Sept. 5, 1939.

E. H. WHITAKER

2,172,266

LOCKER BOX ASSEMBLY

Filed May 2, 1936

8 Sheets-Sheet 1

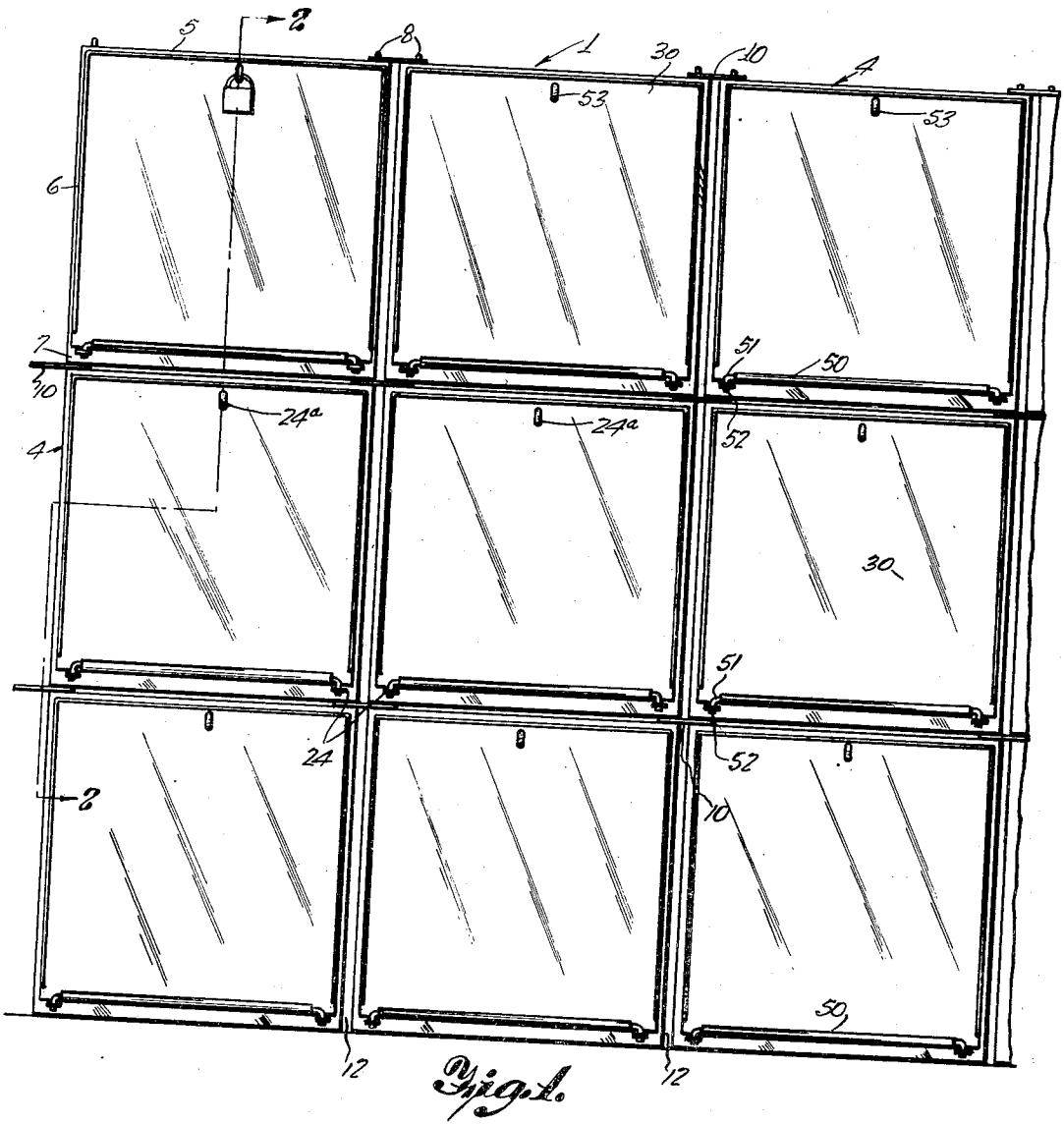


Fig. 1.



Fig. 7.



Fig. 8.

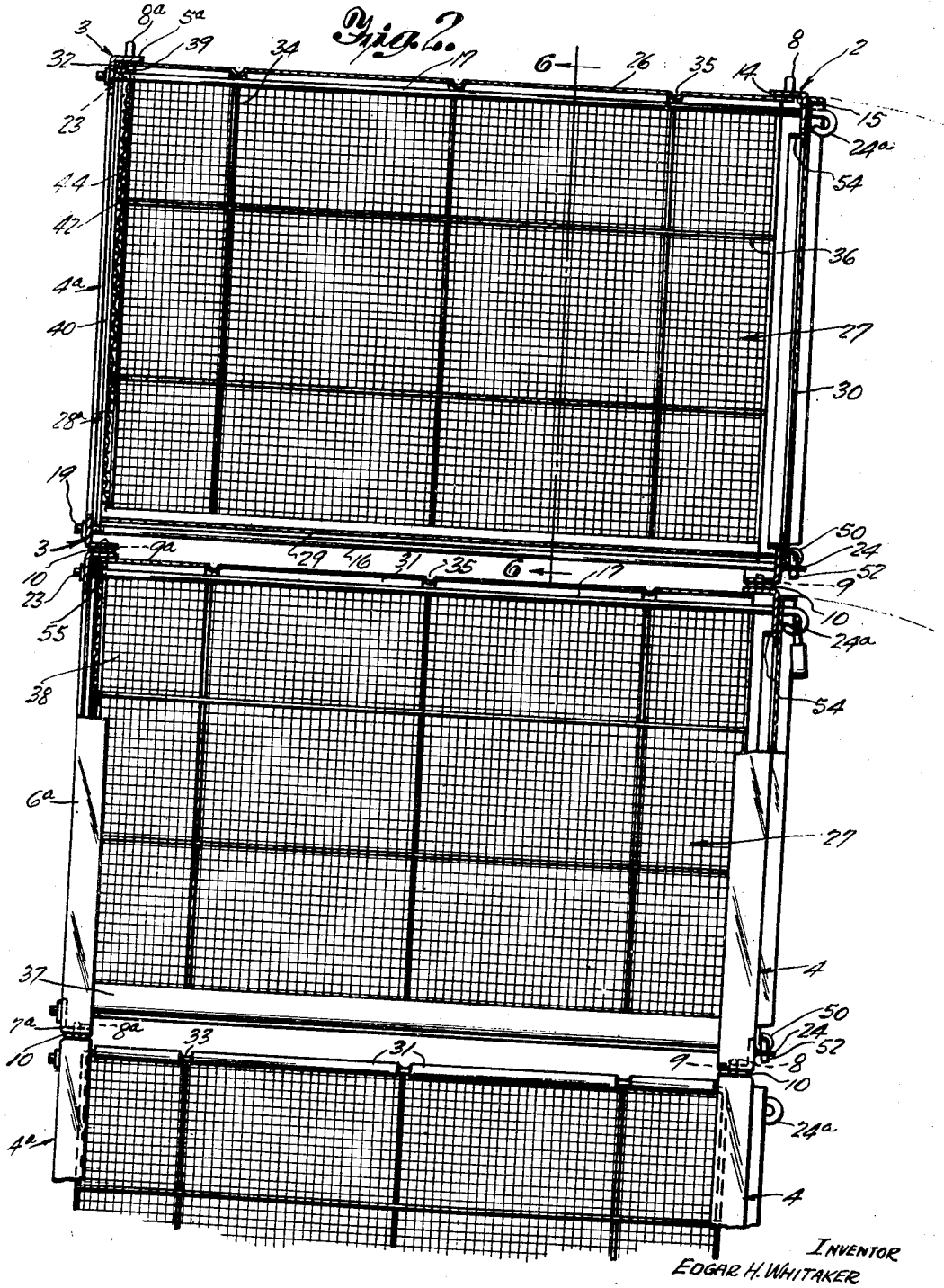
INVENTOR
EDGAR H. WHITAKER
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Sept. 5, 1939. E. H. WHITAKER 2,172,266

LOCKER BOX ASSEMBLY

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Fig. 2.



