June 29, 1926. 1,590,692

V. S. LEWIS

KITCHEN CABINET

Filed Jan. 5, 1924 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

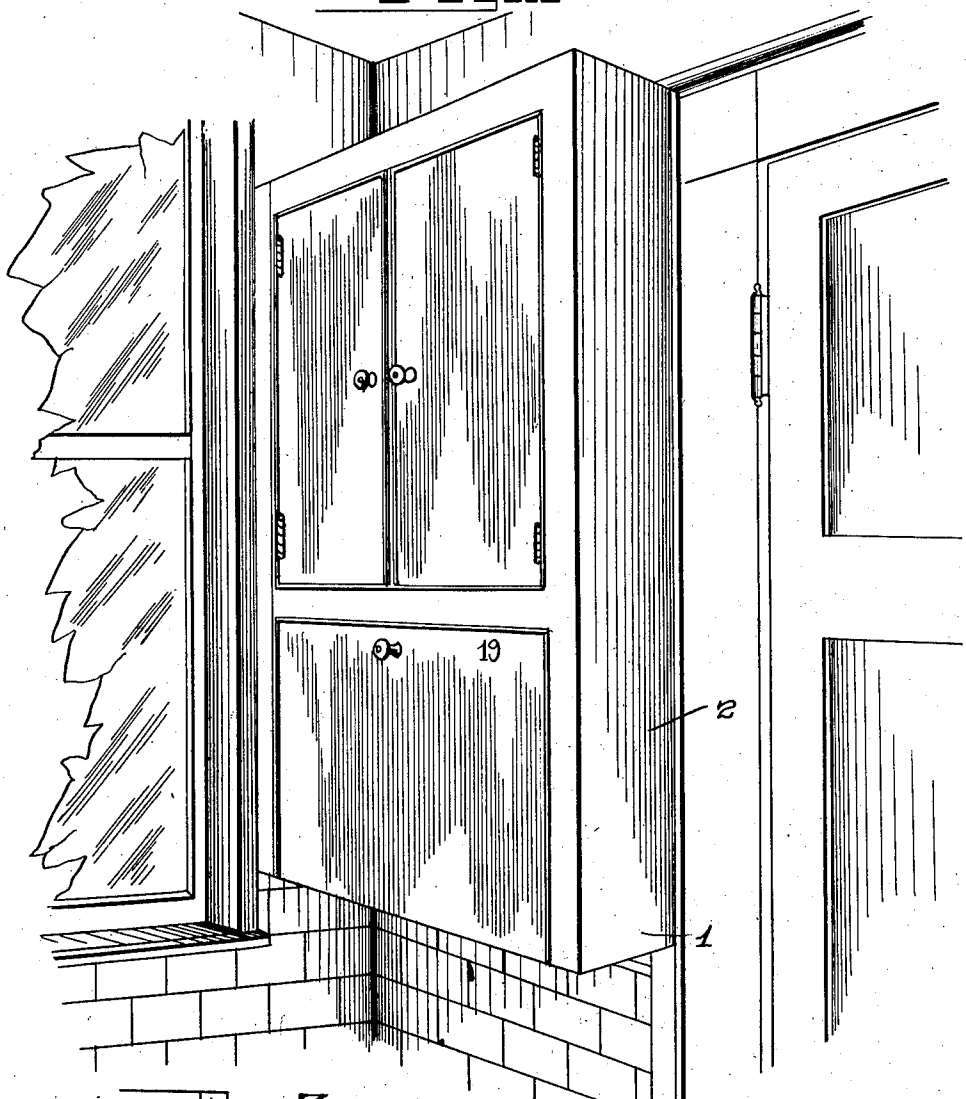
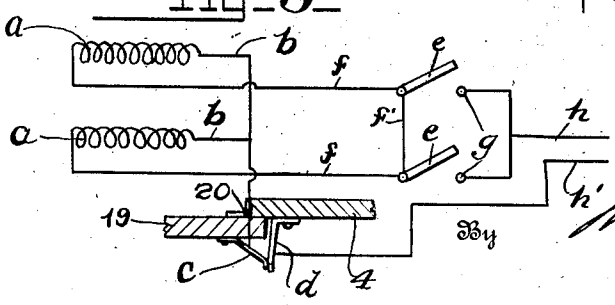


Fig. 3.



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Fig. 2.

