Nov. 5, 1957 A. HILL 2,812,227

COMBINED HASSOCK AND BAR

Filed Aug. 29, 1955 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

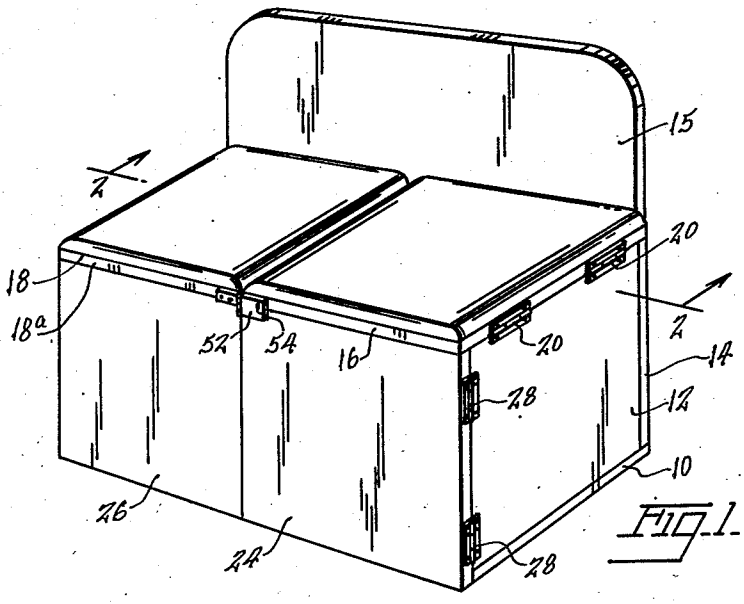


FIG. 1

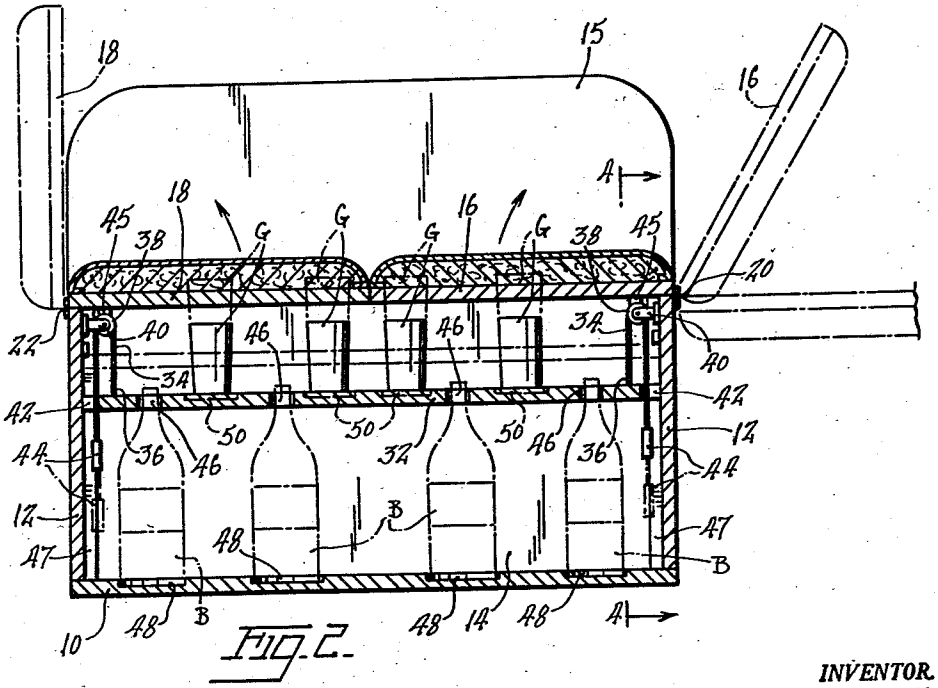


FIG. 2

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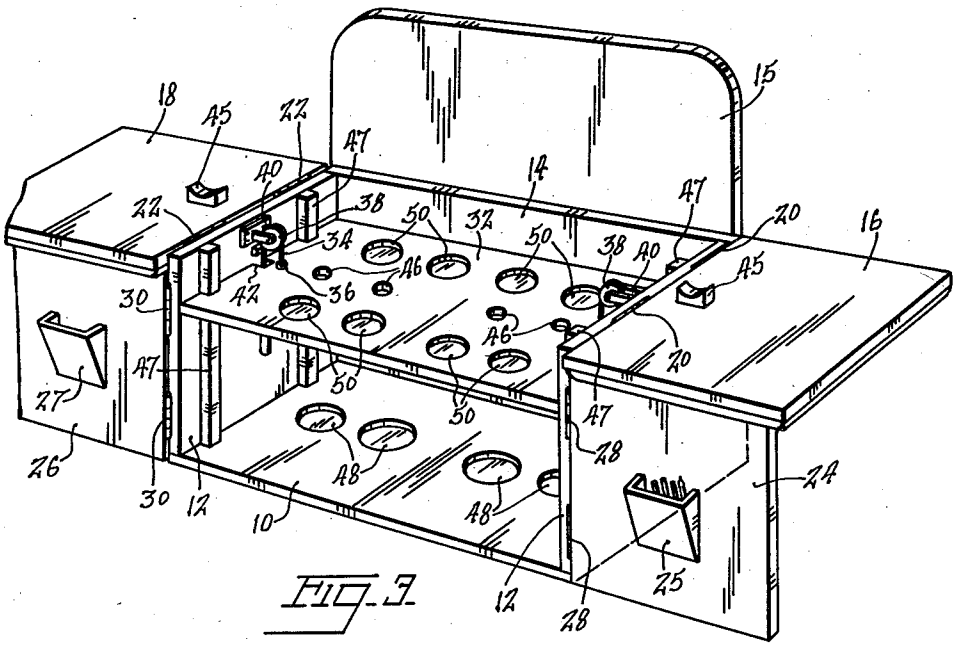


Fig. 3

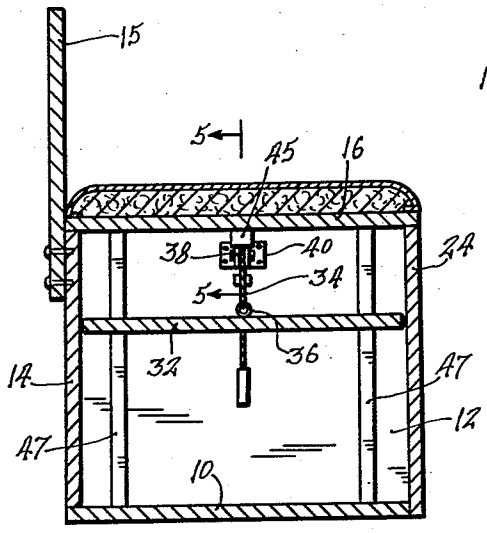


Fig. 4

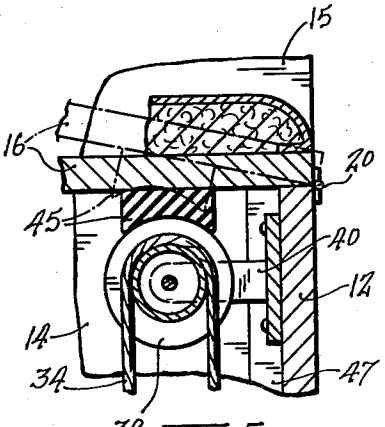


Fig. 5

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# COMBINED HASSOCK AND BAR

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Application August 29, 1955, Serial No. 531,093

4 Claims. (Cl. 312—290)

This invention relates to convertible furniture and, more particularly, has reference to a combination hassock and portable bar.

One important object of the present invention is to provide a combination furniture piece of the type referred to wherein, when said piece is being used as a hassock, the bottles supported therein will be held firmly against rattling.

Another object of importance is to automatically release said bottles for removal from the interior of the hassock whenever the hinged lids forming the top of the hassock are swung to an open position.

Another object is to provide, in association with the hinged top lids, a pair of hinged doors which, when swung to open position, serve as supports for the opened top lids.

A further object of importance is to provide means on the top lid adapted to act as a brake upon the glass support tray elevating means whenever the top lids are in closed position, so as to hold the glass support tray in a lowered position in which a plurality of glasses supported thereby will be out of engagement with the top lids, and in which, further, the necks of the bottles housed in the furniture piece will be securely engaged to prevent rattling of the bottles.

