May 28, 1968 K. D. SCHREYER 3,385,642

DESK CONSTRUCTION

Original Filed Oct. 23, 1965 7 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1

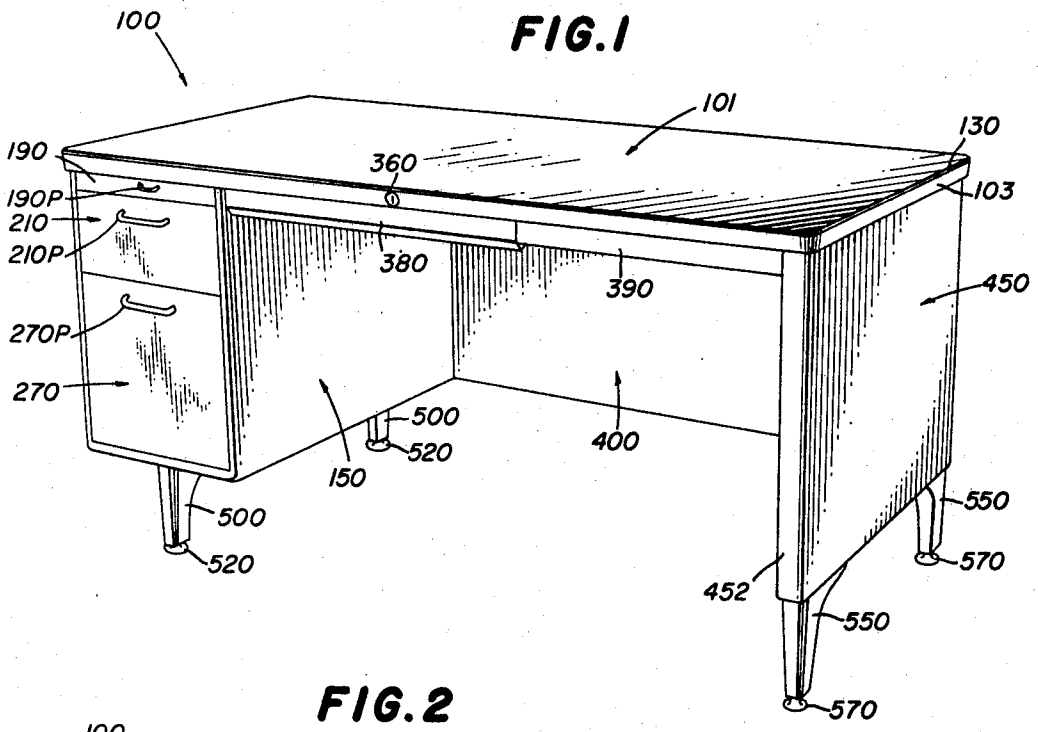
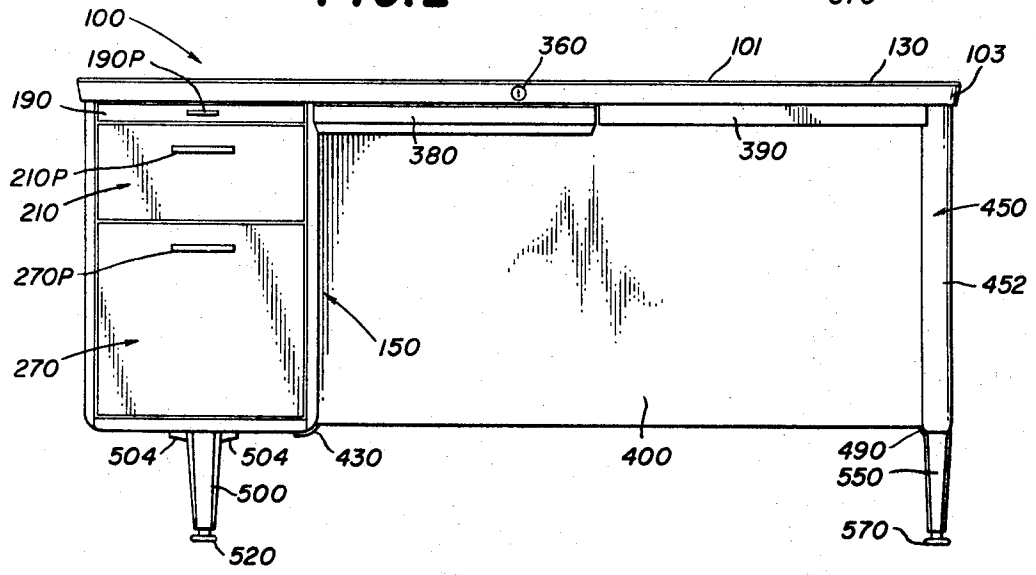


FIG. 2



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BY

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ATTYS.