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Fig. 4.

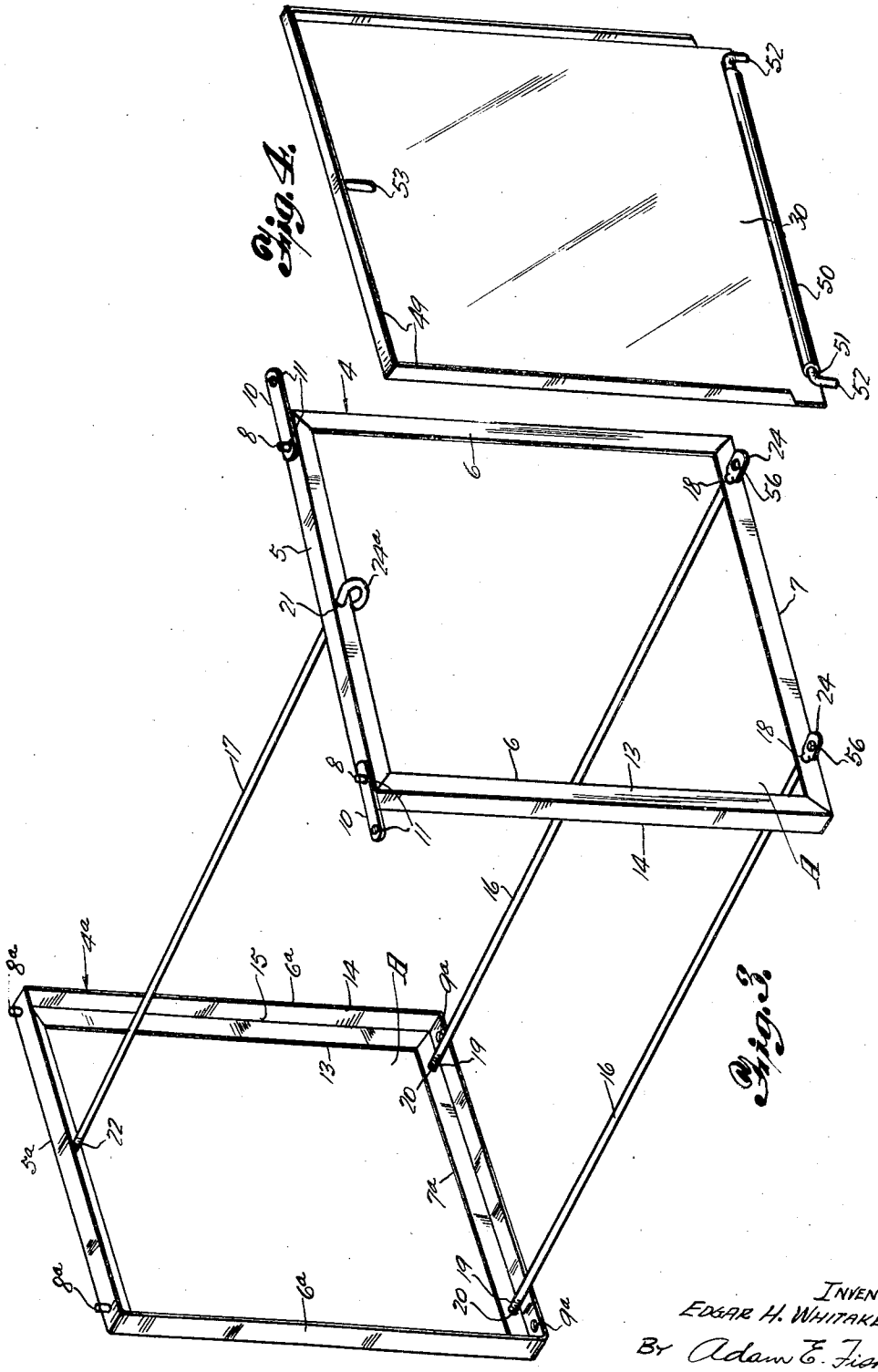


Fig. 3.

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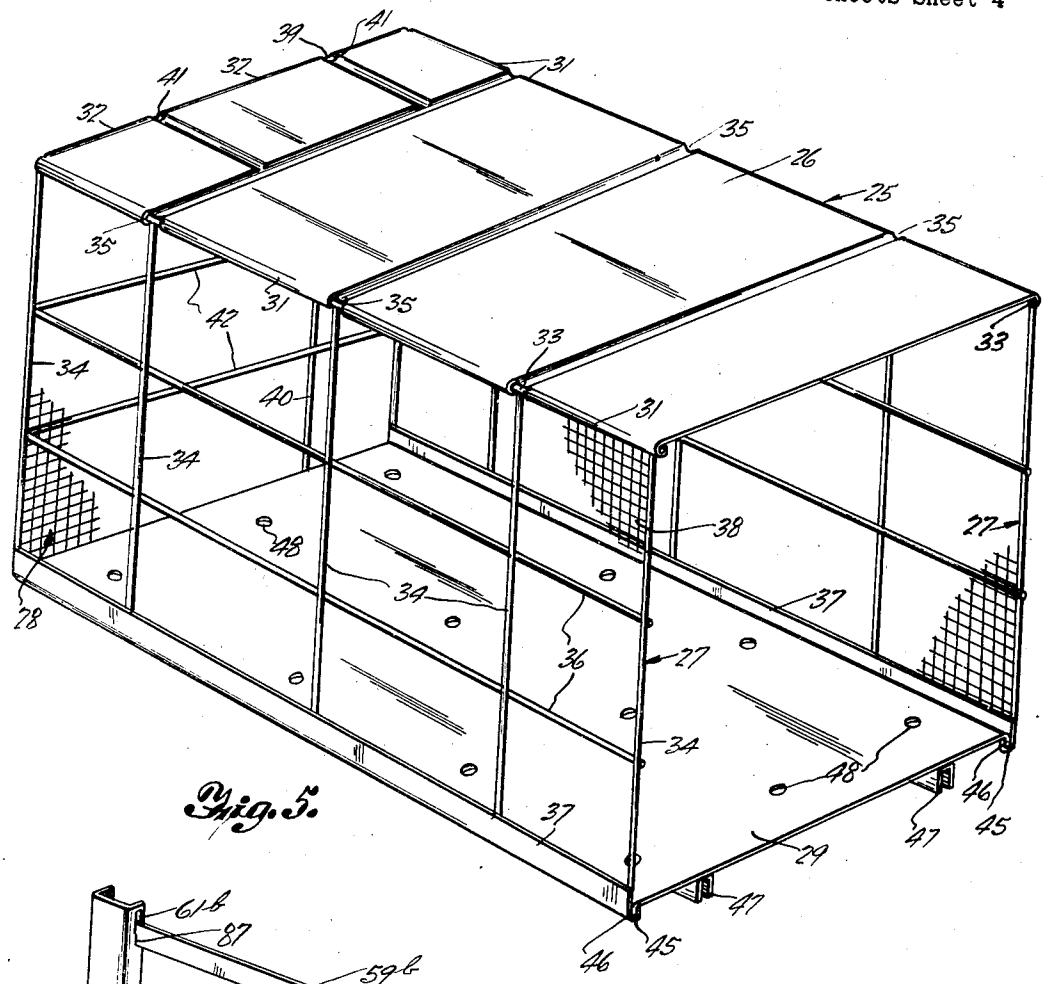


Fig. 5.