Another object of importance is to provide a device as stated which, when in use as a bar, will be highly attractive, will afford considerable space for the supported glasses, bottles, etc., and will yet be capable of manufacture at relatively low cost considering the benefits to be obtained from its dual functions.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawings forming a material part of this disclosure:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a combination hassock and bar formed according to the present invention, in use as a hassock.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged, longitudinal sectional view, the full lines showing the position of the parts when the device is in use as a hassock, and the dotted lines showing the component parts partially adjusted for use as a bar, taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the furniture piece as it appears when in use as a portable bar or cellaret.

Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view on line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a greatly enlarged, detail sectional view on line 5—5 of Fig. 4, the full lines showing the brake means in pulley-engaging position and the dotted lines showing said brake means released from engagement with the associated pulley.

The reference numeral 10 has been applied in the several figures of the drawing to a rectangular, horizontally disposed bottom plate. Fixedly secured to the opposite ends of the bottom plate, and projecting upwardly from said bottom plate in vertical planes, are rectangular end walls 12, and these are secured along one side edge to the opposite ends of a vertically disposed, rectangular back wall 14, the bottom edge of which is secured fixedly to the back edge of the bottom plate.



The back wall 14 is provided with an upwardly extending back rest 15. There is thus provided a stationary, rectangular body portion in the device which, as shown in Fig. 3, is open at its front and also at its top.

Normally closing the open top of the rectangular body portion of the structure is a pair of top lids 16, 18 of identical though opposite formation. The top lids are respectively hinged at 20, 22 to the upper ends of the end walls, to swing about horizontal axes extending transversely of the structure. The top lids swing between the closed positions thereof shown in Fig. 1 and in Fig. 2, and the open positions shown in Fig. 3.

Normally closing the open front of the structure is a pair of identical but opposite doors 24, 26, hinged at 28, 30 respectively to the front edges of the end walls, to swing about vertical axes. The front doors swing between the closed positions thereof shown in Fig. 1 and the open positions thereof shown in Fig. 3. These doors are provided with suitable pockets 25 and 27 for keeping utensils such as drink stirring rods, ice tongs, etc. therein.

Within the rectangular enclosure defined by the several stationary walls and the top and front doors there is supported, for vertical movement between the full and dotted line positions shown in Fig. 2, a horizontal, rectangular tray 32 for the support of a plurality of glasses G. The tray 32 is suspended within the body portion of the structure by means of ropes or cables 34, one end of which is connected to eyes 36 extending upwardly from the end portions of the tray. Intermediate their ends, the flexible elements or ropes are trained about pulleys 38 rotating about horizontal axes on bifurcated brackets 40 projecting inwardly from the opposite end walls 12.

The cables 34 extend through slots 42 opening upon the opposite ends of the tray, and at their other ends carry weights 44.

It will be seen from the above that the tray is normally subject to a force tending to shift the same upwardly from the full to the dotted line position thereof shown in Fig. 2. In its upper position, the tray is disposed as in Fig. 3, and in this position the glasses G carried thereby will be disposed in a position in which they project upwardly above the open top of the structure, where they will be conveniently accessible.

When, however, the device is in use as a hassock, with the top lids closed, the tray is first pressed downwardly manually against the restraining force of the weights 44, after which the top lids are closed. When the top lids swing to closed positions, soft, resilient brake pads or shoes 45, formed of sponge rubber or the like and secured to the undersides of the lids 16, 18, swing into engagement with the peripheries of the pulleys 38, to prevent rotation of the pulleys, and as a result, the trays are held in their lowered positions whenever the lids 16, 18 are closed. Whenever the lids 16, 18 are lifted for the purpose of swinging the same to open position, the brake pads automatically are disengaged from the pulleys, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 5, and the weights, accordingly, immediately begin to move downwardly, causing the tray 32 to automatically move upwardly to its raised position.

To guide the tray in its up and down movement, there

are provided, adjacent the several corners of the structure, vertically extending guide rails **47**, the tray having adjacent its corners recesses receiving said rails.

Formed in the tray, in a series extending longitudinally and centrally of the tray as shown in Fig. 3, are relatively small circular openings **46**, adapted to receive the necks of a plurality of bottles B supported at their lower ends in shallow, large, circular recesses **48** formed in the bottom plate **10** in vertical alignment with the several openings **46**. It will be seen that when the tray is lowered, the bottle necks extend into the openings **46**, and are firmly engaged in said openings so as to prevent rattling of the bottles when the structure is in use as a hassock, and so as, further, to prevent the bottles from accidentally falling over and possibly breaking.

