the casing, when in the closed position said door being disposed entirely within the casing and adjacent the forward edges of the shelving so that said top and bottom project forwardly of the door and the projecting portion of the bottom constitutes a supporting shelf in front of the door; a mirror on the front of said door; and light means mounted on the projecting portion of said top, the top of said opening disposed substantially below the top of the casing so that the portion of said vertical wall above the opening forms a shield for said light means and the bottom of the opening disposed substantially above the bottom of the casing so that the portion of said vertical wall below the opening forms an upstanding rail at the edge of said supporting shelf.

3. A wall cabinet comprising a casing having a top, a bottom and a vertical surrounding wall, the latter provided with an opening; a door hingedly mounted in the casing, when in the closed position said door disposed entirely within the casing so that said top and bottom project forwardly thereof; lamp means mounted in the casing on the projecting portion of said top, the top of said opening disposed substantially below the top of the casing so that the portion of said vertical wall above the opening forms a shield for said lamp means; a transversely curved door hingedly mounted in said opening; a cupboard in the upper portion of said transversely curved door; a relatively small hinged door adapted to close said cupboard; and mirrors mounted on the outer surfaces of said first and last-mentioned doors, said doors and mirrors so constructed and arranged with respect to said lamp means that both of said mirrors are positioned to reflect light from said lamp means when said second-mentioned door is open and the first-mentioned door is closed.

4. A wall cabinet comprising a casing having a top, a bottom, and a vertical wall, the latter provided with an opening; shelving mounted in said casing with the forward edges thereof spaced inwardly from the front of the casing; a door in and hingedly fastened to the casing, when in the closed position said door being disposed within the casing and adjacent the forward edges of the shelving so that said top and bottom project forwardly of the door and the projecting portion of the bottom constitutes a supporting shelf in front of the door; a mirror on the front of said door; and light means mounted on the projecting portion of said top, the top of said opening disposed substantially below the top of the casing so that the portion of said vertical wall above the opening forms a shield for said light means.

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