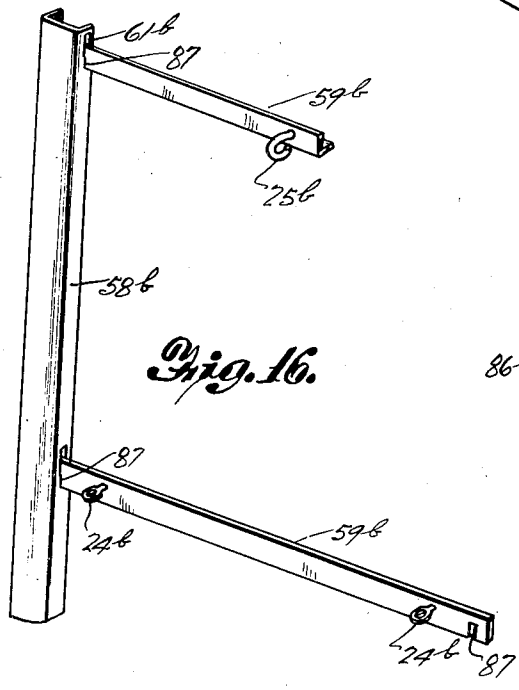


Fig. 16.

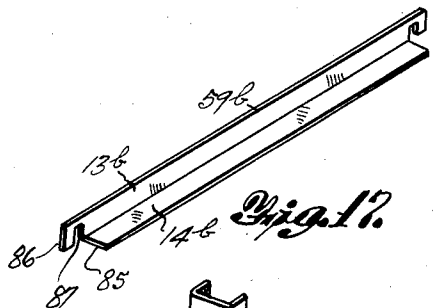


Fig. 17.

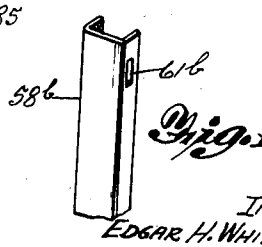


Fig. 18.

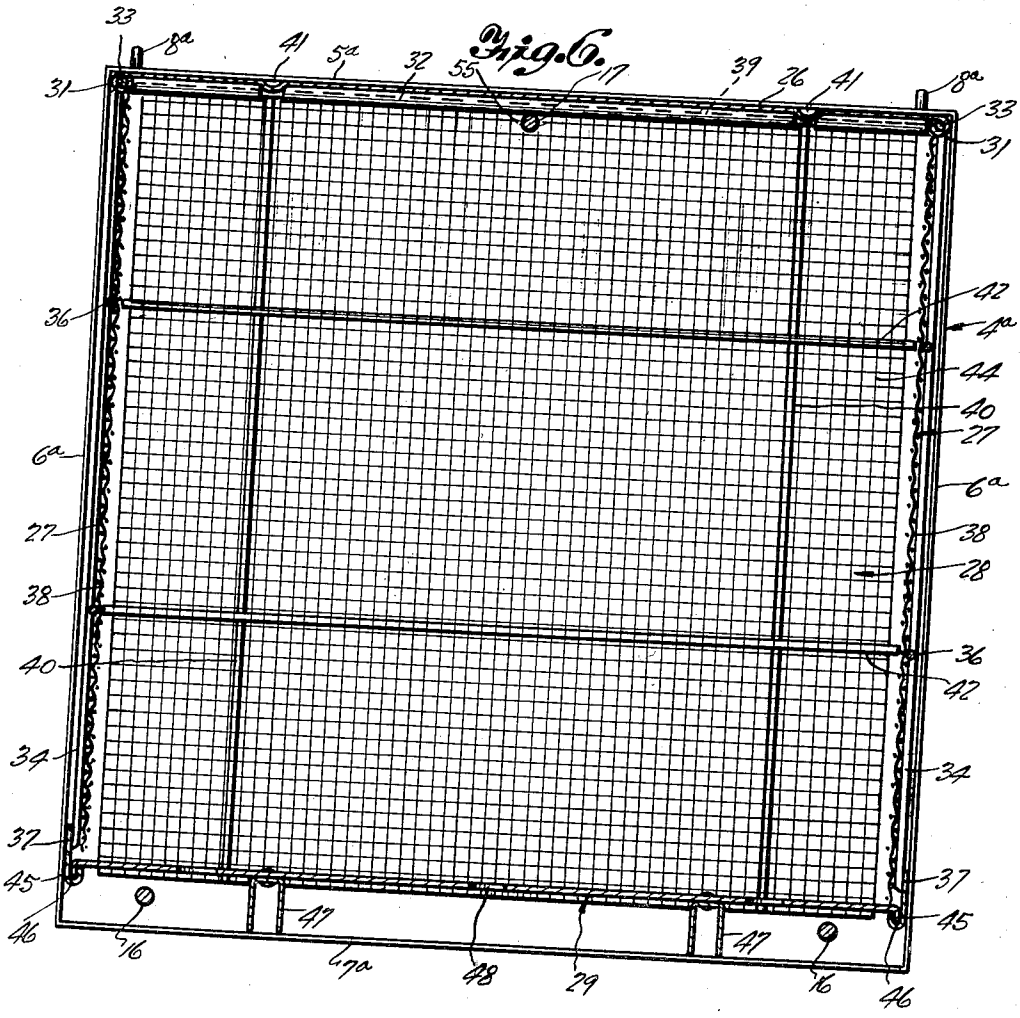
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LOCKER BOX ASSEMBLY

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Fig. 6.



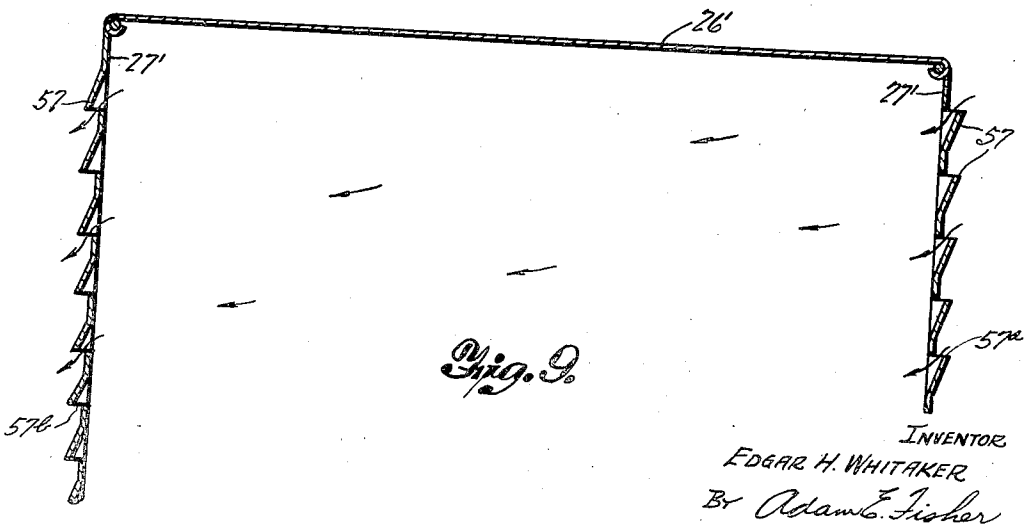


Fig. 9.