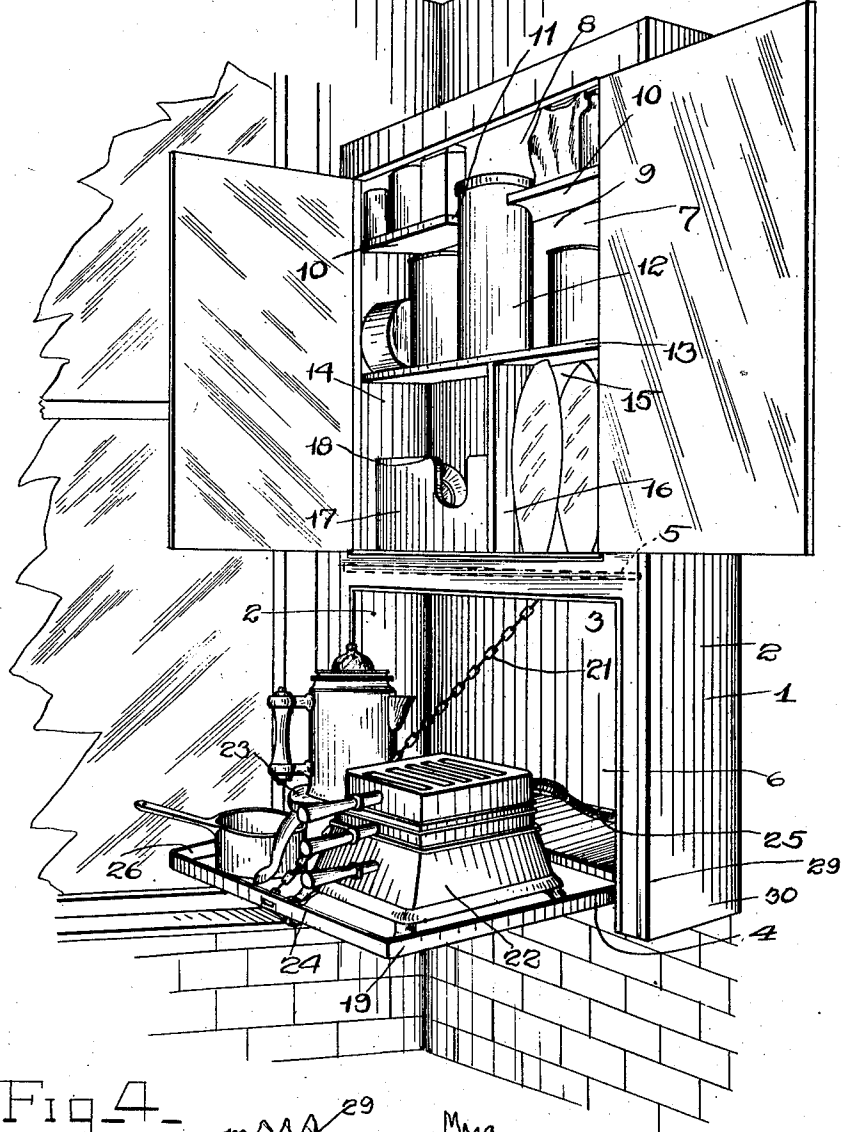


Fig. 4.

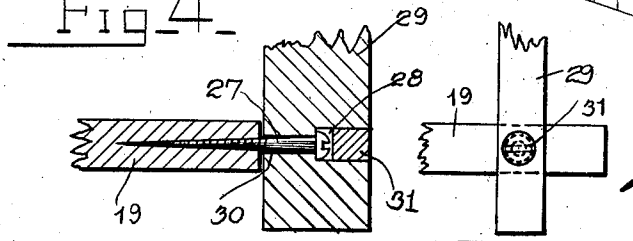


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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KITCHEN CABINET.

Application filed January 5, 1924. Serial No. 684,572.

This invention relates to improvements in cabinets, and more particularly a cabinet for use in small apartments where there is no kitchenette or other kitchen facilities.

The invention contemplates the provision of a cabinet with suitable shelves and compartments therein for the reception of cooking utensils, articles of food, etc., and moreover suitable closures for closing the cabinet, one of which, or the bottom closure being designed to not only serve as a closure at times, but as a table or support for electrical cooking apparatus which is firmly secured to the inner side of the door or closure so that this apparatus may be conveniently folded out of sight when the door is closed.

The invention further contemplates the provision of certain electrical connections whereby when the door carrying the cooking apparatus is closed, electrical connection be broken so that the possibility of folding the apparatus into the cabinet while the resistance coils of the apparatus are incandescent, is made impossible, whereas the arrangement is such that when the apparatus is brought to position for use wherein the door or closure supporting the apparatus is in horizontal position, the electric circuit will be completed preparatory to the manual manipulation of circuit switches which operate to heat electrically one or more of the grills which the closure supports, and at the same time the arrangement is such that the switches may remain closed even though the apparatus is folded into the cabinet, so that when unfolded or brought to position for use, most of the sets of coils will be immediately brought into operative and effective condition.

It will be obvious that in small apartments where no cooking facilities are available, a device of the character above indicated will be of great advantage since it may be placed as a whole in any convenient part of a room, and when so placed will occupy very little space and will at the same time be sightly, and in no way suggestive of a cooking outfit.

