June 9, 1959 J. J. OLSON 2,890,090

DESK PEN SET

Filed May 2, 1955 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

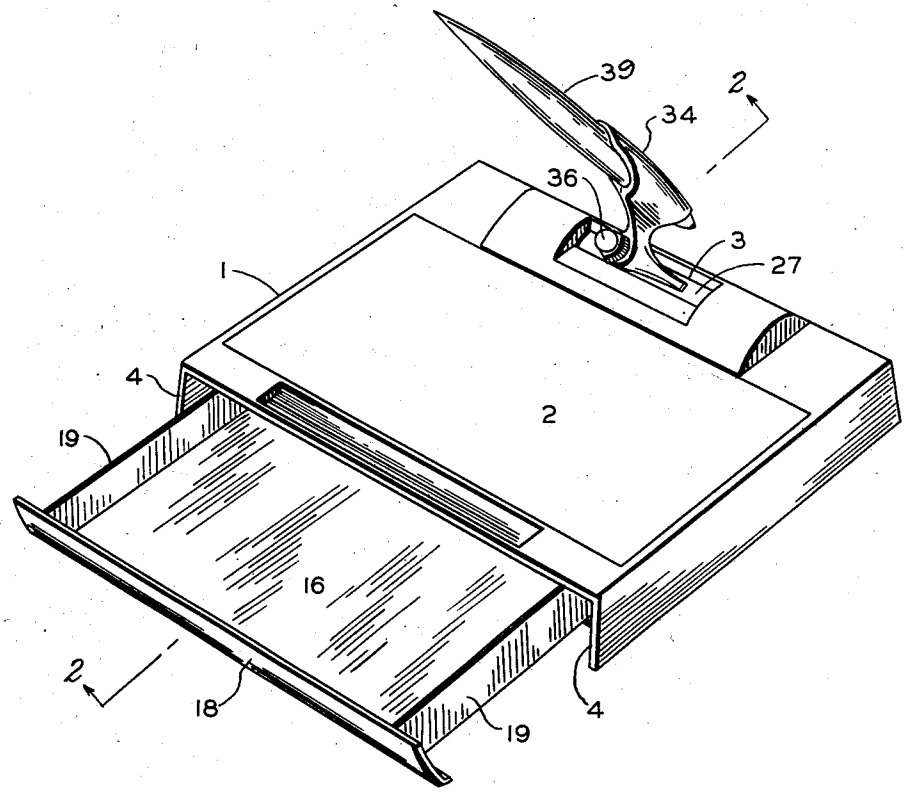


FIG. 1

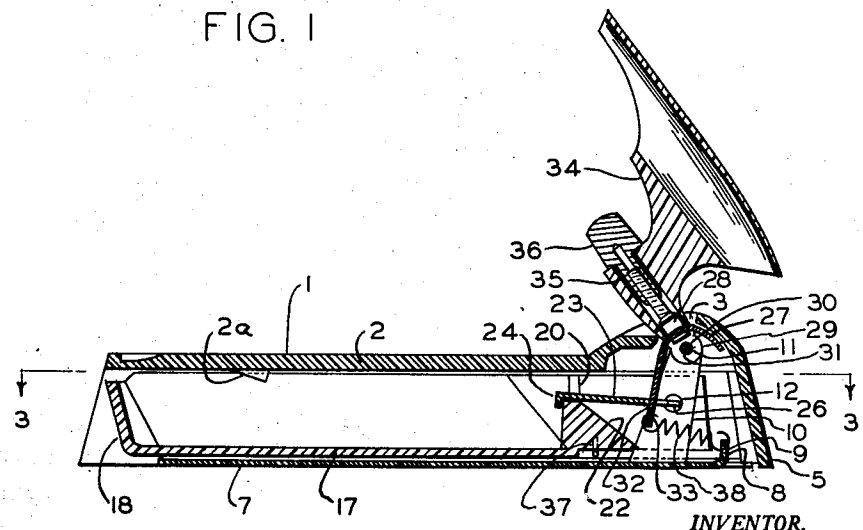


FIG. 2

INVENTOR.
JOHN J. OLSON
BY Howard L. Tucker
ATTORNEY

June 9, 1959 J. J. OLSON 2,890,090

DESK PEN SET

Filed May 2, 1955 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

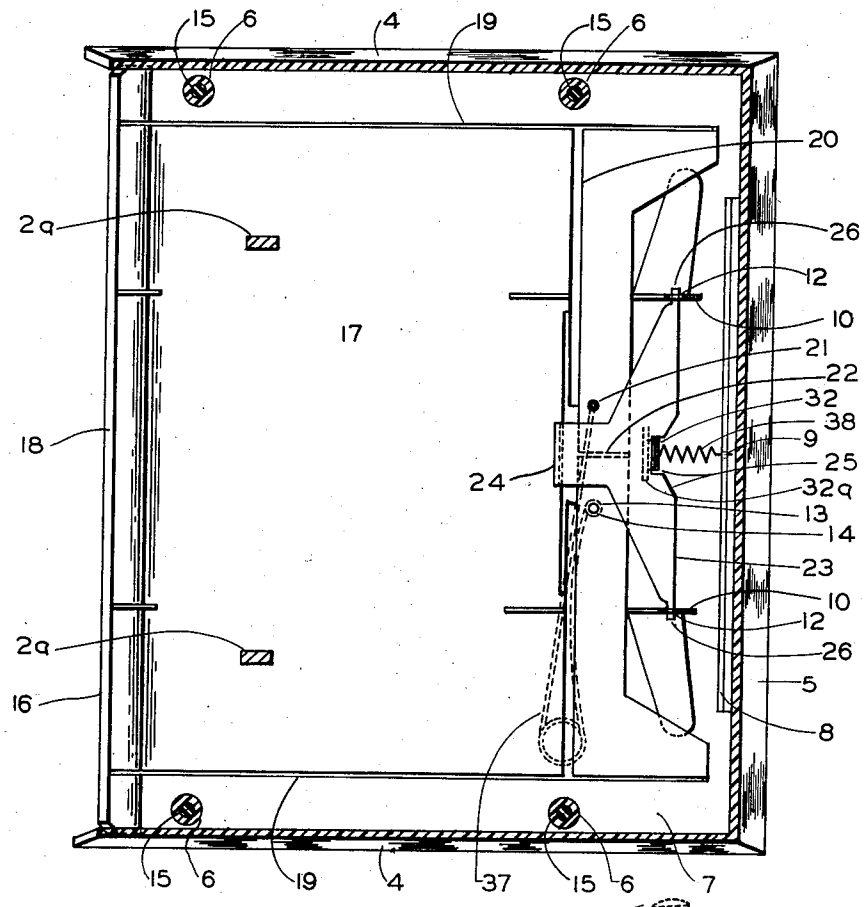


FIG. 3

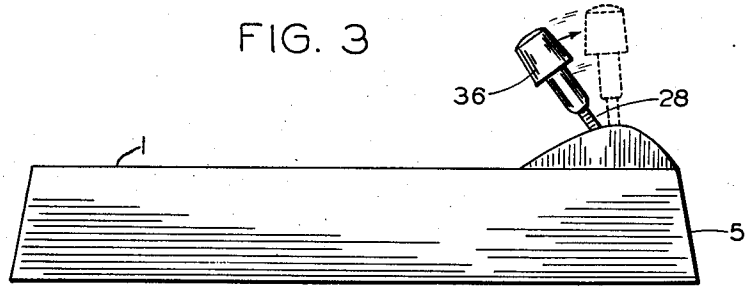


FIG. 4

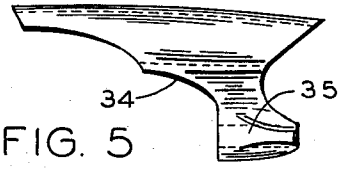


FIG. 5

INVENTOR.
JOHN J. OLSON
BY Howard E. Fischer
ATTORNEY

United States Patent Office 2,890,090 Patented June 9, 1959

2,890,090

DESK PEN SET

John J. Olson, St. Paul, Minn., assignor to Brown & Bigelow, St. Paul, Minn., a corporation of Minnesota

Application May 2, 1955, Serial No. 505,398

3 Claims. (Cl. 312—319)

My invention relates to a desk pen set wherein a support is provided for a writing pen which is mounted rotatably upon a supporting base. The pen holder has a tubular portion open on each end and is adapted to movably support the pen or writing instrument therein.

A feature resides in providing a desk pen set having a support for the pen which when rotated is adapted to automatically release a tray in the base of the set to disclose the contents of the tray by lifting the pen or writing instrument from the socket in which it is removably supported.

A further feature resides in providing a desk pen set wherein a writing instrument is supported in a manner to be readily accessible for use and in providing a slidable tray within a base which may contain loose memorandum sheets so that when the writing instrument is engaged it will automatically release the tray containing the memorandum sheets and hold the sheets while the writing instrument is used to make memorandum thereon. The memorandum sheet may be readily removed or it may remain in the tray after a memorandum has been made on the same and the tray containing the memorandum may be readily moved into a closed position concealing memorandum sheets and the writing instrument replaced into the socket for supporting the same.

