Feb. 20, 1951 S. A. FLOWERS 2,542,648

ATTA HABLE OR DETACHABLE TOP FOR FURNITURE

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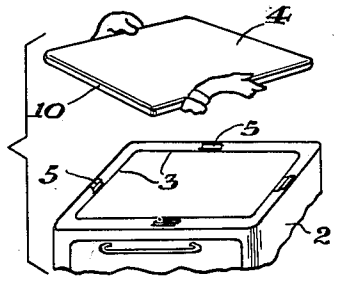


Fig. 1.

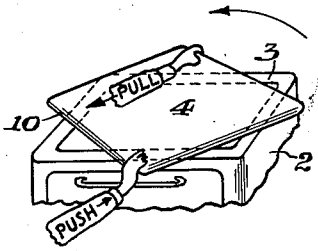


Fig. 2.

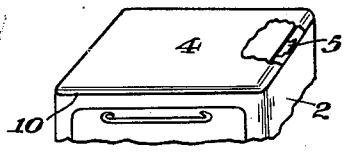


Fig. 3.

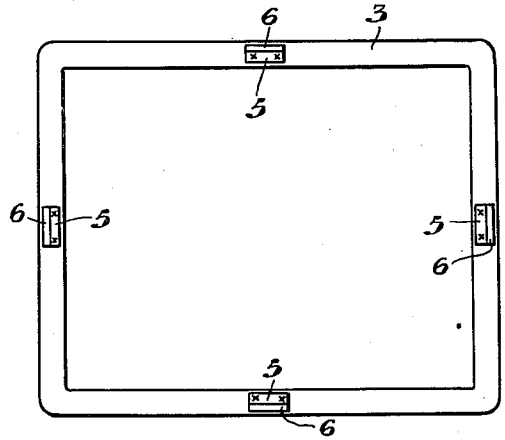


Fig. 5.

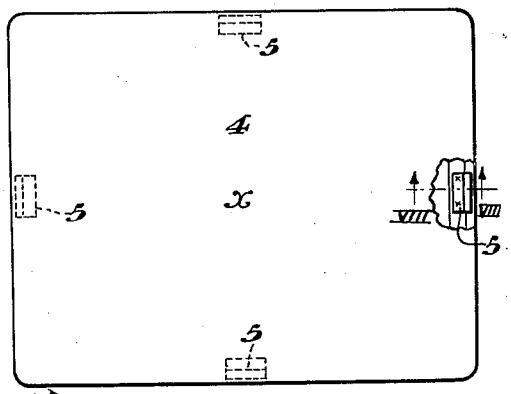


Fig. 7.

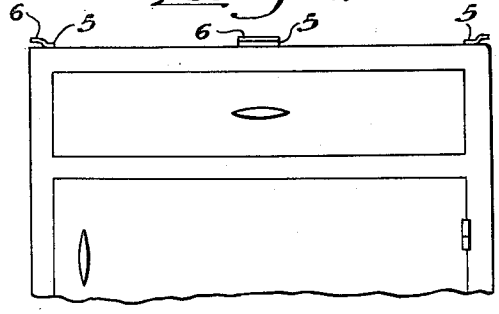


Fig. 4.

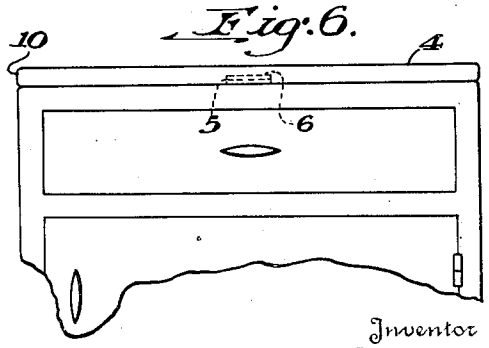


Fig. 6.

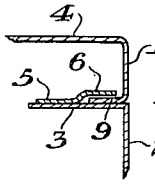


Fig. 8.

Inventor
STANLEY A. FLOWERS.

