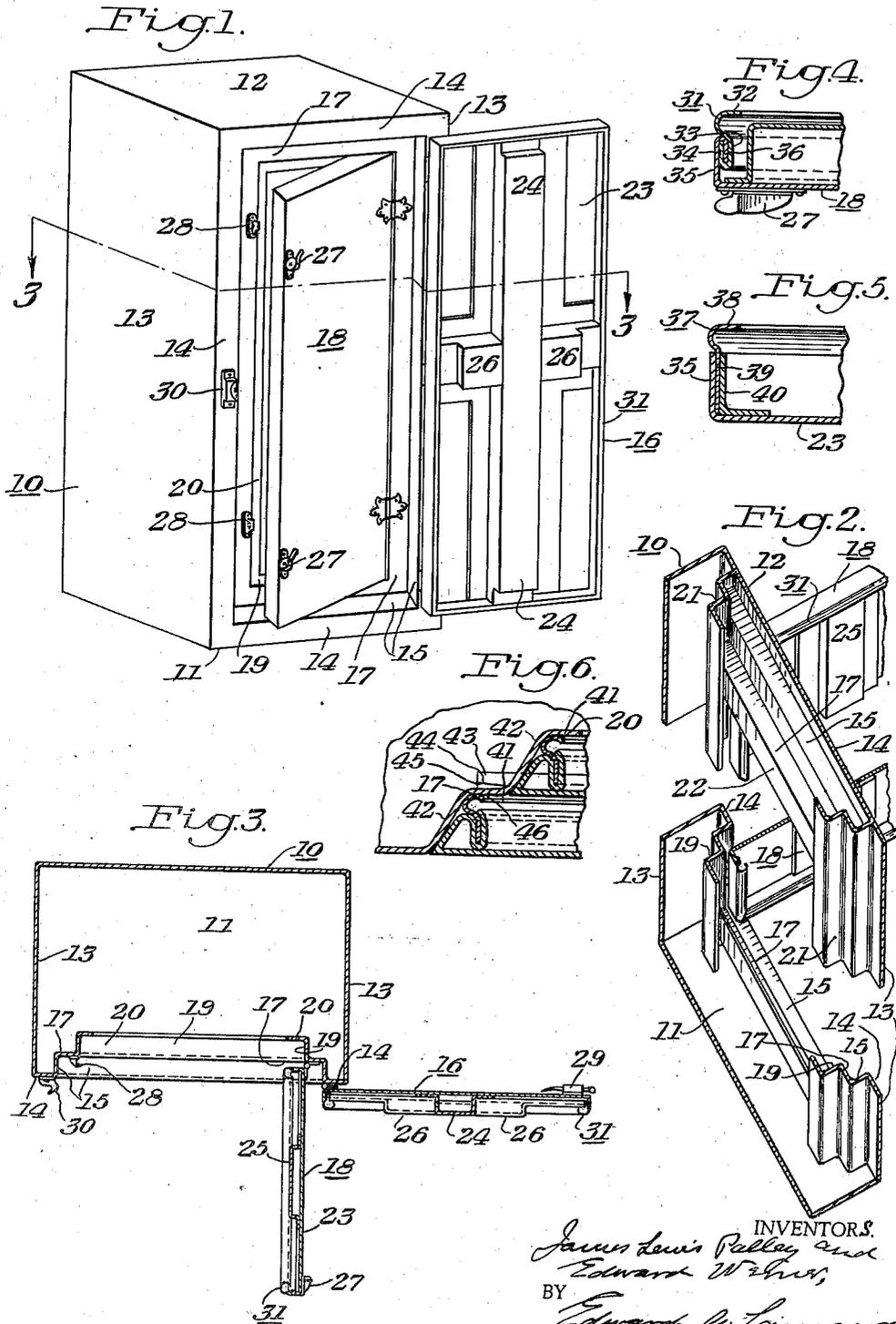


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CABINET AND THE LIKE

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CABINET AND THE LIKE

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This invention relates generally to storage containers and more particularly to containers wherein papers or clothing are temporarily placed when not being used.

