April 29, 1952 T. H. SWISHER 2,594,516

PREFABRICATED COUNTER SECTIONS AND ASSEMBLIES THEREOF

Filed Nov. 4, 1948 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1

FIG. 1

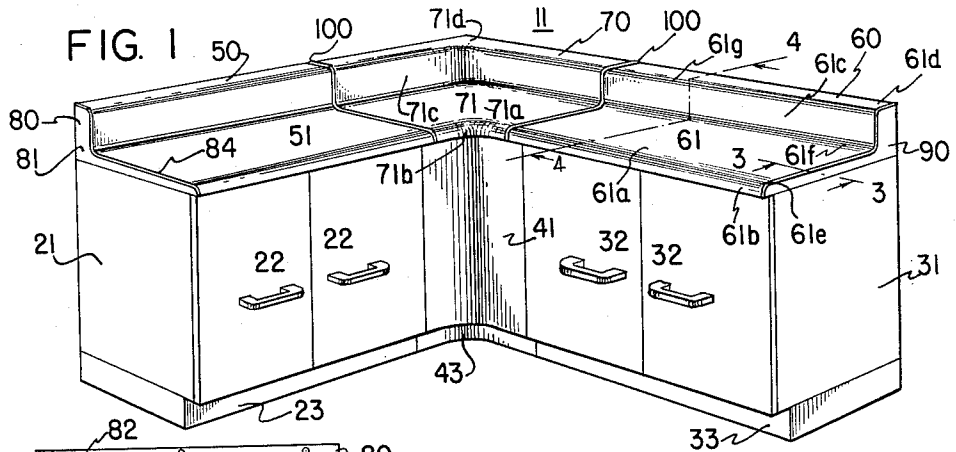


FIG. 2

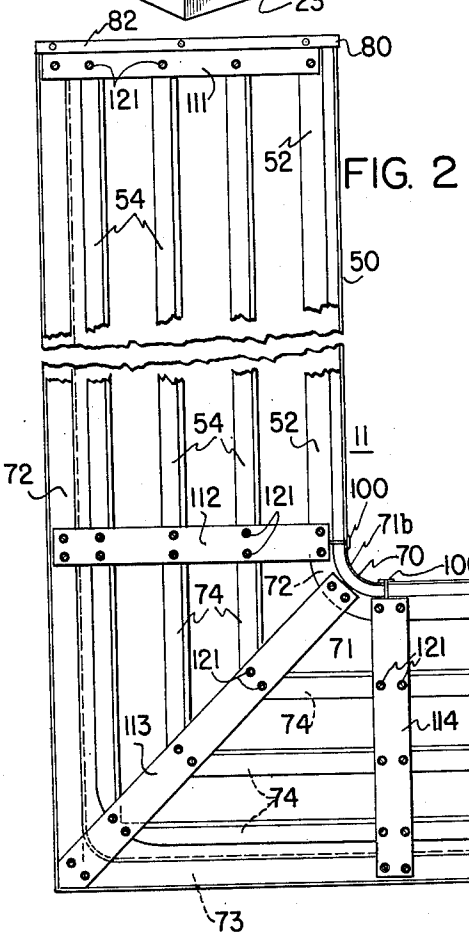
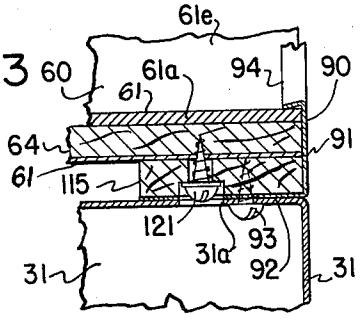