FIG. 3

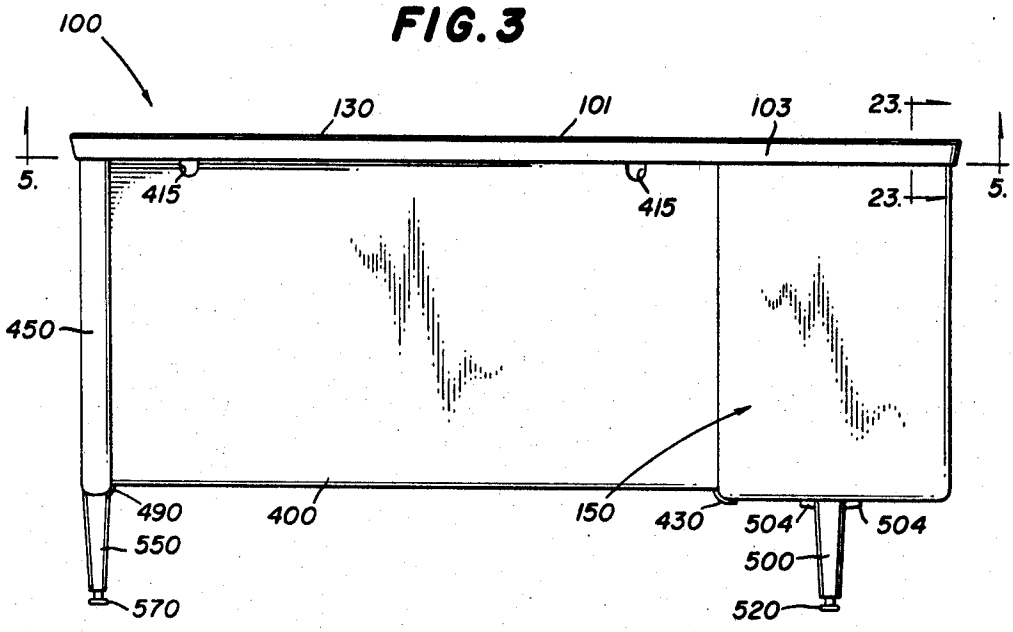
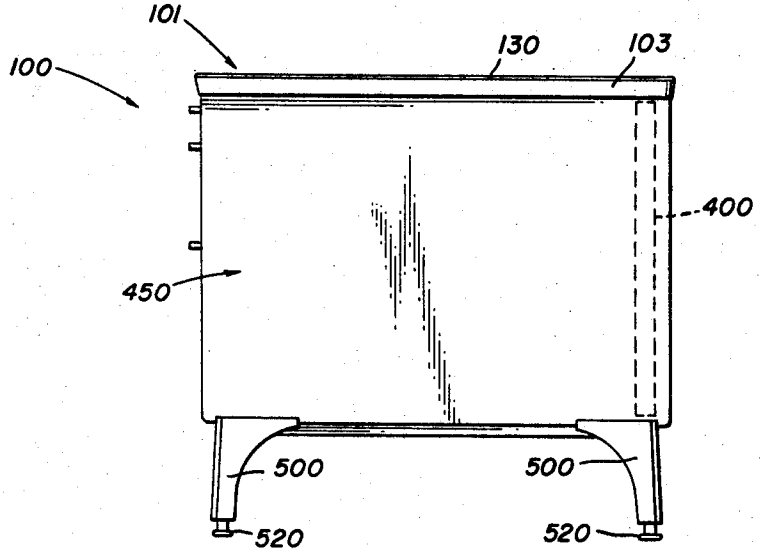

100
130
101
103
23.
5.
415
415
23.
5.
450
490
550
570
400
150
430
504
504
500
520

