R. E. ORNE.

COMBINED BUFFET AND DINING TABLE.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 12, 1917.

1,297,489.

Patented Mar. 18, 1919.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

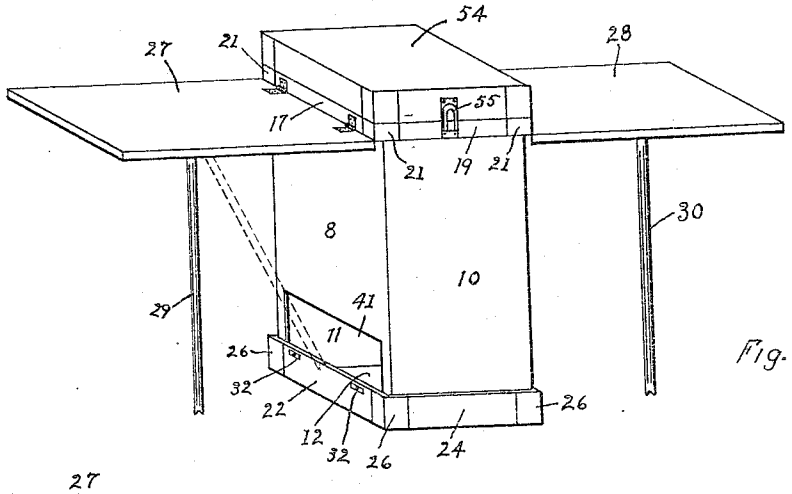

Fig. 1

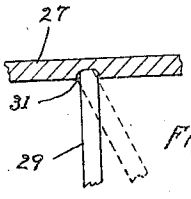

Fig. 2

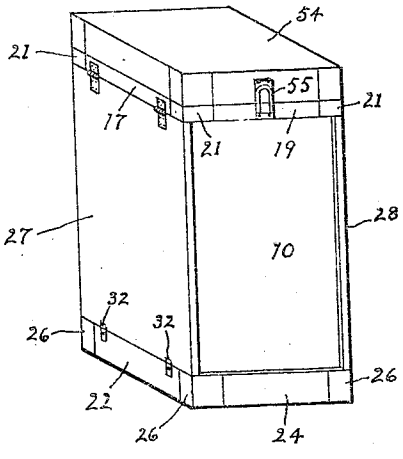

Fig. 3

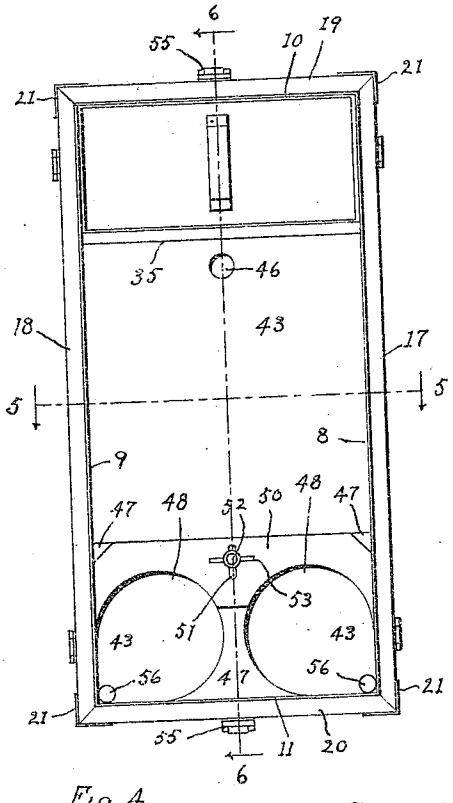

Fig. 4

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

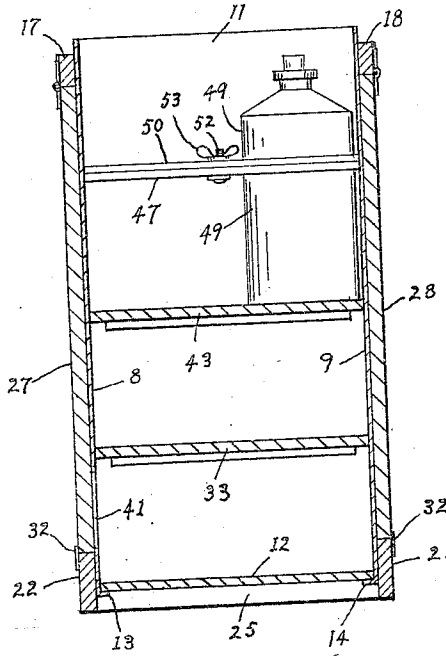

Fig. 5

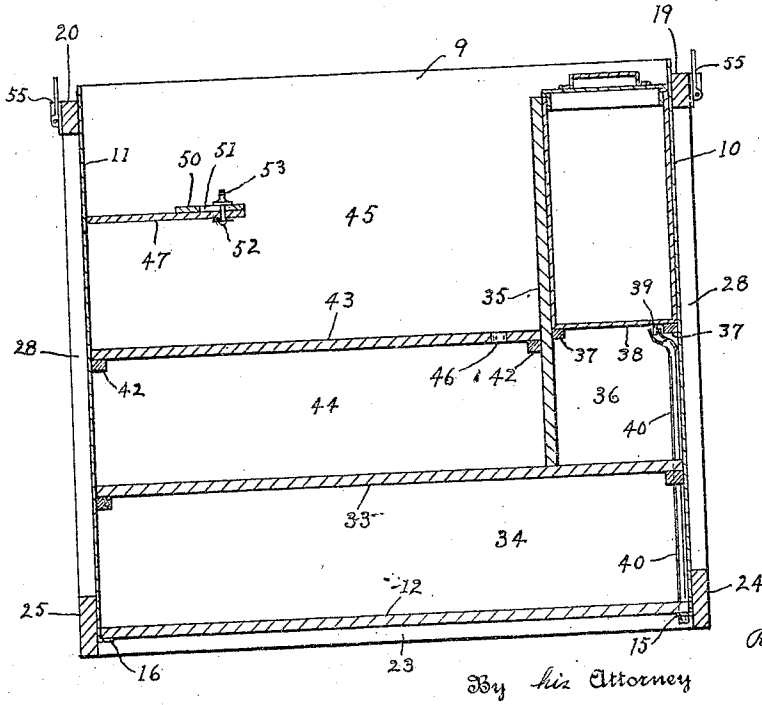

Fig. 6

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RUEL E. ORNE, OF EVERETT, WASHINGTON.

COMBINED BUFFET AND DINING-TABLE.

1,297,489. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 18, 1919.

Application filed December 12, 1917. Serial No. 206,843.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RUEL E. ORNE, citizen of the United States, residing at Everett, in the county of Snohomish and State of Washington, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Combined Buffet and Dining-Table, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in portable buffet and dining table combined, and the object of my invention is to provide a portable buffet which may be carried on the running board of an automobile, and whose interior shall be provided with shelves and compartments adapted to contain dining utensils, food, and a removable receptacle for ice, and which shall embody hinged boards that may be swung from vertical to horizontal planes to serve as a dining table.

I accomplish this object by devices illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of one form of buffet embodying my invention as it appears with parts disposed to adapt it to serve as a dining table;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary view of details of the same;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the same as it appears when closed;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged plan view of the same with its cover removed;