By C. M. Clarke
Attorney

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ATTACHABLE OR DETACHABLE TOP FOR FURNITURE

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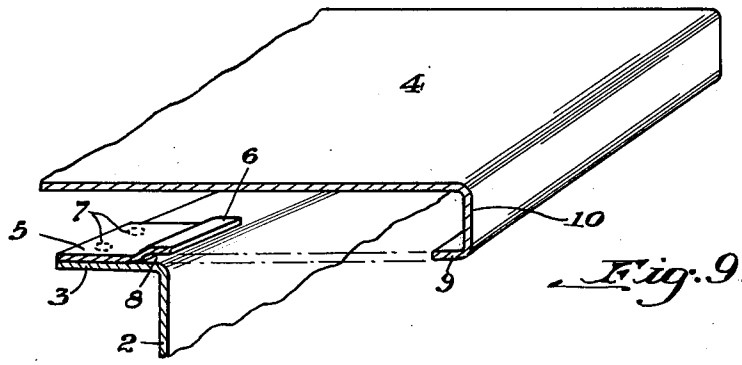
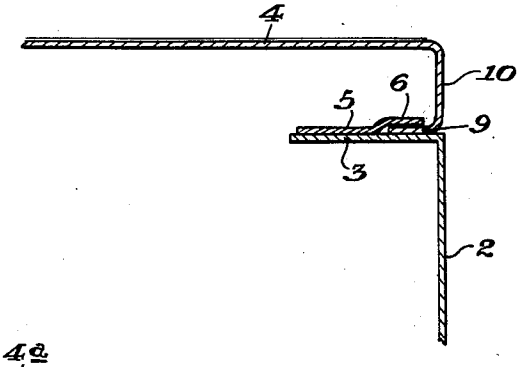


Fig. 9.

Fig. 10



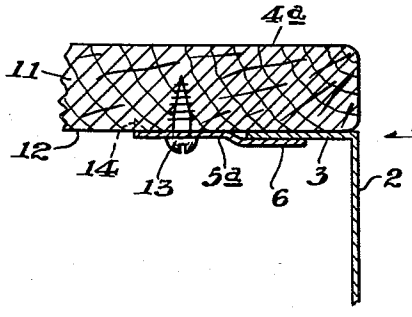


Fig. 11.

Inventor
STANLEY A. FLOWERS.

By C. M. Clarke

Attorney

Patented Feb. 20, 1951

2,542,648

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,542,648

ATTACHABLE OR DETACHABLE TOP FOR FURNITURE

Stanley A. Flowers, Oakmont, Pa., assignor to Walters Manufacturing Company, Oakmont, Pa., a corporation of Pennsylvania

Application January 30, 1947, Serial No. 725,287

1 Claim. (Cl. 220—55)

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This invention is an improvement in means for applying and securing covering tops, surfaced with or without porcelain or other suitable facing, to cabinet bases.

Ordinarily, as in present practice, such porcelain faced tops are made in several standard sizes, of varying thickness and lateral dimensions, by specialized manufacturers. They are then purchased by the cabinet builder for installation on his cabinets.

The cabinets themselves may be of light economical material, as wood or sheet metal, usually enameled, each preferably having a top closure, in the form of a covering top of comparatively light sheet metal material, provided with surfacing porcelain, or otherwise as preferred.

Ordinarily, a porcelain faced top is laid upon special board planking, interfitting with the sides, and anchored in position by wood screws or other means connecting the parts together. My construction eliminates all such means.

For illustration, I show a cabinet made of comparatively light sheet metal, providing sides and ends, and a covering flat top, with the usual door and interior fittings, not herein involved.

The top closure comprises, with the main cabinet, a suitable light sheet metal inwardly flanged top framing, together with a plurality of sets of holding clips and flanges. Such sets of clips may be applied on the cabinet upper edges, or on the top itself as preferred, as shall be more fully hereinafter described.

While the invention is not limited to any particular construction or design, one preferred form is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figs. 1, 2 and 3 are partial perspective views illustrating progressive stages of placement of the top in position on the cabinet.

Fig. 4 is a front view in elevation, of the upper portion of the cabinet, without the top.

Fig. 5 is a plan view of the same.

Fig. 6 is a view like Fig. 4, with the top in position.

Fig. 7 is a plan view of Fig. 6, with the top in position, the top being broken away to show one of the holding clips on the cabinet, as when interlocked.