It is also a feature to provide a desk pen set having a base in which a slidable tray is mounted which can be released automatically into open position or can be concealed within a base portion. The tray may be for the purpose of containing loose memorandum sheets or paper clips or other objects which are ordinarily associated with a desk supporting the set. Thus the tray within the base forms a convenient storage space which is normally concealed within the confines of the base but may be readily accessible by releasing the tray so that it is automatically opened by means provided within said base.

My invention includes a desk pen set having a tubular open ended socket which is adapted to support a writing instrument and which is removably mounted on a base portion so that the socket may be disassembled from the supporting base to facilitate storing and packaging the set. The socket for supporting the writing instrument provides a means for supporting a ball point pen, a pencil or other similar writing instrument and when the writing instrument is within the socket the writing end of the same is exposed. This keeps the writing end of the ball point pen clean and prevents any accumulation or building up of ink on the end of the ball point pen which is apt to occur where the supporting socket is closed at the lower end.

A primary feature of my invention resides in providing a desk pen set which facilitates a quick and easy means for providing a memorandum sheet for the writing instrument which is automatically exposed out of the base in the act of removing the writing instrument from its supporting socket and slightly rotating the socket as the instrument is removed therefrom.

The foregoing objects together with details and features of the invention will be more fully hereinafter set forth.

In the drawings forming part of this specification:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the desk pen set showing the tray in an open position.

Figure 2 is a sectional view on the line 2—2 of Figure 1 showing the tray in closed position.

Figure 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Figure 2 and showing the drawer, the lock lever, and the springs.

Figure 4 is a side elevation of the desk unit which shows the open-ended socket removed therefrom, and showing the socket-holding means in dotted outline to show the forward movement thereof to release the tray.

Figure 5 is a side elevation of the open-ended socket removed from its support for packaging.

My desk pen set is designed with the base **1**, which may be made of plastic or other suitable material, integrally formed of a top wall **2** with a slot **3** thereon near the rear thereof and with stops or shoulders **2***a* depending from the inner surface of the top wall **2**. Secured to the top wall **2** are the depending side walls **4**, the rear wall **5** and the bosses **6**.

The bottom plate **7** is a flat member formed with an upstanding flange **8** at the rear thereof, having a hole **9** therein. Formed at right angles from said plate **7** are two vertical platelike posts **10** having holes **11** and **12** therein. I provide a hole **13** in said plate **7** through which is attached an eyelet **14**. Suitable holes **15** are provided in the plate **7** for attaching said bottom plate **7** to the base **1** at the bosses **6** by screws not illustrated.

The slidable tray **16**, which may be made of plastic or other suitable material, has a bottom member **17** which curves upward to form a wall **18** at the front thereof. Secured to said bottom **17** are the side walls **19**, and the rear wall **20**. A hole **21** is provided in the bottom member **17** at the rear thereof. A ramp **20**, which is a longitudinal rib inclined downward to the rear, is attached to the rear wall **20** and to the bottom member **17**.

The lock lever **23** is a flat member formed with a hook **24** at one end thereof, a slot **25** at the rear thereof and the pivoted ends **26** which rotate in the holes **12** of the upright posts **10**.

The lock lever actuator **27** is an arcuated member with a threaded stud **28** affixed thereto, and end members **29** having holes **30** are formed at right angles thereto. Formed from one side of the actuator **27** is an extending member **32** having transversely disposed protrusions **32***a* at the free end thereof, and having a hole **33** near the free end thereof.

An open-ended socket **34** for holding a writing instrument **39** is formed with transversely disposed supports and a hole **35** therein.

The lock lever actuator **27** is rotatably attached to the bottom plate **7** by a shaft **31** fitted through the holes **30** of the actuator **27** and through the holes **11** of the plate-like posts **10**. The lock lever **23** is pivotally attached to the vertical posts **10** by the pivoted ends **26** which extend through the holes **12**. The extending member **32** of the lock lever actuator **27** is adapted to fit into the slot **25** of the lock lever **23**.

The bottom plate **7**, with the lock lever **23** and the lock lever actuator **27** attached thereto, is adapted to attach to the base **1** with screws inserted through the holes **15** into the bosses **6**. The lock lever actuator **27** is then in close proximity to the slot **3** of the case **1** and stud **28** of the lock lever actuator **27** extends through and above the slot **3**.

The socket **34** attaches to the lock lever actuator **27** with the socket nut **36** which is fitted into the hole **35** and onto the threaded stud **28**.

The tray **16** is adapted to fit into the open front of the base **1**, and as the tray **16** is pushed into the case, the ramp **22** comes into contact with the hook **24** of the lock lever **23** whereupon the hook **24** slides along the inclined surface of the ramp **22** until the hook **24** passes over the front of the rear wall **20** whereupon the weight of the lock lever **23** causes said lock lever to drop and the rear of the hook **24** engages the front of the rear wall **20** to releasably lock the tray **16** in a closed position.