The principal object of this invention is the provision of a moisture and dust-proof cabinet that is also sealed against moths or other insects.

Another object is the provision of a latch for holding the door or access means of the cabinet in proper position to permit the sealing means to become effective therewith.

Another object is the provision of a double access means on the cabinet which coact with one another and with the sealing means when locked into position to prevent dust or insects from entering the cabinet.

Other objects and advantages will appear hereinafter.

In the accompanying drawing one practical embodiment of the principles of this invention is illustrated.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a cabinet.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the rear side of the front of a cabinet with parts broken away.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail sectional view of one closure member showing one form of sealing means.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged detail sectional view of another form of the sealing means.

Fig. 6 is an enlarged detail sectional view of a modified form of the cabinet door jamb.

Ordinarily the purpose of filing cabinets or desks having horizontal drawers and of cabinets having hinged lids or the ordinary door type wardrobe cabinets is to provide a neat and orderly place in which to temporarily lodge articles not in use. Such cabinets, although made within tolerable precision, do not keep the dust, dirt and moisture out, whether they are opened frequently or not. It is the purpose of this invention to provide a sealing means for such cabinets to keep them dust and insect proof.

This invention may be conveniently applied to any type of cabinet made of any desired material, but for the purpose of this disclosure a metal cabinet was thought to be preferable.

Referring to the drawing, 10 represents the cabinet proper. The bottom 11, top 12, and side walls 13 are formed of sheet metal joined together, as by welding or clinching, so as to form a box with a sealed union between the parts of the container that were not already integral.

The front of the cabinet is formed by extending the bottom, top and side walls, making the return sections 14 of an opening or doorway. The metal adjacent the return section is turned inwardly of the cabinet to form the jambs, lintel and sill 15 for the outer door 16. The metal is then faced off to form the door check 17 or the surface against which the outer door 16 rests and may be sealed to exclude dust. This surface also forms a return section for the inner door 18. The metal may again be turned inwardly to form the door jambs, lintel and sill 19 for the inner door 18 and is faced off as indicated at 20 to form the door check or surface against which the inner door 18 rests and may be sealed. Thus the metal is stepped from the front surface of the cabinet to receive the doors 16 and 18 which, when closed, are substantially flush with their respective returns.

It will be noted from Fig. 2 that the extensions 21 of the side walls, which form the side returns and the jambs to receive the inner and outer doors, extend from the bottom 11 to the top 12 of the cabinet. These angular portions are braced intermediate of their ends by the extensions 22 from the top 12 and bottom 11 of the cabinet forming the return and the lintel and sill.

Where these sections are joined together they may be lap or butt welded to one another, thereby producing a rigid frame structure which eliminates the use of angle iron or other reinforcing members which are ordinarily used to strengthen a cabinet of this character. This feature is a decided advantage in fabricating a cabinet and forms one of the novel advantages of this invention.

Each of the cabinet doors 16 and 18 comprises a flat section or panel 23 having their extreme edges turned inwardly and welded at the corners. The reverse sides of the outer and inner doors are provided with stiffening plates 24 and 25, respectively, which extend longitudinally thereof and are welded thereto to prevent buckling of the door panel.

One or several horizontal stiffening plates 26 may be secured to the outer door 16 to provide additional strength, depending upon the height of the cabinet. It will be noted that the reinforcing plates 24 and 26 on the outer door 16 may be made to extend beyond the normal thickness of the door and arranged to engage and press the inner door into its closed position. This construction permits the use of a two-door cabinet wherein the inner door need not be provided with

separate latches. However, it may be preferable to provide latches for each door.

27 represents the latches on the panel of the inner door 18 and arranged to engage their corresponding catch 28 secured on the return 17 inwardly of the jamb 15 to permit the outer door to close and seal without interference. The latches 27 are preferably of the wedging type to force the door inwardly. The latches shown are similar to those in common use on a window for locking the upper and lower sash together. However, any type may be used provided it forces the door inwardly when properly engaged.

