

Oct. 29, 1935.

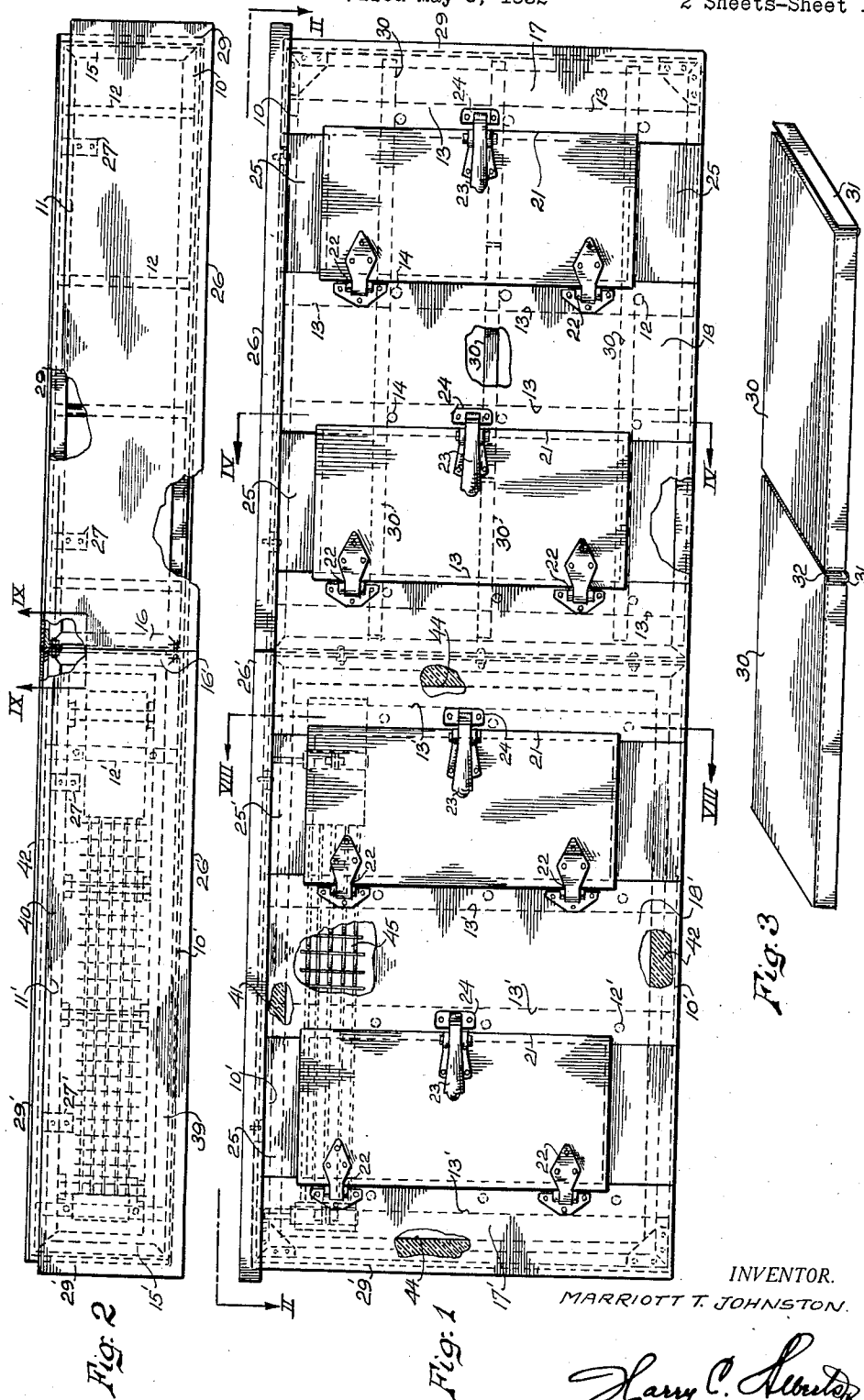
M. T. JOHNSTON

2,019,137

KNOCKDOWN CABINET FIXTURE

Filed May 5, 1932

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



INVENTOR.

MARRIOTT T. JOHNSTON.

Larry C. Swartz
ATTORNEY

Oct. 29, 1935.

