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OUTSIDE COVER FOR CABINETS AND
OTHER OBJECTS

Albert R. Johnson, Springfield, Mass.

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This invention is an improvement in outside coverings, and particularly to outside coverings for cabinets and other articles of furniture or similar objects making up the appointments of a room or apartment.

The principal object of this invention is to provide a removable covering which embraces framework and panels, in movable sections, with suitable fastening devices to enable the covering to be detachably mounted upon the exterior of a cabinet, for example; the covering bearing an outside layer of material having color and finish to harmonize with the general appearance and decor of the surroundings.

A further object of the invention is to provide a covering adapted to be easily mounted on an article of furniture or the like, which can be quickly produced and completed at moderate expense in artistic form and readiness for use.

The nature and advantages of the invention are set forth in the ensuing description; but the structure shown in the drawings is only one embodiment of the invention. In practice various changes may be made without departing from the essential combination of parts defined in the appended claims.

On the drawings:

Figure 1 is a front view of a cabinet having a covering according to my invention thereon.

Figure 2 is a section on line 2-2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a vertical section on line 3-3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a detail in section showing how the ends of the cover come together behind the cabinet;

Figure 5 is a top view of a modification; and

Figures 6 and 7 are a front view in part and an end view thereof.

The numeral 1 indicates a cabinet, such as is used for housing radio sets or phonographs; and 2 the covering of this invention on the exterior thereof. The cabinet in Figures 1, 2, 3 and 4 is presented as oval, is cross-sectional shape; and may be mounted on legs, feet or other supports. Usually radio and other cabinets are produced in only a few tones or colors; and thus fail to blend with the colors of many places in which they are kept. My invention eliminates this objection; because the covering can be manufactured in any tone, shade or color; and with any selected picture, design, symbol, scene, or combination thereon. If the effect is properly chosen and executed, it will agree with the walls, rugs and other furnishings of the apartment to an extent that will satisfy the taste of the most fastidious owner.

The covering includes a framework made up of vertical bars 3f in front and 3r in back, united by horizontal members 4, fashioned to conform to the outside of the unit to which it is to be attached. The spaces between the vertical bars and members 4 are filled with sheets of suitable material, such as fiber or plastic, united to the bars and members along their edges, and serving as panels 5. The latter will be overlaid with cloth 6 or other material, of the required hues, and

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this outer layer will even to some extent improve the acoustic properties of the set.

The covering is attached by means of prongs or hooks 7 on the bars 3f and 3r, and these hooks engage apertures in lugs 8 that can be affixed to the outside of the cabinet. The hooks point downward, so that the covering can easily be lowered into engaging position. The lugs are mounted on posts 9 of the cabinet. The covering is secured by means of screws 10 passing through the wall of the cabinet at one or more points into threaded socket elements 11 secured to parts of the framework. The ends 12 of the members 4 and the adjacent edges of the bars 3r are bevelled and overlap at the rear of the cabinet, and each of these rear bars has one of the hooks 7 to hold it fast.

The covering thus can be mounted without difficulty and no tool except an ordinary screw driver is needed. It is turned out with the outside layer 6 in color and finish to bring the cabinet, no matter what is its original effect, into agreement with the appearance of the room; and it can be taken off with the same ease and quickness if necessary. The covering is very simple in construction, and can be manufactured in a short time and at little expense.

The front bars 3f are disposed in pairs, and each pair is secured together by means of countersunk hinges 13. The covering thus comprises a front and two side sections in horizontal alignment which come together at their rear ends. The bars 3r at the back are wider than the bars 3f in front. A prong 7 is on each of the bars 3r near the middle of its length, or elsewhere for example, and this prong or hook enters a lug 8 secured on the outer side of the adjacent post 9 near its top. A prong is also attached to one bar 3f of each pair in front. These bars 3f bearing prongs 7 may be longitudinally recessed along one edge, as indicated at 14 in Figure 3, so that the prongs do not project beyond the inner faces of the members 4, and these recesses may also receive the socket element 11. The members 4 are likewise in section which are connected together by the hinges 13.

Preferably the members 4 and the upper and lower ends of the vertical bars 3f and 3r are bevelled, to present larger surfaces of contact 15 for joining them together. They can be secured in any suitable manner by an adhesive or other means. The layer 6 is folded over the top and bottom members 4 of all the sections of the covering, and attached by screws indicated at 16 in metal sockets 17 in the bevelled faces of the members 4. Similarly the cloth may be folded over the bevelled edges of the bars 3r and attached to the inner faces thereof by the same screws 16 and sockets 17. Binding strips 18 are used in combination with the screws 16 along the inner faces of the bars 3r. The covering thus snugly envelops the cabinet, and is held nicely in position. The outside layer 6 can be all in one piece if desired; and it overlies the hinges 13.