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LOCKER BOX ASSEMBLY

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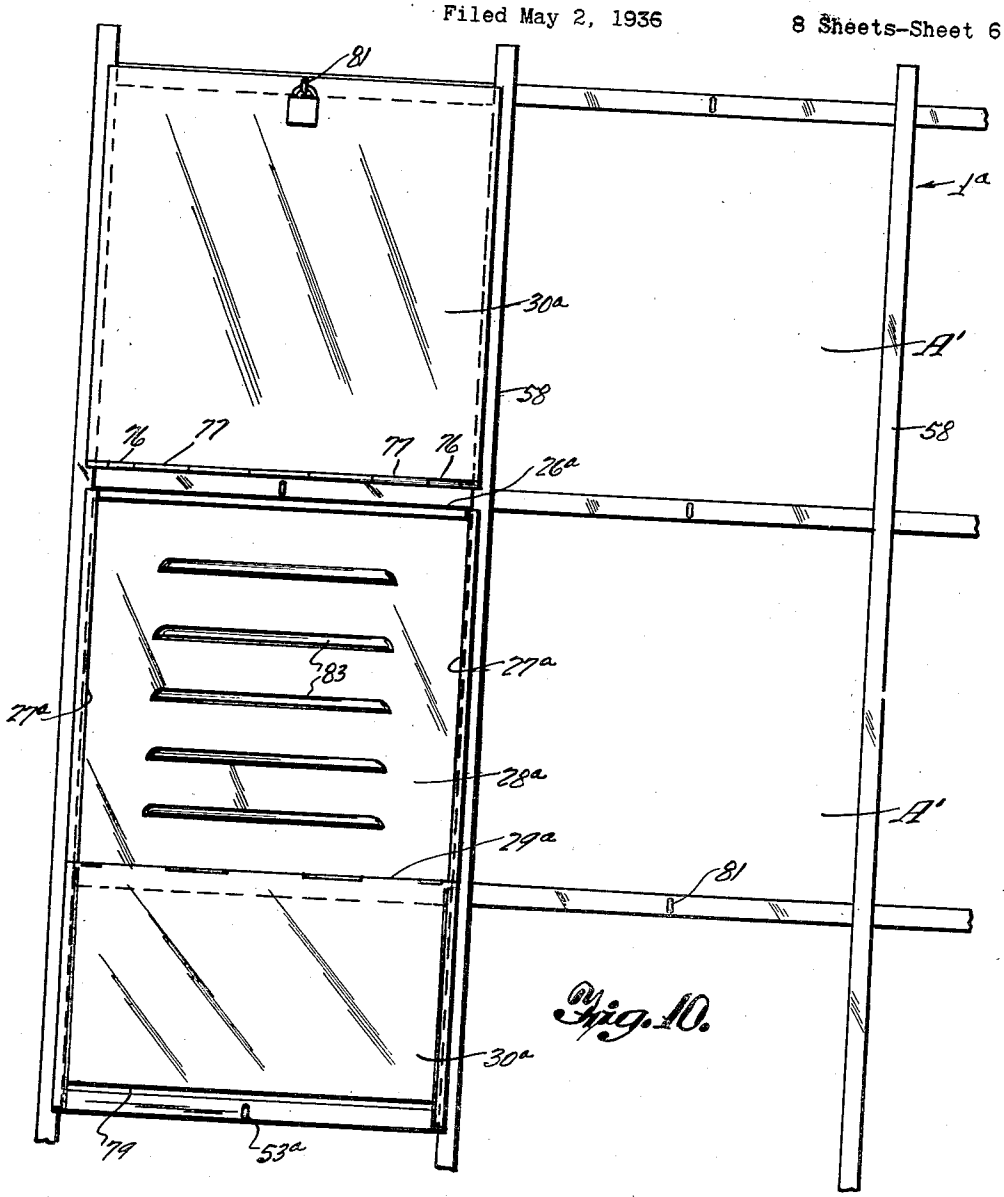


Fig. 10.

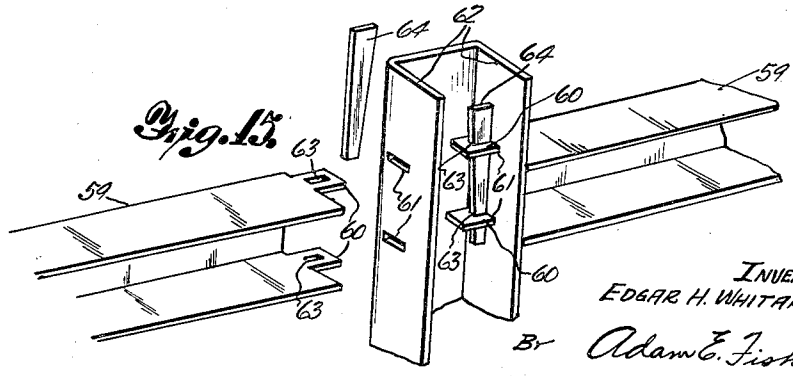


Fig. 15.

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LOCKER BOX ASSEMBLY

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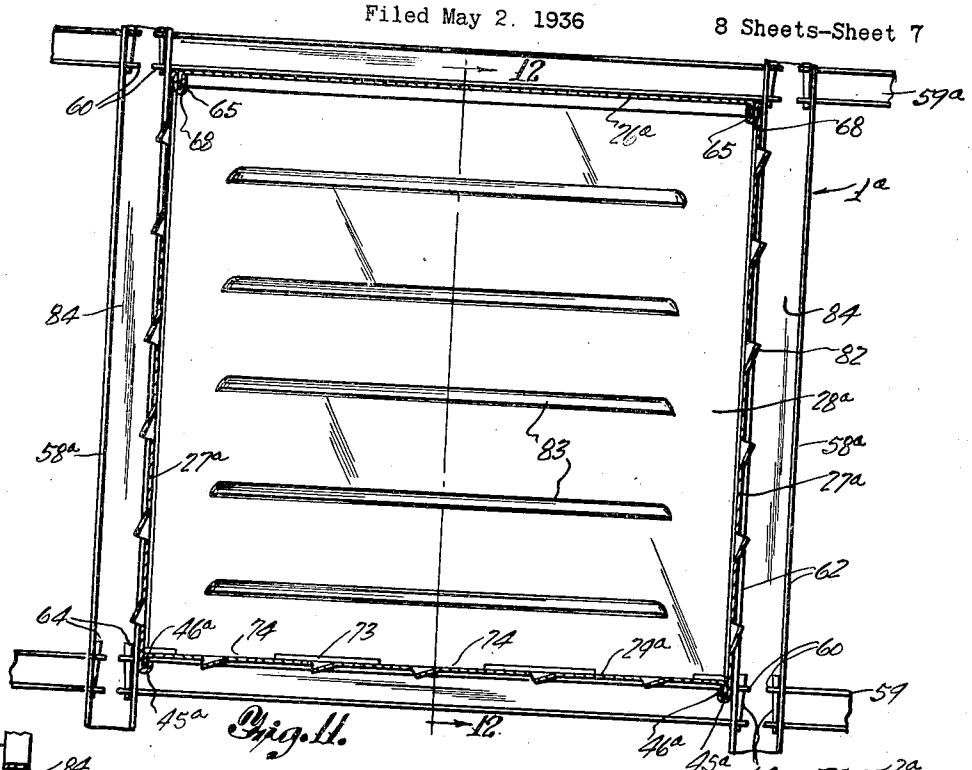


Fig. 11.

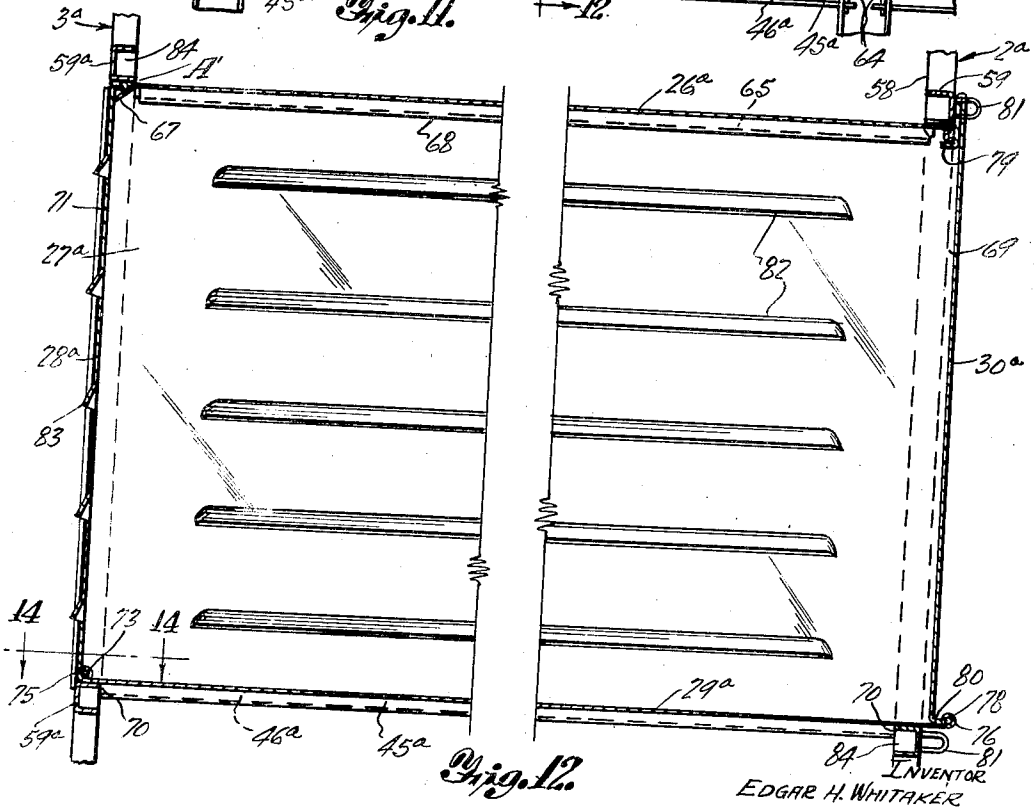


Fig. 12.

