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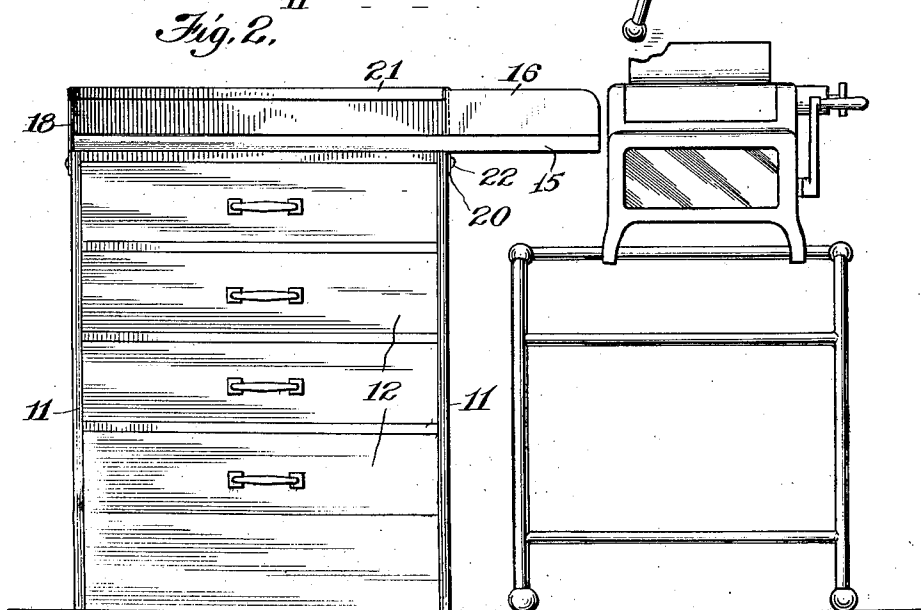
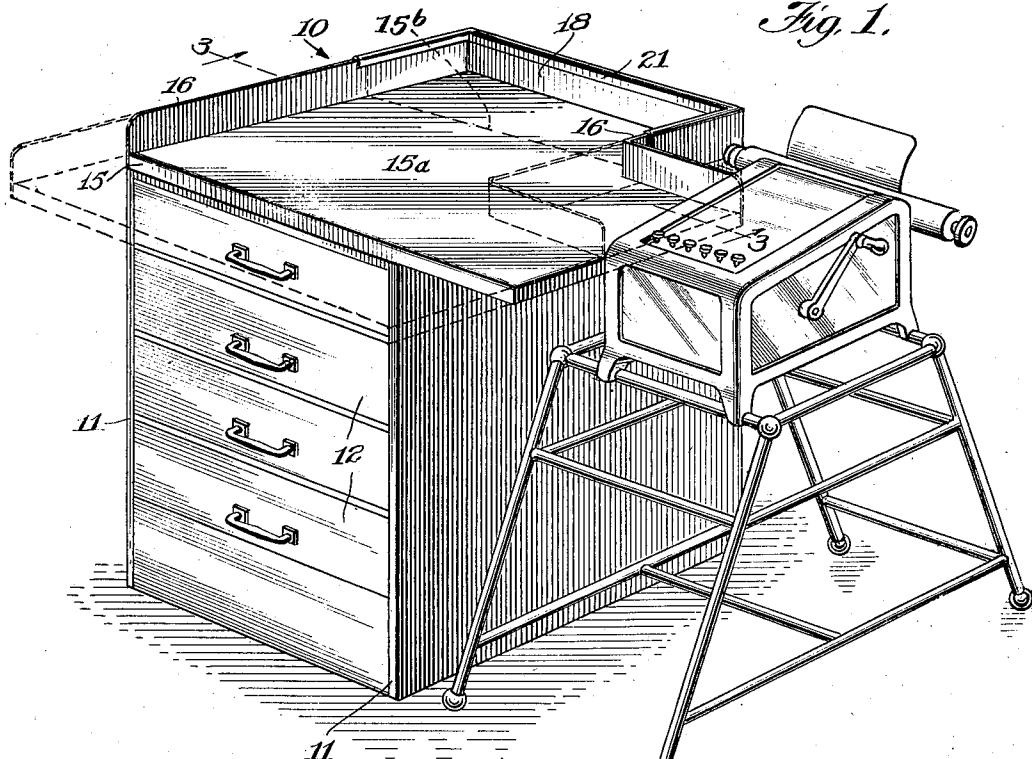
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BOOKKEEPER'S DESK

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2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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BOOKKEEPER'S DESK

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My invention relates to improvements in desks, and more particularly to improvements in tops for bookkeepers' desks.

