H. H. LABADIE & B. B. BEERS.

LUNCHEON CASE AND TABLE FOR AUTOMOBILES AND THE LIKE.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 28, 1915.

1,186,995.

Patented June 13, 1916.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1

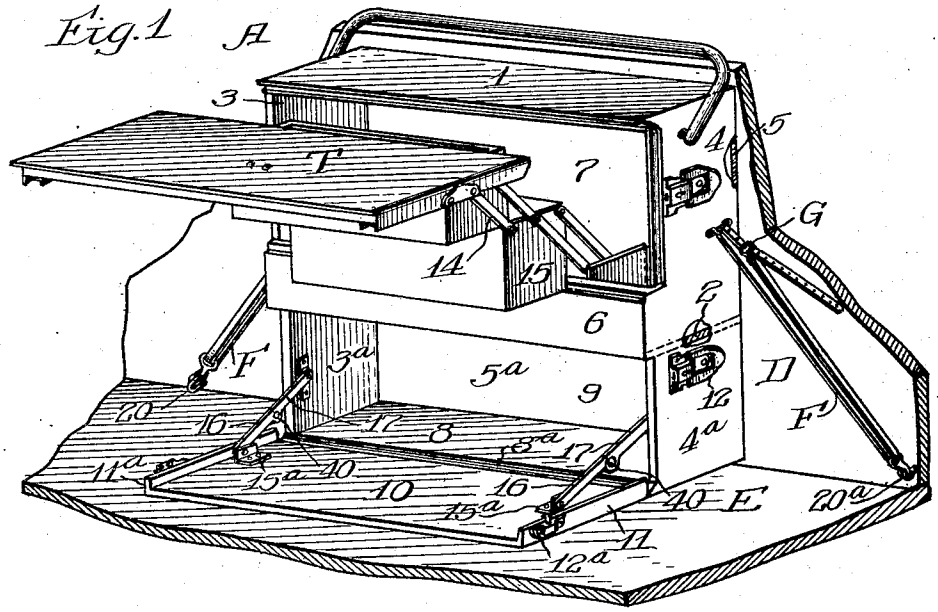
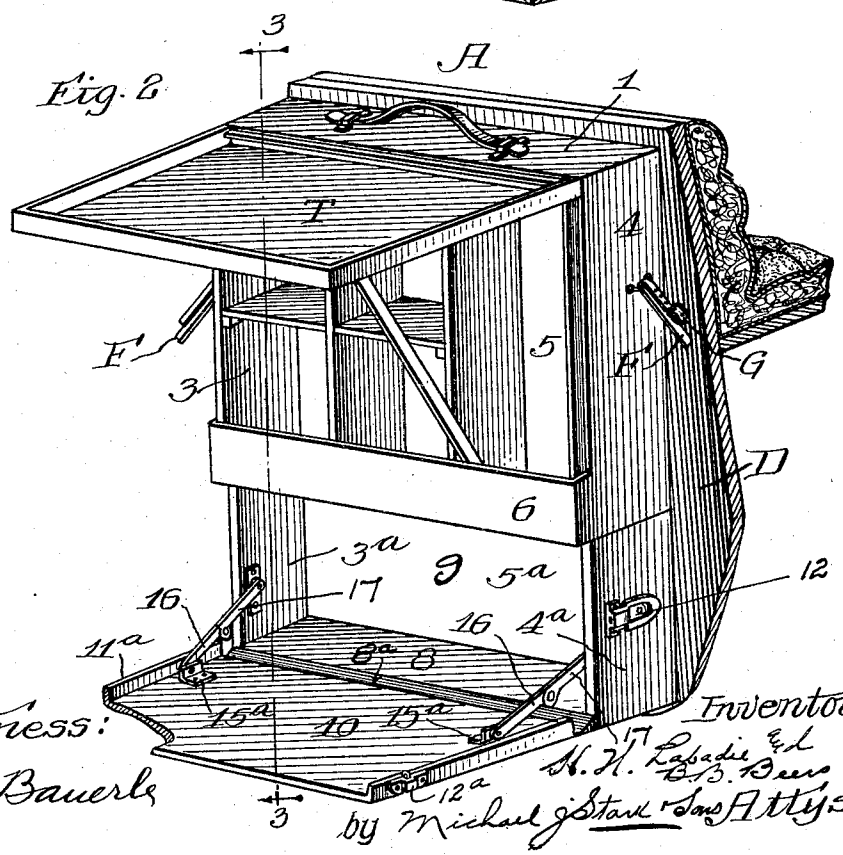


