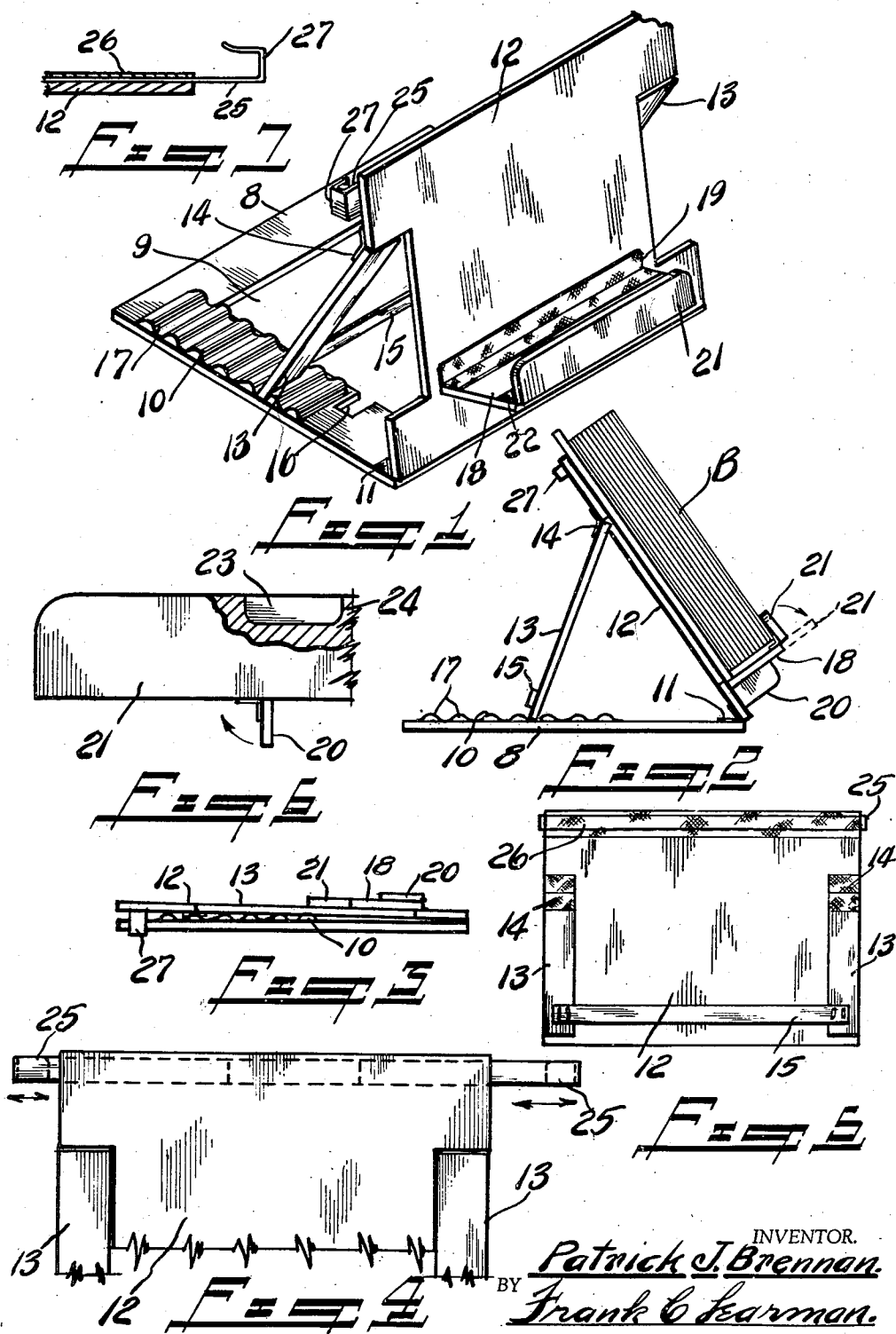


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BOOKSTAND

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5 Claims. (Cl. 45—80)

This invention relates to bookstands, and more particularly to a bookstand for holding books and other reading material in open position and at the proper degree of inclination to facilitate reading the same.

One of the prime objects of the invention is to design a bookstand which is especially adaptable for use by students in schools and educational institutions in general, and by means of which the book, or other sheets of reading matter, may be so supported and held, that the reader may sit upright, with shoulders back in easy, restful position, promoting correct posture, minimizing body fatigue and eye strain which occurs when the book or material is laid flat on a desk or table.

Another object is to provide a balanced bookstand which lends itself to quantity production, which is of substantial construction, which requires a minimum of materials to construct, and which is very easy and economical to manufacture and assemble.

A further object is to provide a bookstand which is of approximately the same marginal dimensions as the textbooks in daily use by students, and books used by the general public, and provide horizontally extensible means associated with the bookstand, said means being easily and quickly extensible for supporting sheet music or other papers of greater marginal dimensions than the textbooks, and further serving as a clasp for securing the base and backrest together when the structure is in collapsed position.

Still a further object is to design a bookstand including means for holding the leaves of the book in open position, and which can be readily swung back to permit the leaves to be turned when desired.

A further object still is to design a bookstand in which the legs are formed from the backrest, and in which the leg reinforcing and connecting strip is cut from the base, making for very substantial and economical construction.

With the above and other objects in view, the present invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims, it being understood that changes may be made in the form, size, proportion and

minor details of construction, without departing from the spirit, or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of my bookstand in set-up position for use;

Fig. 2 is an edge view showing a book in position thereon;

Fig. 3 is also an edge view illustrating the bookstand collapsed;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged, fragmentary, front elevational view showing the extensible members;

Fig. 5 is a rear elevational view of the backrest and leg structure;

Fig. 6 is an enlarged, fragmentary, part sectional, front view illustrating the page holding means; and

Fig. 7 is an enlarged, fragmentary, sectional plan view of the backrest and extensible means.

