

May 21, 1946.

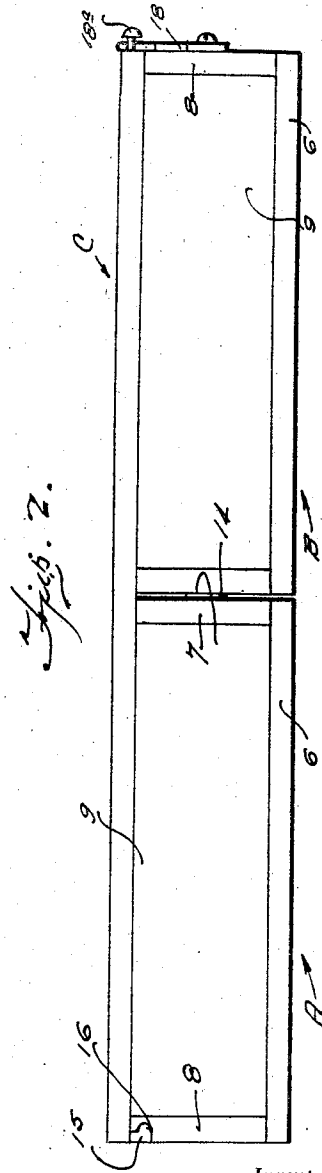
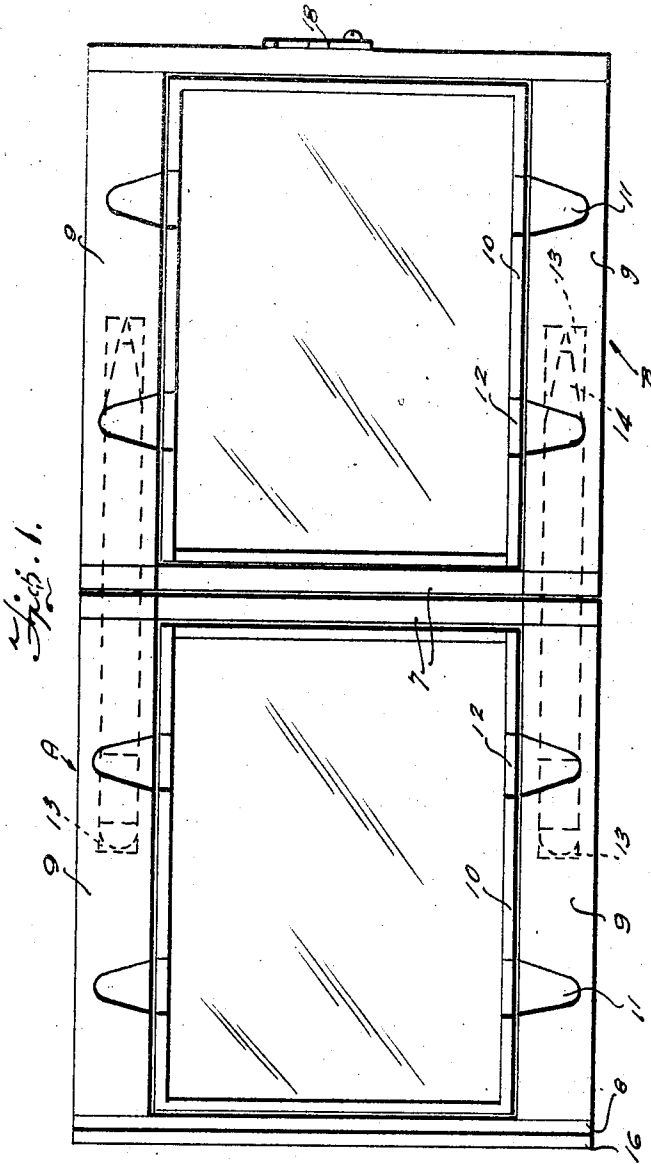
M. SKINNER

