

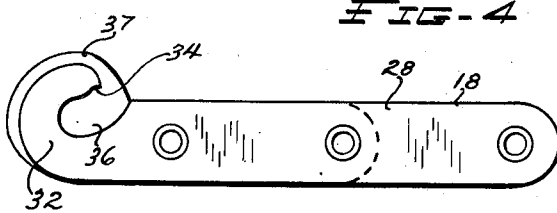
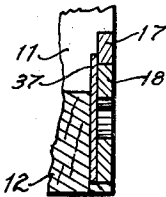
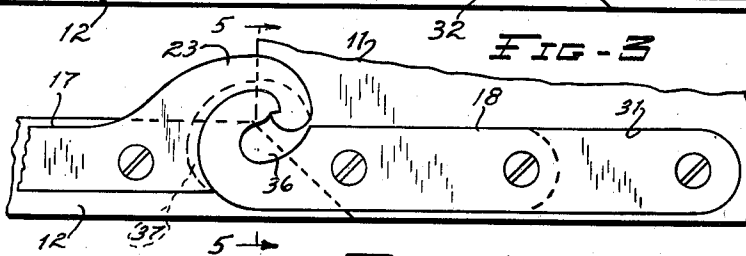
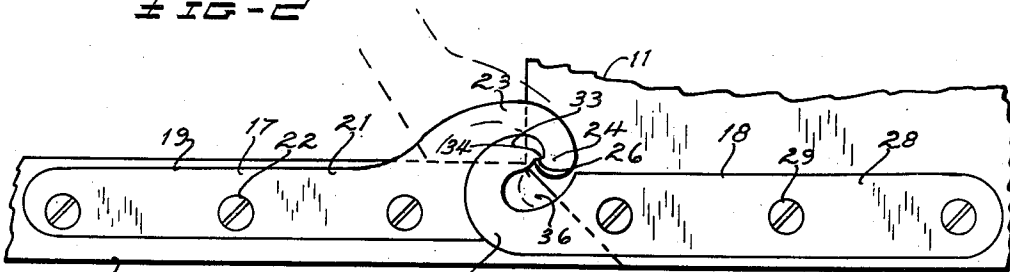
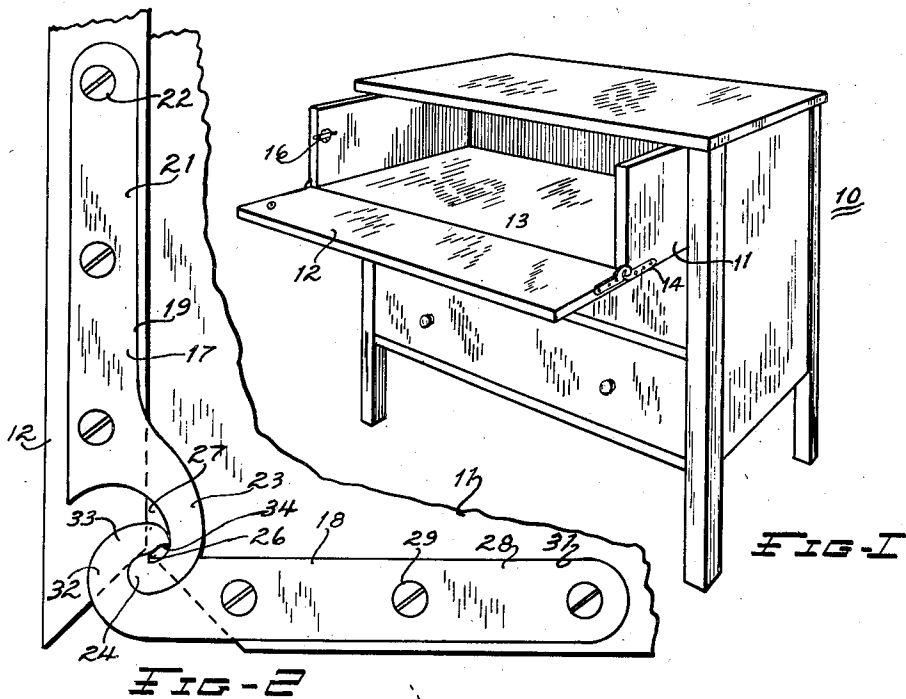
April 30, 1940.

