April 3, 1951 G. W. TURNBULL 2,547,182

EASEL

Filed Aug. 17, 1950 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

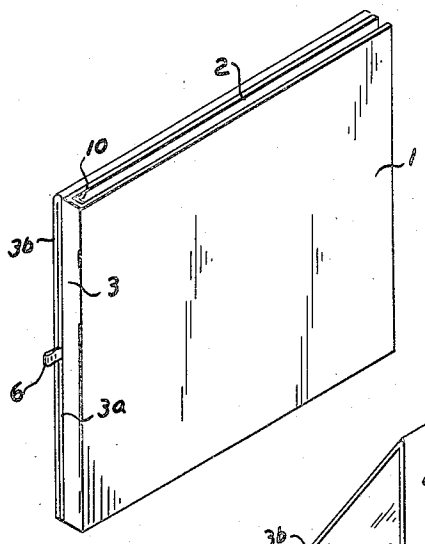


Fig. 1

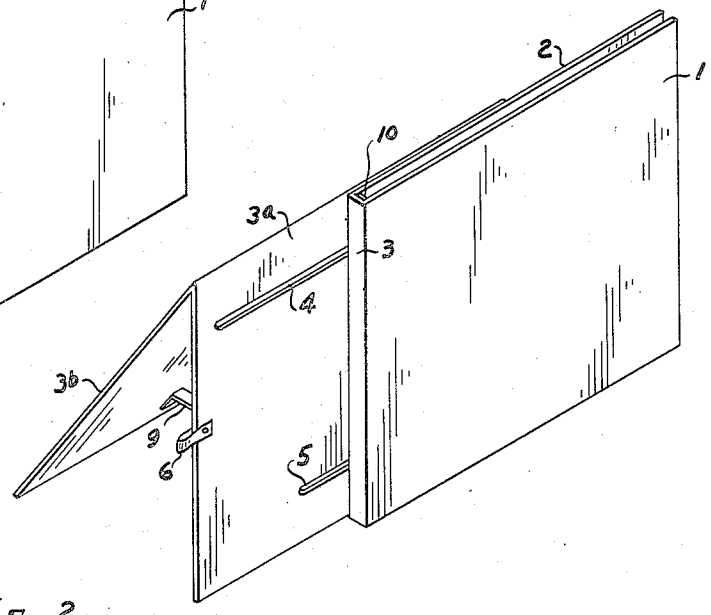


Fig. 2

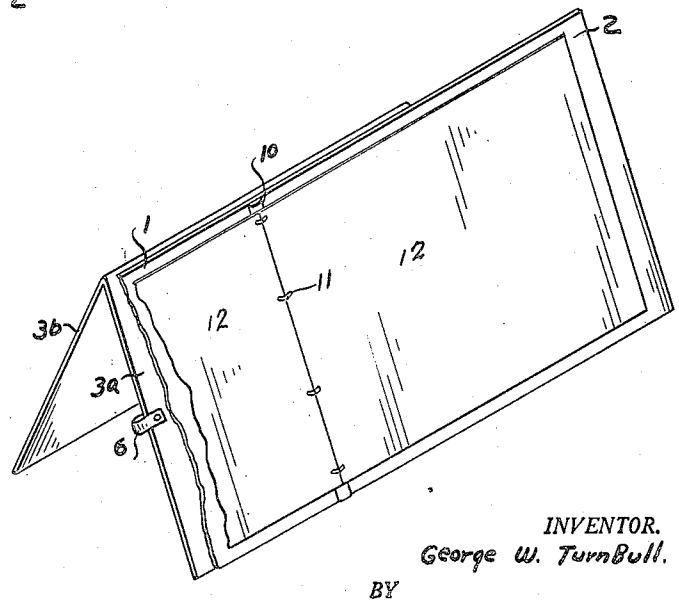


Fig. 3

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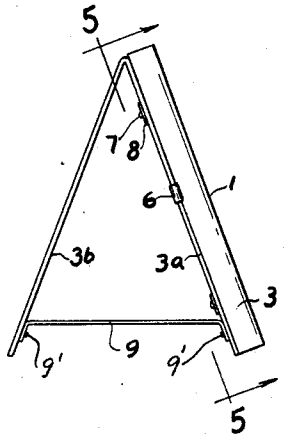


