April 13, 1926. 1,581,008

J. L. McNAIR

DESK AND SEAT CONSTRUCTION

Filed Dec. 13, 1923 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

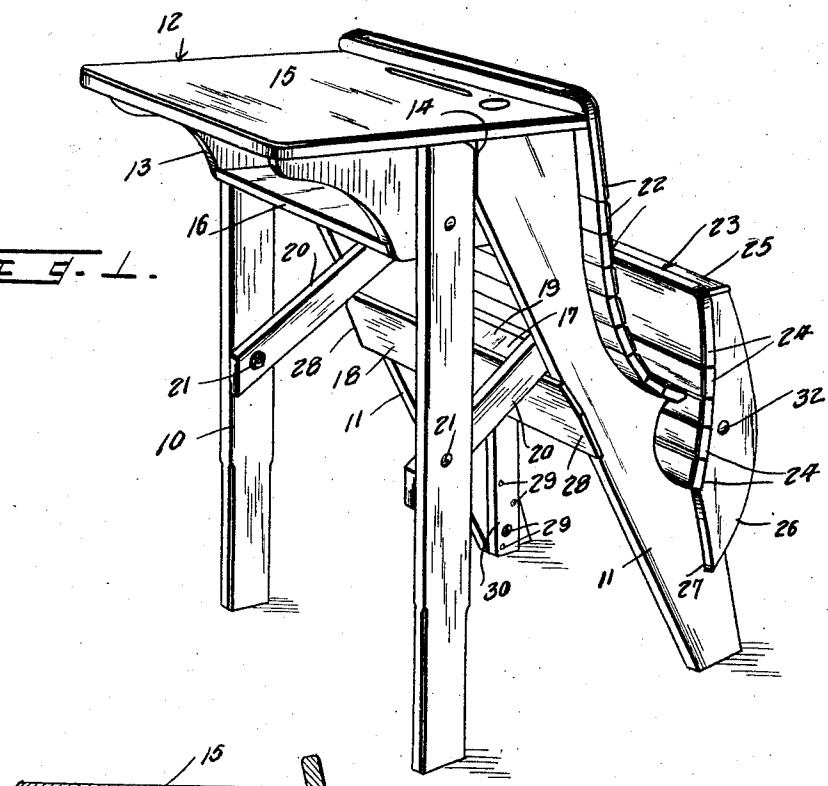
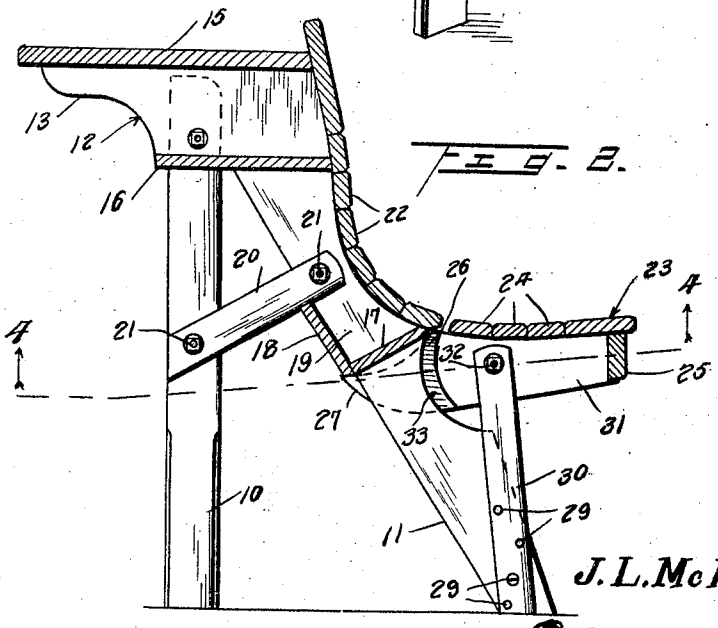


FIG. 2.



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Fig. 3.

