United States Patent [19]

Stewart

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[54] **COUNTER FIXTURE**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **312/140.1,** 312/257 SK

[51] **Int. Cl.** **A47b 96/18,** A47b 43/00

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 312/140, 140.1, 140.3, 312/140.4, 257 SK, 257 A, 195, 107, 108, 204; 248/361 R, 19, 23, 25

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A counter fixture for financial transactions having a die, one or more cabinet members supported by a base member and a countertop with curbing supported by the die and cabinet members. The one or more cabinet members and base member are plumbed and leveled simultaneously prior to assembling the die and countertop thereto. The die when supported on the base is elevated from the floor surface and positioned adjacent the cabinets, thereby acquiring a plumbed and leveled condition from the previously plumbed and leveled base and cabinet members. The countertop being supported by aligned surfaces of the cabinets and the die is substantially plumbed and leveled upon assembly thereto.

13 Claims, 8 Drawing Figures

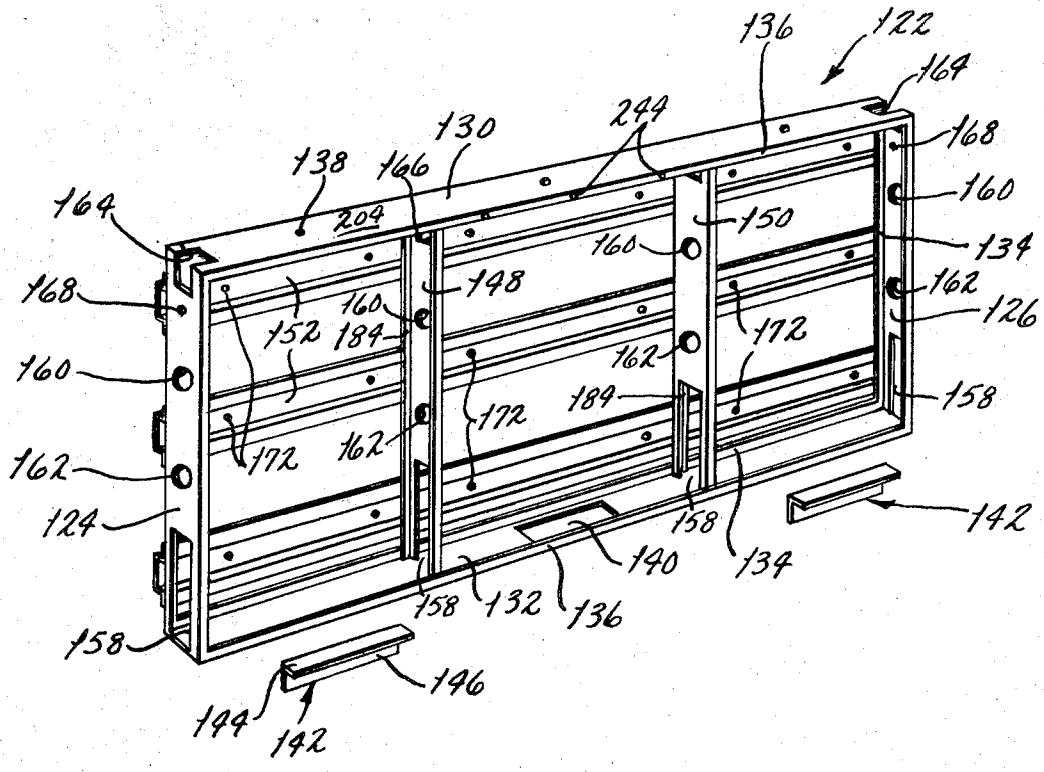


FIG. 1

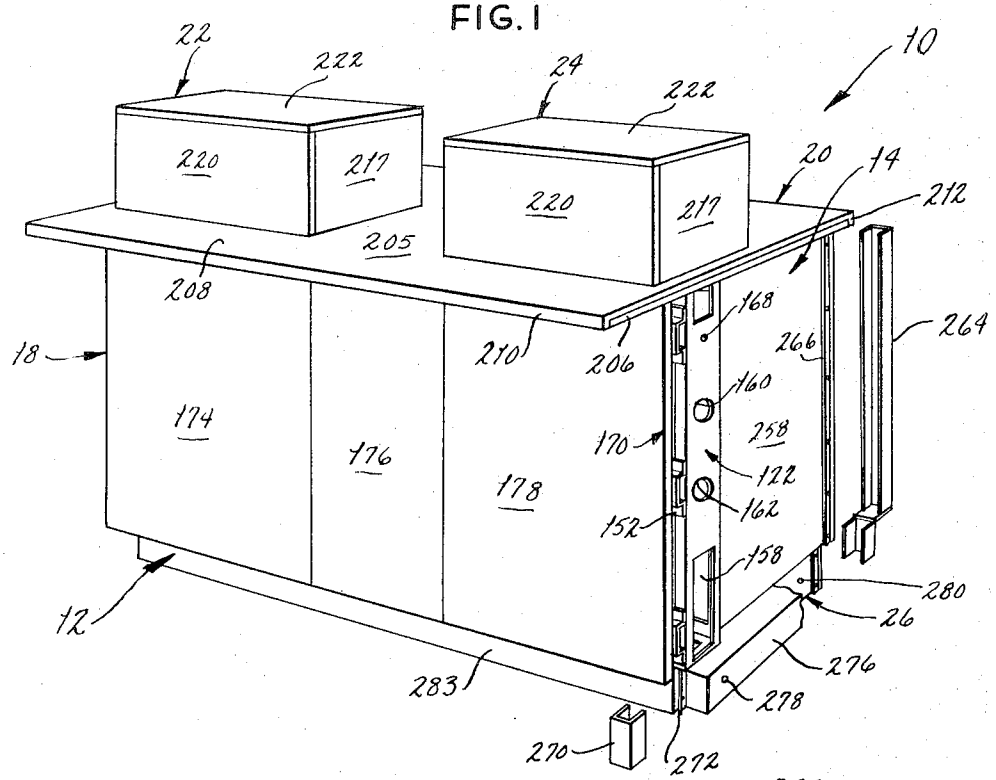

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FIG. 2

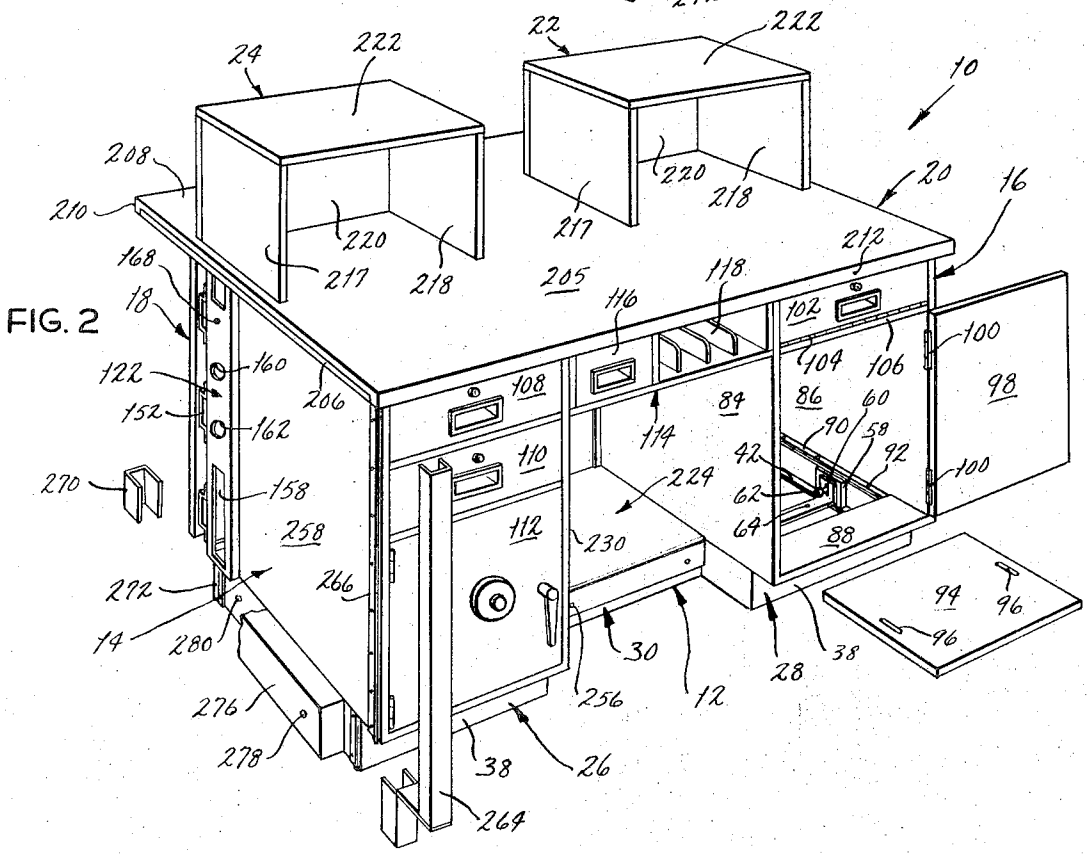

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FIG. 3

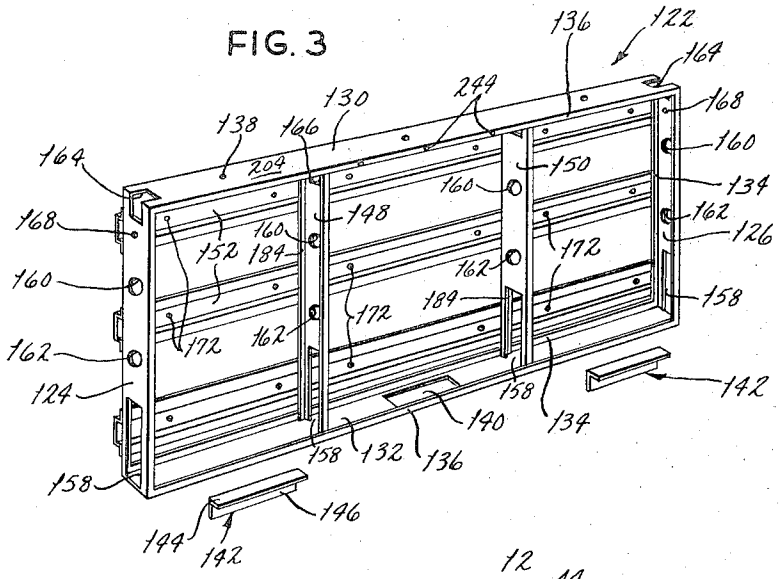


FIG. 4

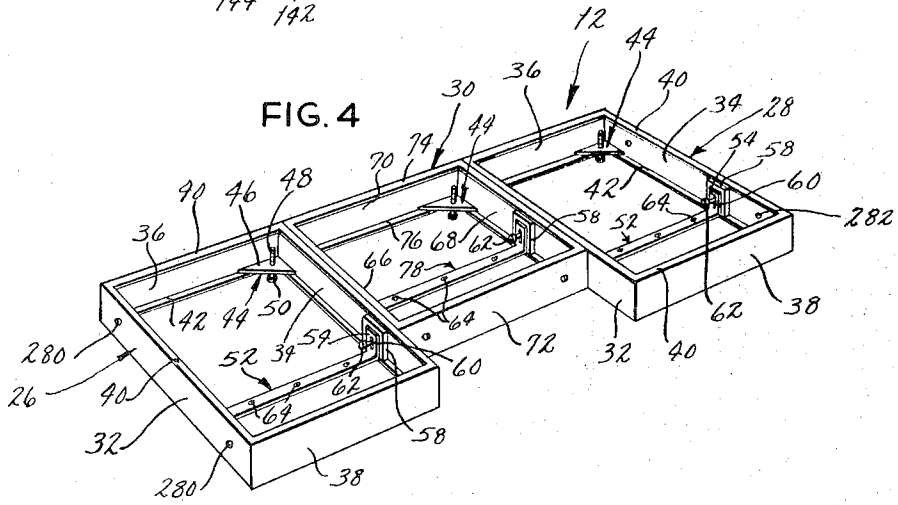
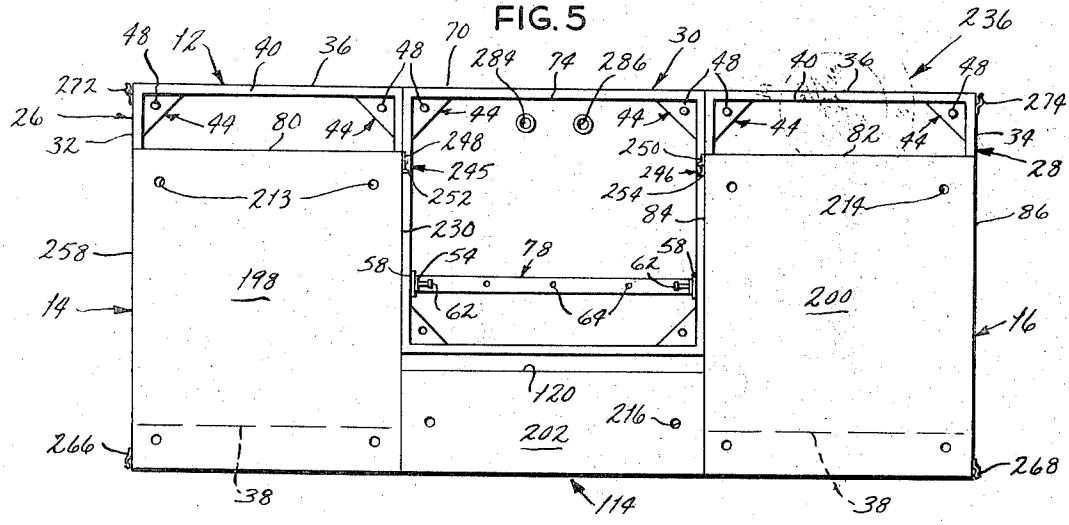


FIG. 5



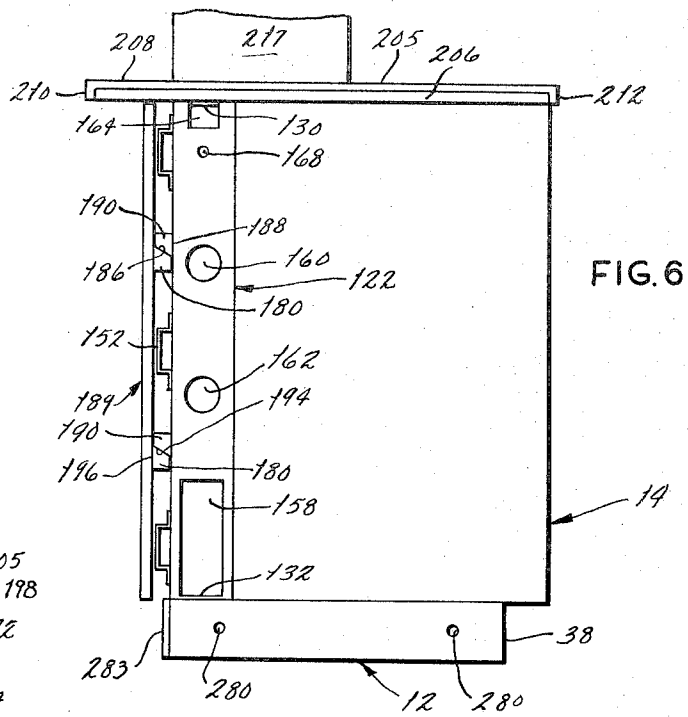
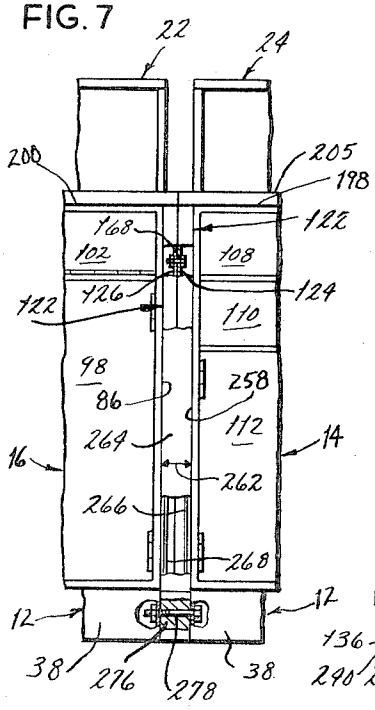


