May 16, 1933. J. SVALLAND 1,908,797

MEDICINE CABINET

Filed Feb. 17, 1932.

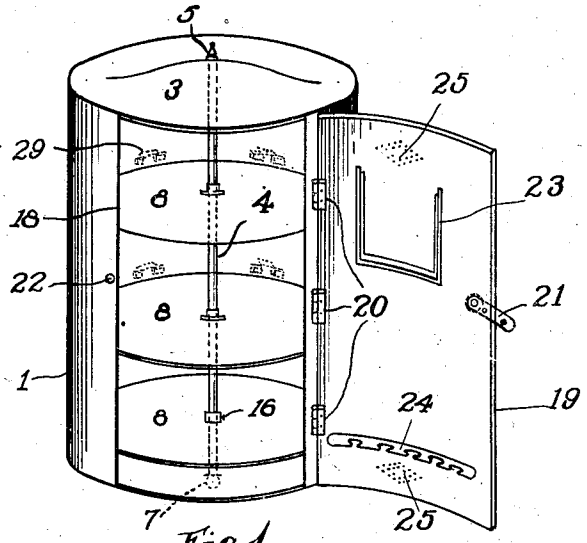

Fig. 1

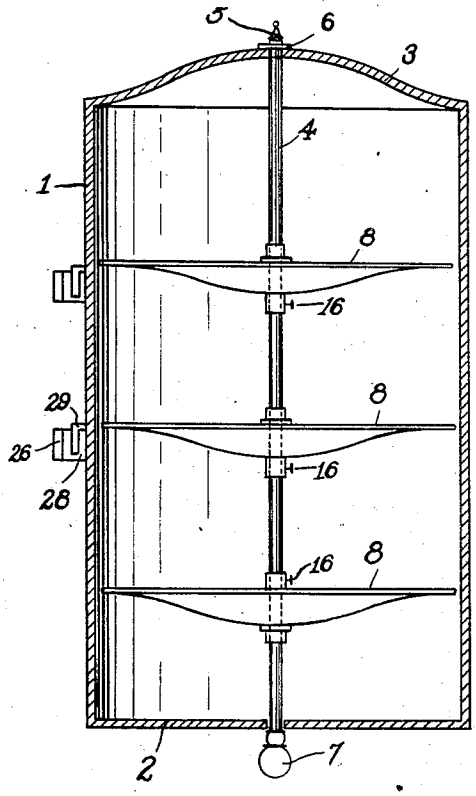

Fig. 2

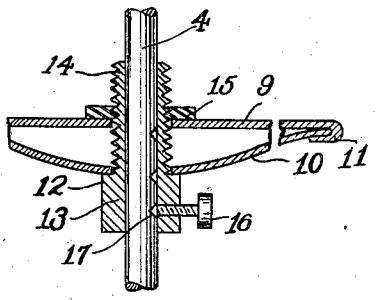

Fig. 4

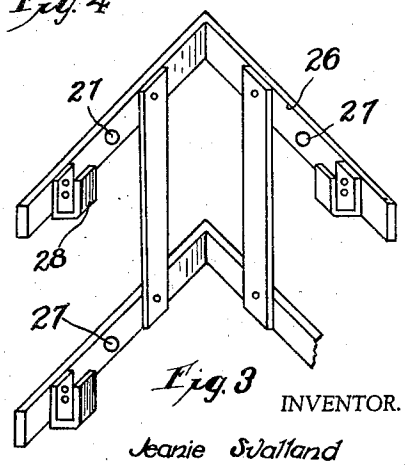

Fig. 3

INVENTOR.

Jeanie Svalland

BY

Cornelius Jaburek

ATTORNEY.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JEANIE SVALLAND, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

MEDICINE CABINET

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This invention is a medicine cabinet adapted for use in bathrooms in lieu of, or in addition to, the medicine cabinets which are commonly found in this environment.

The object of the invention is to provide a neat, convenient and thoroughly efficient receptacle which may be readily installed in a bathroom and which will provide for a maximum amount of storage space while occupying a minimum amount of space.