FIG. 4


101
100
130
103
400
450
500
500
520
520

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FIG. 5

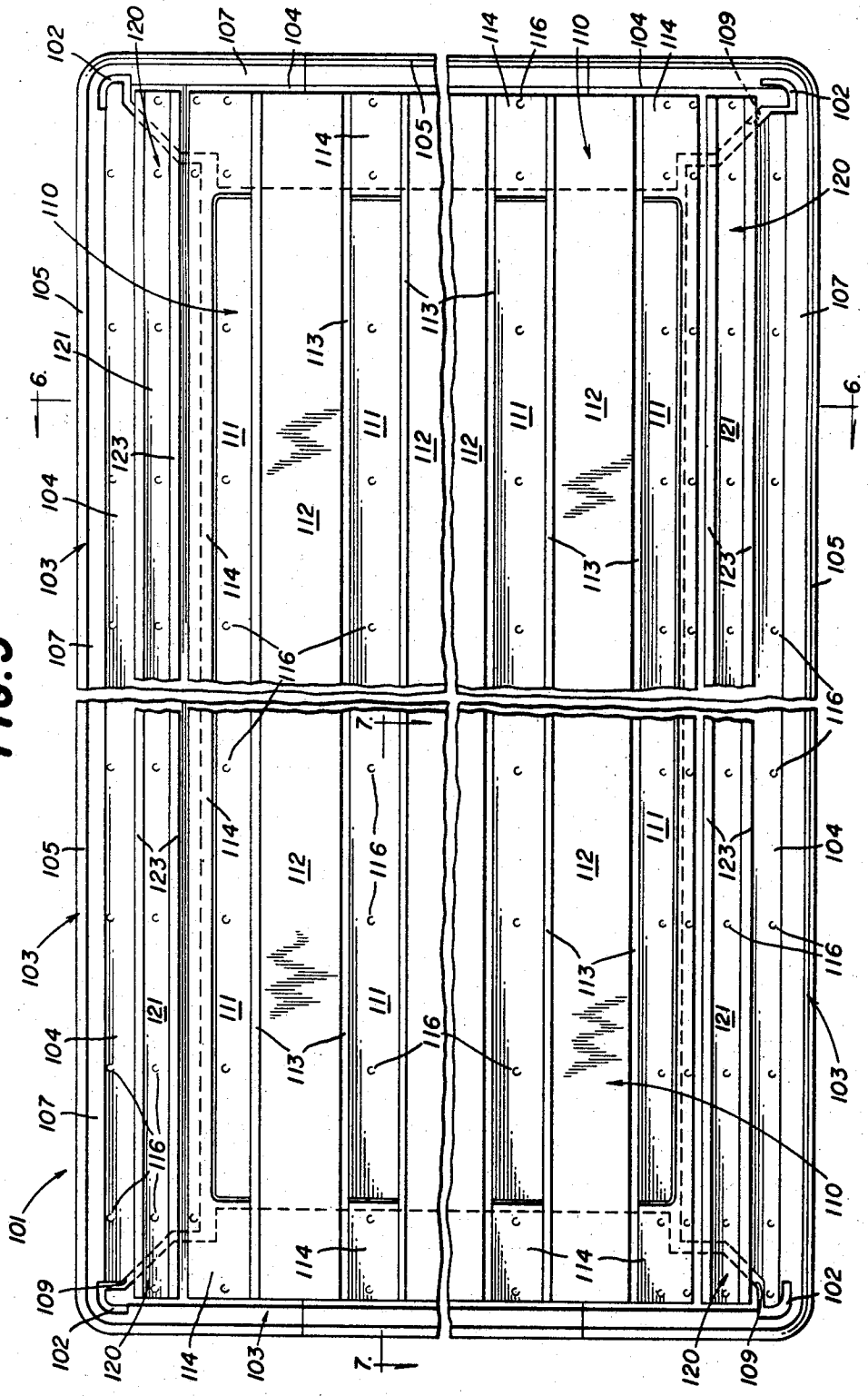


FIG. 6

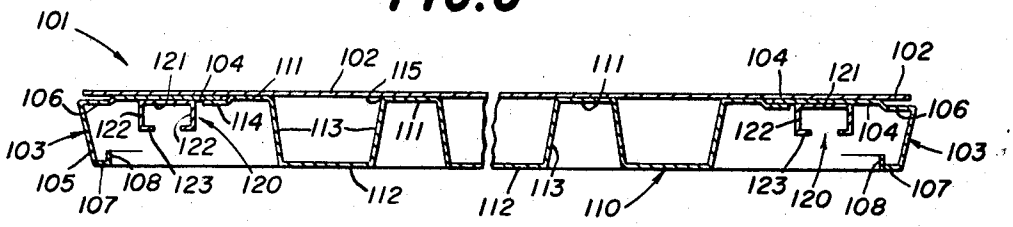


FIG. 7

