March 28, 1950 W. D. MEAGHER 2,501,781

KITCHEN CABINET ENSEMBLE STRUCTURE

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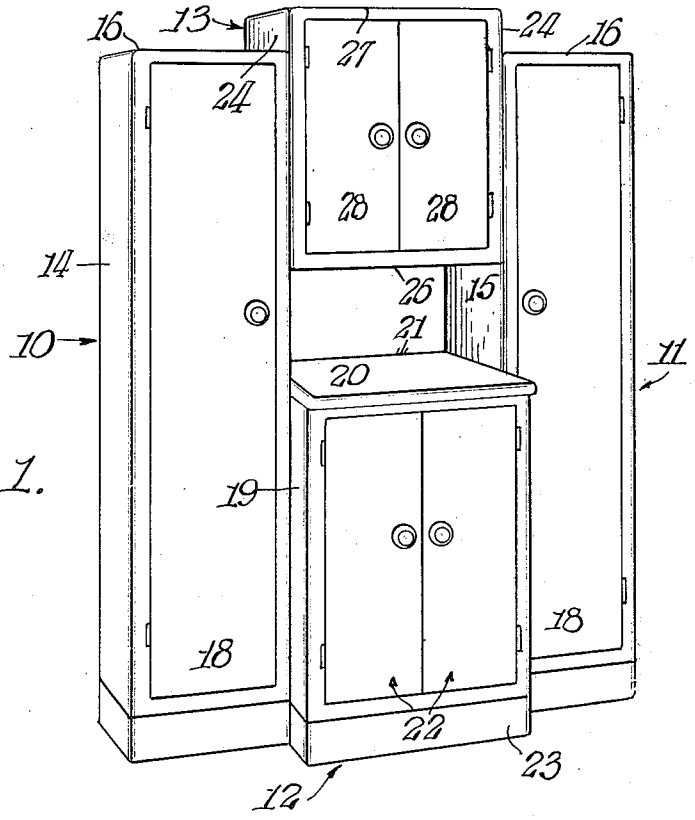
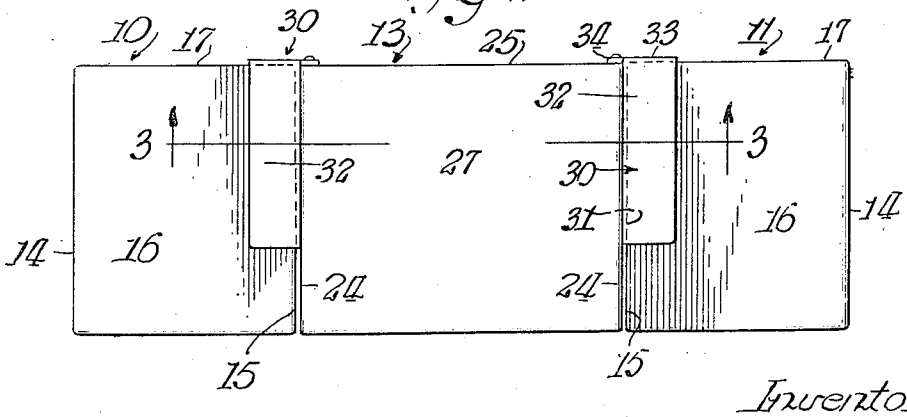


FIG. 1.

FIG. 2.



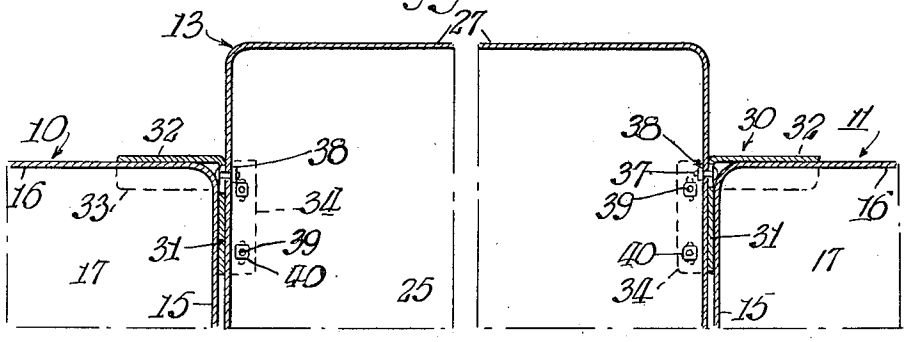
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FIG. 3.



