July 7, 1936. J. McGOWAN 2,046,398

COMBINATION CABINET

Filed April 6, 1935 5 Sheets-Sheet 1

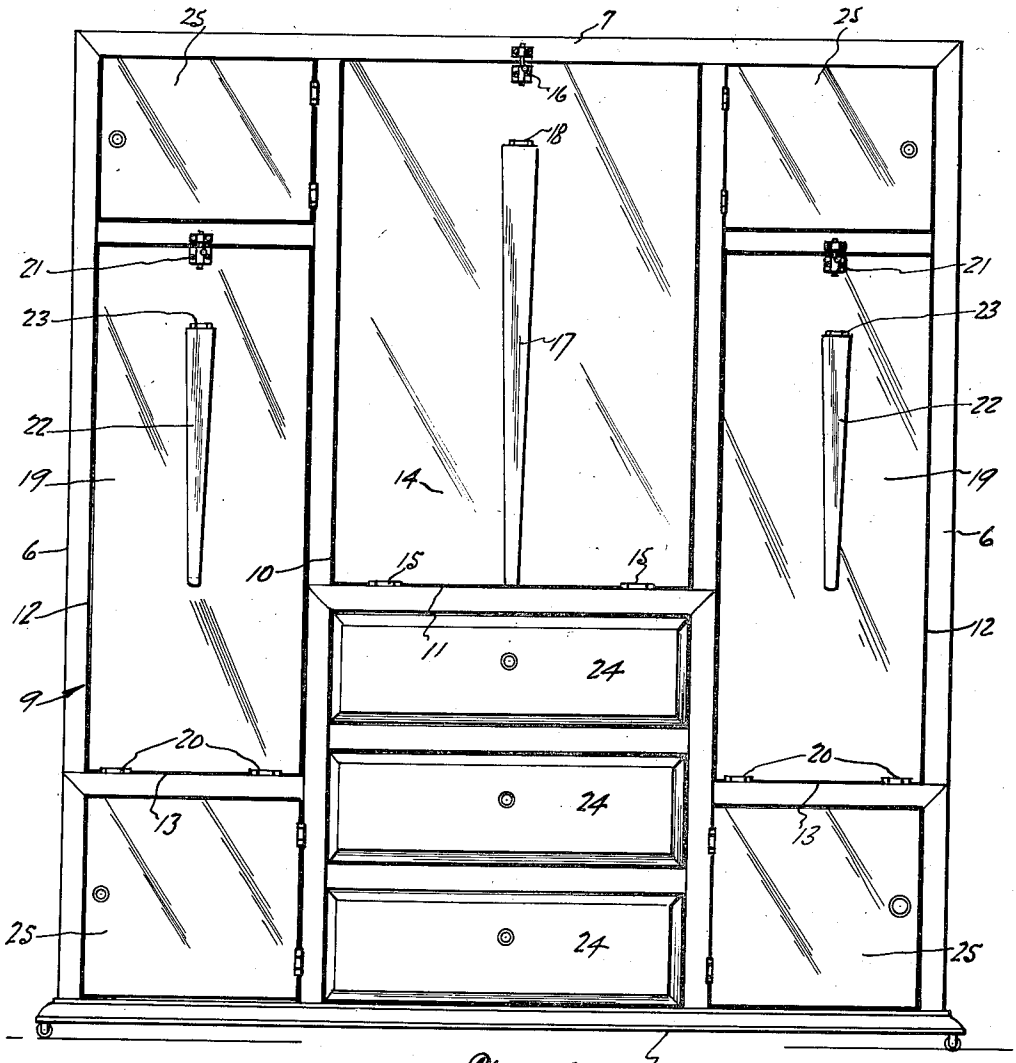


Fig. 1.

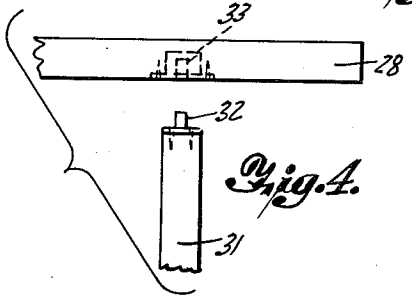


Fig. 4.