2,400,610

MULTIPLE PURPOSE CARD TABLE ACCESSORY

Filed April 1, 1944

3 Sheets-Sheet 1



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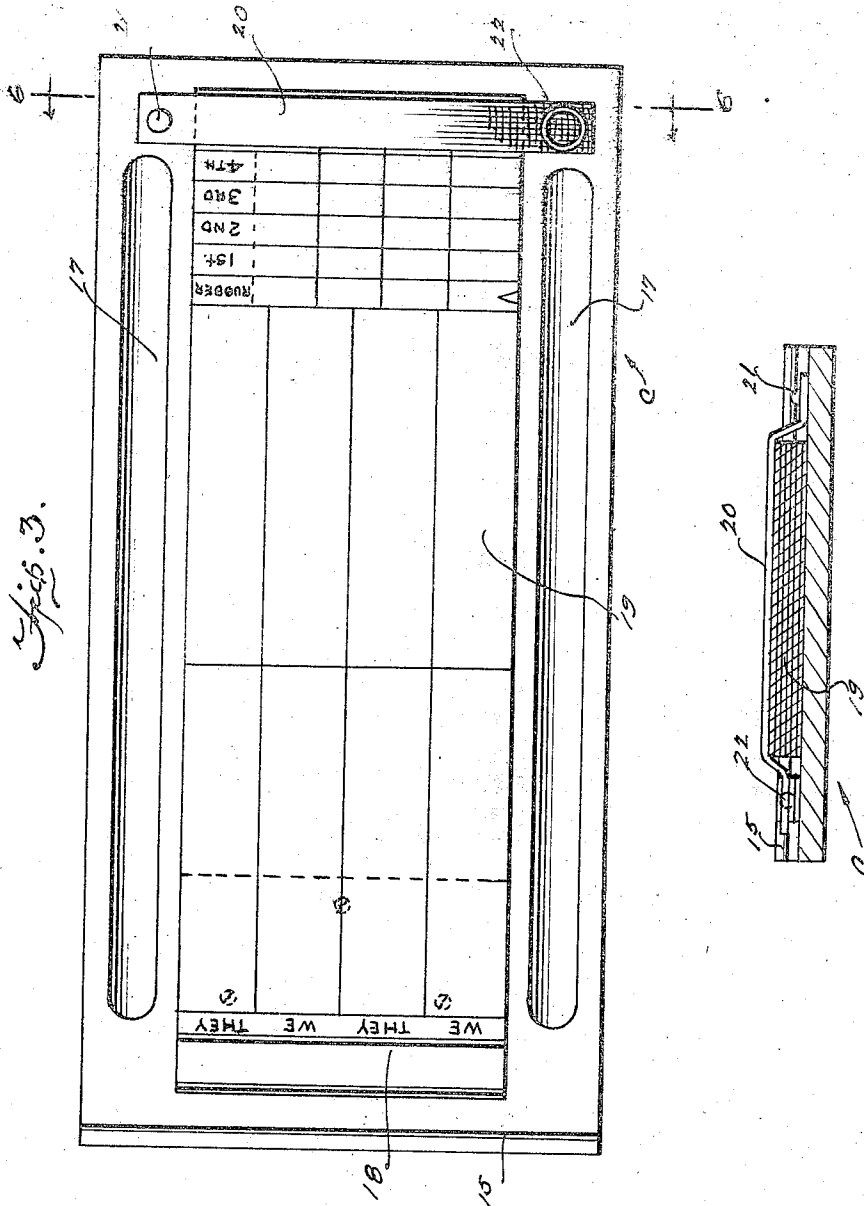
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3 Sheets-Sheet 2