FIG. 6

FIG. 7



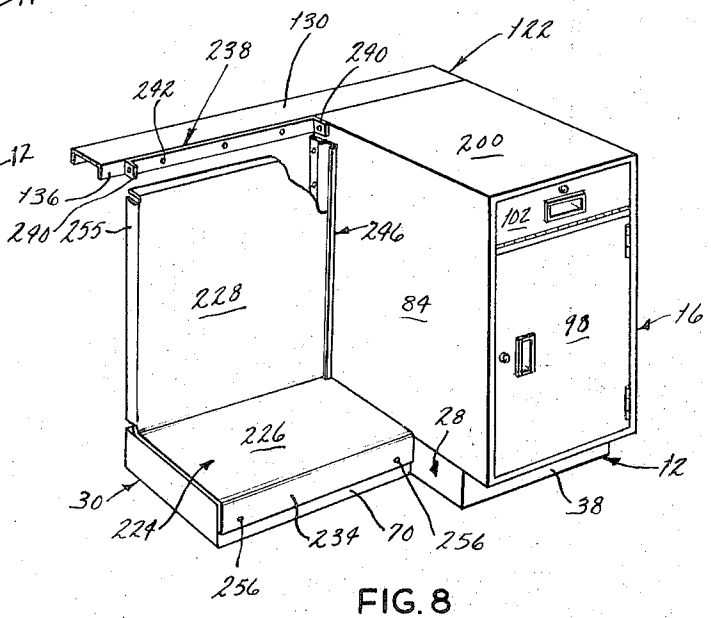


FIG. 8

COUNTER FIXTURE

This invention is directed to new and useful improvements in counter fixtures and more particularly to a counter fixture for use in financial transactions.

Counter fixtures of this type are generally massive structures that are usually immovable after installation in buildings and thus form a permanent part of the surroundings. Most counter fixtures reduced to their main components generally comprise one or more cabinets accessible to a clerk, teller or the like, a countertop supported by the cabinets and a front panel which faces the customer, generally known as a die.

As most counter fixtures are subject to long and continuous use, it is desirable that the components thereof be made of durable material having an aesthetically pleasing appearance. To this end the countertop generally includes a granite deal portion upon which transactions involving paper, coin, etc., are made. The durability of granite in resisting wear as well as marring and scratching is well-known. The front die is generally formed of marble, slate, granite, etc., with steel being the usual dominant cabinet material.

Although most counter fixture components are prefabricated, the die is generally custom fitted to the counter fixture at the final location of the fixture because the bottom edge of the die usually rests on a floor having individually distinct surface characteristics that render it an imperfect plane surface. The bottom edge of the die must therefore be shaped to properly engage the floor and to ensure that the die has adequate clearance from the countertop. One known conventional method for positioning a die in a counter fixture includes standing an edge of the die on the floor adjacent a countertop, sizing the die with respect to the height of the countertop, plumbing and leveling the die, and fastening the die to vertical steel backing members fixed onto the floor adjacent the counter cabinets. Such work is tedious and time-consuming. Furthermore, it is generally conventional practice to separately plumb and level each cabinet in a counter fixture as such cabinets are usually separately mounted directly onto a floor surface. In a multicabinet counter fixture this plumbing and leveling is a tedious operation since the cabinets must generally have corresponding heights and attitudes.

Among the several objects of the present invention may be noted the provision of a novel counter fixture; a novel counter fixture wherein only one plumbing and leveling operation is needed; a novel counter fixture having a novel die; a novel counter fixture having a novel base member; a novel counter fixture having a novel base member for supporting a die; a novel counter fixture having a novel base member for supporting cabinets and a die; a novel counter fixture having a novel truss subassembly for rendering the counter structure rigid; a novel counter fixture having a novel base member for simultaneously plumbing and leveling all cabinets within the fixture; a novel counter fixture having novel floor tie means for securing the fixture to the floor; a novel counter fixture having novel access panels for gaining access to the die and base member; a novel method for incorporating a die in a counter fixture; and a novel method for assembling a plurality of counter fixtures in side-by-side arrangement. Other objects and features will be in part apparent and in part pointed out hereinafter.

The present invention relates to a novel counter fixture for use in financial transactions. The fixture comprises one or more cabinets and a die commonly supported on a single base member.

In the preferred embodiment of my invention the base member includes three generally rectangular base frames welded together in side-by-side relationship to form a rigid platform. Cabinet structure or the like are positioned on and secured to the base frames such that a portion of the base member extends beyond the rear surfaces of the cabinets. The cabinets and base member are then plumbed and leveled simultaneously as a unit and tie straps associated with the individual base frames are fastened to the floor to anchor the base member to the floor. A die including a die frame is then disposed onto the extended portion of the base member such that the bottom of the die frame rests on the extended portion of the base. The die facing or skin is fastened to the die frame and need not be supported by the floor. Thus the die facing is elevated above floor level. A rigid tie strap, secured at opposite ends to the cabinets, fastens to the die to lock the die against the cabinets. Since the cabinets and base member have already been plumbed and leveled there is no need to repeat this operation for the die because it is installed onto the already leveled base. Under this arrangement the die and cabinets form a support surface for the countertop which is fastened thereto. Curbing members are then secured to the countertop.

The invention accordingly comprises the constructions and methods hereinafter described, the scope of the invention being indicated in the following claims.