FIG. 3



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PREFABRICATED COUNTER SECTIONS AND ASSEMBLIES THEREOF

Filed Nov. 4, 1948 2 SHEETS—SHEET 2

FIG. 6

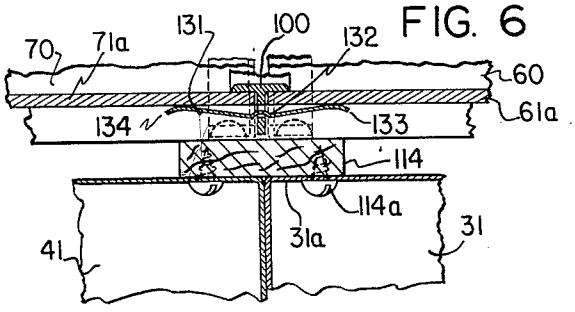


FIG. 4

FIG. 5

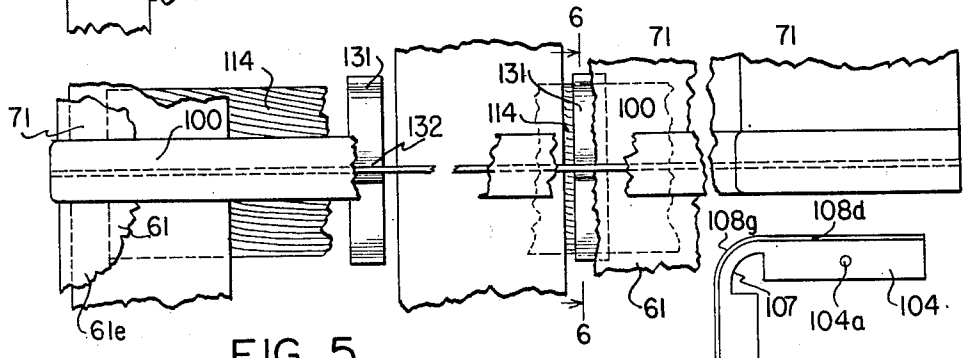
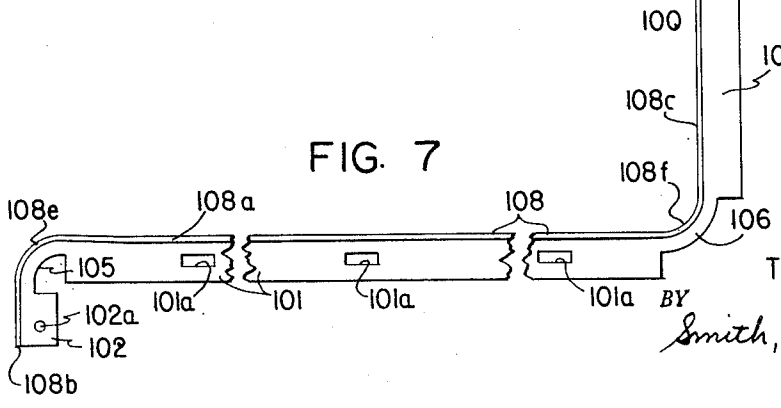


FIG. 7



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Patented Apr. 29, 1952

2,594,516

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,594,516

PREFABRICATED COUNTER SECTIONS AND ASSEMBLIES THEREOF

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Application November 4, 1948, Serial No. 58,286

8 Claims. (Cl. 312—140.3)

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The present invention relates to prefabricated kitchen counter sections and assemblies comprising manufactured standard elements, and more particularly to improvements in counter assemblies of the character disclosed in the co-pending application of Edgar S. Stoddard, Serial No. 27,025, filed May 14, 1948, which has matured into Patent No. 2,586,112 of February 19, 1952.

It is a general object of the present invention to provide a manufactured standard counter section and a number of cooperating manufactured standard counter fixtures so that a counter assembly of the required configuration to fit a particular kitchen may be readily fashioned on the site from the manufactured standard elements mentioned utilizing ordinary carpenter tools.

Another object of the invention is to provide a counter section of improved construction and arrangement and including an integral plastic sheet having an outer surface provided with a smooth, hard, continuous, moisture-resistant finish.

Further features of the invention pertain to the particular arrangement of the elements of the kitchen counter assembly and to the constructional details of the elements, whereby the above-outlined and additional operating features thereof are attained.

The invention, both as to its organization and method of operation, together with further objects and advantages thereof, will best be understood by reference to the following specification taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 is a perspective view of two kitchen cabinet sections and a corner mullion provided with a counter assembly embodying the present invention; Fig. 2 is an enlarged bottom view of the counter assembly shown in Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a greatly enlarged fragmentary vertical sectional view of the counter assembly taken in the direction of the arrows along the line 3—3 in Fig. 1; Fig. 4 is a greatly enlarged fragmentary vertical sectional view of the counter assembly taken in the direction of the arrows along the line 4—4 in Fig. 1; Fig. 5 is a greatly enlarged fragmentary plan view of the counter assembly shown in Fig. 1 taken at the joint between the right-hand counter section and the corner counter section; Fig. 6 is a greatly enlarged fragmentary vertical sectional view of the counter assembly taken at the joint between the right-hand counter section and the corner counter section in the direction of the arrows along the line 6—6 in Fig. 5; and Fig. 7 is a greatly enlarged fragmentary end view of the joining

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trim incorporated in the joint between the right-hand counter section and the corner counter section as shown in Fig. 5.