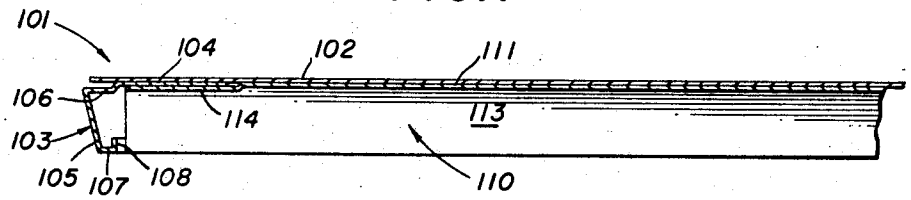


FIG. 8

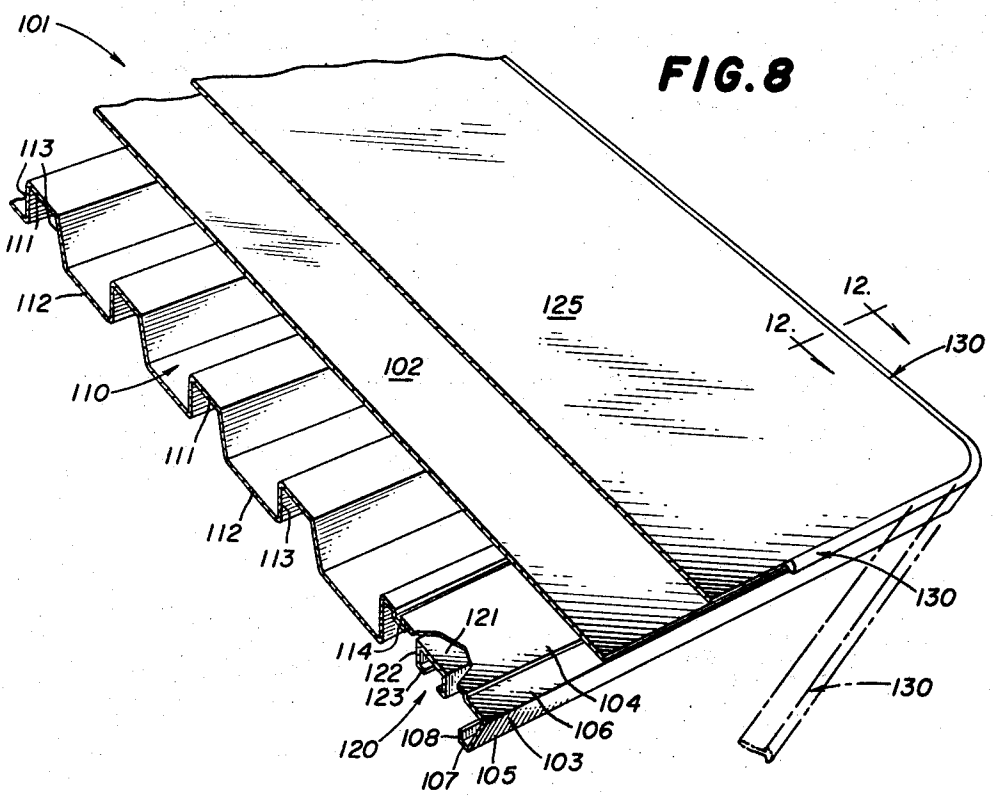


FIG. 9

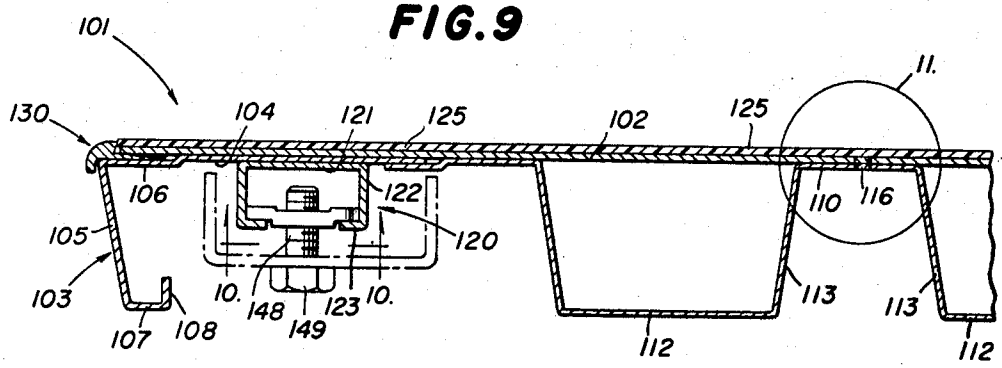


FIG. 10

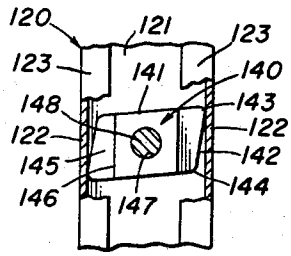


FIG. 11