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Filed April 6, 1935 5 Sheets-Sheet 2

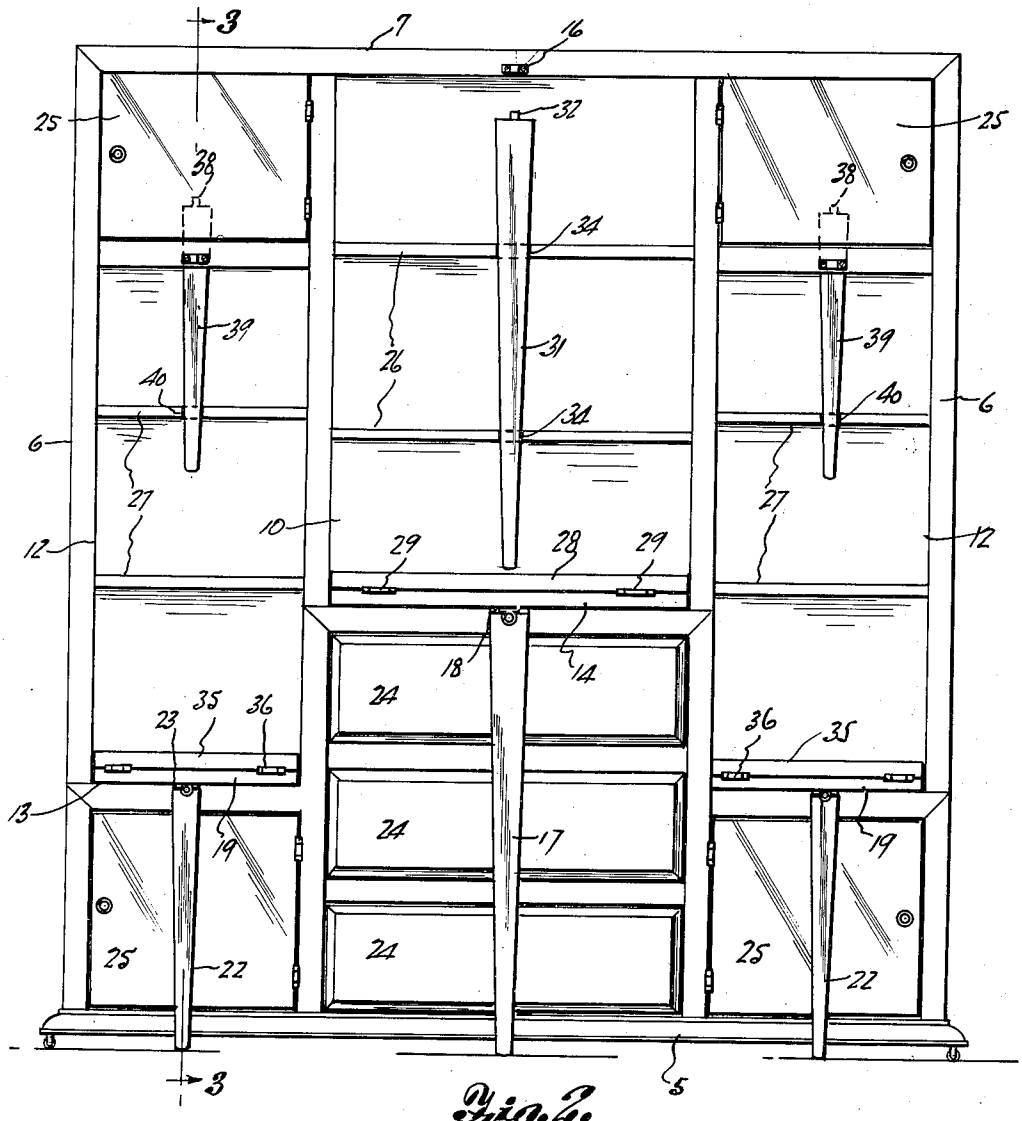


Fig. 2.