Fig. 4

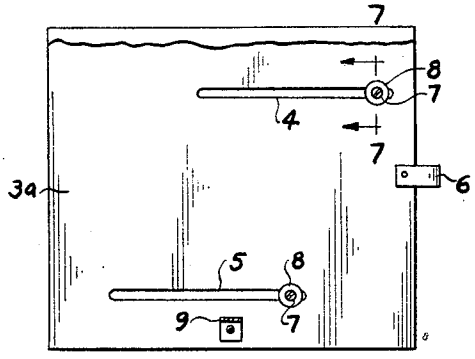


Fig. 5

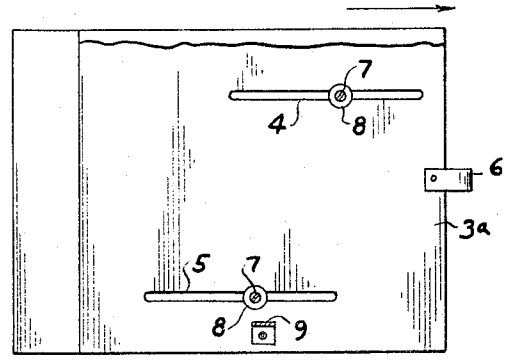


Fig. 6

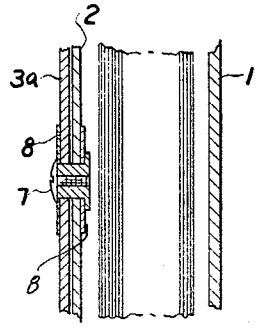


Fig. 7

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,547,182

EASEL

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Application August 17, 1950, Serial No. 180,001

4 Claims. (Cl. 281—33)

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This invention relates to easels the object being to provide an easel having foldable cover members for holding a series of sheets on which the user may make a drawing of any desired object, such for instance as a painting or other object, of which he may make a copy on the sheet supported by the easel.

The device is also usable to display a series of pictures or drawings of any desired object.

A particular feature of the invention resides in the provision of a foldable supporting member on which a second foldable member is supported one of the elements of the second foldable member being secured in slidable relation with the supporting member and the other of which is foldable thereover.

These and other objects and features of the invention are hereinafter more fully described and claimed and the preferred form of the invention is shown in the accompanying drawings in which—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the device when folded.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the cover members folded like the covers of a book and a portion of the supporting element.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the covers in the open relation and the manner of attaching the leaves centrally between the foldable members.

Fig. 4 is an end view of the device.

Fig. 5 is a view taken on line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a view similar to Fig. 5 showing the back member partially moved from its normal position.

Fig. 7 is an enlarged section taken on line 7—7 of Fig. 5.

It will be understood that the above drawing illustrates merely a preferred embodiment of the invention and that other embodiments are contemplated within the scope of the claims hereafter set out.

The device comprises elongated rectangularly shaped cover members 1 and 2 and a central back member 3 to which said cover members are foldably joined at their inner edges, in a manner similar to that of a book.

A foldable supporting member including the rectangularly shaped elements 3*a* and 3*b* are foldably joined at their upper ends to provide an inverted V shaped support upon which the foldable cover members are mounted in the manner hereafter described.

Substantially parallel elongated longitudinally extending slots 4 and 5 are formed within the

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support element 3*a* adjacent its upper and lower edges with slot 4 terminating at one end adjacent the side edge of element 3*a*, and with the opposite end of the slot 5 terminating adjacent the right hand edge of element 3*a*.

A carrying or lifting loop 6 is secured at its ends to one end of the support element 3*a* and projects laterally therefrom to facilitate movement of the support 3*a* relative to the foldable members 1 and 2 as when adjusting the same slidably from the relative position of Fig. 1 to the position in Fig. 2.