M. T. JOHNSTON

2,019,137

KNOCKDOWN CABINET FIXTURE

Filed May 5, 1932

2 Sheets-Sheet 2

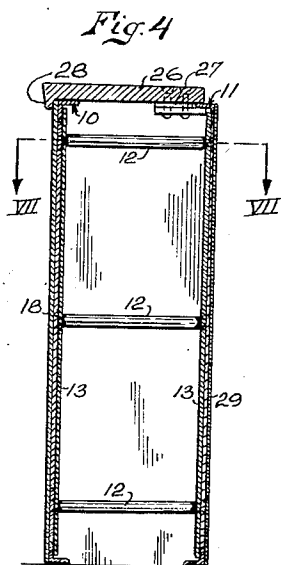
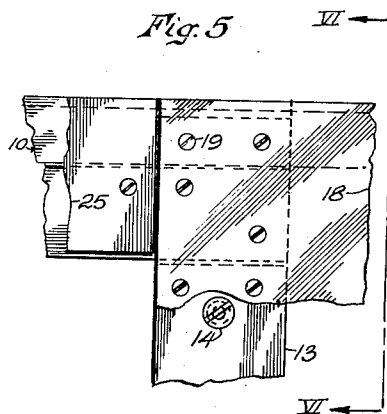
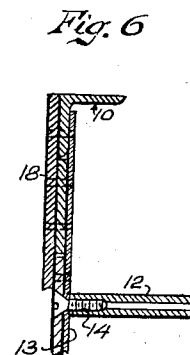
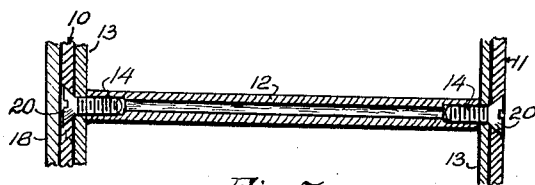
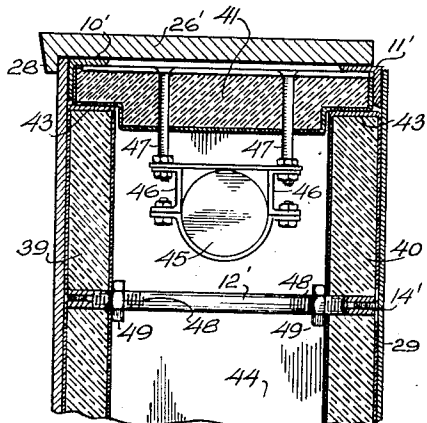
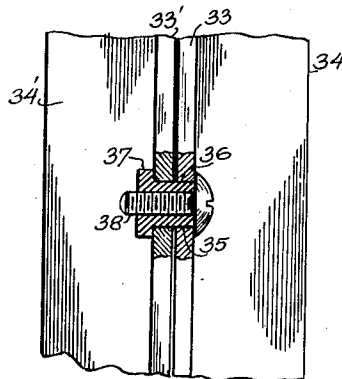
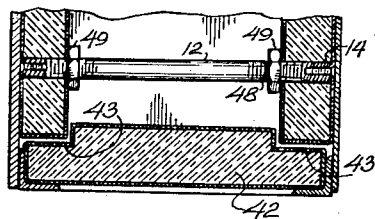


Fig. 8

INVENTOR.
MARRIOTT T. JOHNSTON.
BY *Harry C. Albright*
ATTORNEY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,019,137

KNOCKDOWN CABINET FIXTURE

Marriott T. Johnston, Chicago, Ill., assignor to
Walgreen Co., Chicago, Ill., a corporation of
Illinois

Application May 5, 1932, Serial No. 609,534

1 Claim. (Cl. 312-108)

This invention relates to cabinet structures and more particularly to sectional cabinets of the knockdown type.

It contemplates more especially the provision of complementary sections capable of ready association and dismantling to provide wall cabinets of variable dimensions and extent.

Wall cabinets are generally employed as a necessary fixture in stores merchandising a variety of commodities, and especially in drug stores behind the soft drink and sandwich counter. Known types of cabinets have not proven satisfactory from an installation and removal standpoint, since these are usually built specially for individual stores to meet the dimensional requirements thereof. Stores vary in size and layout so that it proves very difficult to adapt a standard cabinet structure to different situations and stores owing to the great variation in the dimensional extent and requirements thereof. Specially built fixtures are exceedingly expensive, and prove more or less useless should there be a necessity for dismantling or removal for use in another store, situation or location.

This has proven very serious in chain store operation, since there is often a requirement or necessity to change location of stores so that the removal of fixtures from one for utilization in another would prove more advantageous in the new location. Then, too, the cost of manufacturing standard units on a production basis is considerably less than building fixtures of special design and dimensional extent for particular situations. Standardization in fixtures to enable interchangeability and the extension thereof by duplication of units is of substantial significance and importance to economically meet modern commercial requirements in retail merchandising.