It will be understood, of course, that the particular arrangement of the openings **46** can be varied as desired, so as to permit the tray to accommodate a greater number of bottles than that shown.

Extending in parallel rows, along opposite longitudinal edges of the tray, are upwardly opening, shallow recesses **50**, in which the glasses G are supported. Instead of recesses **50**, through openings can be formed in the tray, so that the glasses will be wedgingly engaged in said openings if desired.

In any event, the number and arrangement of the openings or recesses **50** can also be varied as desired.

When the tray is in its lowered position, the upper ends of the glasses are disposed in spaced relation to the undersides of the top lids **16**, **18**, as shown in Fig. 2. However, when the top lids are opened, the pulleys are now free to rotate, and the tray will move upwardly to its raised position shown in Fig. 3. In this position, the upper ends of the glasses are disposed above the level of the open top of the structure, and therefore, it becomes possible to have convenient access to the glasses, for the mixing and drinking of liquid refreshments. At the same time, the necks of the bottles are fully disengaged, so as to permit the bottles to be taken out of the bottom portion of the structure.

Furher, with the front doors **24**, **26** in open position, they are disposed as supports for the top lids **16**, **18**, as shown in Fig. 3, so that the top lids provide side ledges or supports on which the glasses may be disposed during use of the device as a portable bar or cellaret.

A suitable hinge lock **52** is secured to edge **18a** of the lid **18** for keeping both lids **16** and **18** from opening. This lock is extended downwardly at **54** to prevent opening of the front doors **24** and **26**. The lock may be opened by a key to permit the lids **16** and **18**, as well as the doors **24** and **26**, to be opened.

It will be understood that the exterior surface of the structure will be suitably padded or covered with leather, plastic, or the like to provide an attractive, comfortable seat.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise construction herein disclosed and that various changes and modifications may be made within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:

1. A combined hassock and bar comprising a hollow body, said body being formed open at its top and at least at one side thereof, lid means normally closing the top of said body, door means normally closing said side of the body, a tray mounted for vertical sliding movement within the body, and means normally shifting said tray upwardly within the body, said lid means including a pair of padded lids hinged to the body at opposite ends thereof, said tray including a plurality of recesses for receiving glasses and like articles, the body including a flat bottom plate having a plurality of recesses for receiving bottles and the like, said tray having a series of apertures vertically aligned with the recesses in the bottom plate for engaging the necks of said bottles in the lowered position of the tray.

2. A combined hassock and bar comprising a hollow body, said body being formed open at its top and at least at one side thereof, lid means normally closing the top of said body, door means normally closing said side of the body, a tray mounted for vertical sliding movement within the body, and means normally shifting said tray upwardly within the body, said lid means including a pair of padded lids hinged to the body at opposite ends thereof, the tray shifting means comprising flexible elements connected at one end to the ends of the tray, weights on the other ends of the flexible elements, and pulleys carried by said body, the flexible elements being trained intermediate their ends about the pulleys.

3. A combined hassock and bar comprising a hollow body, said body being formed open at its top and at least at one side thereof, lid means normally closing the top of said body, door means normally closing said side of the body, a tray mounted for vertical sliding movement within the body, and means normally shifting said tray upwardly within the body, said lid means including a pair of padded lids hinged to the body at opposite ends thereof, the tray shifting means comprising flexible elements connected at one end to the ends of the tray, weights on the other ends of the flexible elements, and pulleys carried by said body, the flexible elements being trained intermediate their ends about the pulleys, the lids including brake devices engaging the pulleys against rotation in the closed positions of the lids.

4. A combined hassock and bar comprising a hollow body, said body being formed open at its top and at least at one side thereof, lid means normally closing the top of said body, door means normally closing said side of the body, a tray mounted for vertical sliding movement within the body, and means normally shifting said tray upwardly within the body, said lid means including a pair of padded lids hinged to the body at opposite ends thereof, the tray shifting means comprising flexible elements connected at one end to the ends of the tray, weights on the other ends of the flexible elements, and pulleys carried by said body, the flexible elements being trained intermediate their ends about the pulleys, the lids including brake devices engaging the pulleys against rotation in the closed positions of the lids, said brake devices comprising resilient cushions secured to the undersides of the lids, and formed with arcuate recesses complementing the pulleys to engage the pulleys at their peripheries.

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