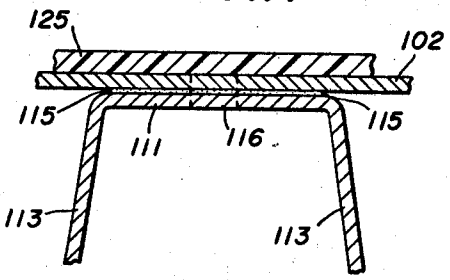


FIG. 12

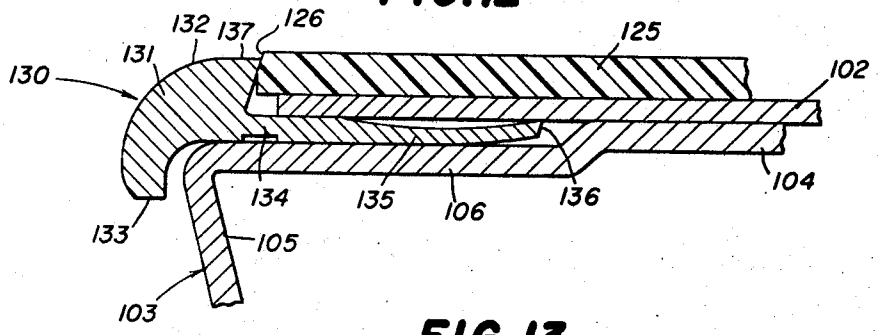


FIG. 13

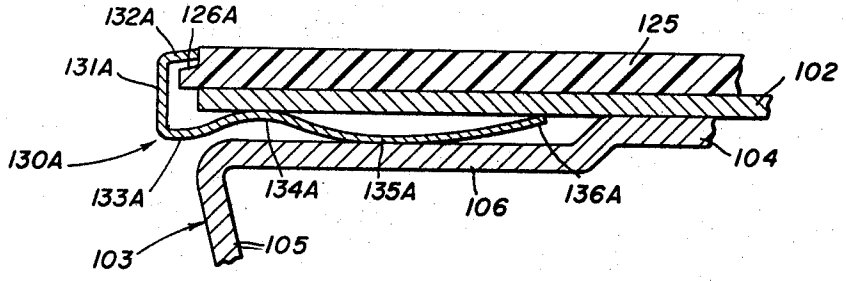


FIG. 14

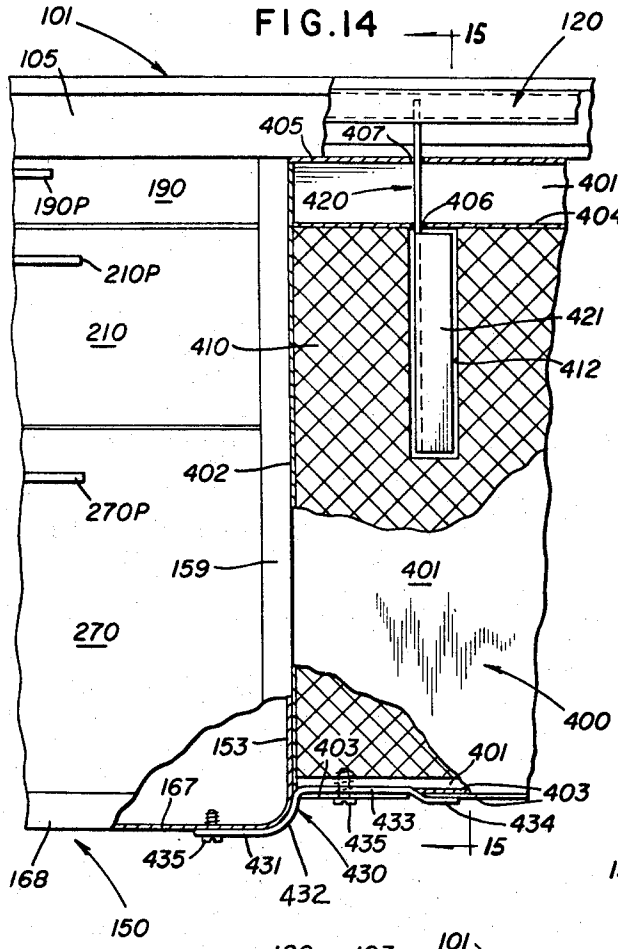
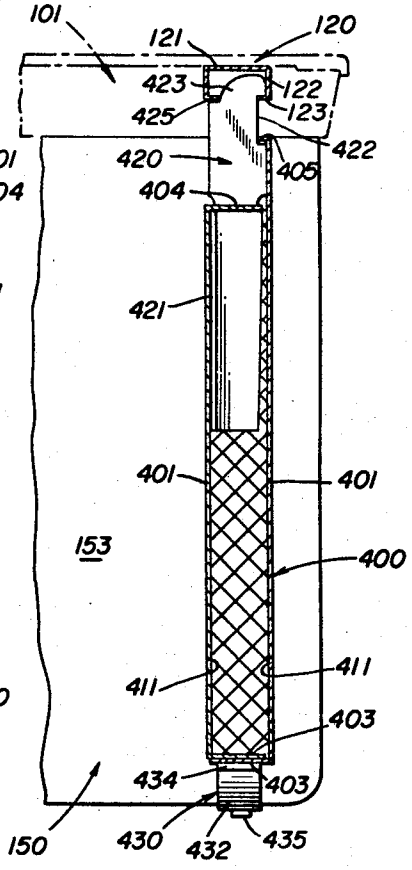