One object of the present invention is to simplify the construction and improve the usefulness of fixtures of the character mentioned.

Another object is to provide novel sectional units capable of ready assembly into cabinet structures of varying size and dimensional extent.

Still another object is to provide simple and effective means for maintaining sectional cabinet units in aligned connected relation.

A further object is to provide standard cabinet units of novel and less expensive construction.

A still further object is to provide means for effectively joining and maintaining the confronting units of a cabinet structure in rigid assembled relation.

Still a further object is the provision of standard cabinet units capable of ready assembly and dis-

mantling to enable the use thereof in different situations and store locations to meet varying requirements.

Other objects and advantages will appear from the following description of an illustrative embodiment of the present invention.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a front view in elevation of a cabinet embodying features of the present invention.

Figure 2 is a plan view of a cabinet shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of adjacent shelf sections utilized in the interior of the cabinet shown in Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken substantially along line IV-IV of Figure 1.

Figure 5 is an enlarged fragmentary view showing the method of attaching the panels to the framework.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary sectional view of a wall structure substantially as viewed from line VI-VI of Figure 5.

Figure 7 is a sectional view taken through the spacer rods substantially along lines VII-VII of Figure 4.

Figure 8 is a sectional view taken substantially along line VIII-VIII of Figure 1, with insulation provided in the interior of the cabinet.

Figure 9 is a sectional view of the unit with aligning and fastener means taken substantially along line IX-IX of Figure 2.

The structure selected for illustration comprises confronting frame members 10 and 11 of substantially rectangular configuration defined by angle irons of standard or approved construction. The frame members 10 and 11 are maintained in spaced parallelism by virtue of a plurality of spacer rods 12 which extend between vertical bars 13, constituting horizontally spaced strips attached to the frame members 10 and 11 in aligned confronting relation. The spacer rods 12 consist, in this instance, of tubular pipes or drilled rods having the end regions of the interior bores thereof suitably threaded for the reception of screw fasteners 14 which project through apertures in the vertical frame bars 13. In consequence thereof, the frame members 10 and 11 are maintained in spaced alignment, and frame ends 15 and 16 are detachably connected therewith in any suitable manner or such may be sustained in spaced relation by the confronting frame members 10 and 11 to complete the units which may be of any desired length as commercial practice may dictate. However, it is proposed that the depth of the units as defined by the spacer rods 12 shall

be standard, although such may be varied within a wide range depending upon the length of the spacer rods 12.

The frame members 10, 11, 15 and 16 are concealed from view by means of panels 17 and 18 which preferably are of multiple width for interchangeability dependent upon the number of frame units that may be attached in alignment for positioning against a wall or otherwise. In the present embodiment the panel members 17 are one-half the width of the panel members 18 so that these may be attached to the vertical frame bars 13 through the medium of the screw fasteners 19 which preferably have heads countersunk in the panels 17 and 18 to render such unnoticeable. The spacer rod fasteners 14 also have tapered heads 20 which are countersunk in the vertical frame bars 13 so that the panels 17 and 18 may be applied therewithout obstruction. As a result, the screw fasteners 14 serve the function of attaching the vertical frame bars 13 to the intermediate spacer rods 12 secured thereto by threaded engagement with the interior bores thereof. It is to be noted that access to the interior of the cabinets is rendered possible by means of doors 21, in this instance two for each unit, which are mounted to the vertical frame bars 13 by means of hinges 22 of standard or approved construction, the hinges 22 being applied to the surface of the panel 18 and the fasteners extending therethrough for engagement with the frame bars 13, there being a lever lock 23 provided on the opposite edge of each door 21 for cooperation with a bracket 24 to maintain the doors 21 closed. Panel strips 25 are attached to the frames 10 intermediate the panels 17 and 18 above and below the doors 21 so that the entire front surface thereof is of finished panelled construction for concealment of the framework from view.

A top board 26 composed of porcelain or other suitable materials is shaped to rest on the confronting frame members 10 and 11 for attachment thereto by resort to any suitable means such as the fasteners 27. The top board 26 preferably has a forward depending ledge 28 formed thereon to overlap the top edge of the front panels 17 and 18 so as to impart a pleasing appearance to the assembly without any exposed edges. The panels 17 and 18 as well as the doors 21 and intermediate panel strips 25 are preferably composed of fiber having a metallic thin sheet of aluminum or other material adhesively applied thereto under pressure to impart a finished and durable surface thereto. The end and rear panels 29 are similarly constructed and extend over the entire area of the unit to which they are applied.

