April 29, 1969 J. SOLOMON 3,441,329

STAND CABINET CONSTRUCTION

Filed Sept. 8, 1967 Sheet 1 of 2

FIG. 1

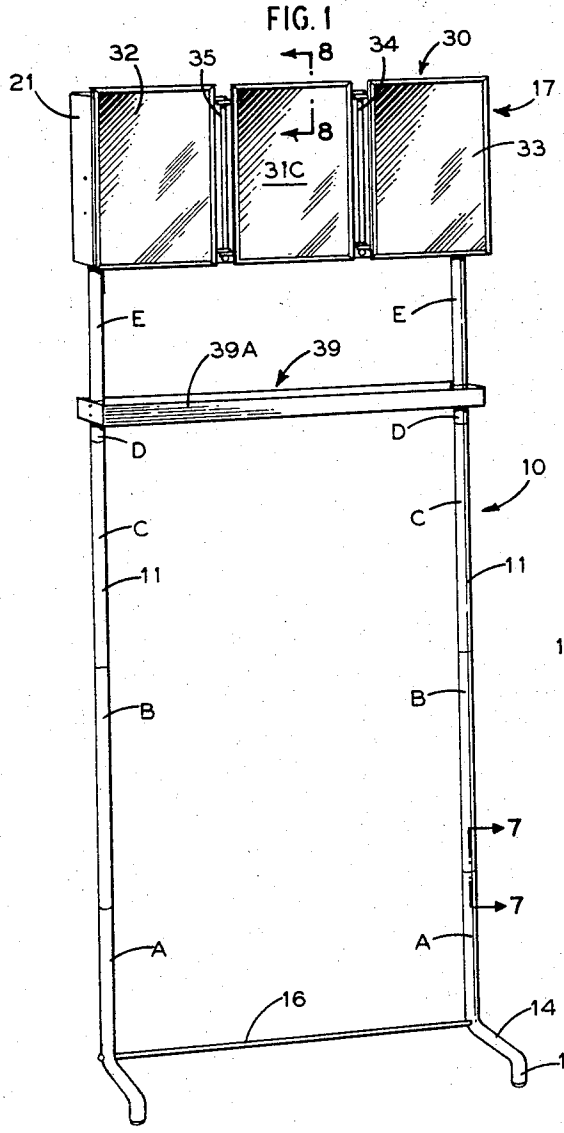


FIG. 2

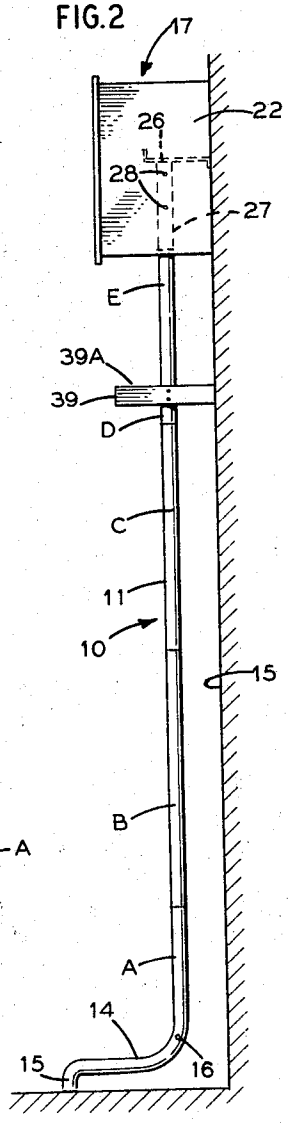


FIG. 7

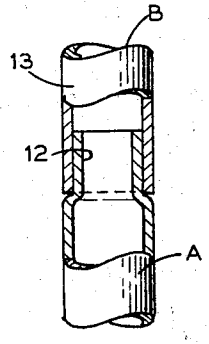
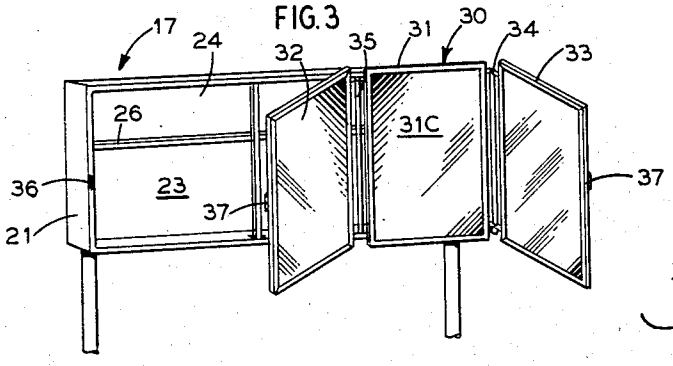


FIG. 3



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April 29, 1969 J. SOLOMON 3,441,329