Fig. 2



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

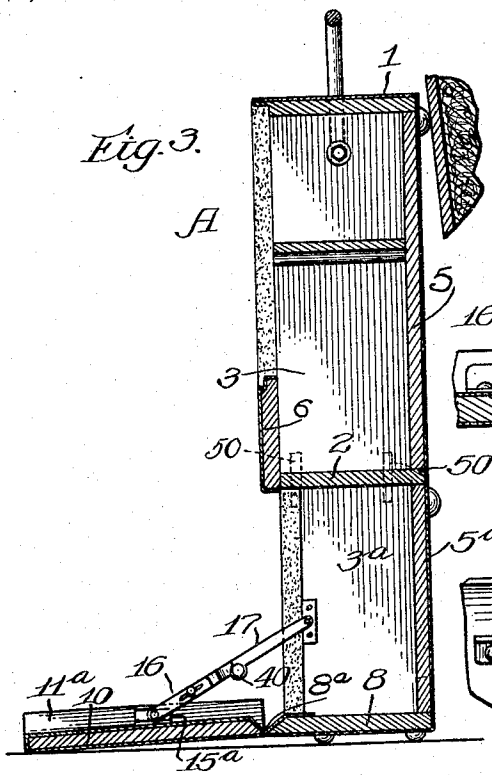


Fig. 4.

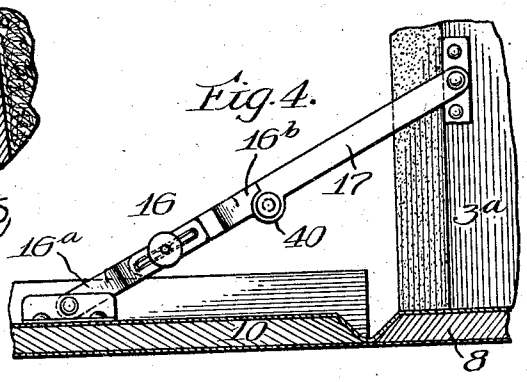


Fig. 5.

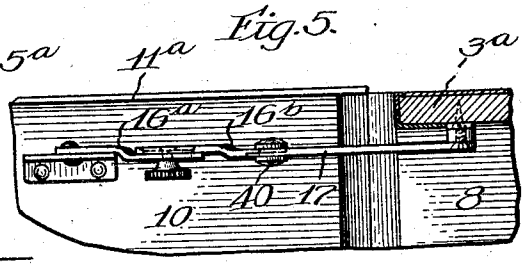


Fig. 6.

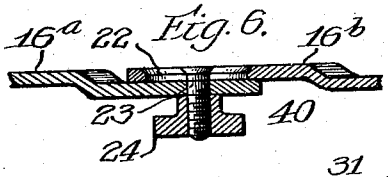
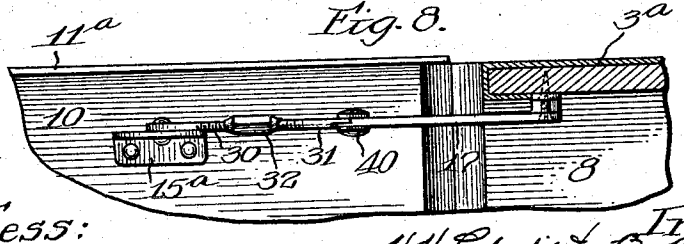


Fig. 7.

Fig. 8.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY H. LABADIE AND BURTON B. BEERS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS; SAID BEERS ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM SCHWEITZER, DECEASED.

LUNCHEON CASE AND TABLE FOR AUTOMOBILES AND THE LIKE.