The shelves comprise adjacently disposed units 30 having interlocking flanges 31 and 32 provided along the ends thereof to enable the positioning thereof within the confines of the frame members 10 and 11 through the doors 21 thereof. The shelf units 30 rest on the spacer rods 12, and these are connected while being singly positioned upon the rods 12 for attachment with each other through the medium of the flanges 31 and 32.

It is to be noted that the unit thus far described may be extended to a unit of equal length by providing similar confronting frames 10' and 11' connected and maintained in parallel spaced relation by corresponding spacer rods 12'. Otherwise the structural features of the unit are similar to the one previously described, and these are attached in end alignment by virtue of inwardly projecting flanges 33 and 33' constituting

a part of the angle irons 34 and 34' attached to the frame 11 and 11' at the adjacent edges thereof. The flanges 33 and 33' are provided with aligned apertures 35 through which a tubular collar 36 extends. The collar 36 is provided with a shoulder 37 designed to abut against a flange 33' to limit the projection thereof of the collar 36 through the apertures 35, the collar 36 having a length equivalent to the thickness of the flanges 33 and 33'. In consequence thereof, the collar 36 will align the units through the medium of the angle irons 34 and 34' and serve as a rigid connection therebetween. To preclude the possible removal of the collar 36, a threaded machine screw fastener 38 engages the correspondingly threaded bore of the collar 36 to abut against the surface of the flange 33 and cooperate with the collar shoulder 37 to effect a positive and detachable jointer between the flanges 33 and 33'. Any number of aligning collars 36 may be resorted to depending upon the dictates and requirements of commercial practice, and it will be apparent that any number of frame units may be end-aligned to correspond with the dimensional extent of any particular wall against which the cabinets are positioned.

The panels 17 need only be substituted by the wider panels 18 in order to afford concealment for the interstice between the units, and this serves to preclude any recognizable segregation between units. In such cases, a double length top board may be substituted for the double unit single length top boards 26 and 26' similar in construction, and thus a cabinet may be readily assembled to extend for any desired distance. In fact, half-unit cabinets may be correspondingly produced and assembled so as to standardize the units to meet the requirements of any variation in dimensional extent of a store or wall area, thereby availing the use of the same cabinets for different stores.

Should it be desired to refrigerate one or more sections of cabinet units of the type described supra, it is only necessary to provide the interior walls with insulation preferably in the form of cork wall sections 39 and 40, for the forward and rearward walls, respectively. Top and bottom sections 41 and 42 preferably shaped to provide corner cut-out portions 43 which serve as a complement to the wall insulator sections 39 and 40 disposed therebetween. End insulator sections 44 are also provided, and thus the entire interior is capable of being refrigerated by resort to any suitable expansion coil 45 preferably suspended within the interior by means of brackets 46 having rods 47 which serve as a connector to the top frame member. The forward and rearward wall insulator sections 39 and 40 are maintained in position by virtue of the spacer rods 12'. The spacer rods 12' project therethrough, and the exterior thereof is threaded as at 48 proximate to both ends thereof to receive suitable fasteners such as nuts 49 in threaded engagement therewith. The nuts 49 serve to hold the wall insulator sections 39 and 40 in position, and these may be adjusted to firmly hold such in assembled relation against any possible displacement.

Various changes may be made in the embodiment of the invention herein specifically described without departing from or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention as defined in the appended claim.

I claim:

In a wall cabinet, the combination with confronting front and rear frame members, of rods

interposed between said front and rear frame members, there being threaded apertures in said rod ends, end frame members joined to said front and rear frame members, fastener means in
5 threaded engagement with said threaded rod ends for detachably securing said rods to said front and rear frame members to effect their rigid spaced relation as a rigid unit, said rods extending between said front and rear frame members
10 in a vertical series to comprise shelf supports, flat surface members detachably secured to said

frames to serve as a concealing enclosure therefor, and means for effecting the aligned end attachment of one of said enclosed units to a similar unit, said last named attaching means comprising a shouldered collar extending through adjacent frames, there being a threaded axial bore in said collar, and threaded studs abutting against the frame opposite the shoulder on said collars for threaded engagement with the bores thereof.

MARRIOTT T. JOHNSTON.