STAND CABINET CONSTRUCTION

Filed Sept. 8, 1967 Sheet 2 of 2

FIG. 4

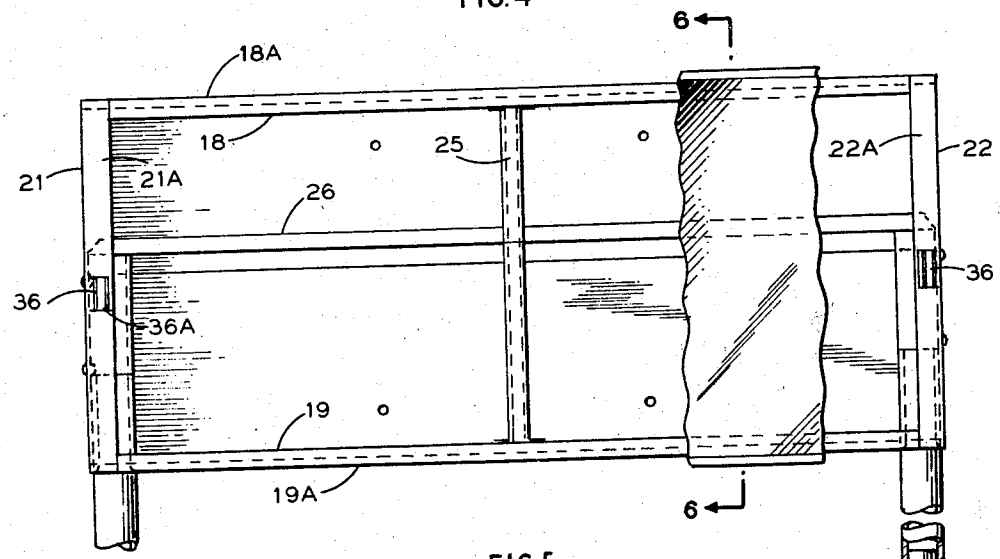


FIG. 5

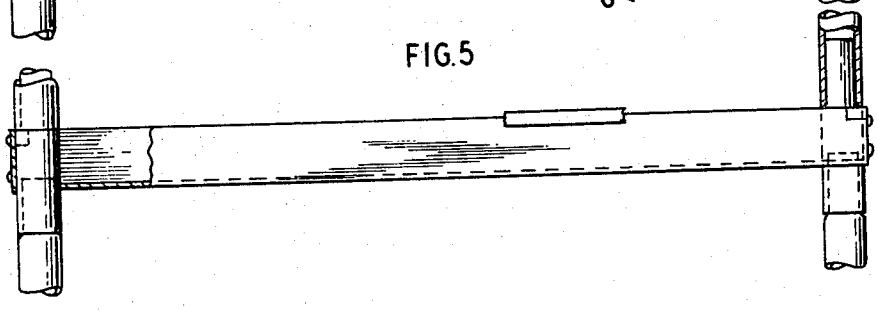


FIG. 6

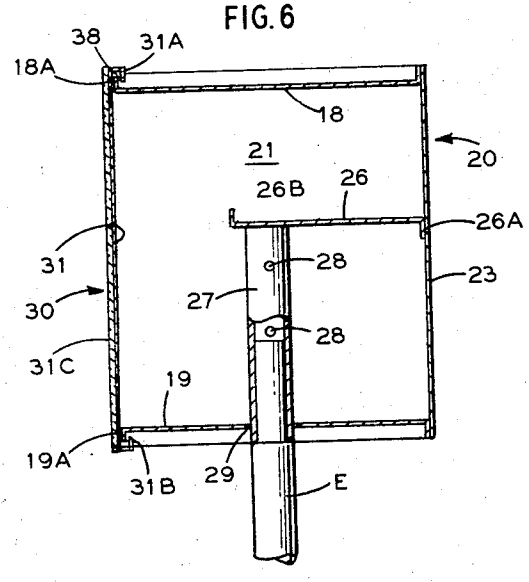
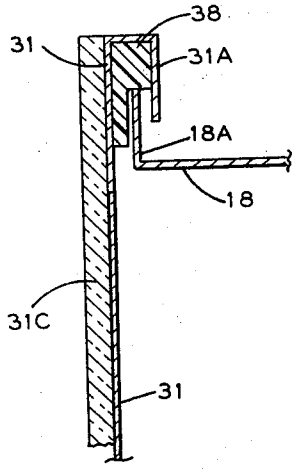


FIG. 8



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3,441,329

STAND CABINET CONSTRUCTION

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U.S. Cl. 312—245 10 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention is directed to a stand-type, space-saving cabinet construction in which a cabinet is supported between a pair of spaced-apart upright stanchions which are normally incapable of being supported in an upright position unless the cabinet supported thereon is backed-up against a vertical wall. Each stanchion is provided with forwardly and laterally extending foot portions arranged to normally tilt the stanchion in the direction of the supporting wall. The cabinet supported between the stanchions comprises a full open front, box-type cabinet provided with a plurality of closure sections which includes slidably mounted section for movement along the front opening of the cabinet and to which there are connected one or more hingedly mounted closure sections arranged to pivot relative to the slidable closure section.

Specification

This invention relates to a stand-type cabinet, and more particularly to a cabinet supported between a pair of spaced apart upright stanchions having an overall height which is less than the floor-to-ceiling height of a room in which the stand cabinet is to be used, and which stand cabinet is incapable of being supported in an upright position unless backed against a vertical wall.