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2,199,102

HINGE

Filed Aug. 10, 1938



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2,199,102

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Application August 10, 1938, Serial No. 224,056

7 Claims. (Cl. 16—191)

This invention relates to an improvement in hinges and particularly to hinges for use with an article of furniture having a drop-front or folding lid.

5 In one form the invention discloses a hinge comprised of two relatively movable elements having interfitting parts that serve as the sole support for a drop-front or lid in open position, as well as defining the path of travel of the front or lid from one position to another.

10 Prior to this invention it has been the general practice to utilize a more or less conventional hinge in conjunction with movable braces, supports, or adjustable rails for the purpose of properly sustaining a drop-front or lid in open or extended position. It has long been known that conventional hinges are inadequate for this purpose and many devices and attachments have, therefore, been utilized to relieve hinge strain and prevent an opened or extended lid or front from sagging when used as a work surface.

15 The present invention provides a hinge for pivotally securing drop-fronts or lids to articles of furniture and incorporates means for adequately supporting the front or lid in position of use and this, therefore, constitutes one of the objects of the invention.

20 Another object of the invention lies in the provision of a hinge for the drop-front of an article of furniture having two closely interfitting relatively movable elements.

25 Another object of the invention lies in the provision of a hinge that is of extremely simple construction, economical to manufacture, and readily installable.

30 Other and further objects and advantages of the invention will be more fully understood and appreciated from a consideration of the following specification taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, and in which;

35 Figure 1 is a perspective view of a chest of drawers showing the drop-front of a drawer in open position and supported through the use of one modification of a hinge construction embodied in the present invention;

40 Figure 2 is an enlarged side elevational view of the hinge, showing the position of the elements when the drop-front is in closed position;

45 Figure 3 is a further side elevational view showing the hinge elements in the position of Figure 1;

50 Figure 4 is a side elevational view of a modified form of the hinge;

55 Figure 5 is a vertical sectional view of the modification of Figure 4, being taken substantially on the line 5—5 of that figure; and

Figure 6 is a side elevational view of one of the elements of the modification shown in Figure 4.

One form of the present invention is shown applied to an article of furniture generally indicated by the reference numeral 10. The article of furniture may be of any type, such as a table, desk, secretary, or the chest of drawers illustrated. The invention is applied to a drawer 11 having a front 12 that is adapted to swing downwardly into the same horizontal plane as the bottom 13 to serve as a work surface. A pair of hinges 14 serve to support the front 12 in open or closed position. Any latch, such as the one indicated at 16, may be utilized to secure the front 12 in closed position, thus facilitating use of the drawer in the conventional manner.

The hinge 14 is comprised of a pair of relatively movable plates or elements 17 and 18. In the present instance, element 17 is attached to the drawer front 12 and constitutes the movable element, whereas element 18 is attached to the drawer proper and is the fixed element. It will be understood that either or both elements may be movable without impairing the use of the hinge. The ends of the drawer front illustrated overlap the forward edges of the sides of the drawer and, therefore, when the front is closed there is no indication that the drawer 11 is different from the other drawers of the chest. At each end of the lid a recess 19 is formed. This recess extends from the inner to adjacent the outer face of the front. The element 17 of the hinge is mounted in the recess and, since the recess is not the full thickness of the drawer front, said element is concealed from view when the front is in closed position. The element 17 is formed with a body portion 21 through which a number of openings are made to receive screws 22 that engage the edge of the drawer front 12. One end of the body portion 21 terminates in an arm 23 that is laterally curved and terminates in a finger portion 24, at the extreme end of which is a shoulder 26. The arm 23 and finger 24 provide a recess 27 into which a portion of the element 18 projects.

The element 18 comprises a body portion 28 having suitable openings through which screws 29 project to secure it to the side of the drawer 11. The side of the drawer is formed with a recess 31 which permits locating the element 18 flush or within the width limits of the drawer. One end of the body portion 28 terminates in a curved arm 32 that is formed with a finger 33 and shoulder 34. The arm 32 of the element 18 is adapted to fit the contour of and be received with-