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LOCKER BOX ASSEMBLY

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8 Sheets-Sheet 8

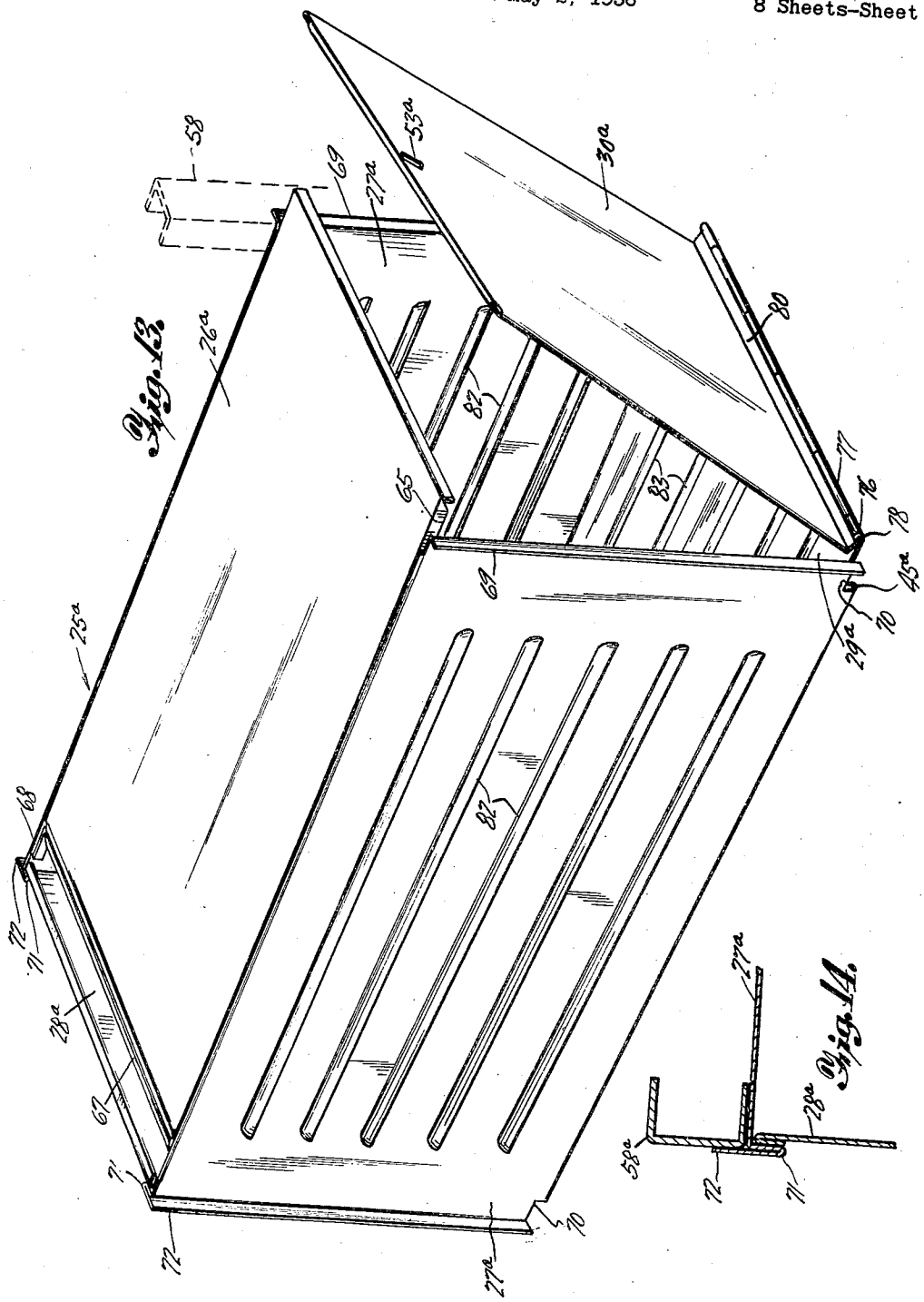


Fig. 13.

Fig. 14.

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Patented Sept. 5, 1939

2,172,266

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,172,266

LOCKER BOX ASSEMBLY

Edgar H. Whitaker, Waterloo, Iowa, assignor to
H. S. Van Alstine, Gilmore City, Iowa

Application May 2, 1936, Serial No. 77,573

13 Claims. (Cl. 312—107)

My invention relates to improvements in locker boxes and assemblies.

Cold storage locker systems are becoming rapidly more popular today and their set-up and operation will be briefly described in order that the objects and advantages of my invention may be more readily understood. In a room having a refrigerating system so that it may be held at a temperature considerably below freezing a plurality of individual locker boxes are set up in batteries or ranks and are rented to individuals for the storage therein of fresh meats of all kinds, each individual having a key to his own locker. Operating in conjunction with this set-up usually is a custom butcher who will slaughter stock, chill and cut up the meat and place it in individual wrappings in the customer's own locker from which he may then remove it as needed. This is all done for a nominal rental fee which may readily be so low as to afford the customer a very substantial saving on his meat costs. In order to conserve space the locker boxes must be relatively close together while at the same time it is necessary that each be so constructed as to completely isolate its contents from adjacent boxes, while at the same time ventilation and air circulation through the boxes are obviously necessary. Also it is necessary that the boxes may be readily cleaned and sterilized as occasion requires. Since the temperature is held below freezing the boxes of course cannot be cleaned in the battery or rank but must be removed and taken outside for cleaning.

With the above in view it is the main object of my invention to provide a locker assembly wherein the lockers or locker forming elements are each collapsible and when set up or assembled are rigidly and substantially supported in a framework provided, but from which they may be readily collapsed and taken out for cleaning and sterilizing when necessary.

Another and important object of my invention is to provide a locker or locker box assembly or system in which the individual boxes are supported in a framework in such manner that each is spaced from adjacent boxes, thus providing for free air circulation around, through and between the boxes and at the same time isolating each box and its contents from the others.

Another object is to provide a locker assembly of this kind in which the framework and locker forming elements or boxes are all collapsible and readily set up on the job, thus effecting a saving on storage and shipping charges and making for convenience in their installation.

Another object is to provide an assembly of this kind comprising a framework of collapsible form and including front and rear ranks or rows of frames or racks having rectangular openings, and a plurality of six-sided locker boxes or elements having their sides or panels so connected and arranged that they may be collapsed and inserted through the said openings and therein set up into box-like form, the frames then preventing the removal of the boxes until they are again collapsed.

A further object is to provide an assembly of this kind embodying front and rear ranks of framework with aligned rectangular openings, and a plurality of lockers or locker boxes each comprising a bottom, a top, two sides, a back and a frontal door, these elements being in part hinged together and in part detachably connected so that they may be readily collapsed and inserted into the said frame openings and therein set up in mutually supporting relation in box-like form between the front and rear ranks of the framework so that removal is impossible except by entering and again collapsing the boxes.

A further object is to provide an improved locker box construction in which opposite sides, panels or portions are so louvered that the louvers open upwardly on one side and downwardly on the other, to receive a downdraft of cold air and direct and circulate the same laterally through the box.