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Filed April 6, 1935 5 Sheets-Sheet 3

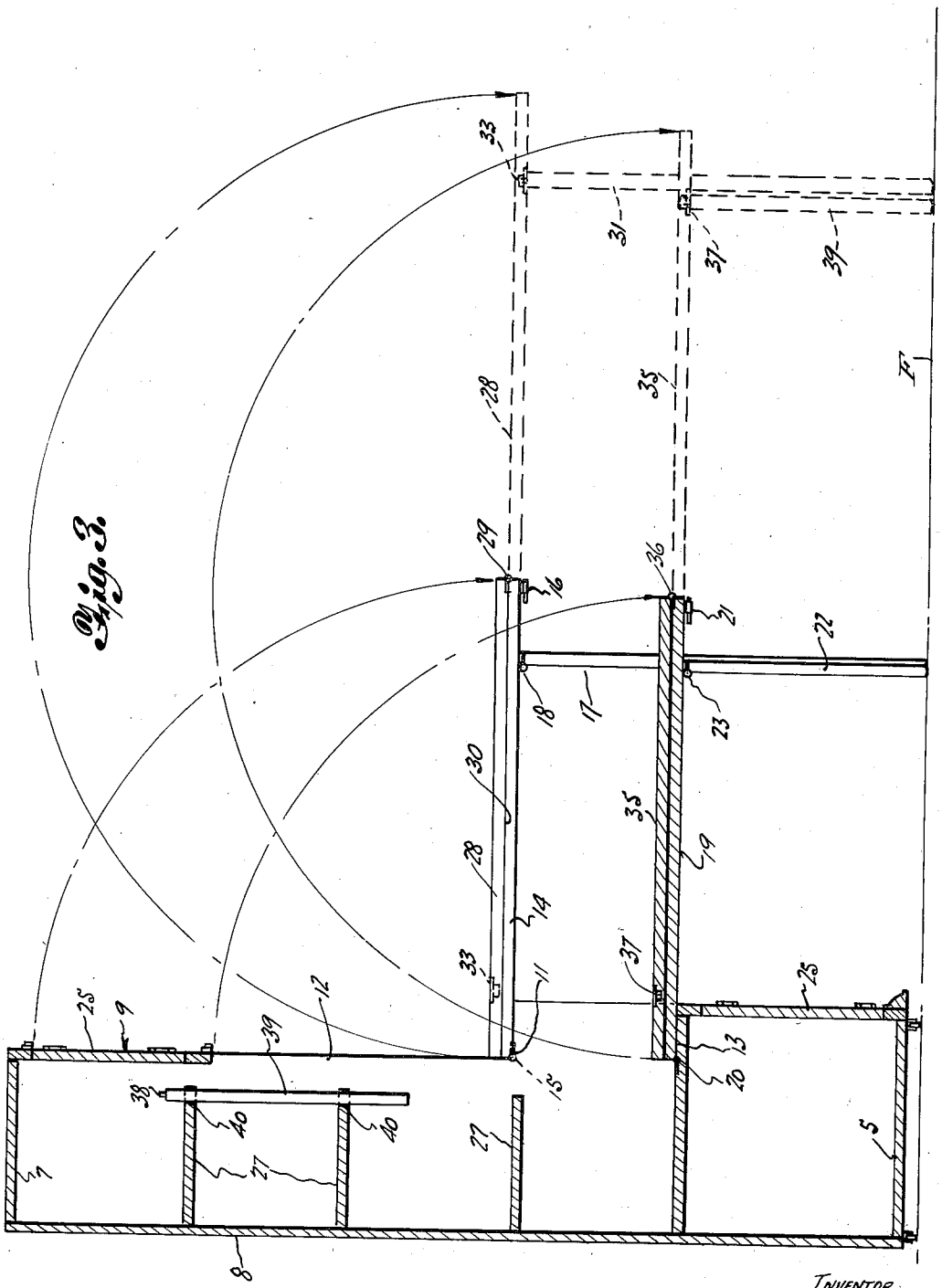


Fig. 3.