Fig. 5 is an enlarged view of the same in vertical cross-section on broken line 5, 5 of Fig. 4; and

Fig. 6 is an enlarged view of the same in vertical section on broken line 6, 6 of Fig. 4.

Referring to the drawings, throughout which like reference numerals indicate like parts, a rectangular box is formed to include vertical side walls 8 and 9, end walls 10 and 11, and a horizontal bottom wall 12.

The side walls 8 and 9 and the end walls 10 and 11 are made of sheet metal, and the bottom wall 12 is made of wood.

The bottom end portions of the metal walls 8, 9, 10 and 11 are bent inwardly at right angles to form flanges 13, 14, 15 and 16, respectively, which flanges serve to support the bottom wall 12 whose edge portions rest thereon as shown in Figs. 5 and 6.

Fastened to the outer side of the upper portion of each of the vertical walls 8, 9, 10 and 11 at a short distance from the top edge thereof is a strip of wood, as strips 17, 18, 19 and 20, respectively, which strips are united by angular metal plates 21.

In a like manner, fastened to the outer side of the bottom portion of each of the vertical walls 8, 9, 10 and 11 is a wider strip of wood, as strips 22, 23, 24, and 25 which are united by angular metal plates 26.

Hinged to the strips 17 and 18 are table boards 27 and 28, respectively, which are disposed normally to extend vertically downward to the upper edges of the strips 22 and 23, respectively, thus, normally to engage with the outer surfaces of the vertical walls 8 and 9, as shown more clearly in Fig. 5, and which are adapted to be swung upwardly to extend horizontally in positions shown in Fig. 1, in which positions they may serve as different portions of a dining table, and in which positions they may be maintained by removable props 29 and 30.