In the drawings—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a cabinet constructed in accordance with my invention, the same being shown located in the corner of a room.

Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the doors or closures of the upper part of the cabinet, as well as the lower closure or door open, the former closures exposing various articles containing or for containing foods, together with a compartment for small utensils, whereas the lower closure is open showing the cooking apparatus thereon.

Fig. 3 is a diagrammatic view of an electrical circuit which I employ in connection with the lower closure and the cooking apparatus.

Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view of the lower part of the cabinet and inner edge of the support showing the manner of hinging the support, and

Fig. 5 is an edge elevation of a portion of one side of the cabinet and one edge of the support.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 designates the main body of the cabinet, not unlike other cabinets in external construction, and comprises in the main sides 2, back 3 and bottom 4, the bottom 4 also serving as the bottom shelf of the cabinet.

The cabinet is divided lengthwise by a shelf 5, shown in dotted line of Fig. 2, thus providing generally speaking, a lower compartment 6 and an upper compartment 7, the upper compartment being further divided into compartments 8 and 9 by two short shelf sections 10 of about equal length, their ends being so separated as to form a space 11 for the reception of such a receptacle as indicated by the numeral 12, the same being a tall can suitable for the reception of coffee, yeast powder, or other like necessity.

Again the upper part of the cabinet is divided by a shelf 13 which separates the compartment 9 from two lower compartments 14 and 15, the last mentioned compartments being formed in part by a vertical partition 16. Across the front of the lower portion of the compartment 14 I place a barrier 17 cut away as indicated at 18, which barrier together with one side of the cabinet, one side of the partition 16, and a part of the shelf 13, forms a convenient receptacle for small cooking utensils, the cut away portion 18 being obviously for the purpose of conveniently inserting the hand and part of the arm for removing or replacing said small receptacles.

Hinged to the lower shelf 4 is a closure door or table 19. This is hinged to the cabinet by suitable hinges 20, the manner of hinging being such that the rear edge of the

door will extend slightly beneath the shelf 4, as shown in Fig. 3, so as to aid in preventing the shelf from passing below horizontal position when it is open. Nevertheless as additional means for supporting the door 19 in open position, I provide a flexible cord 21 secured preferably near the front edge of the door, and at a suitable point below the shelf 5 within the cabinet.

The numerals 22 and 23 designate electric grills or connecting contrivances which are provided with legs such as 24, which have therein openings for the passage of bolts or screws by which the cookers are firmly secured to the combined door and support and maintained rigidly thereon. The lower compartment 6 is of such size or capacity that it will provide ample space for the cookers when the lower door is closed as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings.

It will be understood that the invention does not reside in the cookers themselves save in so far as they are adapted for attachment to the inner side of the lower door, and they may be structurally like any of those approved and now in general use. These are provided with the usual electric connection or cord 25 connected in the usual way and at any convenient point with the supply of electrical current. I preferably provide a table with a short upwardly extending flange 26 around three of its sides so as to more effectually retain such cooking utensils as may be required for immediate use, and to protect the wood of the lower door I prefer to cover the inner face thereof with a light metallic covering such as tin, aluminum or the like.

Referring particularly to the diagrammatic view of Fig. 3, *a* designates two resistance coils identical, and corresponding with the coils of the two cookers shown. These are connected by wires *b* to a contact point *c*, which in the present instance is shown supported upon the outside of the lower door 19, and hinged to the shelf 4 is a similar point *d*, the two contact points being so arranged as shown in Fig. 3, that when the door is open, they will be in contact so as to complete the circuit with the resistance coils or cookers, when of course the switches *e* are so passing that this will occur. The switches *e* are connected with wires *f* and *f'*, and the switches are adapted to cooperate with the points *g* forming continuations of one of the main supply wires *h*, the other supply wire *h'* being connected with the contact point *d*, thus providing an arrangement whereby when the door is open and the cooking device is brought to the position shown in Fig. 2, either or both of the switches *e* may be manipulated to put in operation either or both of the cookers as may be desired. It will be noted, however, that in no case will there be a completed circuit with the cookers after the door supporting the cookers has been moved, even very slightly from horizontal position, toward the folded position of the door, so that under no conditions such as would result from carelessness or mistake, can the cooking device be folded into the cabinet with the current on the resistance coils in the cooker. On the other hand, when the door or support 19 is open or in horizontal position, it is possible as before stated to put into operation either or both of the cookers, and at the same time while the door is still open either one or the other of the cookers may be put into operation.

The numeral 27 designates a wood screw, whose head is seated in a bore 28 made in the members 29 adjacent the lower part of the cabinet, there being provided a smaller bore 30 in said members for the passage of the screw, and in which when the screw is home serves as a bearing for that part of the shank adjacent the head, the inner end of the screw being inserted a very considerable distance as shown into the support or table 19. To prevent the screw from working loose or coming out I preferably close the bore 28 with a plug 31. Thus it will be seen that by this arrangement the table or support 19 is hinged to the lower part of the cabinet.

