

May 1, 1923.

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L. T. OBELE

FOLDING SHELF AND PAPER RACK

Filed April 12, 1921

Fig. 1.

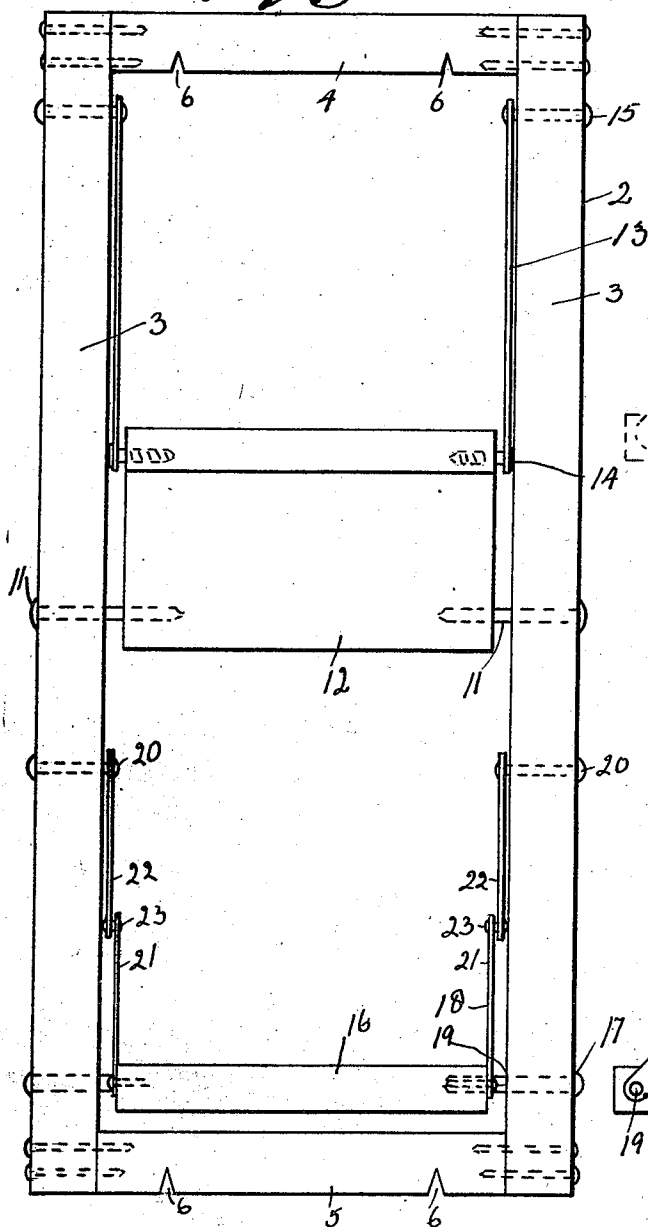
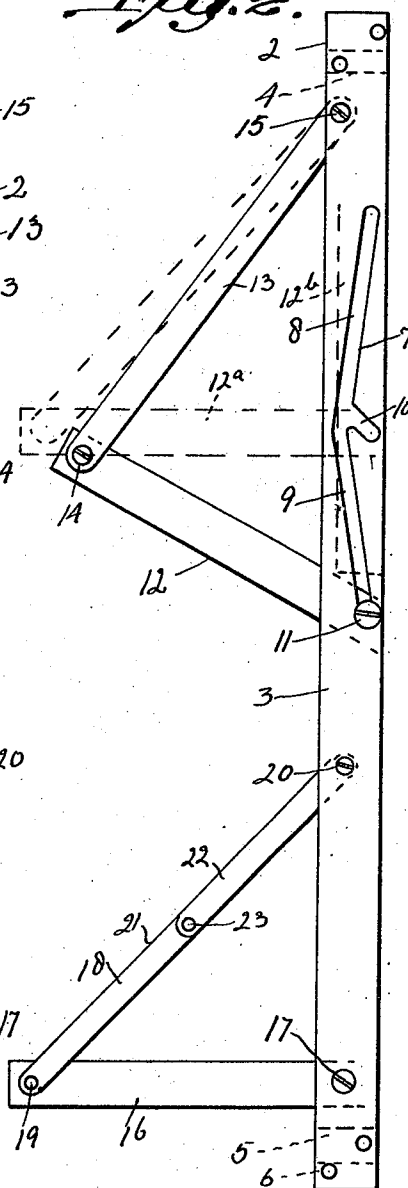


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LAWRENCE T. OBELE, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

FOLDING SHELF AND PAPER RACK.

Application filed April 12, 1921. Serial No. 460,724.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LAWRENCE T. OBELE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented new and useful Improvements in Folding Shelves and Paper Racks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to new and useful improvements in combination folding shelves and paper rack, and has for its object to so construct such a device that the shelves may be adjusted to different positions and certain thereof arranged at such angles as to be utilized as a paper rack.