The rivets 7 slidably project through the slots 4 and 5 respectively, with one rivet in each slot, with said rivets extending through corresponding circular openings in portions of the foldable member or cover member 2, there being suitable washers 8 interposed between the rivets and the inner wall of supporting element 3*a* and between the opposite end of said rivet and the inner wall of the cover member 2.

In the present preferred embodiment the rivet referred to includes a headed shaft which is exteriorly threaded and which engages the inner wall of the supporting element 3*a* and the opposite portion of the rivet includes a flanged or headed cylindrical nut which threadably engages the aforesaid threaded portion and may be adjustably secured by a screw driver or the like.

The rivets 7 or the bolts and nuts above described are secured within the cover member 2 adjacent its left end whereby the said cover elements 1 and 2 may be slid relatively to the supporting element 3*a*, or on the other hand the latter element may be slid with respect to the folded cover elements 1 and 2.

A flexible strap 9 is centrally interposed between the lower ends of the supporting elements 3*a* and 3*b*, with the respective ends of the strap suitably secured to the interior portions of elements 3*a* and 3*b*. As shown in Fig. 4 snap fasteners 9′ are provided upon the end portions of the strap 9 whereby the supporting elements 3*a* and 3*b* may be fastened together in the closed position shown in Fig. 1.

By means of the rivets 7 or securing bolts and nuts, the cover members 1 and 2 are slidably mounted and secured upon the supporting element 3*a* whereby when used as an easel the cover 2 may be slid to the position shown in Fig. 2 and then the cover 1 opened as shown in Fig. 3, with both covers 1 and 2 resting upon the supporting element 3*a*. The easel is thus supported in an upright or slightly rearwardly inclined position

by opening the supporting element 3b as shown in Figs. 2, 3 and 4.

A sheet loose leaf binding construction is provided upon the back member 3 as shown in Fig. 3 which includes the elongated metal strip 10 having a series of spaced separable elements 11 adapted to pass through the corresponding apertures provided therefor in the plurality of sheets 12 which are positioned within the cover members 1 and 2. When the elements 11 are closed the leaves or sheets 12 may be turned readily as the leaves of a book and any one or more of the sheets may be removed or returned to position at will.

Having described my invention, reference should now be had to the claims which follow for determining the scope thereof.

I claim:

1. An easel comprising a pair of rectangularly shaped cover members foldable one upon the other after the manner of book covers, spaced headed elements secured to one of said cover members and projecting therefrom, a foldable supporting member of inverted V form when open having elongated slots in one leg thereof in which the headed elements are movably retained, and means interconnecting the legs of said supporting member to limit the extent of their separation.

2. An easel comprising a pair of rectangularly shaped cover members foldable one upon the other and having a central back similar to a book, spaced headed elements secured to one of said members and projecting rearwardly thereof, a supporting member having legs of rectangular shape foldable to parallel relation and extendable to inverted V form providing a support for the cover members and having spaced longitudinal slots in one of said legs through which the headed elements are slidably positioned and secured, and means interconnecting lower interior portions of said legs limiting the extent to which the same may be separated.

3. An easel comprising a pair of rectangular cover members foldable one upon the other and having a central back similar to a book, a foldable inverted V-shaped supporting member having spaced longitudinal slots in one of the legs thereof, headed pins projecting rearwardly of one of said cover members and slidably positioned and secured within said slots whereby the foldable member may be moved in a plane parallel to said cover members, and a tab on one edge of the supporting member by means of which said member may be moved relatively to said cover members.

4. An easel comprising a pair of cover members foldable one upon the other and having a central back similar to a book, a supporting member comprising a pair of rectangular sheets hingedly connected at one edge and openable to an inverted V shape, one of said sheets having spaced elongated slots in parallel relation and parallel with a longitudinal edge of the supporting member, and headed pins projecting rearwardly from the back cover member and extending through said slots for sliding retaining engagement with said slotted sheet, one slot terminating adjacent the side edge of the sheet and the other slot being of the same length as the first slot and terminating adjacent the opposite side edge thereof.

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