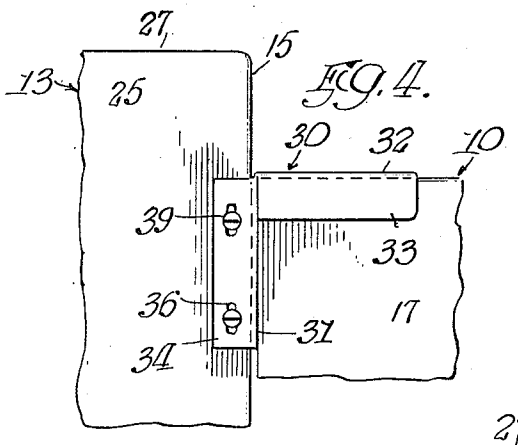
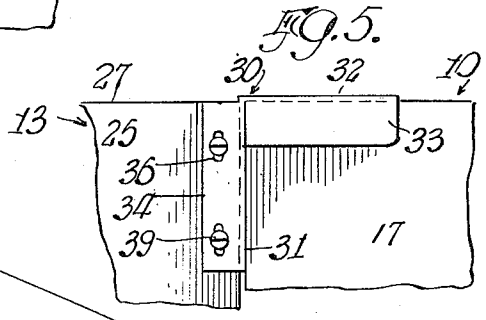


FIG. 4.

FIG. 5.



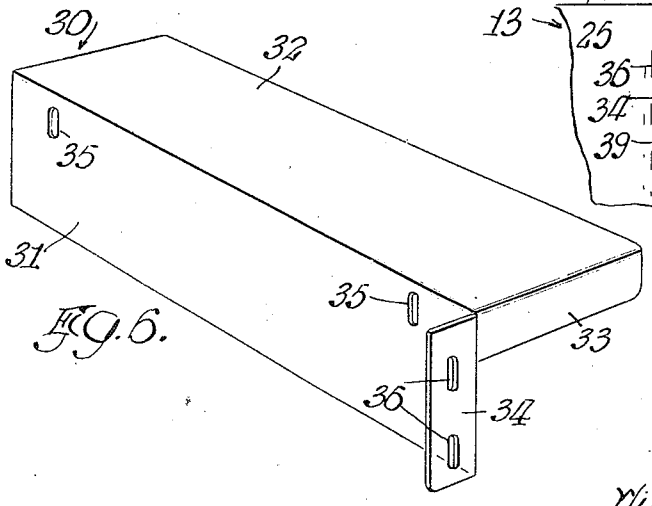


FIG. 6.

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KITCHEN CABINET ENSEMBLE STRUCTURE

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6 Claims. (Cl. 312—107)

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This invention relates to improvement in kitchen cabinet ensemble structures and it consists of the matters hereinafter described and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

An ensemble of this kind usually includes laterally spaced right and left hand side cabinets, a base cabinet including a table top, between the lower ends of the side cabinets and a center cabinet between the upper ends of the side cabinets, with its top disposed either flush with or above the tops of the side cabinets.

Generally the cabinets are made of sheet metal and heretofore holes were drilled through the sides of the center cabinet, which were designed to register with holes in the opposed sides of the center cabinet and bolts were inserted through these registering holes to support the center cabinet from the side cabinets and to tie said cabinets together.

It is quite difficult to drill the holes mentioned so that they will accurately register and thus receive the bolts. With the cabinets secured together in this fashion, should the supporting floor be uneven or should the wall of the kitchen, against which the ensemble is placed, be uneven, the ensemble is not stable and will lean or tilt and there is no way in which to adjust the cabinets relatively to make them stable. Under such conditions shimming is resorted to but this is not satisfactory as it entails extra expense and detracts from the appearance, an ensemble of this kind should have in the kitchen, as well as providing crevices in which insects can lodge.

One of the objects of the present invention is to provide in an ensemble of this kind, improved structure whereby the center cabinet may be supported from and attached to the side cabinets without the necessity of providing, as heretofore, the registering bolt holes in the sides of the cabinets embodied in the ensemble.

A further object of the invention is to provide in an ensemble of this kind, an improved structure whereby the center cabinet may be disposed with its top either above or flush with the tops of the side cabinets, according to the desires of the purchaser.

Also, it is an object of the invention to provide an ensemble of this kind wherein adjustment may be made between the cabinets thereof, in order to compensate for the uneven floor surface upon which the ensemble is to stand, so that it is stable in its set-up condition, without the use of shims.

Furthermore, it is an object of the invention to provide a simple and inexpensive bracket for use in providing a pendent support of the center cabinet from the side cabinets of the ensemble, which will afford such adjustment between said cabinets that the ensemble will be stable.

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The above mentioned objects of the invention along with others, together with the advantages thereof will more fully appear as the specification proceeds.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a kitchen cabinet ensemble embodying the preferred form of invention.