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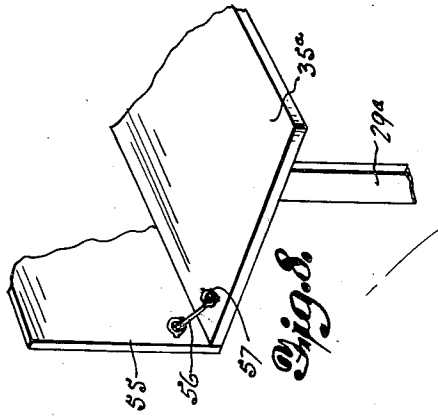


Fig. 8.

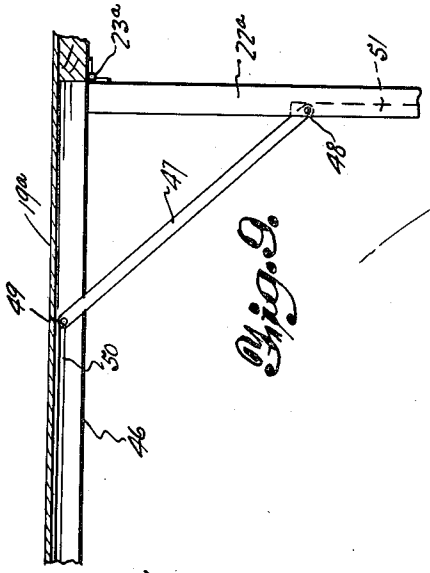


Fig. 9.

Fig. 5.

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Filed April 6, 1935 5 Sheets-Sheet 5

