The present invention relates to cabinets adapted for the dispensing of nested paper drinking cups and other articles.

An object of the invention is to provide a dispensing cabinet for enclosing and protecting a stack of cups and the like, and which will permit convenient access to the cups for individual withdrawal thereof and for replacement of the stack.

Another object is to provide a cup dispensing cabinet which can be rested in stable position on a flat-topped support, such as a table, desk or counter, without requiring the use of attaching means.

A further object is to provide a dispensing cabinet which is of simple and durable construction and which can be economically manufactured.

Still another object is to perfect details of construction generally.

The invention further consists in the several features hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing, illustrating one specific embodiment of the invention:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of a cup dispensing cabinet constructed in accordance with the invention;

Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation taken generally along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, an open position of a swingable cover or casing member of the cabinet being shown in dotted lines;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary sectional elevation taken generally along the line 3—3 of Fig. 1, the cover being shown in open position;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary sectional elevation taken generally along the line 4—4 of Fig. 2, the cups being omitted;

Fig. 5 is a bottom view of the cabinet;

Fig. 6 is a sectional view taken generally along the line 6—6 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 7 is a top view of the cabinet base, and

Fig. 8 is a detail elevation of a cushion stop for the cover, parts being broken away and parts being shown in section.

In the drawing, 10 designates a flat-topped base frame of rounded contour having an opening 11 in its top wall and a downturned marginal flange 12, the base frame being preferably pressed from heavy sheet metal. Mounted at the underside of the base frame and within the marginal flange are two heavy sheet metal plates 13 and 14 arranged one below the other and spot welded or otherwise secured together. The top plate 13 has a central front extension 15 which is spot welded or otherwise secured to the base frame, and both plates have reduced rear tongues 16 which are soldered or otherwise secured at 17 to the base frame.

The base frame 18 and plates 13 and 14 form a base or support for the cabinet. The plate 13 and the edges of the base frame opening 11 define a shallow flat-bottom recess or cavity adapted to receive therein the lower edges of an upright sheet metal casing member 18 of rounded trough-shaped cross-section, the casing member being open along its front and having a hood-like top portion 19. The casing member is rigidly secured to the base by screws 20 which pass through the plates 13 and 14 and engage angles 21 spot welded or otherwise secured to the lower inner walls of the casing member at the rear and opposite sides of the casing member. The screws 20 also secure in place a marginally flanged bottom plate 22 which fits within the flanged base member and constitutes a part of the base. The plate 22 has riveted thereto a plurality of cup-shaped buttons or feet 23, preferably of rubber, two of these feet being mounted at the rear of the plate and the other two being mounted on spaced front extensions of the plate.

The casing member 18 is closed at its front by an upright marginally flanged complementary casing member 24 of trough-shaped cross-section. The casing member 24 forms a hinged cover or closure and when closed is adapted to lap the front edges of the casing member 18. An angle bracket 25 formed of heavy sheet metal has its vertical front portion spot welded or otherwise secured to the inner face of the cover-forming casing member 24 adjacent to the lower end of this casing member, and has a rearwardly projecting platform portion 26. A metal strap 27 is spot welded or otherwise transversely secured to the bottom face of the bracket and has spaced downturned vertical ears 28 which pass through parallel slots 29 formed in the top wall of the base frame. The ears 28 extend along the outer sides of downturned ears 30 formed on the front extension 15 of the plate 13, and have forwardly projecting lower portions, Fig. 3, which are pivotally secured to the ears 30 by a hinge pin 31. The cover-forming casing member is swingable forwardly about the hinge pin to the inclined open position seen in Fig. 3, the front ends of the slots 29 forming stops engageable by the ears 28 to limit the opening movement. The cover or casing member 24 is provided at its upper portion with a handle 32 by which it may be swung to its open position. The closing movement of the cover is cushioned by a rubber
bumper 33 which for convenience in manufact-
ure may be identical with the rubber feet 23.
The bumper is riveted to a sheet metal support-
ings plate 34, Fig. 6, having notches 35 at op-
oposite sides. A sheet metal mounting plate 36 is
spot welded or otherwise secured to the under
side of the hood portion 18 of the casing mem-
ber 18 adjacent to the front edge of this casing
member. The mounting plate is provided at op-
opposite sides with bendable lugs 37 which are
adapted to enter the notches of the bumper
plate 34, thus permitting easy attachment of the
bumper to the casing member and avoiding pro-
jections at the outer side of the casing member.