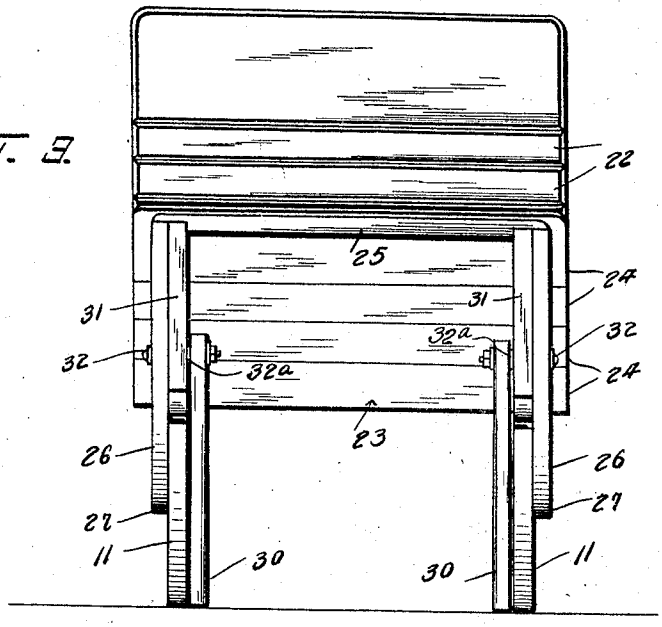
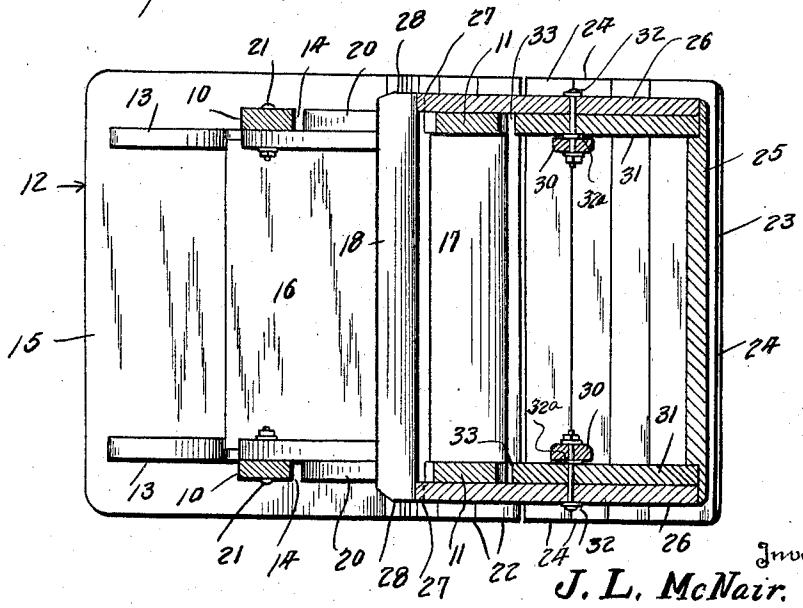


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES L. McNAIR, OF HARTSVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA.

DESK AND SEAT CONSTRUCTION.

Application filed December 13, 1923. Serial No. 680,494.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES L. McNAIR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hartsville, in the county of Darlington and State of South Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Desk and Seat Constructions; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to an article of school furniture adapted for use as a desk and also for use as a seat or bench.

A primary object is to provide a novel construction wherein the seat is compactly foldable against the remainder of the article so that it will in the latter position occupy minimum space to permit sweeping or cleaning about the article, and to enable it to occupy minimum space when stored or in shipment.

A further object is to provide a construction having novel means to provide a rack for books or the like below the main body of the desk and with a part of the rack designed to coact with the seat to limit movement thereof to seating position.

A further is to provide a novel construction wherein the front legs of the desk are inclined, have strips attached thereto to which the seat or bench is pivoted, means carried by the legs to limit the movement of the seat to a seating position, and with the said legs cut away so as to accommodate folding movement of the seat in a path intersecting the front legs.

Various additional objects and advantages will become apparent from a consideration of the description following taken in connection with accompanying drawings illustrating an operative embodiment.

In said drawings:—

Figure 1 is a view of the desk in perspective;

Figure 2 is a vertically substantially central sectional view through the desk;

Figure 3 is a front elevation with the seat raised, and

Figure 4 is a section on line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Like reference characters designate like or similar parts in the different views.

In reducing the invention to practice, vertical rear legs 10 are provided in combination with inclined front legs or supports 11. The desk body is designated 12 and has end members 13 to which the legs 10 and 11 are suitably fastened. Legs 10 and 11 are preferably interengaged at a notch 14 of the latter. A top 15 is fastened to the end members 13 and a bottom 16 is also fastened thereto.

A panel 17 spans the legs 11 at a distance below the desk body and a panel 18 is fastened to the rear edge of the panel 17 and to the rear edges of the legs 11 so that a rack or retaining space as at 19 is provided for books or the like.

