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R. A. THOMPSON
EXTENDABLE COUNTER ASSEMBLY

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2 Sheets-Sheet 1

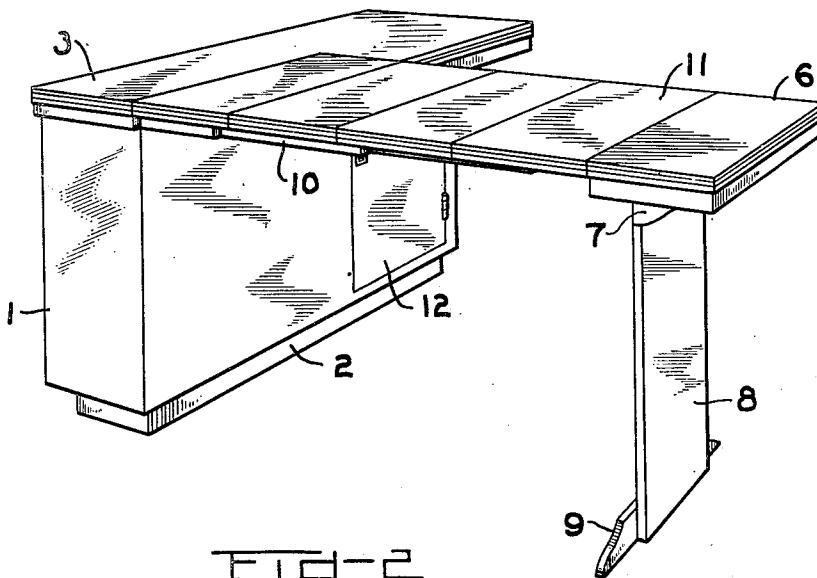


FIG-2

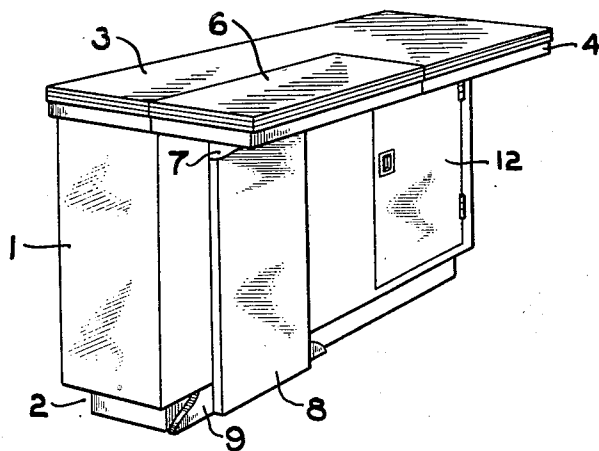


FIG-I

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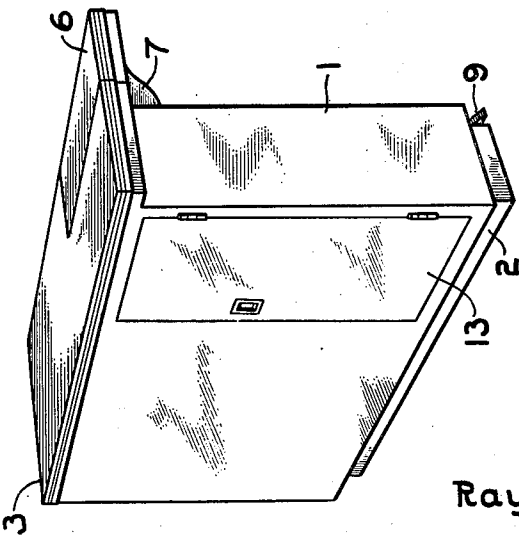
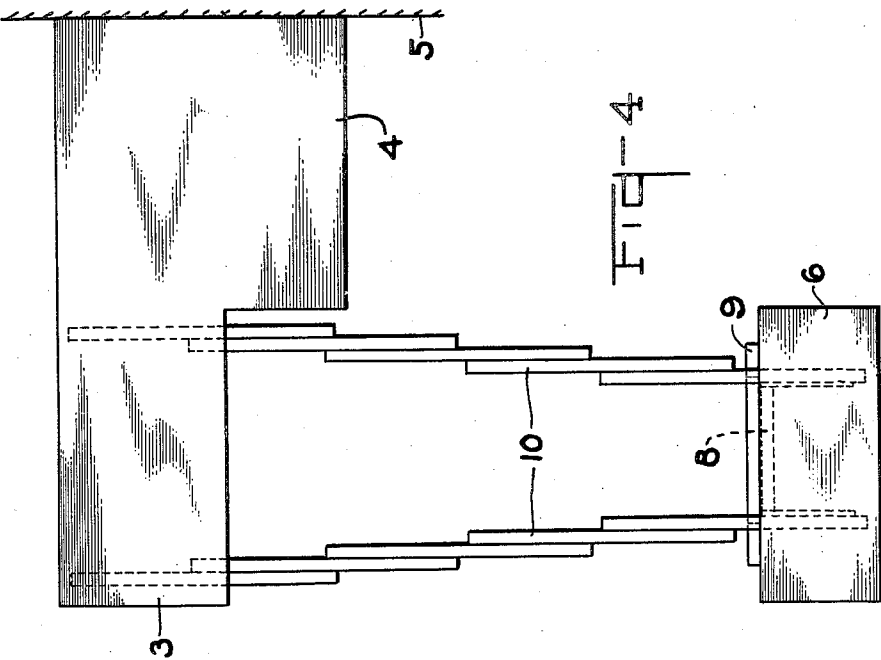
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EXTENDABLE COUNTER ASSEMBLY