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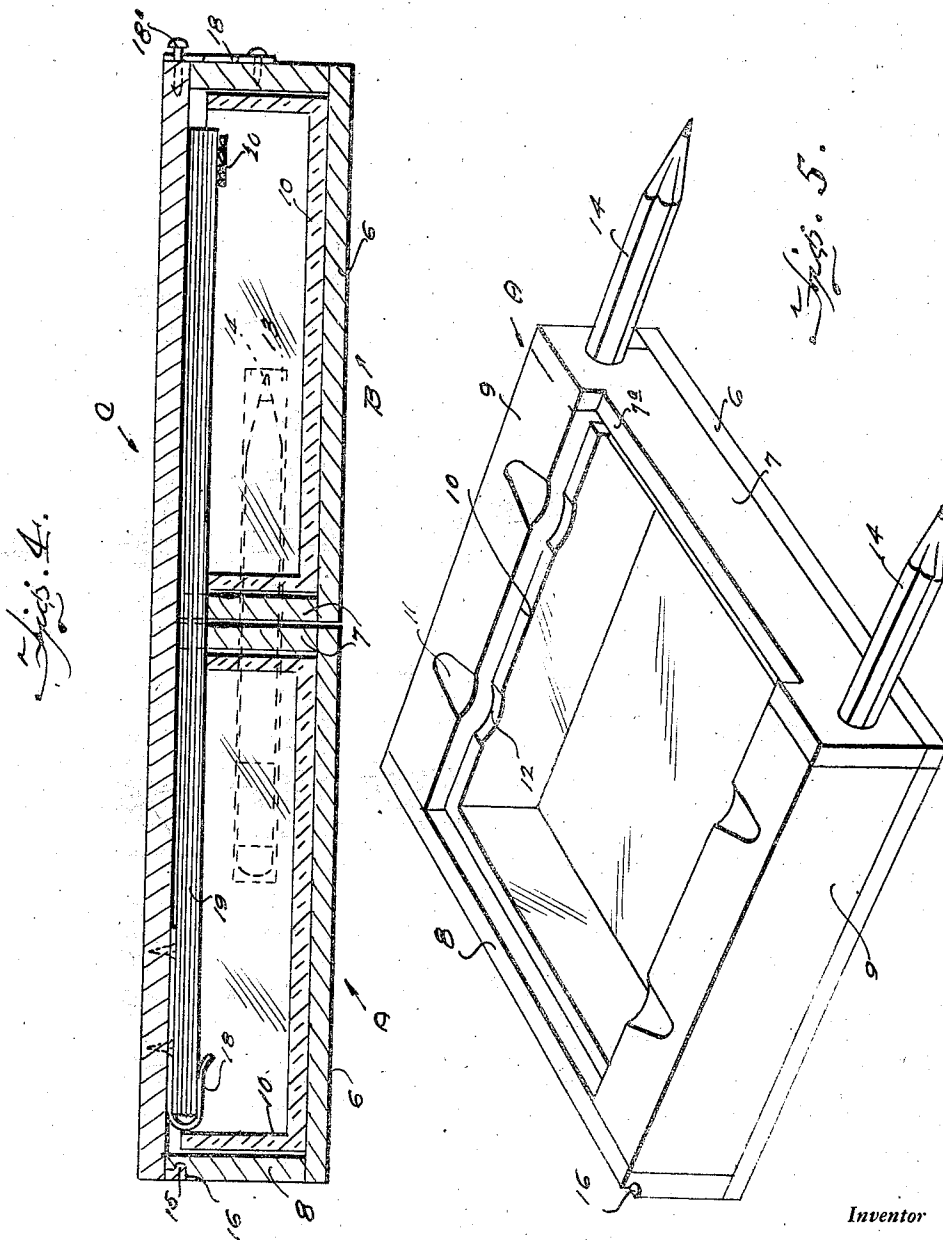
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MULTIPLE PURPOSE CARD TABLE ACCESSORY

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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MULTIPLE PURPOSE CARD TABLE
ACCESSORY

Morley Skinner, Kokomo, Ind.

Application April 1, 1944, Serial No. 529,117

3 Claims. (Cl. 217-13)

This invention relates to a novel and improved multiple purpose card table accessory in the form of a compact and convenient structural assemblage, and the purpose of the invention is to provide a simple and expedient unitary device which is made up of selectively usable companion parts.

More specifically, the construction, as a whole, is in the nature of a sectional or duplex box, that is, an arrangement which is characterized by individual tray-forming boxes, these being disposed in separable end-to-end relation and closed by an individual lid, the latter when detached for use, serving as a score-pad backing or base member.

In carrying out the principles of the invention I have found it both expedient and practicable to fashion the individual box sections to function as trays, each including a removable glass or equivalent lining, whereby each section may be conveniently employed for storing a deck of cards therein on the one hand, or which may be alternatively usable as an ash tray.

Stated with greater particularity, the preferred embodiment of the invention comprises box or tray sections, these having aligned sockets in meeting end portions and said sockets being adapted to accommodate removable pencils, the pencils bridging the space between the adjacent ends of the sections to serve as connecting dowels, as it were.

Other features and advantages will become more readily apparent from the following description and the accompanying illustrative drawings.

In the drawings, wherein like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the twin or companion box sections or units illustrating the same adjoined in end-to-end relation, the cover or lid being removed.

Figure 2 is a side or edge elevational view with the lid in closing position.

Figure 3 is an inverted plan view of the removable lid or cover, illustrating the manner in which it is employed, on the card table, as a convenient scoring pad appliance.

Figure 4 is a longitudinal sectional view of the complete box assemblage depicted in Figure 2.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of one of the separable units or sections, this to bring out the particular details of said section.

Figure 6 is a transverse or cross sectional view on the plane of the line 5-6 of Figure 3.

Referring now to the drawings by distinguishing reference characters it will be seen that the

box structure is actually a twin-box arrangement. That is to say, the body portion is made up of duplicate companion box sections or units A and B, respectively, these, when they are connected together in assembled relation as shown in Figure 2, being covered by a single detachable or removable lid C.

The box sections or units A and B, as indicated, are duplicates and a description of one will suffice for both. To this end and with reference to Figure 5, it will be seen that the unit there depicted is constructed of appropriate material and shape, preferably, rectangular. It embodies a bottom 6, an inner or front wall 7 having a clearance notch 7a, an outer or rear wall 8 and intervening side walls 9. The walls 9 are comparatively heavy and may be conveniently described as blocks. Thus, the walls 7 and 8 are suitably secured to the opposite ends of said block 9.