In the accompanying drawings, in which several of various possible embodiments of the invention are illustrated,

FIG. **1** is a front perspective view of a counter fixture incorporating the present invention;

FIG. **2** is a rear perspective view thereof;

FIG. **3** is a perspective view of the counter fixture die frame with bottom locating brackets exploded therefrom;

FIG. **4** is a perspective view of the counter fixture base member;

FIG. **5** is a top plan view of the counter fixture with the countertop, die and base panels removed;

FIG. **6** is a side view of a counter fixture showing another embodiment of the die of the present invention;

FIG. **7** is a fragmentary rear view partly shown in section of two counter fixtures assembled in side-by-side arrangement; and

FIG. **8** is a fragmentary perspective view of the counter fixture with the countertop removed.

Corresponding reference characters indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views of the drawings.

Referring to the drawings for a detailed description of the present invention, a counter fixture incorporating one embodiment thereof is generally indicated by reference numeral **10.** Counter fixture **10** comprises a base member **12** arranged to support a pair of cabinet members **14** and **16** in spaced relationship thereon. Counter fixture **10** also includes a die **18** supported on base **12** adjacent cabinets **14** and **16.** Die **18** and cabinets **14** and **16** extend to approximately the same height to support a generally rectangular countertop member **20** that spans cabinet members **14** and **16** and

die **18**. A pair of spaced identical curbing members **22** and **24** are disposed on countertop member **20**.

Base member **12** comprises a pair of identical generally rectangular outer frame members **26, 28,** joined to an inner frame member **30**. Frame members **26, 28,** and **30** are formed of any suitable material such as steel. Frame member **26** includes spaced parallel opposite side wall portions **32, 34** and front and rear wall portions **36, 38,** which wall portions all have upper and lower flanges generally indicated by reference numbers **40** and **42,** respectively. A leveling member **44** is provided in each corner of frame member **26** and comprises a gusset **46** welded to lower flange **42,** which gusset includes leveling bolt **48** threadably secured therein in a conventional manner. Leveling bolt **48** includes a head **50** at one end thereof for engagement with a floor surface.

Frame **26** also includes a rigid floor tie strap **52** formed of steel, for instance, having right angle end portions **54, 54,** respectively fastened to blocks **58, 58** welded to side wall portions **32** and **34**. Right angle end portions **54, 54** each include an elongated slot **60** through which a strap height fastener **62** threadably engages blocks **58, 58**. Floor tie strap **52** also includes spaced holes **64** provided therein intermediate right angle end portions **54, 54**. Outer frame member **28,** being identical to outer frame member **26,** is provided with reference numbers that correspond to those of outer frame **26**.

Inner frame member **30** is constructed similarly to outer frame members **26** and **28** and includes spaced and parallel side wall portions **68, 68,** which are shorter than the corresponding side wall portions **32, 34** of outer frame members **26** and **28,** to which inner frame **30** is joined as by welding, for instance. Outer and inner frames **26, 28, 30** thus form a rigid unitary base member **12**. Inner frame **30** also includes front and rear wall portions **70, 72,** and upper and lower flanges **74, 76,** respectively similar to upper and lower flanges **40, 42,** of outer frame member **26**. Inner frame member **30** further includes a floor tie strap **78** similar to floor tie strap **52** and identical corner leveling members **44,** previously described.

Cabinet members **14** and **16,** which are formed of any suitable material such as steel, are each disposed on a respective outer frame member **26, 28,** such that a portion of base member **12** extends beyond back walls **80** and **82** of cabinets **14** and **16** a predetermined amount as most clearly seen in FIG. **5**. It will also be noted that cabinets **14** and **16** overhang rear wall portions **38, 38,** of outer frame members **26, 28**. Cabinet **16** includes side walls **84, 86,** that are aligned with side wall portions **32, 34** of base frame **28**. Cabinet side walls **84, 86** are joined by a lower ledge **88,** the side walls and lower ledge having a lower flange portion **90** that is of complementary configuration with upper flange **40** of outer frame member **28**. Cabinet **16** is secured to outer frame member **28** by bolting complementary flanges **40** and **90** together or by mechanically fastening the flanges together with fasteners **92** extending therethrough.

Cabinet **16** further includes a base panel **94** spanning cabinet side walls **84, 86**. Panel **94** is sized for a detachable slip fit on flange **90** being held in place thereon by gravity and includes gripping recesses **96** for holding and lifting purposes. Cabinet **16** also includes a door **98** hinged to wall **86** with hinges **100** and an upper flap **102** hinged with a hinge **104** to a divider panel **106**. Latching or locking means (not shown) can be provided on door **98** and wall **84**.

Cabinet **14,** which has exterior dimensions that substantially correspond with those of cabinet **16,** is arranged on outer frame member **26** in the same manner that cabinet **16** is arranged on outer frame member **28**. Cabinet **14** has compartments and cabinet components that differ from those of cabinet **16** as evidenced by provision of drawers **108, 110** and safe **112**. However, although not shown, cabinet **14** includes a lower ledge and lower flange securing arrangement identical to that previously described for cabinet **16**. Cabinet **14** also includes a removable base panel identical to base panel **94** of cabinet **16**.

A cabinet component **114** comprising a drawer **116** and a partitioned compartment **118** is joined to cabinets **14** and **16** in any suitable conventional manner. Cabinet component **114** is disposed over inner frame **30** free from connection therewith and includes a back wall **120** that is recessed from back walls **80** and **82** of cabinets **14** and **16**.