Fig. 8 is an enlarged detail sectional view on the line VIII—VIII of Fig. 7, illustrating the clip interlock.

Fig. 9 is a composite perspective view of the cooperating clip members of the cabinet and top respectively, in spaced apart operative relationship.

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Fig. 10 is a further part sectional view showing the porcelain enameled top, or any top having an under flange in holding connection with the cabinet, by spot welded clips.

Fig. 11 is a similar view showing a modified construction in which the clip is applied to the under side of a solid top.

The cabinet walls 2 are shown as of sheet metal, terminating at the top in relatively narrow inwardly extending flanges 3.

The removable top comprises a sheet metal closure 4, of suitable thickness and rigidity for providing a durable and ornamental cover for the cabinet itself, and preferably provided with a porcelain applied facing.

At equally located positions on the terminal flanges 3 of the main front and side walls 2, are secured the stationary holding catches or fasteners, in the form of clips 5. These are made of thin sheet metal, each having a spaced flange 6 and secured to flange 3, as by spot welding at 7, to the continuous inner flanges 3, around the open center of the top of the cabinet.

Each clip 5 is provided, as stated, with an upwardly off-set blade or tongue 6 spaced beyond the upper surface of flange 3, providing the space 8 for reception of the inner flange 9 of the downwardly extending edge portion 10 of the top.

Such portions are integral with the main cover member 4, and are in positions to engage the several tongues or flanges 6 of clips 5.

A series of clips 5, as say four, are arranged on the upper inner edge flange portions 3 of the top of the cabinet, are engageable by the flange 9 of the removable porcelain covered top 4. Each of the clip series is spaced equi-distantly around an imaginary true center x, of each such top member.

The locking members or clips 5 are secured on inner flange 3 around the upper edge portion of the cabinet in proper positions for clamping engagement, as in Figs. 5 and 7, for connection by continuous flange 9 of the top, upon its rotation.

Thus, as in Figs. 1–3, the top is firmly pressed downwardly, and rotated to final holding position, or may be released by reverse rotation.

I show in Fig. 11 a modified construction in which the covering top may be merely a solid section 11, as of wood, with a surfaced top 4a and also a bottom surface 12.

In such construction the clips 5a may be reversed in position and secured to such lower surface 12, as by screws 13 and corner sharp

projections 14, driven in sufficiently to ensure against movement around the screw.

Initial clearance for the clips 5a is by locating the top diagonally cornerwise, as in Fig. 2.

In such arrangement, the flange 3a makes holding arrangement with the clip flange by rotation of the entire cover, in the same manner as illustrated in Figs. 1–3 inclusive.

It will be understood that the clip members are sufficiently resilient to easily become engaged and disengaged by the partial rotation of the cover, the weight of which, or manual pressure, is of assistance in both placement and removal.

When in location, the top cover member is of permanent appearance, and its separability and ease of application are of great advantage in manufacture of the two members separately, with a special economy in shipping and final assembly for merchandising.

While a porcelain finishing top surface is an attribute of value and attractiveness, any other surfacing may be utilized, for instance linoleum or other durable substitute.

The construction and use of the improved construction will be readily understood and appreciated by all those familiar with the art, providing as it does for simplicity and economy in manufacture of similar items, and in reducing cost of final assembly.

What I claim is:

A combination cabinet and top closure of sheet metal, comprising vertical walls defining a rectangular cabinet, a first flange extending horizontally inwardly from the top edges of said cabinet walls and defining a rectangular opening within the outline of said vertical walls, a horizontal closure of the size and shape of the rectangle defined by said cabinet walls, an edge portion extending downwardly from the edges of said closure, a second horizontal flange extending inwardly of said edge portion and in juxtaposition to said first flange, bent metal clips fastened to said first flange centrally of each of said cabinet walls, each of said clips having a portion fastened to said flange and a resilient tongue parallel to and spaced both vertically and horizontally from said portion, the free ends of said tongues extending outwardly of said cabinet and being spaced vertically from the surface of said first flange an amount less than the thickness of the second flange, said second flange extending under said tongues and to engage or disengage said flange by rotation of said closure about a vertical axis.

STANLEY A. FLOWERS.

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