1,186,995. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented June 13, 1916.**

Application filed June 28, 1915. Serial No. 36,764.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, HARRY H. LABADIE and BURTON B. BEERS, citizens of the United States, and residents of the city of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Luncheon Cases and Tables for Automobiles and the like; and we do hereby declare that the following description of our said invention, taken in connection with the accompanying sheets of drawings, forms a full, clear, and exact specification, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

Our invention relates generally to improvements in luncheon cases and tables for automobiles and the like, and it consists, essentially, in the novel and peculiar combination of parts and details of construction as hereinafter first fully set forth and described and then pointed out in the claims, and refers particularly to devices described and claimed in the United States Letters Patent No. 1,121,672, granted to Schweitzer and Labadie, December 22, 1914; and other devices disclosed in Letters Patent No. 1,150,126, granted to Harry H. Labadie, on August 17, 1915, and in application of Labadie, Beers, and Stark, filed August 31, 1914, Serial No. 859,413; and is in the nature of an improvement thereupon.

The essence of the present invention resides in means applied to, or formed integrally with the afore-mentioned inventions, whereby the same are provided with extendible bases of relatively great area so as to cause said cases to become self upstandable in an automobile, or upon a picnic ground when employed as a luncheon table. Moreover, by the application or inclusion of our present structure, means are provided for the retention of a refrigerator or a fireless cooker of suitable type within said case, whereby liquids may be cooled or meals cooked while *en route*, or *en tour*, as the case may be.

In the drawings already referred to, Figure 1 indicates a perspective view of our invention as integrally formed with a combined luncheon case and table for automobiles and the like. Fig. 2 is a like view of our invention as applied to a combined luncheon case and table of different construction. Fig. 3 is a vertical, lateral section in line 3—3 of Fig. 2 with the table element shown in the latter figure removed. Fig. 4 is an enlarged vertical, lateral section of a fragment of Figs. 1 or 3. Fig. 5 is a plan of Fig. 4. Fig. 6 is a vertical longitudinal section of part of the toggle joint seen in Fig. 4. Fig. 7 is an enlarged section of a fragment of Fig. 3, but disclosing a slightly modified though equivalent type of construction, and Fig. 8 is a plan of Fig. 7.

Like parts are indicated by corresponding characters or symbols of reference in all the figures of the drawings.

Referring now to the drawings, A, Fig. 1, shows a luncheon case and table as a whole as constructed under our invention. The same comprises a top wall 1, a medial horizontal partition 2, side walls 3 and 4, and a rear wall 5, there being a narrow front wall 6 connecting said walls at an elevation substantially coincident with the partition 2, thereby leaving an opening 7 to the interior of the case between said wall 6 and the top 1 and extending between the side walls 3 and 4, for the reception within said case of link connected trays 14 and 15, to the latter of which is connected a cover T adapted to serve as a table member of said case and likewise as a closure of the said opening 7. The side walls 3 and 4, and the rear wall 5 are extended below the medial, horizontal partition 2 as at 3^a, 4^a, and 5^a, and there is properly disposed a bottom or floor wall 8 which coacting with the partition 2 and the walls 3^a, 4^a, and 5^a produce a lower, open front internal chamber 9 within said case A.

Hingedly attached to the front edge 8^a of the floor or bottom wall 8, there is a closing member 10, having upstanding lips 11 and 11^a along the outer lateral edges thereof, whereby when said closing member is swung into vertical position to close the chamber 9, the said lips 11 and 11^a are in contiguous contact with the outer faces of the walls 4^a and 3^a, there being coöperating locks and catches 12 and 12^a on the said walls 3^a and 4^a and the lips 11 and 11^a to maintain the closing member 10 in closed position in a manner readily comprehended.

Attention is now directed to the fact that the front edge 8^a of the bottom wall 8 is

downwardly mitered and that the inner adjacent edge of the cover, or, in other words, the closing member 10, is likewise mitered so that the apices of said mitered edges are in substantial contact, along which the hinging means for said cover 10 are provided, so that when said cover is swung upwardly into closed position the same will, in conjunction with the base 8, present a neatly squared edge, and when open will be a true continuation of the base.

The chamber 9 already referred to is adapted for the reception of a rectangular box of somewhat less size than said chamber, so as to be slidable therein, which box may be a double walled refrigerator or fireless cooker as the case may be.

Pivoted to angle irons 15[a] and fixed to the closing member 10, are links 16, which, being pivoted to like links 17, the free ends of which are pivoted in or to the walls 3[a] and 4[a], form toggles 40, adapted to fixedly maintain the closing member 10 in a position parallel to the floor wall 8 or substantially thereto to produce a base of extended area supportive of the case A, when employed as a picnic table.