Heretofore, stand cabinets of the type to which this invention relates comprised generally of a pair of stanchions which were required to extend between the floor and the ceiling. With such stanchions various means were provided to wedge the ends of the stanchions between the floor and the ceiling to secure them in an upright position. With the stanchions so secured, a cabinet was supported between the spaced stanchions intermediate the height thereof. However, the disadvantages of such stand constructions required that the stanchions be of excessive lengths. Also means were required for securing and/or wedging the ends of the stanchions between the floor and the ceiling. Because the distance between the floor and the ceiling varied from building to building, standardization of such stanchions was difficult if not impossible to achieve. To obviate this problem and to achieve standardization, such stanchions were made of telescoping sections which could be extended and retracted between predetermined limits to accommodate any variance in ceiling heights from building to building. However, with stanchions of this type, relatively complicated telescoping mechanisms and stops were required to fix the stanchions in an adjusted position. As a result considerable cost, engineering and manufacturing effort were required to produce satisfactory stanchions for such stand-type cabinet constructions. In addition, due to the excessive lengths of such stanchions, considerable difficulty was encountered in the handling, shipping and storage of such stand cabinets.

The cabinet portion of such stand-type cabinets was generally provided with conventional hinge closures and/or sliding closures. Where such cabinets had an excessively wide frontal opening, as for example where the length of the front opening exceeded several times the depth of

the cabinet, a closure for such cabinet hinged at one end would project outwardly therefrom an excessive amount when opened. If a slide-type closure were used on such wide cabinet openings, access to the interior of the cabinet was limited to the width of the sliding closure panel.