I do not desire to limit myself to any particular location of the connections, switches, contact points, etc., or the kind or kinds of switches and contact points to be used for these may be of any approved type so long as they operate to accomplish the purposes I have described.

From the foregoing it will be seen that a very neat, sightly and useful cabinet is provided, wherewith indeed a very considerable meal can be cooked, and very considerable space is provided for the reception of the foods for cooking, as well as the utensils for cooking them in, and that the cabinet can be placed without disadvantage on any wall, in any corner, or elsewhere, in any room, according as the fancy of the user may dictate.

I claim:

1. A portable kitchen cabinet adapted for wall attachment, comprising a hollow body having a closed bottom, a partition dividing the body into upper and lower compartments, a front panel member hinged to the lower part of the body portion and serving as a combined closure for the lower compartment and as a support for electric cooking devices, electric cooking devices rigidly secured to the upper side of the panel member and adapted to be folded back into the cabinet when the panel serves as a closure, and an electric circuit held closed by said panel when it is in open or horizontal position.

2. A portable kitchen cabinet adapted for

wall attachment, comprising a hollow body having a closed bottom, a partition dividing the body into upper and lower compartments, a front panel member hinged to the lower part of the body portion and serving as a combined closure for the lower compartment and as a support for electric cooking devices, electric cooking devices rigidly secured to the upper side of the panel member and adapted to be folded back into the cabinet when the panel serves as a closure, an electric circuit held closed by said panel when it is in open or horizontal position, and means accessible when the panel is in open or horizontal position for manually controlling the circuit.

3. A portable kitchen cabinet adapted for wall attachment, comprising a hollow body having a closed bottom, a partition dividing the body into upper and lower compartments, a front panel member hinged directly at the front edge of the bottom of the lower part of the body portion and serving as a sole closure for the lower compartment when closed, and opening outwardly to lie in front of the cabinet and act as a support for electric cooking devices, electric cooking devices rigidly secured to the upper side of the panel member and adapted to be folded back into the cabinet when the panel serves as a closure, and an electric circuit held closed by said panel when it is in horizontal or open position.

4. A portable kitchen cabinet adapted for wall attachment, comprising a hollow body having a closed bottom, a partition dividing the body into upper and lower compartments, a front panel member hinged to the lower part of the body portion and serving as a combined closure for the lower compartment and as a support for electric cooking devices, said panel member having a movement solely pivotal, electric cooking devices rigidly secured to the upper side of the panel member and adapted to be folded back into the cabinet when the panel serves as a closure, and an electric circuit held closed by said panel when it is in its open or horizontal position.

5. A portable kitchen cabinet adapted for wall attachment, comprising a hollow body having a closed bottom, a partition dividing the body into upper and lower compartments, a front panel member hinged directly at the front edge of the bottom of the lower part of the body portion and serving as a sole closure for the lower compartment when closed, and opening outwardly to lie in front of the cabinet and to act as a support for electric cooking devices, the movement of the panel member being solely pivotal, electric cooking devices rigidly secured to the upper side of the panel member and adapted to be folded back into the cabinet when the panel serves as a closure, an electric contact switch on the bottom of the cabinet, an electric circuit between said switch and the cooking devices, said contact switch being adapted to be held closed by said panel when it is in horizontal or open position.

6. A portable kitchen cabinet adapted for wall attachment, comprising a hollow body having a closed bottom, a partition dividing the body into upper and lower compartments, a front panel member hinged directly at the front edge of the bottom of the lower part of the body portion and serving as a sole closure for the lower compartment when closed, and opening outwardly to lie in front of the cabinet and to act as a support for electric cooking devices, the movement of the panel member being solely pivotal, electric cooking devices rigidly secured to the upper side of the panel member and adapted to be folded back into the cabinet when the panel serves as a closure, an electric contact switch on the bottom of the cabinet, an electric circuit between said switch and the cooking devices, said contact switch being adapted to be held closed by said panel when it is in horizontal or open position, and means accessible when the panel is in open or horizontal position for manually controlling the circuit.

7. A portable kitchen cabinet adapted for wall attachment, comprising a hollow body having a closed bottom, a partition dividing the body into upper and lower compartments, a front panel member hinged directly at the front edge of the bottom of the lower part of the body portion and serving as a sole closure for the lower compartment when closed, and opening outwardly to lie in front of the cabinet and act as a support for electric cooking devices, and to entirely expose said devices in position for use, electric cooking devices rigidly secured to the upper side of the panel member and adapted to be folded back into the cabinet, when the panel serves as a closure, and an electric circuit held closed by said panel when it is in horizontal position.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

VARNUM S. LEWIS.