Referring now to Fig. 1 of the drawing, there are illustrated two kitchen cabinet sections 21 and 31 and a corner mullion 41 provided with a counter assembly 11 embodying the features of the present invention. More particularly, the corner mullion 41 is adapted to be arranged in the corner of a kitchen and the cabinet sections 21 and 31 are adapted to be arranged on either side thereof along the walls of the kitchen, the cabinet 21 comprising the left-hand section and the cabinet 31 comprising the right-hand section. Specifically, the cabinet section 21 may be formed of sheet metal and comprises an upstanding body defining a storage cabinet having an open front closed by two hinged doors 22. The top of the cabinet section 21 supports the left-hand section of the counter assembly 11; and the lower front portion thereof is rearwardly off-set, as indicated at 23, to provide a foot-receiving recess permitting a person to work close to the front edge or apron of the left-hand counter section. Similarly, the cabinet section 31 may be formed of sheet metal and comprises an upstanding body defining a storage cabinet having an open front closed by two hinged doors 32. The top of the cabinet section 31 supports the right-hand section of the counter assembly 11; and the lower front portion thereof is rearwardly off-set, as indicated at 33, to provide a foot-receiving recess permitting a person to work close to the front edge or apron of the right-hand counter section. Also, the corner mullion 41 may be formed of sheet metal. The top of the corner mullion 41 supports the corner section of the counter assembly 11; and the lower front portion thereof is rearwardly off-set, as indicated at 43, to provide a foot-receiving recess permitting a person to work close to the front edge or apron of the corner counter section.

The counter assembly 11 comprises a left-hand straight section 50, a right-hand straight section 60, a corner section 70, a left-hand end trim 80, a right-hand end trim 90, and two joining trims 100. The straight counter sections 50 and 60 are of identical construction; while the corner counter section 70 is of the same fundamental construction as the straight counter sections 50 and 60. The end trims 80 and 90 are of the same general construction, respectively left-hand and right-hand; while the joining trims 100 are of identical construction.

Each of the counter sections 50, 60 and 70 com-

prises a body sheet that includes a substantially horizontal work platform section terminating in a downwardly extending front apron and a substantially vertical rear backsplasher section terminating in a rearwardly directed ledge, the front apron being substantially vertically disposed and the rear ledge being substantially horizontally disposed. Accordingly, the right-hand end of the left counter section **50** matches the left-hand end of the corner counter section **70** and the left-hand end of the right counter section **60** matches the right-hand end of the corner counter section **70**.

Specifically, the right counter section **60** comprises the body sheet **61** providing the substantially horizontally disposed work platform section **61***a* terminating in the vertically disposed front apron section **61***b*, and the substantially vertically disposed backsplasher section **61***c* terminating in the substantially horizontally disposed ledge section **61***d*. The front of the work platform section **61***a* is joined to the top of the apron section **61***b* by a rounded transition section **61***e*; the rear of the work platform section **61***a* is joined to the bottom of the backsplasher section **61***c* by a rounded transition section **61***f*; and the top of the backsplasher section **61***c* is joined to the front of the ledge section **61***d* by a rounded transition section **61***g*. The front of the platform section **61***a* is preferably upwardly inclined slightly, as indicated at **61***h*, in order to prevent water, or the like, spilled upon the work platform section **61***a* from running over the transition section **61***e* and thence down the front of the apron section **61***b* onto the floor of the kitchen.

Also, each of the counter sections **50**, **60** and **70** comprises a first re-enforcing member disposed below the front portion of the work platform section; a second re-enforcing member disposed below the ledge section; and three spaced-apart stringers disposed below the work platform section; which re-enforcing members and stringers are embedded in the body sheet of the counter section.