The structure is designed primarily for use in the school rooms and institutions of learning, but it will be understood that it is equally useful and desirable for use in the home and in public institutions in general.

Referring now more particularly to the drawing in which I have shown the preferred embodiment of my invention, the numeral 8 indicates the base of the bookstand, and this can be formed of any desired material, but I find it both economical and satisfactory to form it of cardboard, the center section being cut away as shown at 9, so that the cut out section may be used in the construction of the remainder of the structure, and as will be hereinafter described.

Corrugated strips or sections 10 are provided adjacent the edges of the base 8, and these can be separate strips as shown, or the corrugations can be pressed in the base material if desired.

Hingedly secured to the front edge of the base by a strip of fabric 11 adhesively secured thereto is a backrest 12, this backrest being formed of a single flat panel with a strip 13 cut from each side edge thereof to form legs, each leg being hingedly connected at its upper end to the main body of the backrest by an adhesively secured strip 14, the lower ends of the legs being connected and tied together by an elongated strip 15, thus forming a substantial balanced leg structure. The strip 15 is cut from the base panel 8 at 16 as shown, and it will be obvious that the

degree of inclination of the backrest can be determined and maintained by the engagement of the free ends of the legs 13 with the teeth 17 formed by the corrugations 10.

A supporting shelf 18 is hingedly secured to the lower edge of the backrest by means of an adhesively secured fabric strip 19, this strip being on the upper face of the shelf as shown, so that the shelf can be swung upwardly when the structure is folded, and as clearly shown in Fig. 3, and further so that the flat edge of the shelf butts solidly against the backrest when the shelf is swung down. A foldable leg 20 is provided on the lower face of the shelf 18 and serves to reinforce the shelf when in its open position.

A lip 21 is hingedly connected to the outer free edges of the shelf 18 by an adhesive strip 22, the strip being on the upper face so that the lip can be swung upwardly and in, a weight 23 being inserted in a pocket 24 provided on the free edge of the lip, this lip swinging inwardly by gravity against the pages of the book "B" or other reading matter, thus holding them in position. To turn a page, it is merely necessary to swing the lip outwardly, to position shown in broken lines in Fig. 2 of the drawing, so that the pages can be freely turned, and the lip is then swung back to original position, this is very effective and convenient and prevents accidental turning of the pages.

Extensible members 25 are provided on the back face of the backrest 12 and adjacent the upper edge thereof, and are designed to support sheet music or pamphlets (not shown), of larger marginal dimensions than the backrest, a pocket 26 being provided on the backrest and in which the members 25 are slidably mounted, the outer end of each member 25 being turned as at 27 to form a clasp, and when the bookstand is collapsed, these turned ends 27 fit over the edges of the base 10, thus locking the backrest and the base together in folded position, and forming a tight, compact, bundle which is of the same marginal dimensions as the standard textbooks, and one which can be easily and quickly set up and adjusted.

The fact that the lip 21 is weighted and is normally disposed inwardly insures the pages being retained in proper position, and by adjusting the leg 13 it will be obvious that the angle of inclination of the reading matter can be adjusted to suit the reader's requirements, and there is no necessity for the reader bending over in cramped position with the eyes focused at a relatively sharp angle.

From the foregoing description, it will be readily apparent that I have perfected a very simple, substantial, and relatively inexpensive bookstand for supporting books, pamphlets, and reading matter of all kinds.

What I claim is:

1. A foldable bookstand comprising a flat base, a backrest hingedly secured to the front edge of

the base member and foldable snugly against the base when the structure is in folded position, legs cut from the side edges of the backrest and hingedly secured thereto in original position, said legs being foldable with the backrest a forwardly projecting shelf hingedly connected to the backrest and foldable against the backrest, and a hingedly connected foldable lip on said book shelf and forming a flat extension of the shelf when the bookstand is folded.

2. A foldable bookstand comprising a flat base, a backrest hingedly connected to the front edge of the base, legs cut from the sides of said backrest and hingedly connected in original position, at their upper ends to said backrest, a plurality of spaced apart teeth formed on said base for engagement by said legs, a horizontally disposed reinforcing strip connecting said legs at a point intermediate their length, a shelf on the backrest and having a lip hingedly connected to the free end thereof, and adjustable means on the upper edge of said backrest and engageable with said base to secure the parts in collapsed position when the bookstand is folded.

3. A foldable bookstand comprising a base, teeth provided on and adjacent the side edges of the base, a backrest hingedly secured to the forward edge of the base, legs cut from the opposite sides of the backrest and hingedly connected, at the upper ends, to said backrest, with their lower ends detachably engaging said teeth, a book shelf hingedly connected to the face of the backrest, and a weighted lip hingedly connected to the outer edge thereof.

4. A foldable bookrest of the character described, comprising a base, teeth provided thereon, a backrest hingedly secured to the forward edge of the base, legs cut from the sides edges of the backrest and hingedly connected thereto with the lower ends engageable with said teeth, a book shelf hingedly secured to the face of the backrest, means on said shelf for holding the pages of a book in open position, and extensible members on said backrest and adjustable horizontally for supporting sheets of greater marginal dimensions than the bookrest.

5. A foldable bookstand of the character described, comprising a base provided with rows of corrugations forming teeth adjacent the side edges thereof, a backrest hingedly connected to the forward edge of the base, legs cut from the side edges of the backrest and hingedly secured, at their upper ends to said backrest, a strip connecting the lower ends of the legs to form a unitary structure, a book shelf hingedly connected to the face of the backrest, a lip hingedly connected to the free edge of the shelf and normally overhanging said shelf, and a hingedly connected leg on said shelf and normally bearing against the backrest when the shelf is in position to support a book.

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