The structure is considerably rigidified by the provision of braces 20, which are preferably diagonally disposed as shown, being in engagement with the upper edge of the panel 18 and bolted or otherwise fastened as at 21 to the legs 10 and 11.

The front edges of the legs 11 above the panel 17 are irregularly dished or cut away in any suitable manner so that slats 22, fastened thereto, will form a back rest and will also form a front wall for the rack or space 19.

Generally shown at 23 is a seat or bench which may consist of slats 24 forming the seating surface, which are fastened to a frame consisting of a front bar 25 and end bars 26. End bars 26 are disposed outwardly of the legs 11 and as shown in Figure 2, when the seat is in a useful position, rear end portions 27, substantially inclined along their upper edges as shown, are adapted to engage or abut ends 28 of the panel 18 which project outwardly beyond the sides of the legs 11. Fastened in any suitable manner, as at 29, against the inner surfaces of the legs 11 and preferably inclining upwardly and slightly rearwardly are supporting bars or members 30. Fastened to the part of the seat or bench 23 are filler blocks 31 which are disposed inwardly of and against the end bars 26. Bolts 32 pass through the upper ends of bars 30, filler blocks 31 and end bars 26 so as to pivotally mount the seat or bench 23. Clearance washers 32^a are carried by the bolts 32 between bars 30 and blocks 31.

It is particularly to be noted that the forward edges of the legs 11 are cut away to provide clearance as at 33, so that the innermost slat 24 will be capable of movement to and from the positions contrasted in Figures 1 and 2. This particular mounting of the seat enables it to be disposed when fold-

ed and to be pivoted relatively close to the legs 11. Such seat or bench 23 in its folded position is inwardly of the forward ends of the legs 11 and hence the same will occupy minimum space when the article is packed, stored, in shipment, or when the seat is simply raised to facilitate sweeping or cleaning about the desk and intermediate the same and adjacent ones.

It will be understood that the desk will be used in combination with other desks and that the seat of one desk will serve for the pupil using the body 12 of the desk directly in front of him. The seat 23 when lowered as shown in Figure 2, is held in that position by the engagement of the ends 27 of bars 26 with the projecting ends 28 of panel 18. The student may use the rack 19 to hold books or other materials. It is to be noted that the seat and rack are very efficiently braced by the arrangement of the legs and position of the braces 20. The seat 23 may be readily elevated to the position shown in Figure 1 when desired and in that position, the innermost slat 24 will move in the space or clearance 33 and folding movement of such seat will be limited by the engagement of one of the slats 24 with the lowermost slat 22.

Changes may be resorted to provided they fall within the spirit and scope of the invention.

I claim as my invention:—

1. An article of furniture having inclined legs, supporting bars secured to the legs at their inner surfaces, a seat having end bars pivoted to the supporting bars adjacent the upper ends of the latter, in offset relation to the legs, filler blocks on the inner surfaces of said end bars, said legs being cut away adjacent the pivots to permit movement of the inner ends of said blocks, a stop means at the rear of the legs projecting beyond the sides thereof, and said end bars being extended beyond the blocks to engage the stop means.

2. An article of furniture having inclined legs, supporting bars secured to the legs at their inner surfaces, a seat having end bars pivoted to the supporting bars adjacent the upper ends of the latter in offset relation to the legs, filler blocks carried by said end bars, said legs being cut away adjacent the pivots to permit movement of the inner ends of the filler blocks, a panel at the rear of the legs projecting beyond the sides thereof, said end bars being extended beyond the filler blocks to engage the panel as a stop, a panel spanning said legs and located at the base of the first mentioned panel, and a back rest secured to the legs and cooperating with the panels to form a rack.

3. An article of furniture having inclined legs, supporting bars secured to the legs at their inner surfaces, a seat having end bars pivoted to the supporting bars adjacent the upper ends of the latter in offset relation to the legs, filler blocks carried by said end bars, said legs being cut away adjacent the pivots to permit movement of the inner ends of the filler blocks, a panel at the rear of the legs projecting beyond the sides thereof, said end bars being extended beyond the filler blocks to engage the panel as a stop, a panel spanning said legs and located at the base of the first mentioned panel, a back rest secured to the legs above the cutaway portion and cooperating with the panels to form a rack, rear legs, the front legs being disposed at an angle to the rear legs, and angularly disposed braces connecting the legs and being in contact with the upper edge of the first mentioned panel.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JAMES L. McNAIR.