FIG. 15



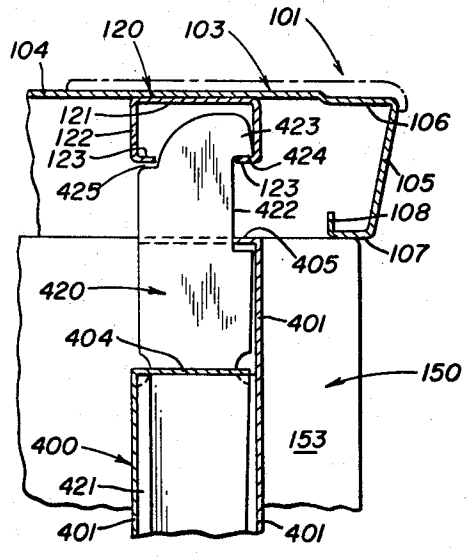


FIG. 16

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FIG. 17

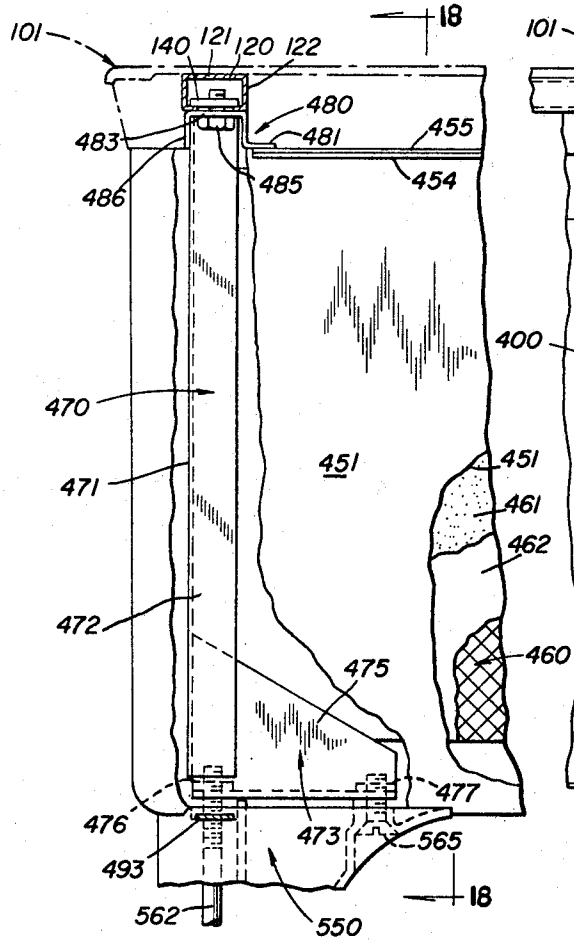


FIG. 18

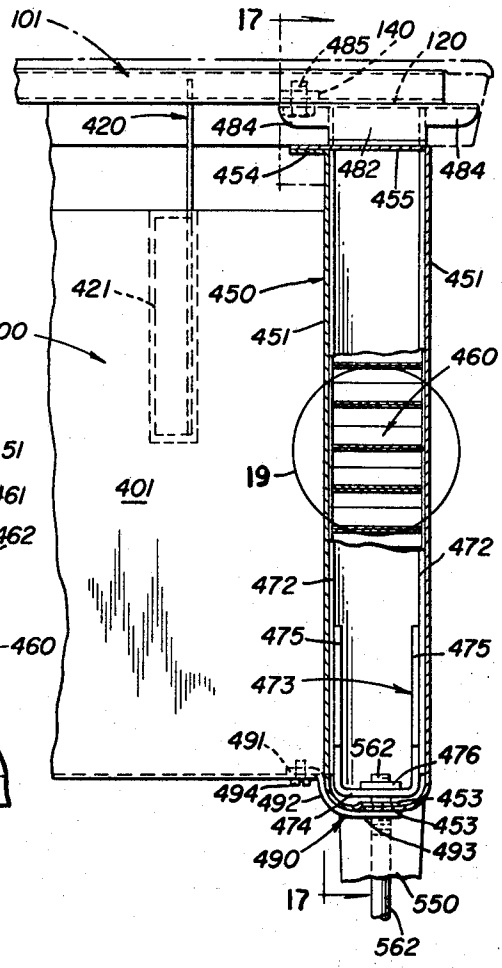


FIG. 19

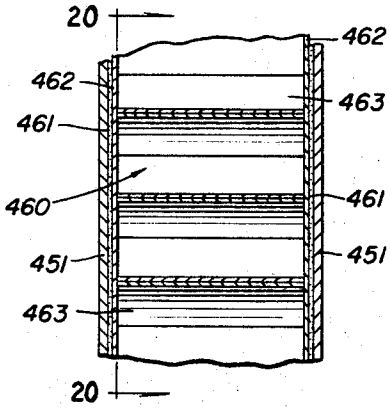
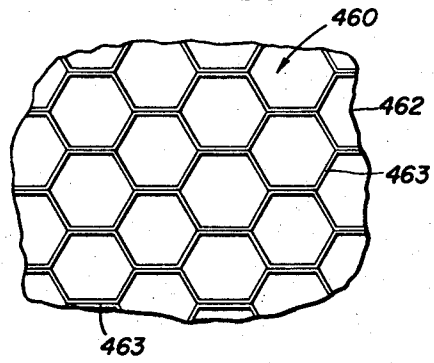