Fig. 2 is a top plan view thereof, on a somewhat enlarged scale.

Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical sectional view, through parts of the upper end of the ensemble, as taken on the line 3—3 and on a scale larger than that of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary view in elevation from the back, of the ensemble, showing parts of the center cabinet and one of the side cabinets respectively with one of the improved brackets in position therebetween to support the center cabinet from and with its top above that of the side cabinet.

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 4, with the tops of the side and center cabinets flush with each other.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view, on substantially the scale of Fig. 4, of one of a pair of right and left hand brackets employed in the ensemble and which will be more fully referred to later.

Referring now in detail to that embodiment of the invention illustrated in the drawings and especially to Fig. 1 thereof, the ensemble shown therein includes left and right hand side cabinets 10 and 11 respectively, which are spaced apart laterally to receive between their lower ends, a base cabinet 12 and to receive between their upper ends, a center cabinet 13, which is spaced above the top of the base cabinet.

Each of said cabinets is preferably made of sheet metal, although the invention is applicable to such cabinets when made of other material, such as wood.

The side cabinets are relatively tall and each includes outer sides 14—14, inner sides 15—15, a top 16, a back 17 and an open front to receive a door 18. The door for each cabinet is hinged toward the associated side wall 14 to swing outwardly. The margins of the top of each side cabinet join the sides, back and front thereof by rounded corners, as best appears in Fig. 3.

The base cabinet 12 is preferably deeper from front to rear than the side cabinets and it includes side walls 19 engaged with the side walls

15 of the side cabinets, a top 20 which forms the serving top for the ensemble and a back 21 (see Fig. 1) which is arranged flush with the backs of the side cabinets. The front of the base cabinet is formed to receive a pair of hinged doors 22 which when open afford access to the storage compartment in the base cabinet.

The bottom ends of the cabinets 10, 11 and 12 are supported by means of a base 23 made either as a separate part or as parts of the respective cabinets.

The center cabinet 13, which is preferably of the same front to rear depth as the side cabinets and is the same width as the base cabinet 12, includes side walls 24, 24, a back wall 25, a bottom 26 and a top 27, and is open at the front to receive the hinged doors 28, which afford access to the interior of the cabinet.

Associated with the center cabinet and carried by the side walls 24—24 thereof is a pair of right and left hand brackets 30, one of which appears in Fig. 6. Each bracket, which is preferably made of sheet metal, has an angle bar cross section and includes a vertical flange 31, and a horizontal flange 32 extending laterally from the top edge of the vertical flange and joined thereto by a comparatively square sharp corner. At one end of the bracket, the flange 32 has a depending extension portion 33 and at the same end of the bracket the flange 31 has a portion 34 which extends laterally therefrom in a direction opposite the flange 32. In the flange 31 are longitudinally spaced, vertical slots 35 and in the portion 34 are vertically aligned slots 36.

The brackets 30, which are carried by the center cabinet, are assembled thereto as follows: The side flange 31 of each bracket is engaged with an associated side 24 of the center cabinet, with the portion of 34 engaged against opposite side portions of the back of the cabinet and with the flange 32 of each bracket extending laterally outward from the associated side of the cabinet. Fastening devices, such as relatively small bolts 37, are passed through openings in the sides of the center cabinet that have been arranged to register with the slots 35 before mentioned, from the inside of the cabinet and then nuts 38 (see Fig. 3) are applied to the free end of the bolts to engage the respective sides of the center cabinet. Fastening devices, such as small bolts 39 (like the bolts 37) are passed through openings in the back of the center cabinet from the outside thereof to extend through the slots 36 and then nuts 40 are applied to the front ends of the bolt to engage the back 25 of said cabinet. This attaches the brackets to the sides of the center cabinet with the portions 34 thereof engaged with the back of said cabinet.

The center cabinet 13 with the brackets 30—30 thereon may now be applied in position between the upper ends of the side cabinets 10 and 11, with the flange 32 of each bracket engaging in supporting relation upon margins of the top 16 of each side cabinet. When the center cabinet has been properly positioned upon the side cabinets, the portions 33 at the ends of the flanges 32 engage portions of the back wall of the respective side cabinets. As the flanges 32 are engaged upon parts of the top of each side cabinet and as the portions 33 of said flange engage with parts of the back of the side cabinets, the center cabinet is pendently supported from the side cabinet and this in a manner preventing any forward movement of the center cabinet relative to the side cabinets.

It is pointed out that the heads of the bolts 37 occupy the spaces between the rounded corners joining the sides and the top of the side cabinets and the sharp corners between the flanges 31—32 of the brackets 30, as best appears in Fig. 3. Thus the sides of the side and center cabinets are separated by spaces corresponding to the thickness of the flanges 31 and these spaces are so narrow as to be unnoticeable.