It is, therefore, an object of this invention to provide an improved stand cabinet in which the stanchions for supporting the cabinet need not be provided with a height equal to the distance between the floor and ceiling of a room in which such stanchions are to be used.

Another object of this invention is to provide a stand-type cabinet in which the stanchions for supporting the cabinet therebetween are constructed so as to be incapable of being maintained in an upright position unless the cabinet is backed against a vertical wall.

Another object of this invention is to provide a stand cabinet which is supported off the floor by means of a pair of spaced-apart stanchion members that are adjustable to vary the height of the cabinet supported therebetween from the floor.

Another object of this invention is to provide a stand cabinet construction in which the cabinet portion is provided with a full front opening which is closed by a closure which is both hingedly and slidably connected to the open front of the cabinet so as to provide for maximum access to the cabinet.

Another object of this invention is to provide a stand cabinet which is relatively simple in construction, inexpensive to fabricate, and positive in operation.

Another object of this invention is to provide an improved closure construction for the open front end of a cabinet which is arranged to enable the closure to be either folded and/or shifted from side to side along the front opening of the cabinet to provide easy access thereto.

Summary of invention

The foregoing objects and other features and advantages of this invention are attained by a space-saving stand cabinet comprising a cabinet supported between a pair of spaced-apart upright stanchions which have an overall length which is less than the floor-to-ceiling height of a room in which the cabinet is to be placed. The stanchions are each provided with a laterally extending foot portion having a downwardly turned end portion for supporting the stand cabinet on a supporting surface or floor so as to render the stand cabinet incapable of being supported in an upright position unless the cabinet portion is leaned against a vertical wall. The cabinet construction comprises a box-shaped construction the back of which is adapted to rest against the upright wall to maintain the stand in a vertical position. The front of the cabinet is provided with a full front opening which is adapted to be closed by a plurality of closure segments which are capable of being both folded and/or slidably moved from side to side along the open front of the cabinet to provide easy access to any portion of the cabinet. An intermediate shelf may be provided and supported on the stanchion in spaced relationship to the cabinet supported thereon. If desired, the respective stanchion members may be made of a plurality of segmented component parts which may be frictionally fitted together to render the height of the stanchion adjustable within predetermined limits depending upon the number of stanchion segments so secured.

Features of the invention

A feature of this invention resides in an improved stand-type, space-saving cabinet which is supported on a pair of stanchions having a length less than the floor-to-ceiling height of a room in which such cabinet stand is to be used.

Another feature of this invention resides in the provision that the cabinet is supported on a pair of stan-

chions which are otherwise incapable of being vertically supported unless the cabinet is backed against a vertical wall.

Another feature of this invention resides in the provision of a space-saving stand cabinet that can be utilized in any room of the house.

Another feature of this invention resides in an improved stand cabinet that can be readily disassembled or assembled without the use of any tools and which is pleasing in appearance and positive in operation.

Another feature of this invention resides in an improved cabinet construction that is provided with a full open front which is suitably closed by a plurality of closure panels which can be both folded and slidably moved from side to side to provide for easy access to the cabinet.

Other features and variations will become more readily apparent when considered in view of the drawings and specification in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the stand cabinet of the present invention.

FIG. 2 is an end view of the stand cabinet construction of FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is a fragmentary perspective view of the cabinet portion of the stand cabinet of FIG. 1, illustrating the closure portion of the cabinet in an open position.

FIG. 4 is a front detail view of the cabinet portion of the stand, having portions thereof broken away.

FIG. 5 is a detail construction of the intermediate shelf portion of the cabinet stand of FIG. 1.

FIG. 6 is a detail side view of the cabinet portion of the stand of FIG. 1, having portions thereof shown in section.

FIG. 7 is an enlarged detail sectional view taken along line 7—7 on FIG. 1.