Another object of the invention is to provide a frame having means to register with suitable supporting devices and carrying shelves which may be folded into a closed position or adjusted to a horizontal position and certain of said shelves be capable of further adjustment to assume an inclined position for use as a paper rack.

Another object of the invention is to provide the side bars of the frame with slots of unique shape to permit of the aforementioned adjustments.

With these ends in view, this invention consists in the details of construction and combination of elements hereinafter set forth and then specifically designated by the claims.

In order that those skilled in the art to which this invention appertains, may understand how to make and use the same, I will describe its construction in detail, referring by numerals to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this application, in which:—

Fig. 1, is a front elevation of my combination folding shelves and paper rack; and

Fig. 2, is a side elevation or edge view thereof illustrating in dotted lines some of the different adjusted positions.

In carrying out my invention as here embodied, 2 represents a rectangular frame comprising two parallel side bars 3, a top cross piece 4 and a bottom cross piece 5, both cross pieces being suitably attached to the side bars at the ends thereof. Said side bars and cross pieces may be formed from any suitable material having any adaptable cross section.

In the lower edge of each of the cross pieces are formed notches 6 for registration with suitable supporting devices such as

nails, screws or their equivalent secured to a wall or other object. Said notches prevent the frame from shifting or becoming accidentally displaced.

Each of the side bars 3 has a slot 7 there through consisting of two legs 8 and 9 at angles to each other with an offset notch 10 communicating with the slot at approximately the juncture of the two legs and in these slots are slidably mounted the trunnions 11 preferably in the form of screws suitably attached to the shelf 12 so as to be carried thereby.

Hangers 13 pivoted by means of screws or their equivalent 14 to each side of the shelf at its outer end are also pivoted to the side bars of the frame by means of screws 15 or their equivalent.

When the trunnions 11 rest in the lower ends of the slots 7 the shelf 12 will be held in an inclined position, as shown, but if the rear end of the shelf is raised until the trunnions rest in the notches 10 communicating with the slots 7, said shelf will be held in a horizontal position, as shown by dotted lines designated by the numeral 12^a and if the rear end of said shelf is further raised until the trunnions are at the upper ends of the slot 7 said shelf and its hangers 13 will be folded within the confines of the frame as shown in dotted lines and designated by the numeral 12^b.

In the frame 2 is also mounted another shelf 16 the rear end of which is pivoted as at 17 to the side bars of said frame, while to the forward end of said shelf at each side thereof are pivoted the folding hangers 18 as at 19, the other ends of said hangers being pivoted at 20 to the side bars of the frame. Each of said hangers 18 consists of two members 21 and 22 pivoted to each other as at 23.

This form of shelf can be adjusted to lie in a horizontal position, as shown, as it can be folded up within the frame by swinging the same about its pivot points 17 at which time the members of the hangers will collapse and fold upon each other as will be obvious.

Although I have only illustrated this invention as embodying two shelves the lower one of which is adjustable to only two positions because it is undesirable to use the lower shelf as a paper rack, it will be obvious that a plurality of shelves embodying the same construction can be carried by

the frame and where more than two shelves are to be used it is desirable that all but the lower one be constructed as shown in the upper shelf.

5 Of course I do not wish to be limited to the exact details of construction as herein shown as these may be varied within the limits of the appended claims without departing from the spirit of my invention.

10 Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and useful is:—

1. In a device of the character stated, a frame consisting of two side bars and upper and lower cross pieces, said side bars each
15 having slots therethrough, each slot comprising two legs at angles to each other with an offset notch communicating therewith at approximately the juncture of the two legs, a shelf, non-collapsible hangers pivoted to
20 the forward end of said shelf and to the bars of the frame above the slots therein, and pivoting trunnions passing through the slots and secured to the rear end of the shelf, said trunnions resting in the lower ends of

the slots to hold the shelf in an inclined position, in the offset notches for holding the shelf in a horizontal position and assuming a position at the upper ends of said slots when the shelf is collapsed within the frame.

2. In a folding shelf, the combination of a frame including parallel side bars, said side bars having similar slots each comprising two legs at angles to one another with an offset notch communicating therewith at the juncture of said legs and lying in the crotch
35 produced by the angularity of said legs, a shelf, trunnions carried by said shelf and adjustably mounted in the slots, hangers pivoted to the side edges of the shelf adjacent its outer end and also pivoted to the
40 inner faces of said side bars whereby the hangers may swing into the space between the shelf and side bars as the inner end of the shelf is raised above the horizontal to telescope it within the frame.

45 In testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed my signature:

LAWRENCE T. OBELE.