One of the objects of my invention is to provide a small compact desk for use with bookkeeping or adding machines and the like and yet provide a maximum amount of top space.

Another object of my invention is to provide means for readily increasing the area of the desk top wherein the desk top comprises two parts, one slidable in relation to the other and adapted to be easily extended therefrom with the least possible effort on the part of the user.

Another object of my invention is to provide an extensible desk top which when extended maintains the original entire width of the top.

Another object of my invention is to provide an extensible desk top which extension is not limited by the size of the top of the desk.

A further object of my invention is to provide a desk top which is readily adaptable for use with a bookkeeping or other machine in such a manner that the operator may assume the most comfortable and convenient position and still have ready access to the machine and books or ledgers.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a desk top which is readily attachable to or detachable from the ordinary type of bookkeeper's desk and is simple in construction, easy to operate and economical to manufacture.

In modern bookkeeping practice it is desirable to provide each bookkeeper with a complete "plant" so that everything needed is at hand and in a single unit, and desirable equipment is often needed in large commercial bookkeeping establishments. The desk used in such units must be compact so as to provide an economy of space and at the same time, when it often becomes necessary to examine large bulky ledgers which are awkward to handle in the space provided on the top of the usual desk, and when it is desirable to have extra top space for sorting various papers, such as checks, bills and the

like, the ordinary type of bookkeeper's desk is inadequate.

In my invention I have produced a device which provides ample space when desired and which space may be readily reduced when the device is not in use. I attain the objects of my invention by providing a slidable desk top which is extensible throughout the entire width of the desk to provide room for the use of large bulky posting ledgers or account books and room to sort checks and other papers. A guard rail is provided at the back and sides of the top to prevent papers from being thrown from or blown off the desk. The means for increasing the surface area of the desk and reducing it readily at will is operable in a quick and simple manner.

Means is also provided to prevent the accidental over extension of the desk top.

These and other objects, advantages and features of my invention will readily become apparent through the following description and accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a bookkeeper's desk embodying the features of my invention illustrating the top in an extended position in dotted lines, and showing a bookkeeping machine in operating position adjacent to said desk;

Fig. 2 is a front view of the desk shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a vertical cross section of the desk top of my invention taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the desk top shown in its closed position;

Fig. 5 is a side elevation of the desk top shown in extended position with parts broken away to illustrate certain details more clearly;

Fig. 6 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical section taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 7 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical section taken on the line 7—7 of Fig. 4.

Referring now to the drawings in detail in which like reference characters designate like parts through the several views, Fig. 1 illustrates a bookkeeper's desk designed and embodying the features of my invention.

The construction is preferably of sheet metal, owing to its strength and fire resisting qualities, but may be made of any other suitable material.

The desk consists of sheet metal side panels 11 and has a plurality of suitable drawers 12 which are used for filing various cards, papers and the like, and the interior design of which may be made convenient and suitable to the type of bookkeeping for which the desk is to be used.

My invention consists of a particular top for this desk which has a telescopic arrangement and is extensible to increase the working space of the top. This top is indicated in general by the numeral 10 and is designed with one rear corner partly cut away to facilitate its use in conjunction with bookkeeping or other machines wherein such a space is desirable to allow for the shifting of the motor carriage of the machine when it is placed in a desirable close position to the desk.

The top 10 comprises a metal top 15 having upwardly extending sides 16 formed integral therewith along the sides to guard against papers being accidentally displaced from the top. A second top 17 is provided which has upwardly extending sides 18 suitably fastened thereto, as will hereinafter be described, which form a guard rail at the sides and rearward portions of the top (Figs. 1, 2 and 3). These guard rails 18 have overlapping upper edges 21 which are turned inwardly and are adapted to receive the upwardly extending sides 16 of the top member 15 in a cooperative manner, so that the sides 16 are slidable therein. The top 17 has a pair of downwardly extending edges 19 formed on either side of the desk and arranged in parallel as illustrated in Fig. 3. Angular rail members 20 are permanently joined along the parallel edges 19 of the top 17 in any suitable manner, preferably by spot welding. The lower vertical portions of the members 20 are provided with holes 21^a which are adapted to receive bolts 22 or other suitable fastenings means. The parallel members 20 are adapted to overlap the sides 11 of the desk, as shown in Fig. 3. The bolts 22 may be extended through the holes 21^a and through suitable holes in the sides 11 of the desk to securely fasten the top 17 thereto. Thus we have the top 17 rigidly secured to the desk, so that it is stationary.