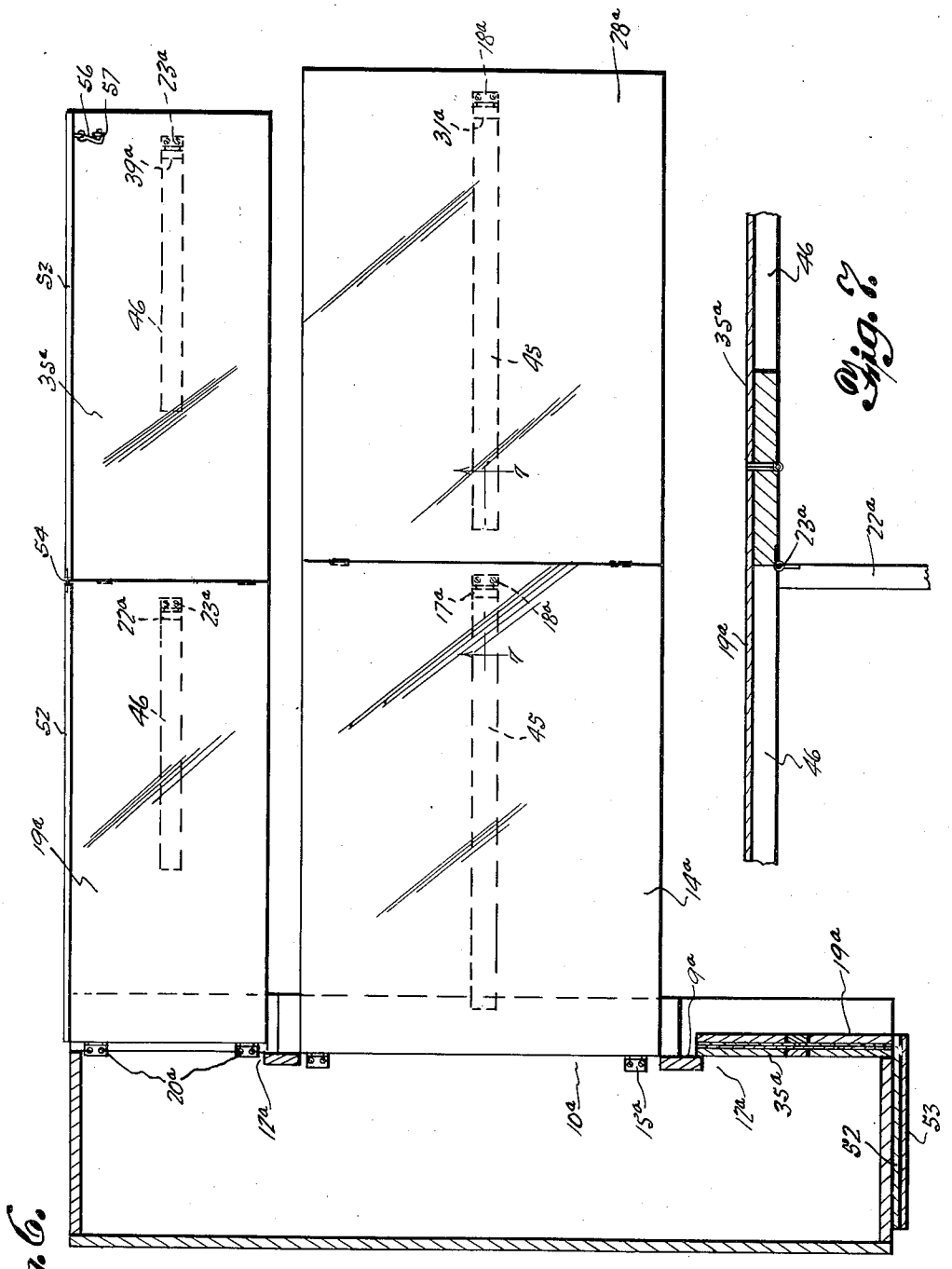


Fig. 6.

Fig. 7.

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Patented July 7, 1936 2,046,398

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,046,398

COMBINATION CABINET

Joseph McGowan, Minneapolis, Minn.

Application April 6, 1935, Serial No. 14,993

2 Claims. (Cl. 155—124)

My invention relates to improvements in combination cabinets and the main object is to provide in simple, attractive and convenient form a combination cabinet, table and seat structure which may be used in usual manner as a cabinet or case and from which an extensible table and extensible seats may be opened out for use when desired.

Another object is to provide a device of this kind comprising a cabinet of any suitable and ornamental shape and size and including shelves and drawers in any desired arrangement, there being a centrally arranged rectangular opening normally covered by a leaf door hinged at its bottom to the cabinet at about the usual table height and having a hinged leg whereby this door when swung outward and downward will be supported in a horizontal position for use as a table, there being also other side openings normally covered by seat boards arranged at each side of the above table leaf and hinged at their lower ends to the cabinet at about the usual chair height and having legs which will support these seat boards in a horizontal position alongside the table for use as chairs or seats.

Another object is to provide in a structure of the above kind additional flat leaves or extensions hinged to the upper ends of the doors and arranged to be unfolded out to double the length of the doors when they are used as the table and seats and the legs for these extensions being removable so that they may be stored within the cabinet when not in use.

A further object is to provide a device of this kind in which backs or back rests are attached to the seats and seat extensions and arranged to form an ornamental part of the cabinet when the parts are folded up out of use.

A still further object is to provide an assembly wherein the various supporting legs are arranged to fold into recesses in their supported parts when not in use.

With these and other objects in view the invention resides in the novel construction and arrangement of parts as hereinafter fully set forth and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a frontal elevation of the cabinet in closed position.

Figure 2 is a similar view of the cabinet but with the table and seats extended for use.

Figure 3 is a vertical section along the line 3—3 in Figure 2 showing also the table and seat members extended out for use in dotted lines.

Figure 4 is an enlarged detail view of the detachable connection between the extensions and their legs.

Figure 5 is a side elevation of a modified form of cabinet showing the seats unfolded and swung outward for use, the said seats in this cabinet having backs or back rests and the position assumed by these backs when the seats are folded up being indicated in dot dash lines.

Figure 6 is a horizontal section along the line 6—6 in Figure 5 showing the table and the seats at one side unfolded and extended out for use.

Figure 7 is an enlarged longitudinal section along the line 7—7 in Figure 6.

Figure 8 is an enlarged perspective view of the outer end portion of one seat extension showing the fastening means for the back thereof.

Figure 9 is an enlarged fragmental section similar to Figure 7 showing a brace for the leg.