Die **18** comprises a die frame **122** of generally rectangular shape and formed of any suitable material such as steel. Die frame **122** comprises oppositely disposed side pieces **124** and **126** joined to upper and lower cross pieces **130** and **132**. Side pieces **124, 126** and upper and lower cross pieces **130, 132,** are provided with front and rear flanges generally indicated by reference numbers **134, 136**. Upper cross piece **130** includes countertop fastener holes **138** whereas lower cross piece **132** is provided with a generally rectangular conduit opening **140** intermediate side pieces **124, 126**. Lower cross piece **132** is also provided with a pair of spaced L-shaped brackets **142, 142** having one leg **144** arranged to be welded or fastened to cross piece **132** such that the other leg **146** depends below lower cross piece **132**. A pair of spaced and parallel lateral members **148** and **150** are joined to upper and lower cross pieces **130** and **132** intermediate side pieces **124** and **126**. Side pieces **124, 126** and lateral members **18, 150** are each provided with aligned generally rectangular access apertures **158** adjacent lower cross piece **132** and aligned pairs of spaced circular conduit openings **160, 162** intermediate access aperture **158** and upper cross piece **130**. Corner access apertures **164, 164** of square shape are provided at the junction of side pieces **124, 126** and upper cross piece **130,** and are in alignment with upper square access apertures **166** in lateral members **148, 150**. Side pieces **124, 126** also include frame fastener holes **168, 168** provided intermediate corner access apertures **164, 164** and circular conduit openings **160, 162,** respectively.

Die **18** further comprises three spaced and parallel channel-shaped longitudinal members **152** joined by welding to side pieces **124, 126** and lateral members **148, 150,** intermediate upper and lower cross pieces **130, 132**. A die facing **170** formed of marble or any other suitable material is fastened to longitudinal channel members **152** by means of fasteners (not shown) provided in die facing fastener holes **172** of said longitudinal channel members. Die facing **170** can be formed as one piece or several pieces as indicated by marble skins **174, 176** and **178** arranged in side-by-side relationship, such that each marble skin forms a continuation of the other skin. Skins **174, 176, 178** collectively extend from side piece **124** of frame **122** to side

piece 126 and also extend from lower cross piece 132 toward upper cross piece 130, being spaced below upper cross piece 130 a predetermined amount.

In another embodiment of a die as shown in FIG. 6, die frame 122 is provided with identical elongated slats 180, 180 secured to flange 134 of frame 122 and flanges 184 of lateral members 148, 150. Each slat 180 extends the length of longitudinal members 152 and includes a surface 186 downwardly inclined toward die frame 122 such that a nest opening 188 is defined by the space between surface 186 and die frame 122. A one-piece die facing 189 is similarly provided with identical slats 190, 190 secured thereto by fasteners or adhesive. Slats 190, 190 are equivalent in length to and are of complementary configuration with slats 180, 180. Each slat 190 includes a surface 194 that is inclined upwardly toward die facing 189, complementing the downwardly inclined surface 186 of slat 180. A nest opening 196 similar to nest opening 188 is defined by the space between inclined surface 194 and die facing 189. With die facing 189 in mounted position on die frame 122, inclined surface 186 of slat 180 engages nest opening 196 of slat 190 and inclined surface 194 of slat 190 engages nest opening 188 of slat 180. Under this arrangement the force of gravity maintains die facing 189 in mounted position on die frame 122. If desired, slats 180 and 190 can be sized to permit die facing 189 to bear against longitudinal channel members 152 when slats 180 and 190 are nestably engaged as described. Die facing 189 and die frame 122 can thus be assembled and detached without tools. A multi-skin die facing such as skins 174, 176, 178 can be constructed according to the embodiment of FIG. 6 by providing each skin with slats (not shown) formed to extend an amount corresponding to the respective skin size.

Cabinets 14 and 16, cabinet component 114 and die frame 122 include top surfaces 198, 200, 202 and 204 arranged to form a support surface for countertop 20. Countertop 20 comprises a counter surface 205 formed of any suitable material such as granite. A backing material 206 such as particle board of substantially the same dimensions as counter surface 205 is bonded thereto. Countertop 20 includes a customer ledge 208 projecting beyond die 18 and front and rear flanges 210, 212, depending from counter surface 205 an amount substantially equivalent to the thickness of backing material 206. Countertop 20 is secured to surfaces 198, 200, 202 and 204 by fasteners (not shown) disposed in holes 213, 214, 216 and 138, and which fasteners engage backing material 206.

Curbing members 22, 24 are formed of any suitable material such as marble and each comprise side walls 217, 218 joined to a front wall 220 and a top wall 222 spanning the front and side walls 217, 218. Curbing members 22, 24, are secured to counter surface 205 in a conventional manner as by bonding or fastening.

Counter fixture 10 also includes a generally L-shaped knee-space component 224 formed of any suitable material such as steel. Knee-space component 224 is arranged for disposition on inner base frame 30 and comprises a base panel 226 joined to a back panel 228, which panels extend between side walls 230 and 84 of cabinets 14 and 16. Knee-space component 224 also includes a flange 234 depending from base panel 226.