To open the tray **16** the supporting socket **34** and the writing instrument **39** are pushed in a forward direction causing the socket **34** to rotate on shaft **31** whereby the extending member **32** of the lock lever actuator **27** moves in an upwardly direction until the protrusions **32***a* come into contact with the lock lever **23** and raise said lock lever until the hook **24** of the lock lever **23** is raised above the top of the rear wall **20** of the tray **16**, whereupon the spring **37**, one end of which is attached by the eyelet **14** to the plate **7** and the other end of which is attached through the hole **21** of the tray **16**, expands and forces the tray **16** to open outwardly from the case. When the forward pressure on the socket **34** is released, the spring **38**, one end of which is attached to the bottom plate **7** through the hole **9**, and the other end of which is attached to the lock lever actuator **27** through the hole **33**, pulls the socket **34** into its normal backward position.

In the use of my desk pen set it is of primary importance to provide a writing instrument conveniently supported in a socket which keeps the writing end clear and the instrument ready for immediate use in combination with the memorandum sheets which are normally concealed within the base of the set and which may be instantly exposed for use in the act of removing the writing instrument from its supporting socket. This provides a desk pen set wherein the tray in the base thereof is instantly opened, when it is desired, by a one-hand operation which engages the writing instrument and simultaneously releases the tray in the base to expose the contents thereof. This is particularly important when one wishes to make a memorandum while in a telephone conversation when only one hand is available to engage the writing instrument and to provide a memorandum sheet upon which writing can be entered. Further my desk pen set provides a neat and convenient means for concealing the memorandum sheets within the base of the set when the same are not desired for use and while the writing instrument is resting in the socket of said set.

I claim:

1. A desk unit comprising a base member, a shallow tray slidably positioned within said base member, a gravity actuated catch operatively connected to said base to hold said tray in a normally concealed position in said base member, ramp means affixed to the rear wall of said tray adapted to direct said gravity actuated catch into locking position when said tray is inserted into said base member, release means pivotally supported on said base member and movable between a first position out of engagement with said catch and a second position engaging and moving said catch out of engagement with said tray, spring means for holding said release means

in said first position, spring means for biasing said tray out of said base member when said catch is operated so as to be out of engagement with said tray by the rotation of said release means, and shoulder means for limiting the opening movement of said tray when it is released by said catch.

2. A desk unit comprising a box-shaped base member having an open end and a removable bottom, a tray slidable into said base member through the open end thereof, an enlarged front wall of said tray adapted to close the open end of said base member when said tray is inserted therein, a gravity actuated catch mounted within said base member to hold said tray within said base member with said enlarged front wall closing said open end, ramp means affixed to the rear wall of said tray adapted to direct said catch into locking position when said tray is inserted into said base member, a pivotal release member adapted to support a writing instrument mounted on said base member, and movable between a first position out of engagement with said gravity operated catch and a second position engaging and moving said catch out of engagement with said tray, spring means within said base member biasing said tray into a normally outward open position, shoulder means within said base member engageable with said tray to limit the outward movement thereof, and spring means for maintaining said release member in a normally inclined upright position.

3. A desk accessory including a one-piece housing having a substantially flat top surface, said housing having a rear wall and side walls depending from the top surface thereof and having an aperture in the top surface thereof, a bottom plate removably attached to said housing, a pair of spaced vertical supports integral with said bottom plate positioned in register with the aperture in said housing, a shallow tray slidably positioned in said housing, said tray having a rear wall positioned inwardly from the rear thereof, the rear wall of said tray having a notched portion intermediate the ends thereof and having an inclined ramp extending outwardly therefrom, a latch engageable with the ramp and the notched portion of the rear wall of said tray pivotably mounted between said vertical supports and adapted to ascend the ramp of the rear wall of said tray to hook said tray in a closed position when said tray is inserted into said housing, a shaft positioned in said vertical supports above said latch, a release member rotatably mounted on said shaft adapted to hold said latch free of said bottom plate and to urge said latch free of said tray, said release member extending through the aperture in the top surface of said housing, means for biasing said tray in a normally open position, means for biasing said release member free of said latch, and means for restraining the outward travel of said tray in said housing.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

1,225,169	Perreten	May 8, 1917
1,389,981	Randall	Sept. 6, 1921
2,110,007	Tefft	Mar. 1, 1938
2,593,384	Butler	Apr. 15, 1952
2,731,763	Domberger et al.	Jan. 24, 1956