FIG. 8 is an enlarged detail sectional view taken along line 8—8 on FIG. 1.

Referring to the drawings there is shown a stand cabinet **10** utilizing the invention to be herein described. The stand cabinet **10** comprises a pair of upright stanchions **11** and **11** which are disposed in spaced-apart relationship. While each of the perspective stanchions **11, 11** may be formed as an integral component part of a tubular or rod-like member, it is preferred that each of the respective stanchions **11** and **11** be formed of a plurality of connected stanchion sections. In the illustrated embodiment the respective stanchion sections A, B, C, D and E are interfitted one to another to form a stanchion **11** of any desired length. Preferably the adjacent end portions of the adjacent stanchion sections A–E are constructed and arranged so that an upper segment can be frictionally fitted and connected to the upper end of the next subjacent segment. In order to attain this it will be noted that the upper end **12** of each of the respective stanchion segments is provided with a reduced portion or diameter which can be snugly received in frictional interlocking relationship with the lower end **13** of the next adjacent upper stanchion section. (See FIG. 1A). In this manner the respective stanchion sections A–E can be secured one to another to form a stanchion of any desired length.

Referring to FIGS. 1 and 2, the lowermost stanchion segment A of each stanchion is provided with a laterally offset, forwardly extending leg portion **14** which terminates in downwardly bent foot portion **15**. As best seen in FIGS. 1 and 2, it will be noted that the construction of the respective stanchions **11, 11** is such that each is incapable of being supported in an upright position due to the forwardly extending leg portion **14** which terminates in a laterally disposed foot portion. Thus, the center of gravity of the respective stanchions **11, 11** is such that there is a tendency for the stanchions **11, 11** to lean in the direction of the upright wall **15** against which the stand cabinet **10** is adapted to be rested in the operative position thereof.

If desired, one or more cross-bars **16** can be extended between the spaced-apart stanchions to maintain the spaced relationship therebetween.

A cabinet **17** is supported on and between the upper ends of the respective stanchions **11, 11**. Referring to FIGS. 3, 4 and 6 the cabinet construction **17** comprises a top wall member **18** and a bottom wall member **19** which are interconnected in spaced relationship by a U-shaped back frame **20** which defines opposed side walls **21, 22** and an interconnecting rear wall **23**. The cabinet so constructed defines a box-like structure having a full open front **24**. If desired, the opposed side wall of the cabinet may be provided with an inwardly turned front-defining flange **21A, 22A**. Also a centerpost **25** may be interconnected between the top and bottom walls **18, 19** adjacent the front opening of the cabinet depending upon the width of the cabinet opening to provide an intermediate support. Thus the inturned flanges **21A, 22A** and the intermediate front post **25** define supporting means for reinforcing the open front of the cabinet.

Referring to FIG. 6 it will be noted that the top wall member **18** is provided with upwardly turned flange portion **18A** extending along its front edge, and if desired the flange **18A** may be extended along the rear edge as well as the opposed side edges to define a circumscribing flange about the entire top wall **18**. The bottom wall **19** is likewise provided with a circumscribing depending flange **19A** extending along its front edge and continuing about the entire periphery thereof.

If desired, an intermediate shelf **26** may be provided within the cabinet. As seen in FIG. 6 the shelf **26** extends between the opposed side walls **21, 22** of the cabinet.

The intermediate shelf **26** comprises an elongated plate member having a downwardly turned flange portion **26A** extending along its rear edge by which the shelf may be suitably connected to the rear wall as for example by spot-welding and/or by utilizing any suitably fastening means. The forward edge of the intermediate shelf **26** is provided with an upwardly turned flange portion **26B**. Accordingly the front flange **26B** will prevent any articles supported on the shelf from being accidently knocked off the shelf.