The downwardly projecting portions 19 of the top member 17 are flared at the bottom to form horizontally disposed edges 23 extending outwardly therefrom. These horizontally disposed edges 23 and horizontal portions 24 of the angular rail members 20 form a groove 25 therebetween.

Angular channel members 27 having horizontally disposed flanges 28 and 29 extend-

ing inwardly therefrom are provided at opposite sides of the top 15. The flanges 28 of these members are suitably fastened as by welding to the under side of the top 15 along the outer edges thereof, and the lower inwardly extending flanges 29 are adapted to enter and slide in the grooves 25 between the members 23 and 24.

It will be readily seen through the above outlined construction that the top 15 is slidably mounted in relation to the stationary top 17, which is securely fastened to the body portion of the desk. This extensible top 10 is not limited in its size by the size of the top of the desk since through the construction disclosed it is apparent that the edges of the slidable top could extend in width any desired distance of projection from the top of the desk.

The top 15 has a cover of linoleum 15^a suitably secured thereon to provide a smooth working surface on the top of the desk, and a like linoleum covering 17^a is provided on the stationary top 17.

As shown in Figs. 4 and 5, the slidable metal top 15 has its rearward edge upturned to form a bevel 15^b which binds the rearward edge of the linoleum 15^a. When the top 15 is telescoped and in its normal closed position, as illustrated in Fig. 4, it is superimposed upon the stationary top 17, and when it is extended, as illustrated in Fig. 5, the surface area of the desk is increased by exposing the linoleum cover 17^a of the stationary top 17.

A safety catch locking device is illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6, which prevents the sliding top 15 from being accidentally withdrawn from telescoped engagement with the stationary top 17. This lock comprises a latch 30 pivotally mounted on a pin 31, which pin is rigidly secured in the channel member 27, which is secured to the slidable top portion 15. The pivot 31 is mounted off center so that the lower end 32 of the latch 30 will be maintained in a downward position by its own weight. The horizontally outward extending portion 23 of the stationary top member 17 is provided with a short slot 35 as illustrated in Fig. 5. This slot is placed near the forward end of the member 23 in alignment with the latch 30, so that the end 32 of the latch will drop into engagement therewith after the slidable member 15 of the desk top has been extended the maximum desired distance. The latch thus prevents accidental disengagement of the slidable top from the stationary top. Two of these latches are provided, one on each side of the desk in the channel 27 as described.

In doing bookkeeping work, when it becomes necessary to have additional space for sorting checks, papers or the like, or to examine account books or ledgers which are extremely bulky, the operator need but

grasp the forward edge of the slidable desk top 15 and draw it out until the latch 30 engages the slot 35, uncovering the linoleum top 17^a and exposing the surface area of its entire width to provide the necessary amount of required space. When not in use the sliding top is telescoped with the stationary top with little effort on the part of the user.

It will be apparent that the desk top as described may be manufactured integrally with a suitable bookkeeper's desk, or the top may be made separate and apart from such a desk and readily attached to or detached from any ordinary type of bookkeeper's desk.

I claim:

1. In a desk structure, an adjustable top comprising a pair of parallel elongated right angle members, means to secure said right angle members to the top of a desk, a top piece having depending parallel sides the lower ends of which are flared outwardly, said depending sides being secured complementary to said channel members to form elongated grooves therebetween, a pair of parallel U-shaped channel members the lower edges of which are adapted to be contained by and slide in the aforesaid elongated grooves, and a second top piece permanently secured to the upper edges of said U-shaped channel members.

2. In a desk structure, a pair of parallel elongated right angle members formed integral with and on either side of a flat top, a pair of parallel angular elongated channel members permanently secured to said right angle members in a manner to form parallel elongated grooves therebetween, a pair of parallel U-shaped elongated channel members the lower edges of which are adapted to fit and slide in said grooves, and a second top permanently secured to the upper edges of said U-shaped channel members whereby the top is movable therewith.