A further object is to provide an improved framework construction for a locker box assembly of this kind, the same comprising a plurality of rectangular frames each having upwardly extending studs in its intended upper side and sockets in its intended lower side whereby the frames may be "stacked" one above the other with the studs in each entering the sockets in the frame above, and a plurality of tie bars having apertures in their ends adapted to receive the studs and these tie bars being placed between the frames as they are stacked to anchor the columns or tiers of frames on each side and hold the same in spaced relation.

Still a further object is to provide in a framework of this kind means for anchoring a pair of ranks, rows or front and rear assemblies of so connected frames in spaced front and rear arrangement, the same comprising anchor rods extending horizontally through both the front and rear frames at top and bottom and threaded into the rear frames, these rods additionally serving at their frontal ends to receive and hold the locker doors.

Yet a further object is to provide as a modified form of framework a plurality of channelled uprights adapted to be set up vertically in spaced relation, and a plurality of similarly formed cross bars extended horizontally between the uprights and secured thereto by removable locking keys.

With these and other objects in view the invention resides in the novel combination and arrangement of parts as hereinafter fully set forth and claimed.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a part of a battery or array of locker boxes constructed and set up in accordance with my invention.

Figure 2 is an enlarged section along the line 2—2 in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of one section of the supporting frame alone.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of one locker door.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the locker itself set up in the position it occupies in the frame.

Figure 6 is a cross section along the line 6—6 in Figure 2.

Figure 7 is a perspective view of one frame tie rod.

Figure 8 is a similar view of another frame tie rod.

Figure 9 is a fragmental cross section through a modified form of box showing my improved way of louvering the sides thereof.

Figure 10 is a frontal elevation of a portion of a battery or array of locker boxes of a modified form, only two boxes being shown, one with its frontal door closed and the other with the door opened.

Figure 11 is an enlarged cross section through one of the boxes of Figure 10 showing also a part of the rear rank of the supporting framework.

Figure 12 is a section along the line 12—12 in Figure 11, a central portion being broken out.

Figure 13 is a perspective view of one of the locker boxes as shown in Figure 10.

Figure 14 is an enlarged fragmental horizontal section along the line 14—14 in Figure 12.

Figure 15 is an enlarged fragmental detail view in perspective illustrating the manner in which the frame of Figure 10 is set up.

Figure 16 is a fragmental perspective view showing a modified form of frame.

Figure 17 is a perspective view of one of the cross bars used in this frame.

Figure 18 is a fragmental perspective view of one of the vertical uprights used in this frame.

In carrying out my invention as exemplified in Figures 1 to 8 inclusive, I provide a supporting framework or rack designated generally at 1 and made up of spaced front and rear ranks or rows 2 and 3. The said frontal rank or frame row 2 is made up of any desired number of unitary rectangular frames or bands 4 each of which is formed of angle iron or similar material and includes a top 5, sides 6, and bottom 7. Near the end of each frame top 5 anchor studs 8 are upwardly extended and at the same relative spacing and position each bottom 7 has apertures or sockets 9. The rear rank or frame row 3 is similarly formed of rectangular frames 4a each having a top 5a, sides 6a, bottom 7a and corresponding studs 8a and apertures 9a. By this construction the frames 4 or 4a may be stacked one on the other with the studs 8 or 8a of each lower frame entering the apertures 9 or 9a in the frame next above, the frames being thus arranged and set up in as many columns or tiers as needed.

To secure adjacent columns or tiers together and form a rigid construction I provide a plurality of tie bars or links 10 each of which has an aperture 11 near each end adapted to receive and pass the anchor studs 8 or 8a. Now as the frames 4 or 4a are stacked as described a tie bar 10 is placed over each stud 8 or 8a before the next frame above is put in place and these tie bars are extended laterally from the frames and engage the studs of the next rows or tiers as they are set up and thus anchor the rows together as clearly shown shown in the drawings. It will be noted that the length of these tie bars 10 is such that each successive row or tier of frames 4 and 4a is spaced from the next by a substantial distance thus providing vertical ventilation spaces 12 the purpose of which will hereinafter appear.

The frames 4 and 4a are in this manner set up in parallel and spaced front and rear ranks or rows 2 and 3 as stated and with the frames 4 in the front row 2 aligned horizontally with the frames 4a in the rear row 3. Any number of frames may of course be used according to the space available and the effect of the frames is to form vertical racks having rectangular openings A spaced apart both vertically or horizontally.

The webs of the frames 4 and 4a are so turned when the frames are set up as to provide a face web at both front and back as indicated at 13 and inwardly turned webs 14 extending inwardly toward the center of the frame between its front and rear ranks. In other words the "valley" 15 of each frame is turned inward as shown.

To anchor the ranks 2 and 3 together from front to back I provide for each aligned pair of front and rear frames 4 and 4a a pair of lower tie rods 16 and a single upper tie rod 17. The said lower tie rods 16 are slidably mounted through apertures 18 near the ends of the bottoms or sills 7 of the frontal frame 4 and extend horizontally rearward in parallelism to the rear frame 4a where they are screwed as at 19 into tapped holes 20 in the bottoms or sills 7a of said rear frames. In similar manner the upper tie rods 17 are slidably mounted through holes 21 in the centers of the tops or top rails 7 of the frontal frames and extended horizontally and rearwardly to the rear frames where they are screwed at 22 into tapped holes 23 in the tops 7a of the said rear frames.

At their frontal ends the lower tie rods 16 are flattened and widened as at 24 to prevent their pulling through the apertures 18 and for a similar purpose the upper tie rods 17 have eyes or loops 24a formed at their frontal ends.

It will be apparent that the framework or rack 1 thus formed may be readily set up in as many units as needed for each particular installation and that it may be collapsed and stored or shipped in very compact form.

For each opening A of the framework 1 as set up I provide a locker, locker box, locker element, or container designated generally at 25, the same being formed of a number of sides or panels so connected or joined that they may in a collapsed position be inserted through the openings and therein set up to form in mutually supporting relation the lockers in which goods may be stored as will hereinafter be more fully described. In the form shown in Figures 1 to 8 the lockers are in the shape of six-sided rectangular boxes each comprising a rectangular top or top panel 26, rectangular sides or side panels 27, a back or rear panel 28, a bottom or base panel 29 and a frontal

door or door panel 30. The said top 26 is made up preferably from sheet material of any suitable gauge and has hinge rolls or loops 31 formed along its lateral or longer sides and similar rolls or loops 32 along its rear edge. The sides 27 are each made up of a frame or grid of heavy wire, rod or strip including an elongated hinge rod 33 hingedly extended through the lateral hinge rolls 31 on the top 26 and vertical rods 34 welded or otherwise secured to this hinge rod at the ends and at the points at which the interstices 35 between the rolls 31 occur. Bridging these rods 34, extending from end to end of each side and secured in crossing to the rods, are brace or tie rods 36 and at the bottom or lower margin a metal strip or binder 37 is secured, the whole forming a rigid frame for the side which is then covered with screen wire, netting or other reticulated or perforated material 38 spot welded at intervals to this frame. The back 28 is formed in similar manner of hinge rod 39 hingedly mounted through the rolls 32 at the rear end of the top 26, the vertical rods 40 secured to and depending from this hinge rod at the interstices 41 between the hinge rolls and the cross or tie rods 42. This back is likewise covered with reticulated or perforated material as indicated at 44. The lower margins of the strips 37 are turned inwardly and upwardly forming grooves or channels 45.

The bottom 29 is, like the top 26, formed in rectangular shape of sheet material and has at its longer lateral margins downwardly turned narrow lips 46. At spaced points inverted U-shaped brace beams or bars 47 are secured from front to rear of the bottom on its underside, these beams being in their vertical height only slightly less than the width of the aforesaid face webs 13 of the front and rear frames 4 and 4a. Also the bottom 29 is perforated at spaced points as shown at 48.