The front edge of the shelf is supported by means of a pair of tubular sockets **27** which are suitably secured to the respective side walls of the cabinet **21, 22** by means of a pin, rivet or other suitable fastener **28**. For reasons to be hereinafter noted, the bottom wall **19** is provided with an opening **29** disposed in alignment with the lower end of the respective tubular sockets **27** which support the front end of the intermediate shelf. As best seen in FIGS. 1 and 2, the tubular socket **27** in the assembled position of the stand cabinet defines an extension of the upper extremity of the stanchion members E and the means by which the cabinet **17** is supported on the upper end of the stanchions **11, 11**. Accordingly it will be noted that when the stanchion members A, B, C, D, and E are stacked one on the other, the cabinet **17** is suitably supported on the upper ends by effecting alignment of the uppermost stanchion segment E with opening **29** and the tubular socket **27**. As previously described, the upper end portion of stanchion segment E is provided with a reduced end portion which can be frictionally received within the lower end of the tubular socket **27**, thereby maintaining the cabinet in position on and between the respective stanchion members.

The arrangement is such that the stanchion **11, 11** and cabinet **17** supported thereon are incapable of being maintained in an upright position because of the boot portion of the respective stanchions being laterally disposed to the center of gravity of the completed stand. For this reason, to support the stand cabinet **10** in an upright position, it must be backed up in the upright position against a vertical supporting surface **15** as seen in FIG. 2. The normal tendency of the cabinet to lean against such wall will support the cabinet.

In accordance with this invention the front opening **24** of the cabinet is closed by a closure **30** which is both

slidably and pivotly mounted relative 1 the open front of the cabinet. Referring to FIG. 1 and FIG. 3, the closure member comprises a plurality of panel closure components **31, 32, 33** which are suitably connected to one another as will be hereinafter described. In the illustrated form of the invention the front closure comprises of at least three sections. The centermost component section comprises a panel **31** which has a width which is substantially less than the width of the overall front opening of the cabinet, and the upper and lower edges **31A, 31B** of the center panel are reversely bent so as to hook over the upper and lower flange portions **18A, 19A** extending along the respective front edges of the top and bottom wall. The edge portions **31A, 31B** of the center panel **31** reversely bent over the edges of the flange **18A, 19A** extending along the front of the top and bottom walls is such as to enable the panel **31** to be slidably connected therealong. In this manner the center panel **31** is rendered free to slide from side to side along the entire opening of the cabinet, the movement in either direction being limited by the flange portion along the opposed side edges of the top and bottom walls. If desired, a plate mirror **31C** may be suitably secured to the sliding panel **31** as illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 3. End closure panels **32, 33** are hingedly connected to each side of the sliding closure panel about hinge pins **34, 35.** In the illustrated form of the invention the hingedly connected end closure panels **32, 33** comprise a mirrored surface so that the entire front of the cabinet is defined by a mirrored surface.

Since the end closure panels **32, 33** are free to pivot with respect to the center closure panel **31,** access may be had to the cabinet from either end portion of the cabinet by swinging the end panels **32, 33** relative to the center panel **31.** The opening thus defined by the swinging of the respective end closure panels **32, 33** can be further enlarged by sliding the central closure **31** to which the end closure panels **32, 33** are connected to one side or the other of the cabinet. The closure **30** thus described provides access to either side of the cabinet as may be required.

Another advantage attained by the described closure is that by providing the respective closure panels with a mirror surface, the respective end closure panels **32, 33** may be pivoted relative to the center panel **31** so as to provide a dressing mirror which permits the person standing before the mirrored closure panels **31, 32, 33** to observe him- or herself from various angles to facilitate dressing and/or making up. The closure thus described provides means of access to the cabinet from either side and a means capable of defining dressing mirror enabling a person standing before it to observe him- or herself from various angles.

