TABLE FOR DISPLAYING FOOD CONTAINING RECEPTACLES

Filed June 28, 1929
2 Sheets-Sheet 1
The present invention relates generally to tables. More particularly, the invention relates to that type of table which is used in grocery stores and other establishments of the like character for displaying receptacles containing food.

One object of the invention is to provide a table comprising a top which has formed therein large circular holes into which are adapted to be placed pickle or relish-containing receptacles of the type that consists of a cylindrically shaped earthenware jar which is provided with a removable glass cover and embodies at the central portion thereof an outwardly extending annular flange.

Another object of the invention is to provide a table of the aforementioned character, which, in addition to the top, comprises side, end and bottom members that are adapted to form at the ends of the table and beneath the receptacles on the end parts of the top, compartments or chambers in which may be stored cartons or food dispensing implements, such as ladles or forks.

Another object of the invention is to provide a receptacle-supporting table of the type under consideration in which the top and the side, end and bottom members are formed of sheet metal and are so joined or connected together that the table is extremely rigid and is well adapted for the use to which it is put.

A further object of the invention is the provision of bars which extend transversely across the underside of the top and serve to reinforce in an effective manner the parts that support the annular flanges of the receptacles.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a table for supporting and displaying food-containing receptacles, which is generally of new and improved construction, may be manufactured at a comparatively low cost, and is provided with legs that are held in place in a novel manner and are equipped with rollers which permit the table to be readily moved into the desired position or transported to the source of food supply in the event that the receptacles need to be refilled.

Other objects of the invention and the various advantages and characteristics of the present table construction will be apparent from a consideration of the following detailed description.

The invention consists in the several novel features hereinafter set forth and more particularly defined by the claims at the conclusion hereof.

In the drawings which accompany and form a part of this specification or disclosure and in which like numerals of reference denote corresponding parts throughout the several views:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a table embodying the invention;
Figure 2 is a vertical transverse sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1 and showing the construction of the sheet metal top and the manner in which the reinforcing bars are held in place;
Figure 3 is a detail horizontal sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1 and illustrating the manner in which the end members of the table are connected to the legs and the side members;
Figure 4 is a detail vertical sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 1 and disclosing the manner in which the plates of the side members are suspended from the top and joined to the bottom members;
Figure 5 is a vertical longitudinal section, showing the arrangement of the storage compartments;
Figure 6 is a detail vertical sectional view, illustrating the manner in which the end members are connected to the end reinforcing bars and the end margins of the top;
Figure 7 is a detail longitudinal sectional view taken on the line 7—7 of Figure 5 and disclosing the manner in which the side margins of the end members are bent to extend around the legs to hold the latter in place; and
Figure 8 is a detail vertical section taken on the line 8—8 of Figure 5 and showing the construction of the lapped joints between the contiguous marginal parts of the plates of the side members.

The table which forms the subject matter of the present invention is adapted for use...
in grocery stores, delicatessens and similar food-dispensing establishments and is designed to support a plurality of receptacles R of the type that contains pickles or relish and consists of a cylindrically shaped earthenware jar r* which is provided with a glass cover r and embodies at the central portion thereof an outwardly extending annular or ring-like flanges r. The table comprises a top 10, a pair of sides 11, a pair of ends 12, a pair of bottom members 13 and four legs 14. The top, sides, ends and bottom members are formed wholly of sheet metal and are joined or connected together, as hereinafter described, so as to form a rigid structure. The legs 14 are preferably formed of wood and are square in cross section.

The top 10 is rectangular in shape and is adapted to be held by the legs 14 in a substantially horizontal position. It has cut or otherwise formed therein a longitudinal series of circular openings 15 which correspond substantially in diameter to the outside diameter of the earthenware jars r* and are adapted to have the lower ends of the jars inserted therethrough. The portions 15* of the top that surround and form the openings 15 serve as abutments upon which the ring-like flanges r are adapted to rest. The receptacles R are placed upon the top by positioning the jars r* over the openings 15 and then lowering them until arrested by engagement of the flanges r* and the abutment-portsions 15*. An advantage of employing a top of the character described is that the receptacles R are effectively held in place against sidewise or lateral displacement. Another advantage is that the jars may be readily removed when desired. To reinforce the top 10 against deflection by the receptacles R end bars 16 and intermediate bars 10* are provided. These bars extend transversely across the under face of the top 10 between the openings 15 and are of such width that they underlie diametrically opposite parts of the abutment-portsions 15*. Screws 17 extend through the top 10 and operate to connect the bars 16 and 16* in place. The side margins of the top 10 are bent downwardly and then inwardly so as to form vertically extending flanges 18 and horizontally extending flanges 19. These flanges cooperate with the superjacent side portions of the top 10 to form longitudinally extending channels 20 in which are confined the ends of the reinforcing bars 16 and 16*. The end margins of the top are bent downwardly to form vertically extending flanges 21 which lap the outer faces of the end bars 16. Screws 22 are carried by the flanges 21 and extend into the bars 16.