Each of the table boards 27 and 28 is provided with a circular recess on its under side surface (like the recess 31 shown in the fragmentary view of the table board 27 in Fig. 2) in which recess is projected the upper end of the respective one of the props 29 and 30, which props may be disposed to extend vertically downwardly to the surface of the ground or floor upon which the buffet is disposed to rest, or obliquely downward to engage their notched lower ends with the upper outer corners of the strips 22 and 23, respectively, in the manner indicated by dotted lines in Figs. 1 and 2.

The strips 22 and 23 are provided with metal turn buttons 32 or other suitable fastening devices for maintaining the table boards 27 and 28 in their normal positions against the walls 8 and 9.

The interior of the box is provided with a fixed horizontal partition 33 that is spaced from the bottom wall 12 to form a compartment 34, and with a transversely disposed vertical partition 35 that extends upwardly from the top of the partition 33 to a point near the top of the walls 8 and 9 in a position spaced from the vertical wall 10 to form a compartment 36.

Removably disposed on cleats 37 that are fastened on the inner sides of the compartment 36 is an ice box 38 which is provided with an outlet nipple 39 in its bottom wall, which nipple 39 is disposed to project into the expanded end of a drain pipe 40 that

extends downwardly to and through the bottom wall 12 of the box, as shown in Fig. 6, whereby water of melted ice may escape from the ice box 38.

Supported by cleats 42 is a removable partition 43 which extends horizontally between the vertical partition 35 and the vertical wall 11 in a plane spaced from the horizontal partition 33 whereby is formed an intermediate compartment 44 and an upper compartment 45.

The removable partition 43 is provided with a hole 46 through which one's finger may be projected to facilitate the operation of removing said partition 43.

Disposed adjacent to the vertical wall 11 to extend transversely between the walls 8 and 9 in a plane spaced from the partition 43 is a shelf 47 whose inner corner portions are cut away on circular lines to form openings 48 therethrough as shown in Fig. 4, through which openings 48 may project removable thermos bottles, jars or other containers, which may rest on the partition 43 like the bottle 49 as shown in Fig. 5.

In order rigidly to clamp bottles or jars in their positions on the partition 43 I have provided a clamping cleat 50 which is disposed to be adjustably slidable on the top surface of the shelf 47 and which cleat 50 has its inner edge portion provided with two curved recesses whose edges may engage with said bottles or jars to clamp them tightly in their positions.

The clamping cleat 50 is provided with a slotted hole 51 through which is an upwardly extended screw-threaded stud 52 that is fixed in the shelf 47, which stud 52 is provided with a wing nut 53 that is operatively adapted to fasten the cleat 50 in a position to clamp bottles or jars in their fixed positions in an obvious manner.

The vertical wall 8 is provided with a rectangular opening 41 through its lower portion adjacent to the top edge of the strip 22, through which opening 41 dishes, cooking utensils or other objects may be passed to and from the compartment 34 in the lower portion of the box.

A cover 54, having flanged edges, is removably disposed to cover the box, the flanges of said cover 54 being adapted to engage with the outer side surfaces of those portions of the vertical walls 8, 9, 10 and 11 that project higher than the top edges of the strips 17, 18, 19 and 20, upon which strips said flanges may rest.

The cover 54 may be fastened in its position on the box by suitable devices, as by the clasps 55 shown more clearly in Figs. 1 and 3.

Extending through the corner portions of the partitions 43 and 33 adjacent to the vertical wall 11 are holes 56 within which may be disposed the props 29 and 30 when the buffet is packed to be ready for service as a portable dining outfit.

A buffet embodying my invention in the manner illustrated and described is particularly adapted to be carried on the running board of an automobile to serve as a portable dining outfit that may contain not only food, dishes and cooking utensils, but which also may contain folding chairs.

Obviously, changes may be made in the forms, dimensions and arrangement of parts of my invention without departing from the spirit thereof.

What I claim is:

A portable buffet of the class described, comprising a box having vertical side and end walls of sheet metal provided with flanged lower end portions, a bottom wall resting on said flanged lower end portions, strips fastened to the outer sides of said side and end walls adjacent the upper and lower portions thereof, a table board hinged to each of the strips on the upper portions of opposite ones of said vertical walls and adapted to be swung upwardly from a vertical plane to a horizontal plane, removable props for supporting said table boards in a horizontal plane, a cover adapted to be disposed over the top edges of said vertical walls to cover said buffet, means to releasably fasten said table boards in their normal vertical positions, and a horizontal partition disposed within said box spaced from said bottom wall to provide a lower compartment, one of said vertical side walls having an opening through the lower portion thereof leading into said lower compartment, one of said table boards being arranged to close said opening when in its normal vertical position.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name this 5th day of December, A. D. 1917.

RUEL E. ORNE.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."