If desired, suitable locking or latching means may be provided for securing the end closure panels **32, 33** in the closed position when the center panel **31** is centrally disposed. In the illustrated form of the invention it is preferred that the locking or latching means comprises a magnetic catch **36** and complementary magnetically attractive latch **37.** Accordingly, as best seen in FIG. 4 a magnetic catch **36** is disposed in a suitable opening **36A** formed in the front flange **21A, 22A.** The respective end closure panel in turn is provided with a magnetically attracted latch **37** disposed in alignment with the magnetic catch **36** so that when the latch of the end closure panel is disposed contiguous to the magnetic catch **36** the magnetic attraction between the latch **37** and the catch **36** is such that the end panels **32, 33** are maintained in a closed position, and which can be readily swung to an open position when the force is applied to the end panels **32, 33** sufficiently to overcome the magnetic attraction between the catch **36** and the latch **37.**

To facilitate the relative sliding moment of the central panel of the closure relative to the front opening of the cabinet, a nylon insert or guide **38** may be disposed between the reversely bent end portions **31A, 31B** of the central panel **31** to minimize friction and/or play between the central closure panel **31** and the guide flanges **18A, 19A** extending along the front and rear wall of the cabinet.

With the stand cabinet **10** thus described, it will be readily apparent that the cabinet can be supported in an upright position merely by positioning the stanchion members **11, 11** adjacent to a vertical upright wall **15** so that the rear wall **23** of the cabinet **17** rests thereagainst. In the described invention the stanchions **11, 11** are not required to extend between floor to ceiling as heretofore required in the previously known stand-type cabinets.

If desired, an intermediate tray-like shelf **39** may be disposed below the cabinet **17** as indicated in FIGS. 1 and 2. This is attained by providing a shelf **39** with connected tubular segment or socket D, one on each side of the shelf.

Referring to FIGS. 1 and 2 it will be noted that the tubular socket D defines an intermediate portion of the stanchions **11, 11** and sockets D are adapted to be frictionally secured to the adjacent stanchion sections in a manner hereinbefore described. Accordingly it will be noted that the shelf **39** may be interposed between any adjacent stanchion section A–E so that the height thereof may be varied with respect to the cabinet **17** supported between the stanchion members.

In the illustrated form of the invention the shelf **39** is provided with a circumscribing flange **39A** which functions to retain any articles supported thereon from being accidently knocked off the shelf.

While the instant invention has been described with respect to a particular embodiment thereof, it will be readily understood and appreciated that variations and modifications may be made without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A readily knocked-down space-saving wall cabinet construction comprising:

a pair of spaced-apart upright stanchions,

each of said stanchions including a plurality of stanchion segments,

each of stanchion segments having complementary interfitting end portions whereby adjacent segments are frictionally fitted together to define an adjustable stanchion whereby the overall height of said stanchions is less than the floor-to-ceiling height of a room in which said cabinet is to be placed,

each of said stanchions having its lowermost segment formed with a forwardly extending portion terminating in a downwardly turned foot portion, said forwardly extending portion being slightly spaced above a supporting surface in substantially parallel relationship thereto,

a cabinet connected to the upper ends of said stanchions whereby the center of gravity of said cabinet is eccentrically disposed with respect to the feet portion of said stanchions, whereby said cabinet is incapable of being mounted in an unsupported upright position when assembled unless said cabinet is backed against a wall,

said cabinet including opposed top and bottom walls, and

a U-shaped member defining opposed side walls and rear wall connected between said top and bottom walls to define a full open front cabinet,

a vertically disposed tubular socket secured to the inside of each side wall,

and said bottom wall having an opening disposed in alignment with each of said sockets, whereby said tubular socket and openings in the bottom walls being adapted to receive the upper end of the uppermost stanchion segment to support said cabinet therebetween by frictionally interconnecting said tubular sockets to said upper end of the respective stanchions,

and a closure means for closing the open front of said cabinet,

said closure means including a central panel extending between said top and bottom walls and having a width which is less than the width of the opening,

means for slidably connecting said panel across the width of said opening,

hinge means connected to the opposed end portions of said panel,

and an end panel hingedly connected by said hinge means to each side of said panel whereby the sum of the widths of the respective panel and hingedly connected end panels is equal to substantially the width of the open cabinet front, whereby said end closure panels are free to swing relative to said central closure panel between open and closed positions and to slide from side to side between open and closed positions,

and magnetic catches for maintaining said end panels closed when said sliding panel is disposed centrally of said cabinet opening.