Specifically, the right counter section **60** comprises the first re-enforcing member **62**, the second re-enforcing member **63** and the three stringers **64** embedded in the body sheet **61**. More particularly, the first re-enforcing member **62** extends longitudinally with the body sheet **61** and is substantially L-shaped in cross section, being disposed below the front of the work platform section **61***a* and behind the apron section **61***b* and under the transition section **61***e*. The second re-enforcing member **63** extends longitudinally with the body sheet **61** and is disposed below the ledge section **61***d* and under the transition section **61***g* behind the top of the backsplasher section **61***c*. Finally, the stringers **64** extend longitudinally with the body sheet **61** and are arranged in laterally spaced-apart relation below the work platform section **61***a* and distributed between the first re-enforcing member **62** and the backsplasher section **61***c*.

Preferably, the left and right counter sections **50** and **60** are cut from a straight previously manufactured length of counter section, while the corner counter section **70** is expressly manufactured in its final form. The standard lengths of counter section from which the left and right counter sections **50** and **60** are cut may be manufactured in standard sections such, for example, as from 4 to 10 feet long, and from these standard lengths the left and right counter sections **50** and **60** are cut on the site to fit the particular cabinets **21** and **31**, and then assembled with the corner counter section **70** to provide the counter assembly **11** for the particular kitchen, as explained more fully hereinafter.

The straight lengths of counter section from which the left and right counter sections **50** and **60** are cut comprise an integrally molded or formed body sheet made, for example, of paper base phenolic resin laminate, or the like, and provided with an outer surface finish made of melamine resin, urea resin, etc. and embedding the two re-enforcing members and the three stringers. Specifically, with reference to the right counter section **60**, the integral body sheet **61** may comprise a core formed of about 35 per cent phenolic resin impregnated paper of about five-mil thickness, cross-laminated for even pull. The outer surface of the core may be provided with a melamine resin impregnated barrier sheet of about eight-mil thickness, incorporating any desired color and decorative pattern. The outer surface of the barrier sheet may be provided with a melamine resin impregnated bond over-sheet of about five-mil thickness in order to protect the barrier sheet. The two re-enforcing members **62** and **63** and the three stringers **64** directly engage the lower surface of the core, and a lower layer is provided that envelops the two re-enforcing members **62** and **63** and the three stringers **64** and is united with the intermediate portions of the core; which lower layer is also formed of about 35 per cent phenolic resin impregnated paper of about five-mil thickness. Finally, the lower surface of the lower layer may be provided with a melamine resin impregnated cover sheet of about eight-mil thickness for the purpose of balancing the body sheet **61** against subsequent warpage.

Preferably, the composite body sheet **61** with the two re-enforcing members **62** and **63** and the three stringers **64** are formed as a composite article in a suitable heated die in which the core, the barrier sheet, the over-sheet, the lower layer and the lower cover sheet are cured and united under heat and pressure. The over-all thickness of the composite body sheet **61** at the backsplasher section **61***c* and at the portions of the work platform section **61***a* disposed between the stringers **64** and the re-enforcing member **62** may be about ⅛ inch in thickness so that it is sufficiently strong to be shape-retaining and so that any square foot of the work platform section **61***a* is capable of withstanding a load of approximately 100 pounds. The finished exterior surface of the body sheet **61** is continuous, smooth, hard and of any desired color to carry out a color scheme in a kitchen. Also, the finished exterior surface of the body sheet **61** is capable of resisting moisture, mild food acids, alkaline cleaning compounds and other materials normally encountered in a kitchen. The finished exterior surface of the body sheet **61** does not feel cold to a person's hands and, being impervious to moisture, is sanitary. Further, the finished exterior surface resists abrasion, is not easily cut during normal kitchen use, is heat resistant and is not discolored or deteriorated in any way by ordinary hot objects such, for example, as cooking vessels, or the like, having a temperature up to approximately 300° F. Further, the body sheet **61** is free of objectionable metallic rings or other sounds, and is capable of being perforated, cut and fitted without fracture, chipping or other deformation, utilizing ordinary carpenter tools. Finally, the body sheet **61** is substantially free

from warping or shrinkage with age and possesses a high degree of dimensional stability. Preferably, the re-enforcing members 62 and 63 and the stringers 64 are formed of kiln-dried poplar or other suitable wood.