FIG. 20



United States Patent Office 3,385,642 Patented May 28, 1968

3,385,642

DESK CONSTRUCTION

Kenneth D. Schreyer, Doylestown, Pa., assignor to Lyon Metal Products, Incorporated, Aurora, Ill., a corporation of Illinois

Original application Oct. 23, 1965, Ser. No. 503,157. Divided and this application Apr. 5, 1967, Ser. No. 635,941

10 Claims. (Cl. 312—195)

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention is directed to a desk including a top having a substantially flat top plate, a mounting channel disposed on the underside of the top plate and spaced inwardly from the rear edge thereof and including a pair of downwardly extending side walls and a pair of inwardly directed flanges on the lower edges thereof and having the inner edges spaced apart, an edging extending along the rear edge of the top plate and including a dependent side flange that extends downwardly well below the mounting channel; and a back panel disposed below the top adjacent to the rear edge thereof and including a pair of spaced apart and substantially parallel sheet metal side walls connected by a pair of sheet metal end walls and a sheet metal bottom wall, a body of rigid cellular construction disposed between the side walls and substantially filling the space therebetween, layers of adhesive disposed between the inner surfaces of the side walls and the adjacent surface of the cellular body for securing the side walls thereto, and a pair of hangers respectively attached to the back panel at spaced apart points thereon and extending upwardly therefrom, each of the hangers having a hook portion at the upper end thereof and extending upwardly through the space between the adjacent edges of the retaining flanges and overlying one of the retaining flanges to mount the back panel upon the mounting channel, each hanger having an abutment shoulder thereon engaging the lower surface of the other retaining flange.

The present application is a division of the co-pending application Ser. No. 503,157, filed Oct. 23, 1965 for Desk construction.

This invention relates to furniture constructions, and particularly to desks, and to improvements in desk components and the interconnection thereof one with the other.

It is an important object of the present invention to provide an improved back panel for use in furniture construction such as a desk or the like, and specifically for use with the improved furniture top of the present invention, the back panel being of composite construction including a pair of outer metal side walls and a honeycomb construction disposed therebetween and secured thereto by mastic, and a pair of hangers extending upwardly therefrom for engagement with mounting channels on an associated furniture top.

Further features of the invention pertain to the particular arrangement of the parts whereby the above-outlined and additional features thereof are attained.

The invention, both as to its organization and method of construction, together with oher objects and advantages, will best be understood by reference to the following specification taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of a single pedestal desk made in accordance with and embodying the principles of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a front elevational view of the desk of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a rear elevational view of the desk of FIGS. 1 and 2;

FIG. 4 is an end elevational view of the desk illustrated in FIGS. 1 to 3;

FIG. 5 is a view of the underside of the top of the desk of FIG. 3 substantially as seen in the direction of the arrows along the line **5—5** thereof, certain portions being broken away and the trim and covering thereon removed;

FIG. 6 is an enlarged fragmentary view in vertical section through the desk top of FIG. 5 along the lines **6—6** thereof;

FIG. 7 is an enlarged fragmentary view in vertical section through the desk top of FIG. 5 along the line **7—7** thereof;

FIG. 8 is a perspective view with certain portions broken away of a corner of the desk top of FIGS. 1 to 4, a portion of the trim being shown in dashed lines in the position thereof immediately prior to installation thereof;

FIG. 9 is a further enlarged view in vertical section similar to FIG. 6 and illustrating specifically the interconnection between the desk top and the pedestal front frame;

FIG. 10 is a fragmentary view in horizontal section with certain portions broken away along the line **10—10** of FIG. 9;

FIG. 11 is a still further enlarged fragmentary view in vertical section of the portion of the desk top within the circle **11** in FIG. 9;

FIG. 12 is a still further enlarged view in vertical section along the line **12—12** of FIG. 8 and illustrating the mounting of the trim on the edge of the desk top;

FIG. 13 is a view similar to FIG. 12 and showing a modification of the trim construction;

FIG. 14 is an enlarged fragmentary view with certain portions broken away illustrating the construction of the back panel and the connection thereof to the desk top and the adjacent desk pedestal;

FIG. 15 is a view in vertical section along the line **15—15** of FIG. 14;

FIG. 16 is an enlarged fragmentary view illustrating the connection between the back panel and the desk top;

FIG. 17 is an enlarged view with certain portions broken away illustrating the construction of the end panel and the connection thereof to the desk top and to the back panel;

FIG. 18 is a view in vertical section along the line **18—18** in FIG. 17; and

FIGS. 19 and 20 are enlarged views of that portion of FIG. 18 within the circle designated **19** and illustrating the internal construction of the end panel.