2. The invention as defined in claim **1** wherein said sliding means include:

flanges extending along the front edges of said top and bottom walls of the cabinet,

and said central closure panel includes reversely bent end portions adapted to hook over said flanges in sliding relationship therewith, and

a nylon insert to minimize sliding friction between said reversely bent end portions and said flanges.

3. The invention as defined in claim **2** and including a tray shelf connected to and between intermediately disposed stanchion segments whereby said shelf is spaced from the bottom of said cabinet and intermediate the height of said stanchions.

4. A space-saving wall cabinet comprising:

a pair of spaced-apart upright stanchions,

said stanchions being shorter than the floor-to-ceiling height of a room in which said cabinet is placed,

a cabinet means supported on the end portions of said stanchions,

and said stanchions having forwardly extending feet portions adapted to rest on a support surface,

said feet portions being incapable of supporting said stanchions and connected cabinet in an unsupported upright position unless said cabinet is backed against a vertical wall portion of a room,

said cabinet comprising a top wall and a bottom wall,

said top wall having an upwardly extending flange extending along the forward edge thereof,

and said bottom wall having a depending flange extending along the forward edge thereof,

and a pair of opposed side walls and interconnected rear wall connected between said top and bottom wall to define a cabinet having a full open front,

and means for detachably securing said cabinet to the upper end of said stanchion members,

means for closing the open front of said cabinet,

said closure means including a panel having a width which is less than the width of the open front of said cabinet,

means for slidably connecting said panel for random movement across the open front of said cabinet,

and connected end panels hinged connected to each side of said sliding panel,

the sum of the width of the respective connected end panels being equal to substantially the width of the front opening of the cabinet less the width of the sliding panel.

5. The invention as defined in claim **4** wherein each of said end panels of said closure includes a mirror.

6. The invention as defined in claim **5** and including a mirror connected to said sliding panel, and each of said mirrors being substantially co-extensive to their respective panel portions.

7. A space-saving wall cabinet comprising:

a pair of spaced-apart upright stanchions,

said stanchions being shorter than the floor-to-ceiling height of a room in which said cabinet is placed,

a cabinet means supported on the end portions of said stanchions.

and said stanchions having forwardly extending feet portions adapted to rest on a supporting surface,

said feet portions being incapable of supporting said stanchions and connected cabinet in an unsupported upright position unless said cabinet is backed against a vertical wall portion of a room,

and a shelf tray supported between said stanchions intermediate the height thereof.

8. A space-saving wall cabinet comprising:

a pair of spaced-apart upright stanchions,

said stanchions being shorter than the floor-to-ceiling height of a room in which said cabinet is placed,

a cabinet means supported on the end portions of said stanchions,

and said stanchions having forwardly extending feet portions adapted to rest on a supporting surface,

said feet portions being incapable of supporting said stanchions and connected cabinet in an unsupported upright position unless said cabinet is backed against a vertical wall portion of a room,

and a cross-bar connected between said stanchions adjacent the feet portions thereof.

9. The invention as defined in claim **4** wherein said means for slidably connecting said panel to the open front of said cabinet include:

reversely bent end portions connected to the upper and lower portions of said panel, and

said reversely bent end portions of said panel being adapted to hook over the respective flanges of said top and bottom wall of said cabinet, whereby said panel is free to slide along said flanges.

10. The invention as defined in claim **9** and including a nylon insert disposed in the reversely bent end portions of said closure panel to facilitate movement of said panel across the front opening of said cabinet.

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U.S. Cl. X.R.

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