The door 30 is, like the top and bottom 26 and 29, made up from sheet material to a rectangular size and shape somewhat greater than the opening A. At the lower edge a hinge roll 50 is formed to receive a hinge rod 51 at the ends of which are exposed and hooked or bent at right angles as shown at 52. A slot 53 is cut centrally near the upper edge of the door and on its inner side or face the door has a rectangular guide strip or bead 54 formed of small angle iron or similar material and of such shape and size as to nicely fit the opening A when the door is closed and seal this opening.

The shape and size of the top 26, sides 27 and back 28 of the locker is such that these parts will fit nicely within and between the frames 4 and 4a with the lower margins of the said sides and back terminating at about the level of the lower margins of the openings A through the said frames. The bottom 29 will then fit into the space between these sides and the back and with its marginal lips 46 resting in the channels 45 at the lower margins of the sides will hold these sides and the back upright while the beams 47 resting on the lower inturned webs 14 of the frames 4 and 4a will support the locker as a whole within and between the frames.

As packed and shipped the locker 25 has the sides 27 and back 28 folded flat against the top 26 and with this assembly lying flat on the bottom 29 and door 30 a very compact bundle is thus formed.

With the framework 1 set up as described the operation of setting up a locker therein is as follows. With the upper tie rods 17 removed the top 26, sides 27 and back 28 are inserted in folded position endwise through one of the frontal openings A and raised until the top 26 comes to place at its ends under the upper inturned webs 14 of the frames 4 and 4a. The sides 27 and back 28 are then released and allowed to swing down to vertical position at the sides and rear of, and within, these frames after which the upper tie rod 17 of that unit is replaced and slipped back along the underside of the top 26 and through a prepared opening 55 in the screen of the back 28. This rod then holds these parts or panels of the locker in place. The operation is continued then by inserting the bottom 29 endwise through the same opening and sliding its marginal lips 46 into the channels 45 until the rear end of the bottom butts against the back 28 and the front end drops down inside the front frame 4. To remove these parts the foregoing action is simply reversed and it will be evident that both the setting up and the collapsing and removal of the locker is readily and quickly performed.

The door 30 is mounted by inserting the hooks 52 of its hinge rod 51 into apertures 56 pierced in the flattened ends 24 of the lower tie rods 16 which thus serve to hingedly connect the door to the front frame 4. The door may then be swung upward and closed over the frontal opening A until the eye 24a on the upper tie rod 17 passes through the slot 53 and protrudes to act as a staple in which a padlock may be placed to lock the door against opening. To remove the door it is simply unlocked and opened and lifted out of connection with the tie rod ends 24.

Additional lockers may be inserted in any of the remaining openings A in the framework in the same manner.

The required free circulation of air around each locker as previously set forth is provided for by the spacing between rows or tiers of the lockers by the tie bars 10 as described. Also it will be noted that the bottom 29 of each locker falls at the level of the lower margins of each opening A while the top 26 of the box below is spaced downwardly a distance equal to the vertical width of the lower member of the frames 4 and 4a falling, as the tops do, beneath the inturned webs of the frame below. Thus space is provided around each locker on all sides for the circulation of air.

Since the lockers as will be evident are each readily removable without disturbance to other lockers in the framework, they may be taken out when desired or necessary for cleaning and sterilizing.

The desirable isolation of the contents of each locker from all others is provided by the aforesaid space around each locker and for the purpose of enhancing this effect it will be noted that the locker tops 26 are not perforated.

The screen wire or reticulated nature of the sides 27 and back 28 provides adequate ventilation and air circulation through the lockers. As a modification however these parts or locker forming panels might also be made up of sheet material and louvered or perforated as will be understood in which case the frames or grids on which the screen was mounted would be unnecessary.

Such a modification is shown in Figure 9, the louvers being indicated at 57. Attention is directed to the fact that the louvers on one side 27' open upwardly as at 57a while those on the opposite side 27' open downwardly as at 57b thus directing the downdraft of cold air in the

room across and through the box as indicated by the arrows.

In Figures 10 through 15 I show a modified form of both the framework and the lockers, the former being indicated generally at *1a* and the latter at **25***a*.

In this form the framework *1a* is likewise set up in spaced and parallel front and rear ranks or rows *2a* and *3a* but no connecting means between are used, the lockers or panels themselves bridging the space between and anchoring the rows together as will appear hereinafter.

The frontal rank or row *2a* is made up of a plurality of uprights, posts or legs **58** of channelled or U-shaped cross section set up in vertical position and spaced apart along the length of the rank a distance equal to the width of the lockers to be employed. The height of these uprights **58** may be as desired according to the number of lockers to be stacked. Cross pieces, rails or headers **59** also of channelled or U-shaped cross section are mounted horizontally between the uprights **58** in vertically spaced relationship as shown so that these cross pieces with the contiguous portions of the uprights combined form frames for the openings A' just as the frames **4** and *4a* do in the framework construction hereinbefore described.

The connections between the ends of the cross pieces **59** and the uprights **58** are formed by ears **60** extended from the ends of the cross pieces and adapted to be placed through slots **61** cut in the sides **62** of the uprights. These ears **60** have elongated apertures **63** and wedge shaped keys **64** are driven endwise down through these apertures **63** to draw the cross pieces tightly to place against the uprights. The framework is thus readily set up or collapsed as will be understood.

The rear rank or row *3a* of the framework is similarly constructed of uprights **58***a* and cross pieces **59***a* secured in place by the same key fastening arrangement and this rear rank is of course set up parallel to and behind the front rank or row *2a* with the openings A' in both aligned. The "valleys" or channels **84** of the ranks *2a* and *3a* are turned inward or in facing position as shown.

The lockers **25***a* as shown in these views each comprise a top or top panel **26***a* sides or side panels **27***a*, a back or rear panel **28***a*, a bottom or base panel **29***a* and a door, closure or front panel **30***a* as shown best in Figure 13, the whole going to make up a collapsible six-sided box for mounting in the framework *1a*. The top **26***a* is of flat rectangular shape made of sheet material and has downwardly turned lips **65** along its lateral margins or longer sides and an angularly and downwardly turned rear end **67**. The sides **27***a* are likewise formed of sheet material in rectangular shape and have their upper margins turned downwardy and then upwardly to form grooves or channels **68** which terminate short of the rear ends as shown. At their lower margins the sides **27***a* are turned inwardly and upwardly to form grooves or channels **45***a* similar to those on the sides **27** hereinbefore described. The frontal ends have flanges **69** turned at right angles toward the intended outer faces of the sides. At their front and rear lower corners the sides are notched out as at **70** and the rear ends from these notches upward are turned inward at right angles and then back on themselves and extended back beyond the outer faces of the sides forming inner and outer stops or stop flanges **71** and **72** of T-shaped cross section.

The bottom **29***a* is, like the top **26***a*, of flat rectangular shape made up from sheet material and has downwardly turned lips or flanges **46***a* along its lateral margins or longer sides. At the rear end hinge rolls or eyes **73** are formed and the back **28***a* of flat rectangular sheet material has complementary hinge rolls or eyes **74** along its lower margin adapted for interdigitating positioning with the rolls **73**. A hinge rod **75** then hingedly connects the back **28***a* and bottom **29***a* as shown. At its frontal end the bottom **29***a* also has spaced hinge rolls or eyes **76** and the door **30***a* has mating and interdigitating rolls or eyes **77** along its lower margin so that by a hinge rod **78** this door may be hinged to the said bottom. This door is of such shape and size that in closed position (as will be described) it will close completely any one of the openings A' while in its inner side the door has guide flanges **79** which will nicely fit into the opening. The hinge rolls **77** are offset as shown at **80** so that the door may be folded flat against the underside of the bottom **29***a* while the back **28***a* folds on top and these parts together with the sides and top will form a flat, compact bundle.