Counter fixture 10 is generally prefabricated and suitable for on site assembly in a bank, office or the like. It has been found desirable to preassemble base member 12, cabinets 14, 16 and cabinet component 114 to form a rigid truss subassembly 236 (FIG. 5) before delivering these items to their on site location. This saves on site assembly time and enables truss subassembly 236 to be plumbed and leveled as a unit. During the plumbing and leveling procedure base panels 94, 94 are removed from cabinets 14, 16 to permit access to corner leveling members 44 and floor tie straps 52, 52. Plumbing and leveling of truss subassembly 236 requires adjustment of only those leveling bolts 48 adjacent wall 32 of outer frame 26 and wall 34 of outer frame 28. The remaining leveling bolts 48 are adjusted to provide supplemental support after truss subassembly 236 has been plumbed and leveled. Strap height fasteners 62 are then loosened to permit floor tie straps 52, 52 and 78 to engage a floor surface, such that fasteners (not shown) disposed in holes 64 can anchor the tie straps to the floor. Strap height fasteners 62 are tightened to prevent relative movement between tie straps 52, 52, 78 and base member 12, and base panels 94, 94 are redisposed in cabinets 14 and 16.

Base member 12 extends beyond back walls 80, 82 of cabinets 14, 16 an amount approximately equivalent to the width of lower cross piece 132 of die frame 122. Die 18 is disposed on this extension portion of base member 12 adjacent back walls 80, 82 of cabinets 14, 16. In this position of die 18, bracket legs 146, 146 of brackets 142, 142 abut upper flanges 40, 40 of outer base frames 26, 28, thereby restraining movement of die 18 away from cabinets 14, 16. Die 18 is further secured in position by a rigid tie strap 238 formed of steel, for instance, having right angle end portions 240 fastened to side walls 230, 84 of cabinets 14, 16. Flange 136 of die frame 122 is secured to tie strap 238 by fasteners (not shown) disposed in holes 242 and 244 of the die strap and flange, respectively. Die facing 170, owing its support on counter fixture 10 to die frame 122, is free from connection with base member 12 and maintained in an elevated position above the floor surface. Die facing 170 also projects forwardly of base member 12 to avoid interference therewith. Die 18 need not be plumbed or leveled because this operation has previously been performed on truss subassembly 236. Once die 18 has been installed, countertop 20 is shimmed level before being fastened to cabinets 14, 16, cabinet component 114 and cross piece 130 of die frame 122. Knee-space component 224 is held in position by elongated spring clips 245, 246 having strip portions 248, 250, secured to cabinets 14, 16 and resilient deflectable channel portions 252, 254 biased against side flanges 255 of back panel 228. Depending flange 234 of base panel 226 is fastened to front wall portion 70 of inner base frame 30 with fasteners 256.

A plurality of counter fixtures 10 can be assembled next to each other in side-by-side arrangement suCh that die facing 170 and countertop 20 of one counter fixture 10 are substantially continuous with the same components of an adjacent counter fixture 10. In assembling a row of counter fixtures 10, front and rear portions 36, 38 of each base member 12 are aligned, and truss assemblies 236 are plumbed and leveled, leveling bolts 48 being adjusted so that there are no steps between cabinet top surfaces 198, 200 of adjacent counter fixtures. After all truss subassemblies 236 in a single row of counter fixtures have been aligned, plumbed and leveled, dies 18, countertops 20, curbing

members 22, 24 and knee-space component 224 are installed.

One desirable way of arranging counter fixtures 10 in side-by-side arrangement is to form die frame 122 and countertop 20 to project beyond sides 258 and 86 of cabinets 14, 16 a predetermined amount as most clearly shown in FIG. 7. Thus when adjacent die frames 122 and countertops 20 abut there is a space 262 between cabinets 14 and 16 and also between base members 12 of adjacent counter fixtures 10.

A double L channel-shaped rear filler panel 264 is positioned in space 262 between base members 12 and cabinets 14, 16 of adjacent counter fixtures 10. Filler panel 264 is held in position by frictional engagement with spring pieces 266, 268 and sides 86, 258 of cabinets 14, 16 to which spring pieces 266, 268 are secured. Panel 264 can be installed or detached without tools and bridges space 262 to form a continuation surface between cabinets 14, 16 of adjacent counter fixtures 10. A straight channel-shaped front filler panel 270 is similarly installed in space 262 between adjacent base members 12 at the front of counter fixture 10. Filler panel 270 is held in position by engageable spring pieces 272 and 274 (similar to spring pieces 266, 268) on side wall portions 32 and 34 of adjacent outer base frames 26, 28 of adjacent counter fixtures 10. Wood blocks 276 having holes 278 are also disposed in space 262 between adjacent base members 12. Base member 12 of one counter fixture 10 is drawn toward base member 12 of another counter fixture 10 by adjusting fasteners (not shown) extending through holes 278 of block 276 and holes 280, 282 of outer frames 26 and 28. Block 276 serves to limit the drawing movement of one base member 12 toward another base member 12 and also helps to maintain side walls 32 and 24 of adjacent outer base frames 26 and 28 parallel to each other. After base members 12, 12 have been drawn together a predetermined amount, truss subassemblies 236 are plumbed, leveled and tied to the floor through tie straps 52 and 78. Die frames 122, 122 are mounted on base members 12, 12 in abutting relationship and secured together by fasteners (not shown) in holes 168 of side pieces 124, 126. Countertops 20, 20, knee-space component 224 and filler panels 264, 270 are then installed. If desired a cover material such as vinyl 283 can be secured to front wall portions 36, 36, 72 of outer and inner base frames 26, 28 and 30.