Secured to the rearwardly projecting portion
26 of the cover bracket 25, as by spot welding, is
a hat-shaped sheet metal cup-retaining member
38 having inclined shouldered side walls, Fig. 3.
A stack of nested inverted paper cups A are sup-
ported on the retaining member 38, as seen in
Fig. 2, the shape of the retaining member per-
mitting cups of various sizes to be accommo-
dated.

When the cup dispensing cabinet is in use, it
is rested on a suitable tabular support 39, such
as a table, desk or counter, the rubber feet 23
preventing marring of finished surfaces and re-
sisting sliding movement. The weight of the base
holds the cabinet in a stable upright position.
The weight of the cover bracket 25 and
other cover-supported parts at the rear of the
vertical plane of the hinge pin 31 holds the cover
or swingable casing member in its normal closed
position, thus enclosing and protecting the cups in
the container or receptacle formed by the cas-
ing members.

When a cup is desired the cover or casing mem-
ber 24 is swung by its handle 32 to the inclined
open position shown by dotted lines in Fig. 2, and
by full lines in Fig. 3, the stack of cups being
swingable outwardly with the cover. The cover
will be retained in its open position, as its cen-
ter of weight is then forward of the vertical plane
of the hinge pin 31. The uppermost cup is re-
moved from the inclined stack, and the cover is
then swung rearwardly to its closed position.
In the final part of its closing movement the
cover is urged rearwardly by its unbalanced
weight, and when the cover reaches its closed
position it is cushioned by the rubber bumper 33.

While one specific embodiment of the inven-
tion has been shown and described, modifications
and variations may be resorted to without depar-
ting from the spirit of the invention.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by
Letters Patent is:

1. In a dispensing cabinet, a base adapted to
be rested on a support, a pair of complementary
upright casing members on said base adapted to
form a receptacle for enclosing therein a stack of
nested inverted cups to be dispensed from above,
one of said casing members being pivotally
mounted about a transverse axis at the lower
portion for outward swinging movement to per-
mit access to said stack, and means carried by
said pivotally mounted casing member for sup-
porting said stack of cups from below, said means
having a cup-retaining part adapted to extend
into the lowermost inverted cup.

2. In a dispensing cabinet, a base adapted to be
lowered from a support, a casing member fixed on
said base and having an open front, a cover for
said open front pivotally mounted on said base
and swingable about a transverse axis to open
and closed positions, said casing member and
cover forming a receptacle for enclosing therein
a stack of articles to be dispensed, and means
carried by said cover at its lower portion and
extending into said casing member for support-
ing said stack from below, said stack-supporting
cover when near its closed position having its
center of weight spaced rearwardly of the ver-
tical plane of said axis to urge said cover to said
closed position.

3. In a dispensing cabinet for nested cups and
the like, a base, and a pair of complementary up-
right casing members on said base adapted to
form a receptacle for enclosing therein a stack of
nested cups, one of said casing members being
pivotally mounted about a transverse axis at the
lower portion thereof for outward swinging
movement to permit access to said stack, said
swingable casing member having a bracket at its
lower portion with a cup-retaining projection on
which the stack of cups is supported.

4. In a dispensing cabinet, an apertured base,
a casing member secured to said base and having
an open front, and a cover for said open front
having ears at its lower end projecting through
said base and pivotally secured to said base, said
base having stop abutments limiting the outward
swinging movement of said cover, said casing
member and cover forming a receptacle for en-
closing therein a stack of articles to be dispensed,
said cover being swingable outwardly for ac-
cess to said stack.

5. In a dispensing cabinet, a base having a top
wall with a recess presenting side edges, a casing
member of trough-shaped cross-section having
an open front and having its lower edges fitting
in said recess, means for securing said casing
member to said base, and a cover for the open
front of said casing member and forming with
said member a receptacle for enclosing therein
a stack of articles to be dispensed, said cover being
pivotally mounted at its lower end and swingable
outwardly for access to said stack.

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