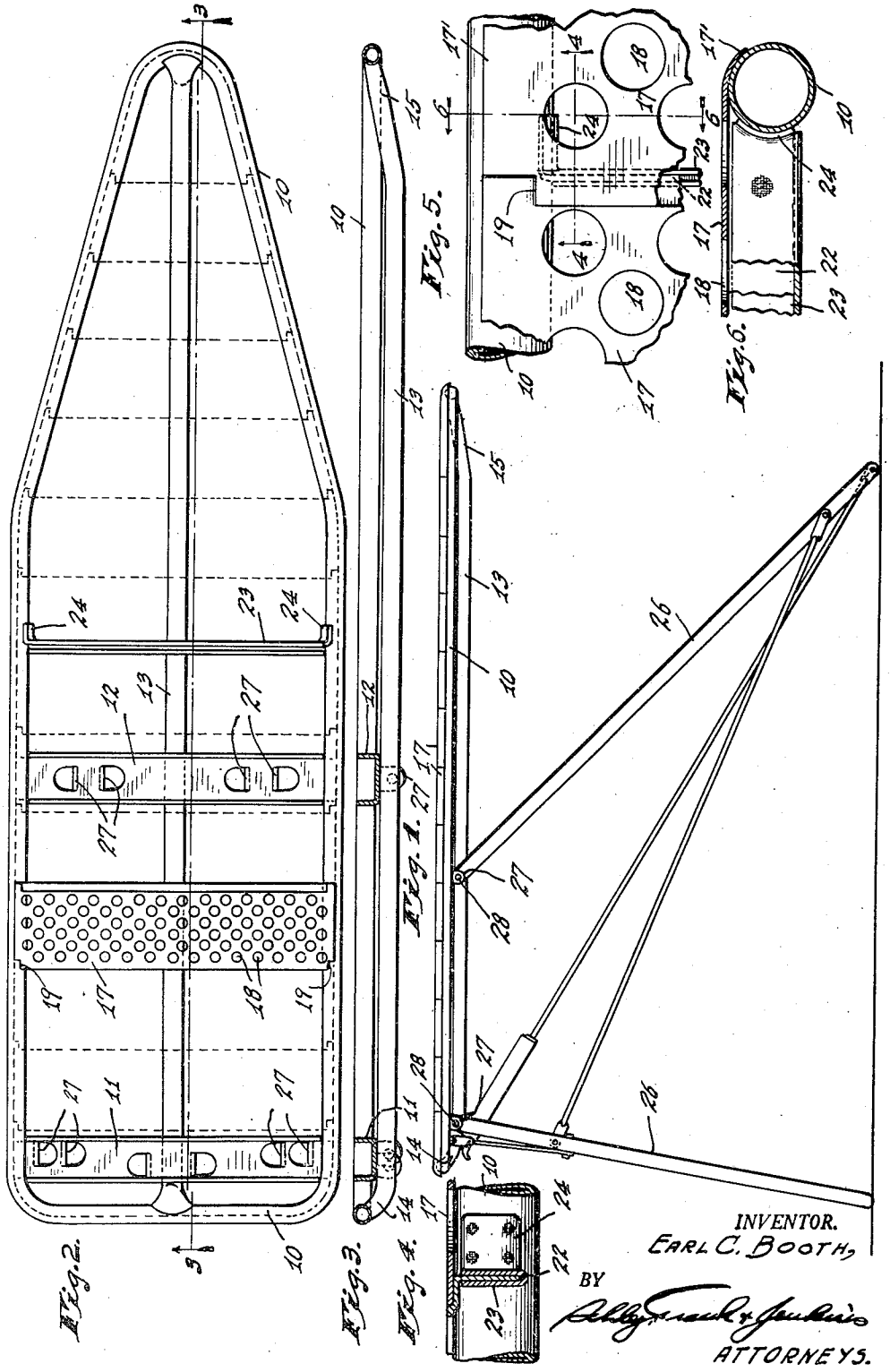
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FABRICATED TOP FOR IRONING TABLES

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FABRICATED TOP FOR IRONING TABLES

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7 Claims. (Cl. 38—137)

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My invention relates to ironing boards and has for its object the production of a metal ironing-board top which can be simply and economically manufactured, which will be light in weight, and which will possess adequate strength and rigidity.