The dimensions of the standard lengths of counter section from which the left and right counter sections 50 and 60 are cut and the dimensions of the corner counter section 70 are correlated to provide the proper fitting of these parts in the counter assembly 11. The standard lengths of counter section and the corner counter section 70 may be manufactured in several different standard sizes; however, in one size of kitchen counter assembly 11 and with particular reference to the right counter section 60, the dimensions may be as indicated below. The distance between the front of the apron section 61*b* and the rear edge of the ledge section 61*d* may be 25 inches; the distance between the lower edge of the apron section 61*b* and the top of the front of the work platform section 61*a* may be 1½ inches; the front edge of the work platform section 61*a* may be disposed above the remainder thereof at the transition section 61*e* a distance of ⅛ inch; the distance between the top of the work platform section 61*a* and the top of the ledge section 61*d* may be 6 inches; and the distance between the front of the backsplasher section 61*c* and the rear edge of the ledge section 61*d* may be 3 inches.

The construction of the corner counter section 70 generally conforms to that of the standard lengths of counter section from which the left and right counter sections 50 and 60 are cut; however, the construction is slightly modified to fit the corner of the counter assembly 11. Specifically, the body sheet 71 of the corner counter section 70 comprises a front apron section 71*b* that is curved between the end portions thereof, a backsplasher section 71*c* that is curved between the straight end portions thereof, and a ledge section 71*d* provided with angularly disposed straight portions. Also, the body sheet 71 comprises a work platform section 71*a* and has imbedded in the lower surface thereof first and second re-enforcing members 72 and 73 and three stringers 74. In this case the first re-enforcing member 72 is curved and is disposed below the front of the work platform section 71*a* and behind the apron section 71*b*. The second re-enforcing member 73 comprises two angularly disposed portions mitered at the joint therebetween and disposed below the ledge section 71*d* and behind the backsplasher section 71*c*. Finally, each of the three stringers 74 comprises two angularly disposed portions mitered at the joint therebetween and disposed below the work platform section 71*a*.

Further, the counter assembly 11 comprises a plurality of transversely extending sills 111, 112, 113, 114 and 115 formed of kiln-dried poplar, or other suitable wood, and secured to the first re-enforcing members and to the stringers of the various counter sections 50, 60 and 70 by wood screws 121. Specifically, the sill 111 is arranged below the left-hand end of the left counter section 50 and secured to the first re-enforcing member 52 and the stringers 54 thereof by the wood screws 121; while the sill 115 is arranged below the right-hand end of the right counter section 60 and secured to the first re-enforcing member 62 and the stringers 64 thereof by the wood screws 121. The sill 112 is arranged below the joint between the right-hand end of the left counter section 50 and the left-hand end of the corner counter section 70 and is secured to the first re-enforcing members 52 and 72 and to the stringers 54 and 74 by the wood screws 121; the sill 114 is arranged below the joint between the left-hand end of the right counter section 60 and the right-hand end of the corner counter section 70 and is secured to the first re-enforcing members 62 and 72 by the wood screws 121. Finally, the sill 113 is arranged below the central portion of the corner counter section 70 and is secured to the first re-enforcing member 72 and the stringers 74 by the wood screws 121.

Each of the joining trims 100 may be formed of extruded aluminum, or the like, and comprises a laterally extending work platform section 101 terminating in a downwardly extending front apron section 102, and an upwardly extending backsplasher section 103 terminating in a rearwardly extending ledge section 104; the sections 101 and 102 being joined by a curved transition section 105, the sections 101 and 103 being joined by a curved transition section 106, and the sections 103 and 104 being joined by a curved transition section 107. The dimensions of the various sections 101, etc., are properly correlated with respect to the dimensions of the corresponding sections 61*a*, etc., of the counter sections 60, etc., as explained more fully below. The upper edge of the joining trim 100 comprises a trim element 108 that projects outwardly on either side thereof and includes a substantially horizontally disposed work platform trim section 108*a*, a substantially vertically disposed front apron trim section 108*b*, a substantially vertically disposed backsplasher trim section 108*c*, a substantially horizontally disposed rear ledge trim section 108*d*, and transition trim sections 108*e*, 108*f* and 108*g*. Also, a number of spaced-apart openings 101*a* are provided in the section 101, a hole 102*a* is provided in the section 102, and a hole 104*a* is provided in the section 104; which openings and holes are utilized for purposes more fully explained below.