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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EXTENDIBLE COUNTER ASSEMBLY

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4 Claims. (Cl. 311—41)

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The present invention relates broadly to counters, and in its specific phases to a kitchen counter which is readily expansible.

The construction and use of house trailers requires that they be designed to provide maximum useability of the relatively small space available. In other words, if the kitchen and dining space are made large, then the living space is very much cramped. This raises the problem of how to make the kitchen and dining space compact when the living space is required to be large, and at the same time to make it possible for the living space to be made smaller when the kitchen and dining space is required to be larger. This in turn requires that a considerable portion of the house trailer interior be made capable of double use over a considerable area.

It was a recognition of this problem, as well as a knowledge that there has been no wholly satisfactory solution for same, which lead to the conception and development of the present invention.

Accordingly, among the objects of the present invention is the provision of a counter which is suitable for use in a house trailer kitchen at the living room side of same, with said counter having a side portion adapted to be expanded into the living portion of the house trailer to form a dining table.

Another object is to provide a counter construction having a conventional over-hanging ledge with a separable portion of such ledge carrying a leg and connected to a telescoping slide assembly, commonly known as table slides, one end of which is anchored to the counter.

Another object is to provide a compact counter assembly which can be used as such and yet which can be greatly expanded when desired.

Another object is to provide an expansible counter which is easy to construct and install, and yet is highly efficient in use.

A further object is to provide a counter construction with an over-hanging ledge on one side and with a separable end portion of said ledge having anchored to its underface a suitable supporting leg and telescoping slide assembly wherein such ledge portion is extensible in varying amount for the insertion of one or more table leaves, the leg carrying ledge portion acting as the end member of the extension, with the assembly being easy to manipulate, of sturdy construction, compact when folded, and having no complicated parts.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will appear as a description proceeds.

To the accomplishment of the foregoing and related ends, the invention, then, consists of the means hereinafter fully described and particularly pointed out in the claims, the annexed drawings and the following description setting

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forth in detail certain means for carrying out the invention, such disclosed means illustrating, however, but one of various ways in which the principle of the invention may be used.

5 In the annexed drawings:

Figure 1 shows a perspective front view of the expansible counter of the present invention in collapsed position.

10 Figure 2 shows a perspective front view of the expansible counter assembly of Figure 1 with same in expanded position.

Figure 3 shows a perspective rear view of the expansible counter in collapsed position.

15 Figure 4 shows a top view of the assembly illustrated in Figure 2, but with the table leaves removed to show the telescoping table slides.

Referring more particularly to Figures 1 and 3 of the drawings, it will be noted that the counter 1 is provided with an undercut bottom portion 2 known as a kick space and that the top 3 of the counter is provided with an over-hanging ledge 4 at least on one side. The counter as thus constructed, has a considerable amount of work space on its top while the over-hanging ledge portion makes it convenient to use the top of the counter as a small dining table, which in a house trailer would normally be suited for the use of two persons.

The right hand edge of this counter as viewed in Figure 4, preferably abuts the side wall 5 of the house trailer (not shown) and is preferably anchored in that position. The length of this counter under those conditions is preferably about twice the width of a narrow table. At the free end of the counter the ledge is cut to form a movable member 6 which is rigidly mounted, by means of braces 7 or the like, on a leg member 8 adapted to rest against the face of counter 1 when the assembly is in collapsed position as shown in Figure 1. At the lower end of leg member 8 is a foot member 9 adapted, when the assembly is folded, to fit into the kick space at the front edge of the counter while acting to stabilize leg 8.