3. In a desk structure, a pair of parallel elongated right angle members formed integral with and on either side of a flat top, a pair of parallel angular elongated channel members permanently secured to said right angle members in a manner to form parallel elongated grooves therebetween, a pair of parallel U-shaped elongated channel members the lower edges of which are adapted to fit and slide in said grooves and the upper edges of which are formed integral with and on either side of a second flat top, a pair of latches pivotally mounted on the inner sides of the U-shaped channel members, and a pair of slots formed in the elongated right angle members in alignment with said latches and adapted to receive said latches to limit the movement of the U-shaped member.

4. An extensible desk top structure comprising a top having upstanding rail members at the back and rearward portions of

the sides thereof, means to secure said top to a desk, a second top having upstanding rail members along the opposing sides substantially in alignment with the first mentioned side rails of the first mentioned top, and means whereby the first top may slide relative to the second top and the associated side rails be telescoped therewith.

5. An extensible desk top structure comprising a top having upstanding rail members at the back and rearward portions thereof the upper edges of which are turned downwardly, a second top having upstanding rail members along the side thereof and adapted to fit and slide in the downturned edges of the rails of the first mentioned top, and means to slide the second top relative to the first top.

6. An extensible top desk comprising a rectangular body, a top extending laterally beyond one side of the body and rearwardly to a point forwardly of the rear of the body and forming in effect a cutout rear corner, a marginal wall along the rear of said top and along a lateral side, said top comprising a fixed surface member and a slidable surface member in a plane parallel therewith, said members being in overlying relation when not extended, and a marginal wall for the lateral edge of said slidable surface member adjacent said lateral wall of the top to form a lateral wall for the slidable member when in extended position.

7. An extensible top desk comprising a body, a stationary horizontally disposed top member, a slidable horizontally disposed top member, one of said members extending laterally beyond a side of the body member from the front to a point forwardly of the rear of the body forming a cutout rear corner effect, said slidable member movable to a forwardly extended position, and a vertically upstanding wall forming a marginal wall for a lateral edge of said movable member when in its extended position, said top members being in overlying relation when not extended.

8. An extensible top desk comprising a body, a stationary horizontally disposed top member, a slidable horizontally disposed top member, one of said members extending laterally beyond a side of the body member from the front to a point forwardly of the rear of the body forming a cutout rear corner, said slidable member movable to a forwardly extended position, a vertically upstanding wall forming a marginal wall for a lateral edge of said movable member when in its extended position, said top members being in overlying relation when not extended, and means for maintaining said movable member in a plane parallel with said fixed member when extended.

9. An extensible top desk comprising a body, a substantially horizontal top cover-

ing the vertical projection of the body and extending laterally beyond one side of the body and rearwardly to a point forwardly of the rear, forming in effect a cutout rear corner, a fixed marginal wall for the rear of the top and for the lateral edges extending a distance forwardly of the rear, said top comprising a fixed surface member and a slidable surface member, in a plane parallel therewith, said members being in overlying relation when not extended, and a vertically upstanding wall member forming a marginal wall for a lateral edge of said movable member when in its forwardly extended position.

10. An extensible top desk comprising a body, a top for the desk having a cutout rear corner and a portion forwardly of said corner extending laterally beyond one side of the body, a fixed upstanding marginal wall along the rear edge of the top and along the lateral edges to points forwardly of the rear, said top comprising a fixed top surface member and a forwardly slidable top surface member in a plane parallel therewith, and means forming a lateral marginal wall for the movable surface member when in its extended position.

11. An extensible top desk comprising a rectangular body, a top for the desk having a cutout lateral rear corner and a portion forwardly of said corner extending laterally beyond the side of the body, a fixed upstanding marginal wall along the rear side, along the lateral wall of the body at the cutout corner and along the opposite lateral wall, substantially to the front of the top, said top comprising a fixed top surface member and a forwardly movable top surface member in substantially the same horizontal plane therewith, said surface members being in overlapping relation when the movable member is in its rearward position, and a longitudinal upstanding member forming a marginal wall for the movable member when in its forward position.

12. An extensible top structure for a rectangular desk body, comprising a low upstanding marginal wall along an edge thereof, the top structure comprising a fixed surface member and a slidable surface member disposed in a plane parallel therewith and slidable in a direction parallel with the wall to provide, when thus extended, a broad substantially flat open continuous working surface of enlarged area, the members being in overlying relation when the slidable member is not extended, and a slidable marginal wall for the slidable surface member forming, when the latter is in its extended position, substantially an extended continuation of the first mentioned upstanding wall.