Telephone and electrical conduit 284 and 286 are supplied to counter fixture 10 through opening 140 in lower cross piece 132 of frame 122. Conduit 284 and 286 can be arranged in branches (not shown) that are supported in aligned openings 160, 162 of side pieces 124, 126 and lateral members 148, 150, which openings are also arranged to align with corresponding openings in die frames 122 of adjacent counter fixtures 10. Thus no special holding attachments are needed to position or hold conduits 284, 286. Access apertures 158, 164, 166 facilitate installation and servicing of the electrical and telephone conduit as well as installation of die frame 122.

As will be apparent to those skilled in the art the size and shape of counter fixture 10 can be varied in many ways, some of which include varying the size and shape of base frames 26, 28, 30 or cabinets 14, 16, or by adding an extra base frame and cabinet combination (not shown) to either or both outer base frames 26, 28. This addition can be made by fastening the extra base frame and cabinet combination to front wall 36 of base frames 26, 28 after base member 12 has been plumbed and leveled. Countertop 20 can be similarly varied in shape to correspond to the added cabinets.

Some advantages of the novel counter fixture evident from the foregoing description include a multi-cabinet counter fixture structure that requires only one plumbing and leveling operation and has a die facing that is elevated from the floor. Other advantages include a base member for supporting more than one cabinet, which base member can simultaneously plumb and level all cabinets supported thereon. The base member also serves as a nucleus for adding extra base members and cabinet components thereto. Still other advantages include a die structure having a die frame for supporting a die facing, which die can be adapted to detachably hold a die facing without fasteners and which die frame supports telephone and electrical conduit.

In view of the above, it will be seen that the several objects of the invention are achieved and other advantageous results attained.

As various changes could be made in the above constructions and methods without departing from the scope of the invention, it is intended that all matter contained in the above description or shown in the accompanying drawings shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

What is claimed is:

1. In a counter fixture having a base and a first cabinet member having front and rear wall portions supported on the base with the base extending beyond the rear wall portion of said cabinet member to define a ledge portion of said base, characterized by a die member comprising an outer die frame having interconnected bracing members, at least one side of said die member being disposed on said ledge portion, attaching means on said die frame and said base for locating and returning said die frame on said base in a predetermined position, said die member also having a die facing and interconnecting means projecting from said die frame and die facing for joining said die facing to said die frame and to space said die facing from said die frame with a lower free edge portion of said die facing spaced from said base and a floor when said die frame is disposed on said ledge.

2. A counter fixture as claimed in claim 1 wherein said die member and said first cabinet member extend upwardly from said base platform member to a predetermined common height to form a supporting surface, and counter top means disposed on said supporting surface.

3. A counter fixture as claimed in claim 1 wherein said base platform member includes adjustable leveling means for simultaneously adjusting said base platform member and said first cabinet member to a plumbed and level condition on a floor surface.

4. A counter fixture as claimed in claim 3 wherein said base platform member includes floor tie means for anchoring said base platform member to a floor surface after said base platform member and said first cabinet member have been placed in a plumbed and level condition.

5. A counter fixture as claimed in claim 1 wherein a second cabinet member is supported on said base platform member in spaced relationship from said first cabinet member such that said ledge portion extends beyond said second cabinet member and said die member

spans the space between said first and second cabinet members.

6. A counter fixture as claimed in claim **5** wherein said base member includes an inner base member component and a pair of oppositely disposed outer base member components rigidly secured to said inner base member component in side by side relationship, said first cabinet member being supported on one of said outer base member components and said second cabinet member being supported on the other said outer base member component.

7. A counter fixture as claimed in claim **5** wherein said first and second cabinet members are rigidly secured to said base platform member, said counter fixture further including a bracing member spaced from said base platform and rigidly interconnecting said first and second cabinet members, said first and second cabinet members, said bracing member and said base platform member forming the rigid framework of a truss structure.

8. A counter fixture as claimed in claim **5** wherein said die member is disposed adjacent said first and second cabinet members, said counter fixture further including attachment means for securing said die member to said first and second cabinet members.

9. A counter fixture as claimed in claim **1** wherein said connecting means detachably connect said die facing to said die frame.

10. A counter fixture as claimed in claim **9** wherein said die frame includes nesting means having a nesting portion for supporting said die facing, said die facing including nest-engaging means for disposition on said nesting portion to detachably interconnect said die facing to said die frame.

11. A counter fixture as claimed in claim **10** wherein said nesting portion includes a nest opening, said nest-engaging means including a nest-engaging portion of complementary shape with said nest opening for detachable insertion in said nest opening.

12. A counter fixture as claimed in claim **1** wherein said die frame includes entry openings for electrical conduit.

13. A counter fixture as claimed in claim **1** wherein said die facing is formed of a slab of inorganic material.

* * * * *

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Patent No. 3,829,187 Dated August 13, 1974

Inventor(s) Harry M. Stewart

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent are hereby corrected as shown below:

On the title page, after "[76]", insert -- Assignee: Bank Building & Equipment Corporation of America, St. Louis, Missouri --.

On the title page, reference "1,946,633 302/140.1" should read -- 1,946,533 312/140.1 --.

Column 4, line 41, "18,150" should read -- 148,150 --.

Column 6, line 37, "die strap" should read -- tie strap --.

line 56, "suCh" should read -- such --.

line 62, "assemblies" should read -- subassemblies --.

Column 7, line 35, "32 and 24" should read -- 32 and 34 --.

Column 8, line 38, "returning" should read -- retaining --.

Column 9, line 4, "base member" should read -- base platform member --.

Signed and sealed this 29th day of October 1974.

(SEAL)
Attest:

McCOY M. GIBSON JR.
Attesting Officer

C. MARSHALL DANN
Commissioner of Patents

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