Referring now with more particularity to the drawings the cabinet is shown as of rectangular form comprising a bottom 5, sides 6, top 7 and back 8. The front 9 of the cabinet has a large rectangular center opening 10 the lower margin 11 of which falls at a level about the height of an ordinary table. Also on each side of this center opening 10 side openings 12 are formed of substantially the same vertical length but on a lower level so that their lower margins 13 fall at about the height of the ordinary chair seat. A table leaf or section 14 is hinged at 15 by its lower edge to the lower margin of the center opening 10 and is of such size and shape as to just nicely cover this opening when swung upward to vertical position. A latch 16 of any suitable form is provided to hold the table leaf 14 in this closed position. A leg 17 is hinged at its upper end at 18 to the table leaf 14 near its free edge and on its outer side so that as the table is swung outwardly and downwardly as shown in Figures 2 and 3 this leg will, of its own weight, swing down to the floor F and will then support the table in a horizontally extended position.

Seat leaves or boards 19 are hinged at 20 by their lower edges to the lower margins 13 of the side openings 12 and when closed cover these openings and are locked by latches 21. Legs 22 are hinged at their upper ends at 23 to the free outer sides of the seats 19 and as these seats are swung outward and downward these legs will also swing down to the floor to support the seats horizontally along the sides of the table 14 at a lower level to serve conveniently as seats for the said table.

Below the center opening 10 drawers 24 may be provided and both above and below the side

openings 12 cupboard doors 25 enclose shelf space. This arrangement may, of course, be varied as desired and to suit the shape, style and size of the cabinet. Shelves 26 and 27 are also provided inwardly of the center and side openings 10 and 12 and are set back some distance from the plane of the cabinet front 9 as shown in Figure 3 to afford clearance space for the table and seats when the cabinet is closed.

An extension leaf 28 of the same shape and size as the table 14 is hinged at 29 to the outer or free margin thereof and normally is folded flat against the inner or upper face 30 of said table. This leaf 28 thus normally serves in reality as the top or working surface of the table 14 but by swinging the leaf up and out to an extended position in line with the table as shown in dotted lines in Figure 3 a table of twice the length is provided. An auxiliary leg 31 is provided and same has a pin 32 at its upper end adapted to enter and frictionally engage a socket element 33 secured in the table extension leaf 28 near its free edge and in its intended underside whereby said leg will support this leaf in horizontal position as shown. When not in use this leg 31 is stored away in the cabinet in aligned notches 34 formed in the front edges of the shelves 28, the leg being tapered toward its lower end and the lower notch being smaller than the upper so as to hold the leg in place as will be understood.

In similar manner, extension leaves or boards 35 are hinged at 36 to the seat boards 19 at their free or outer edges and when closed cover these boards while, when opened, they double the effective length of the seats. The seat extensions 35 also have sockets 37 in their intended undersides near their free ends to receive pins 38 at the upper ends of auxiliary legs 39 to support the extensions in horizontal position. When not in use, these legs 39 are stored in the cabinet by placing them in vertically aligned notches 40 cut in the two uppermost shelves 27 at each side. The legs 39 are also tapered toward their lower ends to wedge downwardly in the notches 40 and hold the legs in place.

A modified construction is shown in Figures 5 to 9 inclusive. In this structure the cabinet itself is substantially the same as that previously described and includes the front 9a with the large center opening 10a and smaller side openings 12a exactly as described. The table leaf 14a is hinged at 15a in the opening 10a and has a hinged extension leaf 28a. The seat boards 19a are hinged at 20a in the openings 12a and have hinged extension boards 35a. Both the legs 17a and 31a for the table parts are hinged as shown at 18a to the leaf 14a and extension leaf 28a and the intended undersides of these parts are grooved out as shown at 45 to receive the legs 17a and 31a when the same are folded therein. When the extension leaf 28a is not in use and folded over atop the leaf 14a the outer leg 31a will be exposed but the fit of this leg in its receiving groove 45 may readily be so close as to present no obstruction to ordinary use of the table. In similar manner both sets of legs 22a and 39a are hinged at 23a to the seat boards 19a and extension boards 35a and these boards have grooves 46 receiving the legs when not in use. As shown in Figure 9 the legs may, if desired, have braces 47 hinged at one end at 48 to the legs and carrying pins 49 at their opposite ends playing in slideways 50 in the grooves 45 and 46. This is a conventional structure and the braces 47, of course, act to hold the legs extended when in use. The legs are grooved as shown at 51 to receive the braces 47 when closed or folded away.