The movable portion 6 of the counter is anchored on the end of a telescoping slide assembly 10 with the other end of said assembly anchored to the counter 1 so that members 6 can be extended out as shown in Figure 4 where it forms the end leaf of the counter extension. The telescoping slide assembly 10 is of standard well known construction which permits either partial or full extension as shown. With movable member 6 extended as shown in Figure 4, it is in position to have leaves 11, Figure 2, placed on the telescoping slide assembly 10, and those leaves in turn will be provided with standard well known means (not shown) at their adjacent edges for releasably fastening them together.

The front of the counter is provided with a

door 12 which is openable to facilitate storing the leaves 11 during periods between use of same. At the back of the counter is provided a second door 13 which provides access to the interior of the counter which may be equipped with shelves (not shown) for use in conventional manner.

Where the assembly is used in a house trailer, the extending portion will protrude into the living quarters with ample space on both sides of the extension for chairs and diners. A convenient size of this counter for use in house trailers has a top which is approximately 2 ft. wide and 4 ft. long with the top of member 6 approximately 10" x 24". A convenient size of the extension, when in fully extended position, is approximately 2 ft. wide by 4 ft. long which makes possible the comfortable seating of 6 persons, and even a few more if necessary. At the end of the meal, and after the dishes have been picked up, it is a simple matter to remove the leaves 11, which can then be stored in the counter, and to slide member 6 back to the position shown in Figure 1 whereupon the living space of the house trailer is once more expanded to its maximum size.

Other modes of applying the principle of my invention may be employed instead of the one explained, change being made as regards the article and combinations herein disclosed, provided the means stated by any of the following claims or the equivalent of such stated means be employed.

I therefore particularly point out and distinctly claim as my invention:

1. In an apparatus of the character described, a counter having a substantially flat top, said top extending out to form a full length shelf on one side of said counter, said shelf having a portion thereof which is of substantial length and approximately the full width of said shelf which is separable from the remainder of said top and in the plane thereof, a telescoping slide assembly, one end of which is rigidly anchored to said counter at the underface of the top of same while its other end is rigidly anchored to the underface of said separable portion of said top, a supporting leg of relatively wide board characteristic rigidly anchored to said separable portion of said top and telescoping slide assembly, and means for bracing the upper end of said supporting leg relative to said separable portion, said leg lying against the side of said counter when said separable shelf portion is in retracted position and the board-like leg carrying a transversely extending foot at its lower end to stabilize the structure when in extended position.

2. In an apparatus of the character described, a counter with closed sides, said counter having an undercut portion at its base and a substantially flat top, said top extending out sidewise to form a full length shelf on one side of said counter, said shelf having a portion thereof which is of substantial length and approximately full width of said shelf which is separable from the remainder of said top, a telescoping slide assembly, one end of which is rigidly anchored to said counter at the underface of the top of same while its other end is rigidly anchored to the underface of said separable portion of said top, a supporting leg rigidly anchored to said separable portion of said top and telescoping slide assembly, means for bracing the upper end of said supporting leg, a foot member of greater width than said supporting leg and mounted on the lower end of same, said leg being adapted to lie

against the side of said counter with said foot member in the undercut portion of the counter base when said separable shelf portion is in retracted position, and means adapted to rest and be held on said slide assembly and fill the space between said counter top and said separable shelf portion thereof when said telescoping slide assembly is extended.

3. In an apparatus of the character described, a counter having a substantially flat top, said top extending out to form a full length shelf of substantial width on one side of said counter, said shelf having a portion thereof which is of substantial length, but less than the full length of same, which is separable from the remainder of said top and in the plane thereof, a telescoping slide assembly anchored to said counter at one end and to said separable portion of said counter top shelf member at its other end, an upright supporting leg means anchored to said telescoping slide assembly below the separable portion of said shelf when in retracted position and movable therewith to support same when extended, and a substantially flat upper surface means adapted to rest on said telescoping slide assembly and fill the space between said counter top member and the separable portion of the shelf extension in a common plane with the top surface thereof when said telescoping slide assembly is extended.

4. In an apparatus of the character described, a counter having a substantially flat top, said top extending out to form a full length shelf of substantial width on one side of said counter, said shelf having a portion thereof which is of substantial length, but less than the full length of same, which is separable from the remainder of said top and in the plane thereof, a telescoping slide assembly anchored to said counter at one end and to said separable portion of said counter top shelf member at its other end, a single upright supporting leg anchored to said telescoping slide assembly below the separable portion of said shelf when in retracted position and movable therewith to support same when extended, said single supporting leg having its lower end relatively wide to stabilize the same against sidewise tilting, and a substantially flat upper surface means adapted to rest on said telescoping slide assembly and fill the space between said counter top member and the separable portion of said shelf in a common plane with the top surface thereof when said telescoping slide assembly is extended.

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