Speaking generally, the cabinet of this invention, in its preferred practical form comprises a cylindrical casing adapted to be mounted with its axis vertical and provided with a coaxial shaft extending vertically through the casing and preferably suspended from the top wall thereof. The shaft projects through the bottom of the casing and is provided with an operating knob by means of which it may be turned. Arranged vertically on the shaft within the casing are a plurality of shelves which are adjustable vertically and are adapted to be secured to the shaft by thumb screws in a manner to permit rotation of all of the shelves upon turning of the shaft manually in order that articles supported on the shelves may be presented conveniently at a side opening in the cabinet, which side opening is provided with a suitable door.

The invention embodies numerous important features of construction. For example, the shaft with the shelves mounted thereon is preferably supported from the top of the casing which, in order to carry the load, is, in practice, domed or arched whereby relatively light sheet metal may be used in the construction of the casing, while still affording ample strength for the suspension of the interior shelf mechanism as will be hereinafter more fully described. Similarly, the shelves are preferably each formed of two disks of metal, the upper of which is plane and the lower of which is concave or domed in a downward direction, these disks being secured at their peripheries to form a strong and sturdy construction from relatively light sheet metal. Such a shelf will not only sustain appreciable weight without bending but will be supported upon the shaft by a long axial bearing which will preclude tilting of the shelf with respect to the shaft which supports the same.

Features of the invention, other than those adverted to, will be apparent from the hereinafter detailed description and claims, when read in conjunction with the accompanying drawing.

The accompanying drawing illustrates one practical embodiment of the invention, but the construction therein shown, is to be understood as illustrative, only, and not as defining the limits of the invention.

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the medicine cabinet of the present invention with a door thereof in open position.

Figure 2 is a vertical section through the cabinet showing the method of mounting the same.

Figure 3 is a perspective view showing a bracket adapted to be mounted on the wall for the purpose of supporting the cabinet.

Figure 4 is a vertical central section through one of the shelves showing the method of mounting the same on the central shaft which in this view is shown in elevation.

Referring to the drawing, 1 designates a cylindrical sheet metal casing closed at its top and bottom. The bottom 2 of the casing is preferably flat or plane while the top of the casing 3 is arched or domed as shown in Figure 2. The shaft 4 extends axially through the casing and through perforations in the top and bottom walls. Above the top wall 3, the shaft is provided with a stop 5 which may conveniently be in the form of a nut screwed on to the shaft and acting against a washer 6. This washer is adapted to bear on the top 3 of the casing so as to be suspended from its upper end, said shaft fitting loosely through the perforation in the bottom of the casing and provided at its lower end with a knob or finger piece 7 whereby the shaft may be manually rotated.

Mounted on the shaft 4 interiorly of the casing are a plurality of shelves 8. These shelves are of circular contour and fit relatively close to the interior wall of the casing, but have sufficient clearance therewith to permit the shelves to rotate on the axis of

the shaft without contact with the casing wall. As shown best in Figure 4, each shelf is formed from two sheet metal disks 9 and 10, the upper disk of which is flat while the lower disk is downwardly dished. The peripheral portions of the respective disks are in face abutting relation, while the marginal portion of the upper disk 9 is spun over the periphery of the lower disk 10 as indicated at 11, so as to secure these two disks together in a firm and tight joint.

With this arrangement, the central portion of the shelf is relatively deep due to the spacing apart of the disks at their central portions, while the peripheries of the shelves are relatively thin and graceful in appearance. Each shelf is provided with a hub member 12, and each hub embodies a head 13 having a threaded shank 14 passing though the center of the shelf and locked in place by a lock nut 15 which binds the shelf between the lock nut and the head 13. This hub is thus relatively long and this fact together with the relatively deep central portion of the shelf permits the shelf to be mounted for vertical adjustment on the shaft, while precluding tilting of the shelf such as would occur if the shelf were of thin shallow dimension at its center. The respective shelves can be locked in any desired position of adjustment on the shaft 4 by means of set screws 16 and in order to insure a tight hold by these set screws, the shaft may be provided at suitable spaced intervals with depressions or notches 17 as shown in Figure 4 for the reception of the set screws in a manner which will preclude slipping of the shelf. These notches may conveniently be a half inch apart, so as to allow of adjustment of the shelves within narrow limits.

The set screws serve the purpose not only to retain the shelves in proper adjustment, but also serve to lock the shelves to the shaft for rotation therewith, whereby when the knob 7 is turned, the shelves will rotate in unison. The casing is provided at what is normally its front side with an opening or doorway 18 with which is associated a door 19 mounted on the casing by means of hinges 20 or in any other appropriate manner. This door is curved on the radius of the casing, so that when closed, it will conform to the general cross sectional contour of said casing, and a suitable catch 21 mounted on the door is adapted to cooperate with a perforation 22 in the adjacent wall of the casing to normally lock the door in closed position.