An ironing-board top embodying my invention comprises a border frame formed of metal tubing and provided intermediate its length with one or more cross members formed of sheet-metal. Extending longitudinally of the board is a truss-like brace passing below and secured to said cross members and having its ends bent upwardly and secured to the ends of the border frame. The entire border frame is covered with a series of transversely extending sheet-metal panels, the edges of which desirably overlap. One edge portion of each panel is bent downwardly to form a substantially vertical flange received within a sheet-metal channel extending across and secured to the border frame. The supporting structure for the top, which may take any desired form, is desirably connected to the cross members.

The accompanying drawing illustrates my invention. Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a complete ironing board in erected condition; Fig. 2 is a top plan view of my improved top showing one panel and one channel in position; Fig. 3 is a vertical section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1; Fig. 4 is a fragmental vertical section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 5. Fig. 5 is a fragmental plan view similar to Fig. 2 but on an enlarged scale; and Fig. 6 is a fragmental vertical section on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5.

The top shown in the drawing comprises a border frame 10 formed of metal tubing bent into the shape of the periphery of the common ironing-board top, the two sides of the frame being parallel for a part of the length of the top and then converging and joining each other through a curved end portion. Extending transversely of the top are a pair of cross members 11 and 12 each conveniently formed of sheet-metal bent into a channel cross-section and having ends secured, as by welding, to the sides of the border frame.

Extending longitudinally of the frame 10 there is a truss-like brace 13 desirably formed of metal tubing. The brace 13 passes beneath and is secured to the cross members 11 and 12. The cross members 11 and 12 are so disposed vertically relative to the border frame that the brace 13 passing beneath them will lie a distance below the plane of the border frame, and the ends of the brace 13 are bent upwardly as indicated at 14 and 15 to join the ends of the border frame to which they are secured, as by welding.

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The border frame is covered with a series of sheet-metal panels 17 which extend transversely of the border frame and which desirably are provided with a multiplicity of perforations 18. The ends of each of the panels 17 are bent downwardly as shown at 17' to conform to the curvature of the tubing of which the frame 10 is formed and are secured to such frame as by welding. To strengthen the top, the side edges of adjacent panels 17 desirably overlap. As will be clear from Fig. 5 the right hand edge of each panel 17 is offset downwardly between the sides of the frame 10 to receive the left-hand edge of the adjacent panel, the amount of such offsetting being substantially equal to the thickness of the metal of which the panels 17 are formed so that the upper surfaces of the panels will be flush with each other. The left-hand edge of each panel 17 is provided at its ends with notches 19 each proportioned to receive the unoffset portions of the right-hand edge of the adjacent panel 17.

In addition to being offset to receive the left-hand edge of the adjacent panel, the right-hand edge of ecah panel is bent downwardly to provide a vertical flange 22 which extends substantially for the full distance between the sides of the frame 10. The flange 22 of each panel is received within a channel 23 which is conveniently formed as a sheet-metal stamping provided at each end with an ear 24 which lies against the inner surface of the border frame and is secured thereto as by spot-welding. The sides of each channel 23 are desirably secured to the flange 22 between them by spot welding.

The cross members 11 and 12 form a convenient means for attaching the top to a collapsible supporting structure 26. To this end, the webs of the channel-section cross members 11 and 12 are cut to provide ears 27 which are bent downwardly out of the plane of the channel-web and into parallel relationship so that elements of the supporting structure 26 may be pivotably secured between them as by pivot bolts or pins 28'. The particular supporting structure 26 shown in the drawing forms no part of my present invention, but is more fully described and claimed in my copending application Serial No. 646,367 filed February 8, 1946. Obviously, my ironing-board top is not limited to use with any particular form of supporting structure.