Each of the joining trims 100 carries a number of spaced-apart securing clips 131 arranged in the openings 101*a* and supporting the work platform sections of the adjacent body sheets. For example, the joining trim 100 arranged in the joint between the counter sections 60 and 70 carries the securing clips 131 in the openings 101*a* and respectively engaging the adjacent work platform sections 61*a* and 71*a* of the body sheets 61 and 71. Specifically, each of the securing clips 131 is formed of spring steel, or the like, and comprises a centrally disposed saddle 132 engaging the section 101 of the finishing trim 100 in one of the openings 101*a*, and upwardly and outwardly extending curved ends 133 and 134 respectively engaging the underneath portions of the work platform sections 61*a* and 71*a* of the counter sections 60 and 70, whereby the work platform sections 61*a* and 71*a* are drawn upwardly into snug engagement with the overlying work platform trim section 108*a* of the joining trim 100. Accordingly, the finishing trim 100 provides a finished, watertight joint between the counter sections 60 and 70.

Also, the counter assembly 11 comprises a plurality of upstanding brackets 141 supporting the backsplasher sections 61*c*, etc., and the ledge sections 61*d*, etc., of the counter sections 60, etc. Preferably, one of the brackets 141 is arranged at each end of each of the counter sections 50, 60 and 70 and at the center of the corner counter section 70, whereby several of the brackets 141

are incorporated in the counter assembly 11. The brackets 141 may be identical; and, as best shown in Fig. 4, the bracket 141 that is arranged at the left-hand end of the right counter section 60 adjacent to the associated finishing trim 100 is formed of sheet metal and comprises an upstanding body 142 having an opening 143 formed therein to accommodate wiring, or the like. Also, the bracket 141 comprises an upper end flange 144, a lower end flange 145 and a front flange 146. This bracket 141 is arranged between the rear end of the sill 114 and the second re-enforcing member 63 and is secured in place by upper wood screws 147 and lower wood screws 148. More particularly, the screws 147 extend through openings provided in the upper end flange 144 and are threaded into the lower surface of the second re-enforcing member 63; while the screws 148 extend through openings provided in the lower end flange 145 and are threaded into the upper surface of the sill 114. When the bracket 141 is thus secured in place between the second re-enforcing member 63 and the sill 114, the front flange 146 thereof engages the rear suface of the body sheet 61 behind the backsplasher section 61c, whereby both the ledge section 61d and the backsplasher section 61c are supported.

The left end trim 80 may be formed of sheet aluminum, or the like, and comprises a dished body 81 of substantially L-shaped configuration. The body 81 comprises an inwardly turned lower flange 82 secured to the sill 111 by a plurality of wood screws 83 and an inwardly turned upper trimming flange 84 conforming to the configuration of the body sheet 51 of the left counter section 50. Likewise, the right end trim 90 may be formed of sheet aluminum, or the like, and comprises a dished body 91 of substantially L-shaped configuration. The body 91 comprises an inwardly turned lower flange 92 secured to the sill 115 by a plurality of wood screws 93 and an inwardly turned upper trimming flange 94 conforming to the configuration of the body sheet 61 of the right counter section 60.