On the interior of the door, I may find it convenient to mount a card retainer 23 in the form of a U-shaped flange, the purpose of which is to retain in convenient exposed position first aid directions, the doctor's telephone number or other data which it may be desired to have convenient. Upon the door may also be mounted a toothbrush holder indicated at 24 and so constituted as to form a holder for a plurality of tooth brushes. In order that the interior of the casing may be properly ventilated, ventilating openings, preferably arranged in pleasing and æsthetic groups as shown at 25 are formed in the door 19.

With regard to the catch 21, it may be noted that this catch is shown as in the form of a laterally projecting finger carrying at the end thereof a pin adapted to enter into the hole 22 in the casing wall. This arrangement has no moving parts, the natural resiliency of the door serving to normally impel the pin into the hole 22 and permitting withdrawal of the pin from the hole to allow of the opening of the door when desired. It will be understood, however, that any other suitable form of catch may be employed without departing from this form of the invention.

The cabinet as hereinbefore described is adapted to be supported upon a suitable bracket secured to the wall of the bathroom. Various forms of brackets may be employed in this connection, but I find it convenient and desirable to so constitute the bracket that it may support the casing in the corner of the room. To this end I preferably make the bracket as shown in Figure 3, wherein it is illustrated as comprising a frame 26 having openings 27 whereby it may be nailed into the corner of a room and on this frame are mounted a plurality of hooks 28 shown as four in number, so disposed as to cooperate with keepers 29, four of which are shown in Figure 1 as secured to the back of the casing.

With this arrangement, the bracket is permanently secured to the wall, while the casing may be readily hooked on or removed from the bracket. The arrangement specified mounts the casing firmly in position while leaving the bottom of the casing unencumbered, so that the knob 7 may be grasped and turned as desired.

The purpose of mounting the shelves for rotation is to permit articles positioned on any portion of any shelf to be readily brought into juxtaposition with the doorway. In practice, it is found that large numbers of articles may be packed on the shelves, and while any particular article may be brought into accessible position by merely rotating the knob 7 to correspondingly rotate the shelves. In practice the doorway occupies substantially one-fourth of the circumference of the casing, so as to give a relatively wide access opening, while rotation of the shelves makes it possible to render an article contained on any portion of the shelf to be brought into accessible position.

With the arrangement which I have described, I am able to obtain a shelf area in a relatively small cabinet which is equivalent to the shelf area of a much larger cabinet of

conventional form. In other words by the present invention, it is possible to obtain a maximum shelf area with a minimum of space occupied by the cabinet. It will be noted in this connection that the hub portions carrying the adjusting screws of the two upper shelves are positioned below the shelves, while the adjusting screw for the lowest shelf is positioned above the shelf. This is to permit of maximum adjustment between the shelves and to allow the lowermost shelf to be lowered almost into contact with the bottom wall 2 of the casing. The result is that maximum adjustment is permitted with maximum capacity for a relatively small casing.

The device may be economically manufactured and easily installed by the purchaser. The use of a frame fitting into the corner of a room facilitates the installation for the angle of the frame is preferably made substantially 90 degrees so that when placed in the corner of a room and secured in position, it will support the casing with its axis in truly vertical position.

The entire structure is sanitary, and is so constituted that it will not furnish inaccessible places for vermin and may be easily cleansed through the use of a damp cloth when desired.

Having thus fully described the invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A medicine cabinet comprising a cylindrical casing adapted to be mounted with its axis vertical, said casing being provided at one side with a door opening, a door pivotally associated with said opening, a shaft extending vertically coaxial of the casing, said shaft being suspended for rotation in a bearing in the top wall of the casing and projecting through an opening in the bottom of the casing and provided exteriorly of the casing and at its lower end with a finger piece whereby the shaft may be rotated, and a plurality of shelves mounted on said shaft interiorly of the casing and adapted for vertical adjustment with respect to one another on said shaft, each of said shelves having a flat upper supporting surface extending for substantially the full inner diameter of the casing and means for locking the shelves in the desired positions of adjustment, the top wall of said casing being arched upwardly to provide a domed formation for the purpose of imparting a requisite support for the shaft and shelves with a top wall of minimum thickness.