13. A unitary extensible top structure for detachable securement to a rectangular body unit, comprising a fixed marginal wall along

the rear edge and a lateral side edge thereof, the top structure comprising a fixed surface member and a forwardly slidable surface member disposed in a plane parallel therewith, the members, when thus extended, forming a broad substantially flat continuous open working surface of enlarged area, and when not extended being in overlying relation, and a forwardly slidable marginal wall for the lateral edge of the slidable member adjacent said lateral side edge of the top structure which slidable wall constitutes in effect an extension of the fixed upstanding wall when the slidable member is in its forwardly extended position.

14. A commercial bookkeeper's desk comprising a unitary cabinet body of rectangular base, a top structure for detachable securement thereto comprising a fixed top surface member coextensive at its rear and lateral edges with the vertical projection of the cabinet body, a slidable top surface member coextensive at one lateral edge with the corresponding body side but at its other edge substantially overhanging the corresponding lateral wall of the body, said overhanging portion extending rearwardly only to a point a spaced distance forwardly of the rear wall of the body, and rearwardly of that point its lateral edge extending only to the corresponding lateral wall of the body, means on said top structure for slidably supporting the slidable member for forward extension to overhang substantially the front wall of the body, a fixed upstanding marginal wall for the fixed member along the rear and adjacent portions of the lateral edges thereof, and an upstanding lateral wall carried by the slidable member at the marginal edge thereof opposite the laterally overhanging portion and telescoping with the fixed upstanding wall to form in effect an extension thereof when the slidable top member is extended.

15. The combination with a sheet metal desk of the class described comprising a rectangular body unit and a sheet metal top structure therefor substantially co-extensive with the vertical projection of the body at the rear and one lateral side thereof, but at the opposite side and forwardly of the rear, extending considerably beyond the lateral wall of the body to overhang the same leaving a cut-out rear corner at said opposite side and wherein the top structure has a low upstanding wall along the rear edge and along a portion of each contiguous lateral edge and wherein the top structure presents an edge of substantial thickness along the front including the laterally overhanging portion,—of means for forwardly extending the top structure, including said front edge, to provide a continuous open working surface of increased area considerably overhanging the front wall of the body, said

means being included in the top structure and comprising a fixed rearward top surface member, a second top surface member of sheet metal extending substantially from
5 the first-mentioned lateral edge to the lateral edge of the laterally overhanging portion and carrying an exposed downward thickness-simulating flange along substantially its entire front edge, and means on the
10 top structure for slidably mounting the second surface member for reciprocation from a rearward position superposed upon the fixed surface member with the horizontal projection of the latter within said front
15 flange, to a forward suspended position overhanging the front wall of the body, at which position any vertical offset between the fixed and slidable surface members is less than the height of said flange.
20 In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name this 17 day of March, 1927.

GEORGE W. SCHULZ.

DISCLAIMER

1,765,742.—*George W. Schulz*, Cleveland, Ohio. BOOKKEEPER'S DESK. Patent dated June 24, 1930. Disclaimer filed July 11, 1932, by the assignee, *Yawman and Erbe Mfg. Co.*

Hereby enters this disclaimer to claim 15 of said patent which is in the following words, to-wit:

"15. The combination with a sheet metal desk of the class described comprising a rectangular body unit and a sheet metal top structure therefor substantially co-extensive with the vertical projection of the body at the rear and one lateral side thereof, but at the opposite side and forwardly of the rear, extending considerably beyond the lateral wall of the body to overhang the same leaving a cut-out rear corner at said opposite side and wherein the top structure has a low upstanding wall along the rear edge and along a portion of each contiguous lateral edge and wherein the top structure presents an edge of substantial thickness along the front including the laterally overhanging portion,—of means for forwardly extending the top structure, including said front edge, to provide a continuous open working surface of increased area considerably overhanging the front wall of the body, said means being included in the top structure and comprising a fixed rearward top surface member, a second top surface member of sheet metal extending substantially from the first-mentioned lateral edge to the lateral edge of the laterally overhanging portion and carrying an exposed downward thickness-simulating flange along substantially its entire front edge, and means on the top structure for slidably mounting the second surface member for reciprocation from a rearward position superposed upon the fixed surface member with the horizontal projection of the latter within said front flange, to a forward suspended position overhanging the front wall of the body, at which position any vertical offset between the fixed and slidable surface members is less than the height of said flange."

[*Official Gazette August 2, 1932.*]