In order to produce the counter assembly 11 in the kitchen, the corner mullion 41 is first placed in the corner of the kitchen and the left and right cabinet sections 21 and 31 are placed closely adjacent thereto along the left-hand and the right-hand walls of the kitchen. The previously manufactured corner counter section 70 is provided and the two joining trims 100 are secured to the opposite ends thereof utilizing wood screws, or the like, extending through the holes 102a and 104a. Next, the left counter section 50 and the right counter section 60 are cut from the previously manufactured straight length of counter section utilizing an ordinary carpenter's wood saw. The counter sections 50 and 60 are then assembled to the counter section 70, all in an inverted position on the floor of the kitchen. At this time the clips 131 are positioned in the openings 101a formed in the joining trims 101 in order to support the work platform sections of the body sheets of the three counter sections 50, 60 and 70. The sills 111, 112, 113, 114 and 115 are then brought into proper position and secured in place by the wood screws 121. At this time the sill 112 securely joins the counter section 50 to the counter section 70; and the sill 114 securely joins the counter section 60 to the counter section 70. Next, the seven brackets 141 are brought into position between the rear ends of the respective sills 111, etc., and the respective second re-enforcing members 53, etc., and secured in place utilizing the wood screws 147, 148, etc. At this time the assembled counter sections 50, 60 and 70 are placed upon the corner mullion 41 and the cabinet sections 21 and 31 in the corner of the kitchen. Any inaccuracy in the walls of the kitchen may be accounted for by appropriately trimming the rear edges of the adjacent ledge sections 61d, etc., so that the ledge sections 51d, 61d and 71d nicely fit the walls in the corner of the kitchen. At this time wood screws, 114a, etc., are inserted from the interior of the cabinets 31 and 21 through openings provided in inturned flanges arranged at the top of the cabinets 31 and 21 and threaded into the sills 114 and 112 in order securely to retain the counter sections 50, 60 and 70 in place and to retain the cabinet sections 21 and 31 and the corner mullion 41 securely in position. The left end trim 80 is then positioned on the left-hand end of the counter section 50 and the right end trim 90 is positioned on the right-hand end of the counter section 60 and secured in place utilizing wood screws. As illustrated in Fig. 3, the right end trim 90 is secured in place by the wood screws 93 extending through the flange 92. Also, the screws 93 extend through openings provided in the inturned flange 31a arranged at the top of the right cabinet section 31 in order securely to retain in position the right-hand end of the counter assembly 60, the right end trim 90 and the right-hand end of the right cabinet section 31.

In conjunction with the manufacture of the corner counter section 70 at the factory, it is pointed out that the sills 112, 113 and 114 and the brackets 141 may be incorporated therein in order to lend rigidity thereto. Likewise, in the manufacture of the straight counter sections at the factory from which the left and right counter sections 50 and 60 are cut, it is pointed out that the sills 111, 115, etc., and the brackets 141 may be incorporated therein in order to lend rigidity thereto. Specifically, each of these straight counter sections may comprise a sill at each end thereof and one or more intermediate sills, each provided with a bracket 141. Accordingly, at the site the sills and brackets incorporated in the manufactured corner counter section 70 and in the straight counter section from which the left and right counter sections 50 and 60 are cut may be removed and again utilized in the final counter assembly 11, in the manner explained above.

In view of the foregoing it is apparent that there has been provided improved manufactured standard counter sections and a counter assembly that may be fashioned at the site from the counter sections and other manufactured standard elements in a simple and expedient manner. Also it is apparent that the skeleton construction of the counter assembly provides maximum strength and rigidity with a minimum amount of material and at a low cost.

While there has been described what is at present considered to be the preferred embodiment of the invention, it will be understood that various modifications may be made therein and it is intended to cover in the appended claims all such modifications as fall within the true spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. An article of manufacture comprising a unitary counter section including a longitudinally extending plastic body sheet having a contiuous smooth moisture-resistant outer surface, said body sheet being form-retaining and pro-

viding a substantially horizontal work platform and an upstanding backsplasher, a first longitudinally extending re-enforcing member formed of wood and disposed below and adjacent to the front of said work platform and embedded in said body sheet, a second longitudinally extending re-enforcing member formed of wood and disposed behind and adjacent to the top of said backsplasher and embedded in said body sheet, and a plurality of longitudinally extending and laterally spaced-apart stringers each formed of wood and disposed below said work platform and embedded in said body sheet.

2. An article of manufacture comprising a unitary counter section including a longitudinally extending plastic body sheet having a continuous smooth moisture-resistant outer surface, said body sheet being form-retaining and providing a substantially horizontal work platform terminating in a downwardly directed front apron and an upstanding backsplasher terminating in a rearwardly directed ledge, a first longitudinally extending re-enforcing member formed of wood and disposed mutually below said work platform and behind said front apron and embedded in said body sheet, a second longitudinally extending re-enforcing member formed of wood and disposed mutually behind said backsplasher and below said ledge and embedded in said body sheet, and a plurality of longitudinally extending and laterally spaced-apart stringers each formed of wood and disposed below said work platform and embedded in said body sheet.