Also in this embodiment of my invention the seat boards 19a have upstanding back rests or back boards 52 secured rigidly along their outer or rear edges as shown and the seat extension boards 35a are provided with extension back rests or boards 53 hinged at their intended inner ends at 54 to the outer ends of the back rests 52. At their free outer ends 55 the extension rests 53 are provided with hooks 56 to engage eyes 57 on the seat extension boards 35a and hold the rests in place while in use. When not in use the extension back rests 53 are unhooked and swung back flat behind the back rests 52 and then when the seats are folded and swung up against the front of the cabinet the back rests are adapted to slip past and lie flat against the sides 6 of the cabinet and form an ornamental part thereof. For this purpose the side openings 12a extend clear to the sides 6 of the cabinet as shown in Figure 6.

This embodiment of my invention has the advantage over the first in that the seats have back rests and all the supporting legs are attached to their supported parts.

From the foregoing it will be evident that the seating capacity or working space of the table and seats may be doubled at will and as desired. The cabinet so formed is of great utility in the home as a kitchen cabinet and dining or work table, as a bookcase and study desk or for office use or business use as will be understood.

While I have herein set forth a certain preferred embodiment of my invention, it is understood that I may vary from the same in minor structural details, so as best to construct a practical device for the purpose intended, not departing from the spirit of the invention and within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A cabinet having a rectangular center opening and rectangular side openings on each side of the center opening but at a lower level, horizontal shelves within the said opening, a table leaf hinged at one end to the lower edge of the center opening and adapted to close said opening or to swing outwardly to horizontal position, a leg hinged on the table leaf adjacent its free end and adapted to swing down and support the table leaf in its outwardly extended position, seat boards hinged at one end to the lower edges of the said side openings and adapted to close these openings or swing outward to horizontal position alongside the table at a lower level, legs hinged adjacent the free ends of the seat boards to support them in extended position, an extension leaf hinged to the free edge of the table leaf and normally folding flat thereon but adapted to swing out endwardly of the leaf, a leg hinged near the free end of the extension leaf to support the same in horizontal position, extension boards hinged to the free ends of the seat boards and adapted to fold flat thereon or extend out endwardly, legs hinged adjacent the free ends of the extension boards, the said table leaves and seat boards having grooves in their intended undersides adapted to receive the legs when the same are folded and not in use, back rests secured in upstanding position along the outer margins of the seat boards and adapted to fit alongside the cabinet when the seat boards are folded up over the openings in the cabinet, and back rest extensions hinged to the intended outer ends of the said back rests and adapted to fold flat thereagainst when not in use, and means for securing the back rest exten-

sions in position along the outer margins of the seat board extensions.

2. In a cabinet having a center opening and side openings at a lower level, a table leaf hinged at one end to the lower edge of the center opening and adapted to close said opening or to swing outwardly to horizontal position, seat boards hinged at one end to the lower edges of the side openings and adapted to close these openings or to swing outwardly to horizontal positions alongside the table leaf and at a lower level, extension boards hinged to the free ends of the seat boards and adapted to fold flatly thereon or to unfold outwardly as seat extensions, back rests secured in upstanding position along the outer margins of the seat boards and adapted to fit alongside the sides of the cabinet when the seat boards are closed over the side openings thereof, back rest extensions hinged to the outer ends of the back rests and adapted to fold flatly thereagainst when desired, means for supporting the back rest extensions in position along the outer margins of the seat extension boards when the latter are opened out, and means for supporting the table leaf, seat boards and extension boards in opened horizontal position for use.

JOSEPH McGOWAN.