Ordinarily the outer door 16 is provided with a single latch 29 arranged to engage its corresponding catch 30 secured to the return 14 opposite to the return carrying the door hinges. This latch is preferably designed to force the outer door inwardly and the type shown is similar to that commonly used on refrigerators wherein the bolt is provided with a roller arranged to engage a catch having an inclined plane upon which the roller rides upwardly to force the door tightly in its closed position.

31 represents a dust and insect proofing strip that may be secured to the perimeter of each door and is constructed to be compressed against the sealing portions of the door frame when the doors are locked in position. These strips are preferably made of strip bronze or other material having a spring action. Referring to Fig. 4, 32 represents the sealing lip of the strip 31. This lip is preferably made substantially semi-circular in cross section with its free end having the tendency to flatten out and then turn slightly inwardly. The anchor edge 33 of the strip starts with a reverse curve from the semi-circular portion and is lapped as shown at 34 between the edge 35 and the inturned edge 36 of the door. The parts 35, 34, 36 and 33 are then clinched together, making a tight and rigid anchor structure for the strip. This structure also strengthens the door.

When the door is closed the lip 32 engages its corresponding sealing section, 17 or 20, as the case may be. Upon closing the door latch, and thereby forcing the door inwardly, the semi-circular portion of the lip 32 bends and the outer edge of the lip has a tendency to slide inwardly toward the center of the door, thus providing a sliding contact with the sealing portion of the door frame, which insures a tight dust and insect proof contact.

When the latch is released and the door is opened the strip 31 again assumes its normal shape because the material was not deformed beyond its elastic limit.

Referring to Fig. 5, the strip 37 is provided with the lip 38 of the same character as the lip 32 of Fig. 4. However, the strip 37 is anchored by interposing the stem portion 39 between the door edge 35 and the angle member 40 and welding the parts together.

In Fig. 6 the sealing strips 41 are shown applied to a cabinet structure wherein the door, lintel, sill and jambs 42 are angularly disposed with

respect to the top, bottom and sides, respectively, of the cabinet. In this instance it will be noted that the angular edge of the door need not be disposed at the same angle as the corresponding angular face of the door frame and it will still be effective in closing the opening. This construction permits the sealing member to be compressed before the edge of the door contacts the door frame and provides an additional seal against dust and insects when latched into position. It should also be noted from this modification that the lip of the sealing strip 41 engages both the portions 17 or 20 and 42 to effect a seal. 43 represents a bolt latch having the inclined surface 44 arranged to engage the corresponding inclined surface 45 on the block 46 within the cabinet. The bolts of a lock structure of this type branch out radially from the center of the door panel and bolt each of the two or four sides of the door.

These cabinets are being used for storage chests to take the place of cedar chests and for wardrobe closets, lockers, linen closets, medicine or broom cabinets and first aid cabinets in coal mines, mills and the like. The double door and double locking features are of course not necessary in some of these applications but they are very desirable in other installations, and especially in first aid cabinets that are required to be kept in the most undesirable conditions, such as in a mill or coal mine. Some of these first aid cabinets must contain blankets and stretchers, as well as medical equipment, and it is necessary to keep these articles at a certain temperature so that they will be warm when needed. Thus the double door and sealing means maintain the required heat as well as preventing the admittance of dust and humid atmosphere which is another important advantage of this invention.

We claim:—

1. A cabinet door structure comprising a panel having flange portions turned normal to the surface of the panel with the free edges of said flange portions turned toward the panel, a resilient metal sealing strip having an anchoring portion clinched between the turned back edge portions and extending outwardly, a lip portion extending from the anchoring portion, the cross section of which is substantially semi-circular having a vacant interior and arranged to yieldably engage a sealing surface on the cabinet when the door is closed.

2. A cabinet door structure comprising a panel having its edge portions turned normal to the surface of the panel, a member extending along the inner side of said edge portions, resilient metal sealing means comprising an anchoring portion interposed between said member and said edge portions and secured thereto, and a lip portion extending from said anchoring portion, the cross section of which is substantially semi-circular having a vacant interior and arranged to yieldably engage a sealing surface on the cabinet when the door is closed.

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