3. A counter section comprising a longitudinally extending plastic body sheet having a continuous smooth moisture-resistant outer surface, said body sheet being form-retaining and providing a substantially horizontal work platform terminating in a downwardly directed front apron and an upstanding backsplasher terminating in a rearwardly directed ledge, a first longitudinally extending re-enforcing member formed of wood and disposed under said body sheet mutually below said work platform and behind said front apron and embedded in said body sheet, a second longitudinally extending re-enforcing member formed of wood and disposed under said body sheet mutually behind said backsplasher and below said ledge and embedded in said body sheet, a plurality of longitudinally extending and laterally spaced-apart stringers each formed of wood and disposed under said body sheet below said work platform and embedded in said body sheet, a plurality of laterally extending and longitudinally spaced-apart sills each formed of wood and disposed below and secured to said first re-enforcing member and said stringers, and a plurality of longitudinally spaced-apart upstanding metal brackets disposed between and secured to said second re-enforcing member and said sills.

4. A counter assembly comprising a support; two counter sections carried by said support and having ends disposed adjacent to each other; each of said counter sections including a plastic body sheet having a continuous smooth moisture-resistant outer surface, said body sheet being form-retaining and providing a substantially horizontal work platform and an upstanding backsplasher, a first re-enforcing member secured to the under portion of said body sheet below and adjacent to the front of said work platform, a second re-enforcing member secured to the under portion of said body sheet behind and adjacent to the top of said backsplasher,

and a plurality of spaced-apart stringers secured to the under portion of said body sheet below said work platform; a sill positioned between said support and the adjacent ends of said counter sections and secured to said support and said first re-enforcing members and said stringers; upstanding brackets positioned between said sill and the adjacent ends of said counter sections and secured to said sill and the adjacent ends of said second re-enforcing members; and a joining trim positioned in the joint between the adjacent ends of said counter sections and secured thereto, said joining trim conforming to and overlying the adjacent end portions of said work platforms and said backsplashers.

5. An article of manufacture comprising a unitary counter assembly corner section including a plastic body sheet having a continuous smooth moisture-resistant outer surface, said body sheet being form-retaining and providing a substantially horizontal work platform terminating in a downwardly directed front apron and an upstanding backsplasher terminating in a rearwardly directed ledge, said front apron and said backsplasher and said ledge each being curved between the two angularly disposed end portions thereof, a first re-enforcing member formed of wood and provided with angularly disposed portions and disposed under said body sheet mutually below said work platform and behind said front apron and embedded in said body sheet, a second re-enforcing member formed of wood and provided with angularly disposed portions and disposed under said body sheet mutually behind said backsplasher and below said ledge and embedded in said body sheet, and a plurality of stringers each formed of wood and each provided with angularly disposed portions and disposed in spaced-apart relation under said body sheet below said work platform and embedded in said body sheet.

6. An assembly comprising two supports having ends disposed adjacent to each other; a sill positioned over the adjacent ends of said supports at the joint therebetween and secured thereto in order to retain said supports in fixed relation with respect to each other; two counter sections respectively carried by said supports and having ends disposed adjacent to each other and positioned on said sill; each of said counter sections including a plastic body sheet having a continuous smooth moisture-resistant outer surface, said body sheet being form-retaining and providing a substantially horizontal work platform and an upstanding backsplasher, a first re-enforcing member secured to the under portion of said body sheet below and adjacent to the front of said work platform, a second re-enforcing member secured to the under portion of said body sheet behind and adjacent to the top of said backsplasher, and a plurality of spaced-apart stringers secured to the under portion of said body sheet below said work platform; means for securing said sill to the adjacent ends of said first re-enforcing members and the adjacent ends of said stringers; two spaced-apart brackets respectively positioned between said sill and the adjacent ends of said counter sections; and means for securing each of said brackets to said sill and the adjacent one of said second re-enforcing members.

7. The counter section set forth in claim 3, wherein said brackets also engage and support the adjacent rear portions of said backsplasher.

8. The counter assembly set forth in claim 4;

and further comprising a plurality of spring fasteners carried by said joining trim and engaging the adjacent under portions of said body sheets below said work platforms in order to provide a finished joint between the adjacent ends of said counter sections.

THOMAS H. SWISHER.

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