In assembling this form of locker in the framework *1a* the sides **27***a* are taken one at a time and inserted endwise through one of the frontal openings A' and set up against the adjacent portions of the uprights **58** and **58***a* with the outer stop flanges **72** turned out behind the rear uprights as shown in Figure 14 and the frontal flanges **69** turned out in front of the frontal uprights **58**. The upper margins of the sides will then fall just below the level of the cross pieces **59** and **59***a* above the openings A' while the lower margins due to the notches **70** will fall below the level of the cross pieces below the openings. The top **26***a* is then inserted endwise through the opening until its lips **65** enter the channels **68** in the upper margins of the sides thus holding the sides temporarily in vertical position. The bottom **29***a* with the door **30***a* swinging free but with the back **28***a* still laying flat is then inserted through the opening and with the lips **46***a* running in the channels **45***a* of the sides **27***a* the bottom is pushed back until its rear end is stopped by the inner stop flanges **71** of the sides. The back **28***a* is then swung up to vertical position against these stop flanges **71** and the top **26***a* is pushed back until the downwardly turned rear end **67** butts against the upper margin of the back and holds the same in place. The door **30***a* may then be swung shut to form a complete enclosure. The door has a slot **53***a* at its top and center and each frontal cross piece **59** has a staple **81** at its center adapted to pass through the slots in the door to receive padlocks for locking the doors. To remove the locker **25***a* from the frame *1a* the foregoing operations are simply reversed and it will be readily evident that the setting up or collapsing and removing of the locker may be readily and rapidly accomplished without the use of any tools.

The sides **27***a* have louvers **82** opening upwardly on one side and downwardly on the other for circulating the air as described hereinbefore and additionally the back **28***a*, bottom **29***a* and even the door **30***a* may be louvered as shown at **83** if so desired.

These various sheet material parts of the lockers may be ribbed or folded where necessary to

increase their rigidity in accordance with the usual practice.

Other lockers may be set up in the same manner and as shown the thickness or width of the various frame members 58, 58a, 59 and 59a so space the openings A' that the necessary air space 12a is provided on all sides between the lockers.

Figure 16 through 18 show a modified form of connecting means for a framework such as 1a the uprights 58b in this case having single vertically elongated slots 61b in their sides where each cross piece 59b is to be mounted and these cross pieces being made of angle iron as shown. At each end the inwardly turned and horizontal webs 14b are cut away as at 85 and the projectings ends 86 of the other webs 13b are notched at their lower margins at 87. The ends 86 may then be inserted through the slots 61b until the notches 87 will drop down over the lower margins of these slots and anchor the cross pieces to the uprights as will be understood. This form of framework or the framework 1a may be used to receive and support the form of lockers shown at 25 as well as the lockers 25a and for this purpose eyed studs 24b and staples 25b may be secured in the cross pieces 59 or 59b in order to accommodate the doors 30.

From the foregoing it will be apparent that I have provided an assembly or set up in which both the framework and the lockers or locker forming panels may be collapsed and stored or shipped conveniently and may then be readily set up on the job. The construction is such too that the free circulation of air is provided for, each locker is isolated from the others and any locker may be readily removed from the battery for cleaning. In every case it is necessary that the locker be unlocked and the door opened before the panels or sides may be collapsed for removal from the framework.

While I have herein set forth certain preferred embodiments of my invention it is understood that I may vary from the same in minor structural details so as best to construct a practical device for the purposes intended not departing from the spirit of the invention and within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a collapsible locker assembly, a rear rectangular frame, an open frontal rectangular frame of substantially equal dimensions with the rear frame, the same being spaced forwardly of and in horizontal alignment with the rear frame, in opposed face to face relation, upper and lower tie-rods connecting the front and rear frames to maintain them in fixed, spaced relation, the forward ends of these rods being extended out through the upper and lower members of the frontal frame, a closure for the opening of the frontal frame, means for hingedly connecting the lower margin of the closure with the extended ends of the lower tie-rods, and means for releasably locking the upper margin of the closure to the extended end of the upper tie-rod.

2. In a collapsible locker assembly, similar rectangular frontal and rear frames spaced apart horizontally and aligned face to face, the frames including top, bottom and side member, the lower member of the rear frame being bored and tapped adjacent its ends, the upper member being bored and tapped medially, the upper and lower members of the frontal frame having apertures directly aligned with the tapped bores of the members of the rear frame, tie-rods passed through the apertures of the members of the frontal frame and threaded at their rear ends into the tapped bores of the members of the rear frame, the forward protruding ends of the lower tie rods being flattened and apertured, the forward protruding end of the upper tie-rod being formed as a loop, a door for the open frontal frame, the lower margin of the door having hooks registering with and adapted to engage the apertures of the forward ends of the lower tie-rods to provide a hinge mounting for the door, the upper margin of the door having a slot registering with and adapted to engage the loop of the forward end of the upper tie-rod to provide means for locking the door.

3. The combination of a supporting means consisting of frames which have a plurality of rectangular openings therein, and a plurality of independently collapsible locker box members for forming individual locker boxes in the supporting means, the same members having inter-engaging elements and being insertable through the openings of the supporting means and set up inwardly to complete the boxes, the said locker box members including doors for the openings of the supporting means through which the locker box members are inserted, which doors when closed serve to lock the other box forming members within the supporting means against removal therefrom, the supporting means itself serving to separate and space apart the individual locker boxes, thereby providing ventilation spaces therein between.

4. A battery of individual lockers as claimed in claim 3 for holding food-stuffs, the side walls of said box members having means for directing air passing through the assembly into and out of the lockers, said means extending between the locker boxes.

5. In a system of the kind referred to for storing food-stuffs, a battery of individual lockers each comprising a number of collapsible elements including doors, said collapsible elements having inter-engaging elements, means for supporting the set up lockers in battery formation, said means having doorways therein, the locker elements being collapsible and removable in collapsed relation through the doorways when the doors are open, and means for ventilating the individual lockers when supported in battery form.

6. A locker of the class described comprising spaced separable frame members, one of said frame members having an opening and collapsible box forming panels having interengaging margins to form a box, said panels in a collapsible form being insertable through the frame opening and having portions engaging the frame members and spacing said frame members and means to hold the frame members together, said box forming panels preventing access to substantially all of said holding means when the panels are in assembled box position.

7. A locker of the class described comprising a supporting frame-work including spaced frame members, one of which has an opening and collapsible box forming panels having interengaging margins to form a box, said panels being insertable in collapsed form through the frame opening and being expandible to a size greater than the opening, certain of the box forming panels being hingedly connected for mounting.

8. A locker of the class described having in combination with a supporting means including spaced frame members, one of which has a frontal opening, a collapsible assembly of panels, said

panels having interengaging marginal portions and being adapted to form a box, the size of which is greater than the opening, said opening being of greater dimensions than the panels in collapsed form.

9. A multiple unit locker comprising a supporting structure which includes a rear frame and a front frame, the front frame having an opening for each unit, each opening being formed by horizontal and vertical frame members, each unit comprising box forming panels, said panels having mutually interengaging portions whereby the box formed thereby is rigid, certain of said panels having portions extending beyond the opening to prevent removal of the box without dismantling the box, adjacent boxes being spaced from each other to permit circulation of air therebetween.

10. A locker of the class described, a plurality of supporting frame members, a plurality of individual locker units each including wall panels and a door, said panels having mutually engaging portions adapted to form separate chambers when mounted in the frame members, said locker units being individually collapsible and said panels being removable from the frame members, said panels having marginal portions engaging parts of the frame members and maintaining the spacing thereof.

11. A locker of the type described in claim 10 in which the supporting frame members consist of a front rank member having horizontal and vertical members, and a rear rank member having similarly positioned horizontal and vertical members, said locker unit panel members spacing said front rank and rear rank frame members within the openings between the horizontal and vertical members whereby the locker has uninterrupted horizontal and vertical channels for ventilation purposes.

12. A locker assembly of the knock-down type, which comprises a plurality of long and short channel shaped members forming horizontal and vertical frame members, which channel shaped members define the cross section of a locker unit, and panel members resting on the horizontal frame members and having frame member engaging notches maintaining the spacing of said locker assembly, said panel members having mutually engaging marginal portions and being inaccessible except through the chamber opening.

13. A locker assembly of the type described in claim 12, in which the channel shaped frame members space the chambers formed between panels from each other on the top, bottom and sides so that there can be free ventilation around the chambers.

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