Should the supporting floor for the ensemble be uneven so that the ensemble tends to tilt and become unstable, the center cabinet may be loosened from the side cabinet by loosening the bolts 37 and 39. Thereafter the cabinets may be adjusted relatively by a new position of the bolts in the slots 35, 36 to make up for the unevenness. After the adjustment has been made, the bolts 37 and 39 are again tightened and the ensemble again becomes stable and stands perpendicularly without any tilt.

Some purchasers of the ensemble may desire that the top of the center cabinet be disposed at an elevation above that of the side cabinets, as appears in Figs. 1 and 4 and other purchasers may desire the top of the center cabinet flush with the tops of the side cabinets, as appears in Fig. 5. Either arrangement may be afforded by suitably disposing the openings in the sides and back of the center cabinet for the bolts 37—39. In Fig. 4 the top of the center cabinet is shown as positioned above the tops of the side cabinets and therefore the bolt holes in the sides and back of the center cabinet would be arranged at elevations lower than is required for such holes when the tops of said cabinets are flush as in Fig. 5.

By reason of said brackets a substantial load bearing area is provided between said brackets and the tops of the side cabinets and therefore the tops of the side cabinets will not sag or buckle under the weight of the center cabinet and its contents.

Again as pointed out by means of said brackets and the slot-like openings therein, it is possible to make adjustments between the cabinets to compensate for any slight unevenness in the floor upon which the ensemble may rest. As the tops of said cabinets are disposed at elevations above eye level, no parts of said brackets are visible and therefore are not aesthetically objectionable.

While in describing the invention I have referred in detail to the form, arrangement and construction of the parts involved, the same is to be considered only in the illustrative sense and therefore I do not wish to be limited thereto except as may be specifically set forth in the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. A kitchen cabinet ensemble embodying therein laterally spaced side cabinets each having a top and a back, a center cabinet disposed between the upper portion of the side cabinets and including a back, means secured to parts of the center cabinet and engaged with the tops of the side cabinets for the support of the center cabinet therefrom, and means carried by the first mentioned means and engaged with portions of the backs of said side and center cabinets.

2. A kitchen cabinet ensemble embodying therein laterally spaced side cabinets each having a top, a center cabinet disposed between the upper portion of the side cabinets and having sides, and means secured to parts of the sides of the center cabinet and engaged with the tops of the side cabinets for the support of the center

cabinet therefrom, said means including parts engaged with parts of the backs of said side and center cabinets.

3. A kitchen cabinet ensemble embodying therein laterally spaced side cabinets each having a top, a center cabinet disposed between the upper portion of the side cabinets and including sides, a pair of brackets associated with the center cabinet and each including a vertical flange fixed to each side of the center cabinet and a horizontal flange extending outwardly from an edge of the vertical flange and engaged upon the tops of said side cabinets for the support of said center cabinet therefrom.

4. A kitchen cabinet ensemble embodying therein laterally spaced side cabinets each having a top, a center cabinet disposed between the upper portion of the side cabinets and including sides, a pair of brackets associated with the center cabinet and each including a vertical flange fixed to each side of the center cabinet and a horizontal flange extending outwardly from an edge of the vertical flange and engaged upon the tops of said side cabinets for the support of said center cabinet therefrom, the flanges of each bracket being provided at one end thereof with parts engageable with parts of the back of said side and center cabinets.

5. A kitchen cabinet ensemble embodying therein laterally spaced side cabinets each having a top, a center cabinet disposed between the upper portions of the side cabinets and including sides, a pair of brackets associated, one with each side of the center cabinet, each bracket including a vertical flange engaged with an associated side of the center panel and a horizontal flange extending outwardly from an edge of a

vertical flange and engaged upon a top of said side cabinets for the support of the center cabinet therefrom, and means providing a slot and fastening device connection between the vertical flange of each bracket and an associated side of the center panel.

6. A kitchen cabinet ensemble embodying therein laterally spaced side cabinets each having a top, a center cabinet disposed between the upper portions of the side cabinets and including sides, a pair of brackets associated one with each side of the center cabinet, each bracket including a vertical flange engaged with an associated side of the center cabinet and a horizontal flange extending outwardly from an edge of said vertical flange and engaged upon a top of said side cabinets for the support of the center cabinet therefrom, and means providing a slot and fastening device connection between the vertical flange of each bracket and an associated side of the center cabinet, said vertical flange of each bracket carrying a part engageable with a part of the back of the center cabinet and having a slot and fastening device connection therewith.

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