In construing the article seen in Figure 5 from the standpoint of patentable novelty and also from the standpoint of functional and alternate utility, it may be either a box unit or section or may be conveniently referred to as a tray, since it is more of a "tray" when in use. In fact, the walls 6, 7, 8 and 9 define a receptacle for a removable glass or equivalent tray 10. When this is empty, it serves as a holder for a deck of cards (not shown). When the cards are removed it then becomes an ash tray. The notches 11 and 12 serve as seats for cigars, cigarettes and the like. The blocks 9 are provided with parallel sockets 13 which serve conveniently for reception of pencils, that is, parallel removable pencils 14 (see Figure 5). The pencils are in effect dowel pins and, therefore, when the two units A and B are brought into end-to-end relation, the pencils project in the respective pockets or sockets and this is sufficient to hold the two sections in alignment.

The lid C has a cross-strip 15 at one end which is formed with a bead or tongue, this to removably seat itself in the retention and assembly groove 16 formed in the end wall 8 of the box section A (see Figure 5). The single lid spans the open top of both box sections A and B. The opposite or right hand end of the lid is provided with a headed pin or the like 18 which constitutes a keeper for the latch 18, the latter pivoted on the right-hand end of the box B.

The lid C serves not only as a closure but as a backing member or base as brought out in Figures 3 and 6. In Figure 3 it will be seen that the lid is provided with parallel grooves 17 which function as receptacles for pencils.

There is a substantially U-shaped metal or equivalent clip 18 at one end which serves as a keeper for the adjacent end of the score pad 19. The opposite end of the pad is fastened in place by a strap 20, this being riveted or secured at one end as at 21 and having a snap fastener 22 at the opposite end. The strap can be elastic to facilitate securely holding the sheets of the pad in place. The two parts 18 and 20 constitute convenient keepers or retention elements for the pad, enabling the same to be renewed with ease and facility.

From a commercial point of view the device is a card table accessory. When the units A and B are not in use, as it were, decks of cards are placed in the removable glass trays 10. The pencils 14 are slipped into their respective sockets and the parts A and B are joined in compact and convenient relationship as seen in Figure 4, for example. Then the single lid is placed in position as shown, the pad being thus confined within the limits of the structure. The clearance notches 7a serve to accommodate the median portion of the pad as brought out in Figure 4.

Considering the invention purely from a structural standpoint, irrespective of functional usages, it is a twin box, that is, a box structure made up of companion duplicate sections A and B, with a lid latched in place at one end, and removably held in place by tongue and groove arrangement at the opposite end. The two sections A and B are maintained in alignment by dowel pins fitting into the respective aligned sockets or pockets in the marginal portions of the boxes A and B. It is evident that I desire the invention to be construed from (1) a standpoint of utility as a multiple purpose card table accessory, on the one hand or (2) as a general utility box, discounting whether the box is used for cards, ash trays, or other purposes.

It is thought that persons skilled in the art to which the invention relates will be able to obtain a clear understanding of the invention after considering the description in connection with the drawings. Therefore, a more lengthy description is regarded as unnecessary.

Minor changes in the shape, size and arrange-

ment of details coming within the field of invention claimed may be resorted to in actual practice, if desired.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. In a box structure of the class described, a pair of duplicate shallow box units arranged in longitudinal alignment with adjacent ends in abutting relationship, the adjacent end portions of the box units being provided on opposite marginal sides with aligned sockets, dowel pins having their opposite ends arranged in said sockets and bridging the space between the abutting ends to assemble the two units, and a single lid structure for the open tops of said box units, said lid having tongue and groove detachable connection at one end with the corresponding box unit, the opposite end of the lid being provided with a keeper pin, and the adjacent box unit having a latch engageable with said pin.

2. In a box structure of the class described, a pair of duplicate open top shallow box units arranged in longitudinal alignment with adjacent ends in abutting relationship, the end portions of said adjacent end of the box units being provided on opposite marginal sides with aligned sockets, bodily insertable and removable dowel pins having their opposite ends arranged in appropriate ones of said sockets and bridging the space between the abutting ends to assemble said units, a single lid structure for the open tops of said box units, and removable trays individually and conveniently arranged in the respective box units.

3. In a card table box construction of the class described, a unit constituting a part of said box comprising a bottom, end walls and intervening side walls, one end wall having apertures adjacent its opposite outer ends and having its intermediate upper edge formed with a clearance notch, the adjacent ends of said side walls having dowel pin sockets registering with said apertures, the remaining end wall being provided with a groove, and a removable glass or equivalent lining for said box, said lining serving either as an ash tray, or holder for a deck of cards.

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