The spread or extended base thus described is sufficient to sustain the case A, (even when the cover T is open as in Fig. 1) in placed position in an automobile while *en tour*, but as a preventive of vibration, screw eyes 20 and 20[a] are screwed into the rear wall D of a seat of an automobile, adjacent the floor E thereof, whereto are led leather or like straps F having buckles G, which straps may be employed for evident purposes.

In Figs. 2 and 3 we indicate our invention as a separable adjunct to the case A, the walls 3[a], 4[a], 5[a], being independent of the walls 3, 4, and 5 and attached thereto by tightly fitting dowel pins 50, Fig. 3 or equivalent media.

In the various makes of automobiles the angularity of the rear wall of a seat thereof with the floor of a car varies, so that in many cases the length of the toggles 40 must be varied in order that the outer edge of the closing member 10 may rest upon the floor of the car, and the upper portion of wall 5 of the case A against the rear wall of the said seat. To provide for these necessary adjustments, the devices shown in Figs. 4, 5, and 6, or in Figs. 7 and 8 are employed. In the former instance the link 16 is replaced by two overlapping halves 16[a] and 16[b], Figs. 4, 5, and 6, the latter of which has a longitudinal slot 22 near its free end thereof, for the reception therethrough of a headed bolt 23, which passes through an aperture near the free end of the half 16[a], and is provided with a clamping nut 24, whereby the two halves may be clamped together.

In Figs. 7 and 8, we indicate the link 16 as composed of round studs 30 and 31, having right and left hand screw threads at their free ends, and coupled together by a right and left hand turnbuckle 32, whereby the said link 16 may be lengthened or shortened to raise or depress the outer edge of the closing member 10, as the circumstances may require, to provide the proper adjustment of the parts.

We have hereinbefore disclosed the preferred mode of practising our invention, but we reserve the right to make such and any changes as might occur to one skilled in the art to which this invention appertains, or to make any and all such alterations as may be permitted under the doctrine of equivalents.

Having thus fully described our invention we claim as new, and desire to secure to ourselves by Letters Patent of the United States:—

1. The combination of a casing including side walls, a rear wall, a base wall, and an open front, of a closing member for said front, hinged to the front edge of said base wall, and toggles, one of the links of which is adjustable in length, connecting said closing member and said side walls, maintaining said closing member in horizontal position substantially parallel to and a continuation of said base wall, whereby an extended base of increased area is provided for said casing.

2. A luncheon case including side walls, a rear, and a bottom, and an open front, the said bottom wall projecting beyond said side walls and terminating in a beveled edge, a cover member, with a coacting beveled edge, adapted to close said front and hinged along the apex of said beveled edge of said bottom, and, means coacting with said cover and said side walls adapted to enforce the rigid positioning of said cover in a predetermined plane.

3. A luncheon case including side walls, a rear, and a bottom, and an open front, the said bottom wall projecting beyond said side walls and terminating in a beveled edge, a cover member, with a coacting beveled edge, adapted to close said front and hinged along the apex of said beveled edge of said bottom, and, adjustable means coacting with said cover and said side walls adapted to enforce the rigid positioning of said cover in a predetermined plane.

4. A luncheon case including side walls, a rear, and a bottom, and an open front, the said bottom wall projecting beyond said side walls and terminating in a beveled edge, a cover member, with a coacting beveled edge, adapted to close said front and hinged along the apex of said beveled edge of said bottom, and having marginal lips to embrace said side walls, ears on said cover intermediate said lips, means connecting said ears

to the inner faces of said side walls and adapted to enforce the rigid positioning of said cover in a predetermined plane.

5. A luncheon case including side walls, a rear, and a bottom, and an open front, the said bottom wall projecting beyond said side walls and terminating in a beveled edge, a cover member, with a coacting beveled edge, adapted to close said front and hinged along the apex of said beveled edge of said bottom, and having marginal lips to embrace said side walls, ears on said cover intermediate said lips, adjustable means connecting said ears to the inner faces of said side walls and adapted to enforce the rigid positioning of said cover in a predetermined plane.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our invention, we have hereunto set our hands.

HARRY H. LABADIE.
BURTON B. BEERS.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."