I claim as my invention:

1. In an ironing-board top, an elongated border frame, a longitudinally extending brace having its ends secured to said border frame, said brace having an intermediate portion de-

pressed below the plane of the border frame, a cross-member above and secured to the depressed intermediate portion of said brace and having its ends secured to the sides of said border frame, a plurality of sheet-metal panels covering said border frame, adjacent transverse edge portions of adjacent panels overlapping each other, the lower of each two overlapping edge-portions being offset downwardly between the sides of the border frame and the ends of the other overlapping edge-portion being notched above the sides of the border frame to receive the ends of the first edge-portion whereby the upper surfaces of the panels will be flush with each other, the offset edge-portion of each panel being provided with an integral, downwardly projecting flange extending transversely of the border frame, and a sheet-metal channel receiving and secured to each of said flanges and provided at its ends with integral ears secured to said border frame.

2. In an ironing-board top, an elongated border frame, a longitudinally extending brace having its ends secured to said border frame, said brace having an intermediate portion depressed below the plane of the border frame, a cross-member above and secured to the depressed intermediate portion of said brace and having its ends secured to the sides of said border frame, a plurality of sheet-metal panels covering said border frame, adjacent transverse edge portions of adjacent panels overlapping each other, the lower of each two overlapping edge-portions being offset downwardly between the sides of the border frame and the ends of the other overlapping edge-portion being notched above the sides of the border frame to receive the ends of the first edge-portion whereby the upper surfaces of the panels will be flush with each other, the offset edge-portion of each panel being provided with an integral, downwardly projecting flange extending transversely of the border frame, and a sheet-metal channel receiving and secured to each of said flanges and having its ends secured to said border frame.

3. In an ironing-board top, an elongated border frame, a longitudonally extending brace having its ends secured to said border frame, said brace having an intermediate portion depressed below the plane of the border frame, a cross-member above and secured to the depressed intermediate portion of said brace and having its ends secured to the sides of said border frame, a plurality of sheet-metal panels covering said border frame, adjacent transverse edge portions of adjacent panels overlapping each other, the lower of each two overlapping edge-portions being offset downwardly between the sides of the border frame and the ends of the other overlapping edge-portion being notched above the sides of the border frame to receive the ends of the first edge-portion whereby the upper surfaces of the panels will be flush with each other.

4. In an ironing-board top, an elongated border frame, a longitudinally extending brace having its ends secured to said border frame, said brace having an intermediate portion depressed below the plane of the border frame, a cross-member above and secured to the depressed intermediate portion of said brace and having its ends secured to the sides of said border frame, a series of sheet-metal panels each extending transversely of said border frame between the sides thereof and secured at their ends to such frame-sides, one transverse edge of each panel being bent downwardly to form an integral, downwardly projecting flange extending transversely of the border frame, and a sheet-metal channel receiving and secured to each of said flanges and having its ends secured to said border frame.

5. In an ironing-board top, an elongated border frame, a plurality of sheet-metal panels covering said border frame, adjacent transverse edge portions of adjacent panels overlapping each other, the lower of each two overlapping edge-portions being offset downwardly between the sides of the border frame and the ends of the other overlapping edge-portion being notched above the sides of the border frame to receive the ends of the first edge-portion whereby the upper surfaces of the panels will be flush with each other, the offset edge-portion of each panel being provided with an integral, downwardly projecting flange extending transversely of the border frame, and a sheet-metal channel receiving and secured to each of said flanges and provided at its ends with integral ears secured to said border frame.

6. In an ironing-board top, an elongated border frame, a plurality of sheet-metal panels covering said border frame, adjacent transverse edge portions of adjacent panels overlapping each other, the lower of each two overlapping edge-portions being offset downwardly between the sides of the border frame and the ends of the other overlapping edge-portion being notched above the sides of the border frame to receive the ends of the first edge-portion whereby the upper surfaces of the panels will be flush with each other.

7. In an ironing-board top, an elongated border frame, a series of sheet-metal panels each extending transversely of said border frame between the sides thereof and secured at their ends to such frame-sides, one transverse edge of each panel being bent downwardly to form an integral, downwardly projecting flange extending transversely of the border frame, and a sheet-metal channel receiving and secured to each of said flanges and having its ends secured to each of said flanges and having its ends secured to said border frame.

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