2. A medicine cabinet comprising a cylindrical casing adapted to be mounted with its axis vertical, the top wall of the casing being domed or arched in an upward direction, a shaft extending vertically coaxially of the casing and suspended from the apex of the dome, said shaft extending downwardly through the bottom of the casing and provided exteriorly thereof with a finger piece whereby it may be rotated, a plurality of circular shelves having flat upper supporting surfaces and of a diameter substantially equal to the internal diameter of the casing, supported on the shaft and coaxial therewith, each of said shelves being provided with a relatively deep hub embracing the shaft, and each hub having a set screw threaded through the hub and adapted to engage with the shaft to lock the shelf in the desired position of adjustment and to also lock the shelf for rotation with the shaft, so that all the shelves may be rotated with the shaft when the finger piece is rotated, said casing being provided at one side thereof with a door opening into juxtaposition with which various articles supported on the shelves may be moved through rotation of the shelves, and a door for normally closing said opening.

3. A medicine cabinet comprising a cylindrical casing adapted to be mounted with its axis in vertical position, a shaft positioned coaxially of the casing and extending beneath the same and there provided with a finger piece, whereby the shaft may be rotated, a plurality of shelves mounted on said shaft for rotation therewith, each of said shelves comprising two circular disks, the lower of which is downwardly domed and the upper of which is flat with the peripheral portion of the upper disk spun over the outer margin of the lower disk to bind said disks together and form a tight joint at their outer peripheries, the central portions of both disks being perforated, a hub extending through said perforations and having opposing shoulders between which the disks are clamped to mount them on the hub, and said hub having a set screw threaded therethrough and bearing against the shaft to lock the hub in the desired position of adjustment, the shaft being provided with vertically spaced apart notches for cooperation with the set screws of the several shelves, and the casing being provided at one side thereof with a door opening, and a door cooperating with said opening when adapted to normally close the same.

4. A medicine cabinet comprising a casing provided at one side with a door opening and adapted to be mounted with its axis vertical, said casing having an upwardly domed top wall, a shaft positioned coaxially of the casing and suspended from the apex of the top wall, said shaft extending downwardly through the casing and through a perforation in the bottom thereof and provided at its lower end with a finger piece whereby the shaft may be rotated, a plurality of circular shelves positioned within the casing and mounted on the shaft for vertical adjustment, said shelves being relatively deep at their centers and tapering to relatively thin marginal edges and each shelf being provided at

the center of the hub secured to the shelf and embracing the shaft with a relatively long boring, a set screw threaded through each hub into engagement with the shaft to lock the shelves in the desired position of adjustment, so that when the shaft is rotated articles contained on the shelves may be moved in juxtaposition with the door opening, and a door associated with the door opening and serving to normally close the same.

5. A medicine cabinet comprising a casing provided at one side with a door opening and adapted to be mounted with its axis vertical, said casing having an upwardly domed top wall, a shaft positioned coaxially of the casing and suspended from the apex of the top wall, said shaft extending downwardly through the casing and through a perforation in the bottom thereof, a plurality of circular shelves positioned within the casing and mounted on the shaft for vertical adjustment, said shelves being relatively deep at their centers and tapering to relatively thin marginal edges and each shelf being provided at the center of the hub secured to the shelf and embracing the shaft with a relatively long boring, a locking member associated with each hub and engaging with the shaft to lock the shelves in the desired position of adjustment, so that when the shaft is rotated articles contained on the shelves may be moved in juxtaposition with the door opening, and a door associated with the door opening and serving to normally close the same.

6. A medicine cabinet comprising a cylindrical casing adapted to be mounted with its axis vertical, said casing being provided at one side with a door opening, a door pivotally associated with said opening, a shaft extending vertically coaxial of the casing, said shaft being suspended for rotation in a bearing in the top wall of the casing, and a plurality of shelves mounted on said shaft interiorly of the casing and adapted for vertical adjustment with respect to one another on said shaft, each of said shelves having a flat upper supporting surface extending for substantially the full diameter of the casing, and means for locking the shelves in the desired positions of adjustment, the top wall of said casing being arched upwardly to provide a domed formation for the purpose of imparting a requisite support for the shaft and shelves with a top wall of minimum thickness.

In testimony whereof, I have signed the foregoing specification.

JEANIE SVALLAND.