The middle section of the cabinet in front can

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have an opening 19 in the panel sheet 5 and layer 6 thereof for the sound horn or loud speaker, and inside the cabinet may have one or more shelves 20 for mounting the operating parts. At the top is a lid or hinged closure 21. Legs are indicated at 22.

The panels 5 can be permanently mounted in the frame work or be held detachably in place by the layer 6 or otherwise.

Figures 5, 6 and 7 show a form of the invention for a cabinet 1a that is rectangular instead of oval in its horizontal outline. It comprises a front section 23, to which side sections 24 and rear sections 25 are connected at each end. The sections 24 are each joined to the front sections 23 by hinges 26, but the sections 25 are rigid with the sections 24 and at right angles thereto. Sections 25 have bevelled overlapping edges, as described above. This covering will be of the desired height, and may be made with each of the sections all in one piece, or with vertical bars and horizontal frame members joined together and bearing panels to fill the enclosed spaces as before. It will also be attached to the cabinet by hooks on the inner faces of the sections and lugs on the cabinet, but these are omitted from Figure 5 for the sake of convenience.

In the form of the invention shown in Figures 5, 6 and 7, the covering 2 is preferably made to serve for only the lower half of the cabinet as indicated in Figures 6 and 7, the former showing half of the front view of this cabinet, the other half being identical. On the top of the cabinet, the closure 27 may be finished with a layer to match the appearance of the covering 2. At the upper part of the cabinet where the control knobs 29 are placed, separate panels 28 may be attached to the cabinet, these panels being of the same color and appearance as the covering 2. The separate panels 28 may have openings on their inner faces and on the outside of the cabinet may be pegs (not shown) which enter these openings so that the panels 28 are supported in position. The spindles of the knobs pass through openings, and the knobs 29 prevent the detachment of the panels 28.

The invention affords a great reduction in the cost of manufacture of the cabinets. The use of materials other than wood in the frame and removable panels is permitted. As they are covered with fabrics the material used for the frames is not exposed to view. The covering of Figure 5 can be used with the cabinet of Figures 6 and 7.

The framework and removable panels can be recovered at any time, and as many times as desired by the owner, with fabrics giving much diversity of appearance. Each model can have an individuality of its own. No two need be alike if the owner recovers the cabinet in fabric of his own choosing, other than the fabrics used on the models obtainable from the manufacturer.

By recovering the framework and removable panels with fabrics to match the wall covering, draperies or upholstery in the room they are to be used, the cabinets or objects can fit harmoniously into the decorative scheme of any room, in contrast to the present situation where there is always a clash no matter what the design of the cabinet may be. If the room should be redecorated the frame and removable panels could be re-covered to match.

Having described my invention, what I believe to be new is:

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1. A covering for the exterior of an object of a color different from its surroundings, said covering having a finish to harmonize with said surroundings, the covering having a framework comprising vertical bars and horizontal members connecting same, the horizontal members being in sections, said bars being arranged at the ends of the sections and at the opposed rear edges of the covering, hinges connecting the bars at the ends of said sections, panels carried by said framework, and hooks mounted on the framework to engage apertured lugs on said object to mount the covering thereon, some of said bars having longitudinal recesses and said hooks being located in said recesses and terminating short of the inner faces of said members.

2. A covering of the kind described in claim 1, wherein the bars and frame members at the rear of said object have bevelled overlapping ends, with some of said hooks near said ends, and the panels have an outside layer of cloth thereon, some of the bars and frame members having socket elements on their inner faces and fastening members received in said elements to hold the layer in place.

3. A covering of the kind set forth in claim 1, which is made up of a front section, side sections hinged thereto, and rear sections fixed to the side sections, and overlapping at the ends thereof.

4. A covering for the exterior of an object of a different color from its surroundings, said covering having a finish to harmonize with said surroundings, and comprising vertical bars and horizontal members connecting same, the bars and members forming sections, hinges to attach said sections together, some of said bars being located along adjacent edges of the sections and bearing the hinges and the remainder extending along the opposed rear edges of the covering, the bars for the rear of said object being bevelled along their adjacent edges to overlap, panels carried by said sections, an outer layer upon panels, the edges of said layer being folded over upon the uppermost and lowermost of said members and the bevelled edges of the bars at the rear, fastening devices to secure said edges, and means comprising hooks on said bars and members to secure the covering upon the cabinet, the bars bearing the hinges having longitudinal recesses in which said hooks are mounted, the hooks terminating short of the inner faces of said members, said framework having socket elements on its inner face receiving said fastening devices.

5. The cover as set forth in claim 1, wherein said horizontal members of said framework are curved to correspond to an object which has a rounded contour.

ALBERT R. JOHNSON.

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