Each of the ends 12 is associated with two of the legs 14 and has the upper margin thereof bent outwardly and then upwardly to form a horizontally extending flange 23 and a vertically extending flange 24. The horizontally extending flanges 23 underlie the bars 16. The vertically extending flanges 24 extend between the flanges 21 of the top 10 and the outer faces of the bars 16 and are clamped in place by the screws 22. The side margins of the sides 12 are bent inwardly at substantially right angles to form flanges 25. These flanges lap the outer faces of the legs 14 and are secured to the latter by screws 26. The lower portions of the flanges 25 embody extensions 27 which are folded around and cover the inner end faces and the inner side faces of the legs 14. Brads or tacks 28 are driven through the extensions and into the legs so as to hold said extensions in place. A characteristic of having the ends 12 provided with the flanges 25 and the extensions 27 is that the ends and legs 14 are rigidly connected together.

Each of the sides 11 comprises a pair of end plates 29 and an intermediate plate 30. These plates are rectangular in shape and are provided at their upper ends with outturned flanges 31. The latter rest upon the horizontal flanges 19 and serve to suspend the plates 29 and 30 from the side margins of the top 10. The outer side margins of the end plates 29 fit between the flanges 25 of the ends 12 and the outer side faces of the legs 14 and are secured in place by the screws 22. The inner side edges of the plates 29 are provided with inturned flanges 32. The side margins of the plates 30 are bent inwardly and are then doubled back to form U-shaped members 33 which fit around the inturned flanges 32 to form joints between the plates 29 and 30. The bottom margins of the plates 29 and 30 are bent inwardly to form horizontally extending flanges 34.

The bottom members 13 extend inwardly from the ends 12 and are of such length that they terminate adjacent the joints consisting of the flanges 32 and the U-shaped members 33. The outer end margins of the bottom members 13 are bent upwardly to form flanges 35 which are welded or otherwise secured to the inner faces of the ends 12. The side marginal parts of the bottom members 13 are bent downwardly and inwardly to form horizontally extending flanges 36. These flanges rest upon the horizontal flanges 34 of the side plates 29, as shown in Figure 4. Sheet metal strips 37 are provided to secure the bottom members 13 and the plates 29 in connected relation. These strips comprise U-shaped members 37* which fit around and hold together the flanges 34 and 36. In addition to the U-shaped members 37*, the strips 37 comprise upwardly extending members 37† which lap the lower marginal portions of the plates 29 and 30 and serve to hold the members 37* against displacement.

The bottom plates 13, together with the ends 11, the side plates 29 and the end parts 10s
of the top 10, form compartments or chambers 88 at the ends of the table. These compartments may be used to store cartons or food-dispensing implements, such as, ladles or forks. Access to the compartments 88 is had through openings 89 which are formed in the ends 12. Doors 40 are provided to keep the openings 89 normally closed. These doors are pivotally connected to the ends 12 and are provided with latches 41 whereby they may be held in their closed position. The inner end margins of the bottom members 13 are bent upwardly to form elements 43 which operate to prevent displacement of the various articles that are stored in the compartments 88. The lower ends of the legs 14 are provided with casters or rollers 44 which permit the table to be moved readily from one place to another.

In use the table will be wheeled into the desired position and the receptacles 7 will be mounted on the table by lowering the jars 7' so that the lower ends thereof are inserted through the openings 15. Upon engagement of the ring-like flanges 71 and the abutment portions 15, the receptacles will be supported against further downward movement and against lateral or sidewise displacement. When the receptacles 7 are in their operative or proper position on the top 10, the contents of the jars may be observed through the glass covers 72.

The table herein disclosed may be manufactured at a comparatively low cost inasmuch as practically all of the parts thereof are formed of sheet metal. By virtue of the construction herein described, the top, sides, ends and bottom members are held rigidly together and operate to form a substantially rigid and strong structure.

The invention is not to be understood as restricted to the details set forth, since these may be modified within the scope of the appended claims, without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new and Patentable is:

1. A table for supporting centrally flanged jars, comprising a rectangular sheet metal top having formed therein a longitudinal series of circular openings through which the bottom parts of the jars are adapted to extend respectively, the portions of the top that surround the openings forming abutments or rests for the flanges of the jars, a pair of sides depending from the marginal portions of the top, a pair of end-members connected to the end parts of the top and sides, a bottom member arranged to form with one of the end members and the contiguous end parts of the sides and top a storage compartment at one end of the table, and legs connected to the end members.

3. A table for supporting centrally flanged jars, comprising a rectangular sheet metal top having formed therein a longitudinal series of circular openings through which the bottom parts of the jars are adapted to extend respectively, the portions of the top that surround the openings forming abutments or rests for the flanges of the jars, a pair of sides depending from the marginal portions of the top, a pair of end-members connected to the end parts of the top and sides, a bottom member arranged to form with the end members and the contiguous end parts of the sides and top a storage compartment at one end of the table, and legs connected to the end members.

4. A table for supporting centrally flanged jars, comprising a rectangular sheet metal top having formed therein a longitudinal series of circular openings through which the bottom parts of the jars are adapted to extend respectively, the portions of the top that surround the openings forming abutments or rests for the flanges of the jars, a pair of sides depending from the marginal portions of the top, a pair of end-members connected to the end parts of the top and sides, a pair of bottom members arranged to form with the end members and the contiguous end parts of the sides and top a pair of storage compartments at the ends of the table, and legs connected to the end members.

Signed at Chicago, Illinois, this 26th day of June, 1920.

LOUIS SIDNEY ANDERSON.