Referring now to the drawings, and particularly to FIGS. 1 to 4 thereof, there is illustrated a piece of furniture made in accordance with and embodying the principles of the present invention, a lefthand single pedestal desk **100** having been shown for purposes of illustration. The desk **100** includes a desk top **101** at one end of which is disposed a pedestal **150** supported by a pair of legs **500** having associated feet **520**, the pedestal **150** having mounted therein a shelf **190**, a box drawer **210** and a file drawer **270**, the shelf **190** being provided with a pull **190P**, the box drawer **210** being provided with a pull **210P** and the file drawer **270** being provided with a pull **270P**. Mounted on the other end of the desk top **101** is an end panel **450** supported by a pair of legs **550** having associated feet **570**, the space between the pedestal **150** and the end panel **450** at the rear of the desk top **101** being closed by a back panel **400**; as may be best seen in FIG. 3, the back panel **400** is provided with a pair of wiring openings **415** for the reception of telephone wires

and the like. There further is mounted on the desk top **101** a center drawer **380** and a depending front wall or skirt **390**, a lock **360** being provided in substantially the center of the front edge of the desk top **101** to lock the several drawers **210**, **270** and **380**.

Referring now to FIGS. 5 to 13 of the drawings, additional details of construction of the desk top **101** will be described. As is best seen in FIGS. 6 and 7, the desk top **101** includes a generally flat top plate **102** that is generally rectangular in shape, the corners thereof being rounded, the periphery of the top plate **102** being essentially the same as the periphery of the deck top **101**. Disposed beneath the top plate **102** and extending around the periphery thereof is an edging **103** also formed of sheet metal, a substantially flat piece of sheet metal having been deformed to provide an attachment flange **104**, a side flange **105**, a mounting flange **106**, a bottom flange **107** and an upturned flange **108**. More specifically, the attachment flange **104** is disposed against the underside of the top plate **102** but is spaced inwardly with respect to the outer edge thereof, the outer edge of the attachment flange **104** carrying thereon the mounting flange **106** which is offset downwardly away from the underside of the top plate **102** and extends outwardly slightly beyond the outer edge thereof. As illustrated, the side flange **105** is integral with the mounting flange **106** and depends therefrom and extends slightly inwardly toward the center of the top plate **102**, the flange **105** making an angle of for example 75° with respect to the mounting flange **106**. The bottom flange **107** is disposed on the lower edge of the side flange **105** and extends inwardly substantially parallel to the flanges **104** and **106** and carries on the inner end thereof the upturned flange **108** that extends upwardly toward the top plate **102** and is disposed substantially normal thereto and to the bottom flange **107**. Preferably the edging **103** is formed of two pieces secured to the to plate **102** by welding at the attachment flange **104** and the abutting edges of the edging **103** located substantially at the midpoints of the shorter top sides are also welded to form seams therebetween. By reference to FIG. 5 it will be seen that the attachment flange **104** is cut out as at **109** at the corners of the table top **101** to permit bending of the remaining portions thereof without providing overlapping of the attachment flanges **104**.

Also disposed on the underside of the top plate **102** is a reinforcing sheet **110** formed from a substantially flat piece of sheet metal bent to provide attachment portions **111**, ribs **112** having side walls **113**, and connecting portions **114** at the periphery thereof. The attachment portions **111** are disposed toward the underside of the top plate **102**, there being a body of mastic **115** applied therebetween (see FIG. 11), the preferred mastic being a heat curing mastic sold under the trademark "Presstite No. 719." The attachment portions **111** are further connected to the top plate **102** by welding as at **116**, the heat from the welding operation curing the mastic whereby both the mastic **115** and the weld **116** serve to interconnect the attachment portions **111** and the top plate **102** to provide a firm connection therebetween, the mastic also serving to deaden sound transmission therebetween. The side walls **113** depend downwardly from the attachment portion **111** to form the ribs **112** which are spaced from the underside of the top plate **102**. The connecting portions **114** are offset from the underside of the top plate **102** to accommodate therebetween portions such as the attachment flange **104** on the edging **103**, the three layers mentioned being connected as by welding at **116**.

Also mounted beneath the top **101** are two longitudinally extending and substantially parallel and spaced apart mounting channels **120**, each mounting channel **120** including a longitudinally extending main wall **121** and a pair of depending side flanges **122** carrying on the lower ends thereof respectively inturned holding flanges **123**. As will be explained in detail hereinafter, all of the other parts of the desk **100** are mounted upon the desk top **101** by means of the mounting channels **120**.

Disposed on the upper surface of the top plate **102** is a covering **125**, preferably formed of a synthetic organic resin, the preferred materials being those sold under the trademarks "Textolite," "Micarta" and "Formica." An adhesive is applied both to the upper surface of the top plate **102** and to the lower surface of the covering **125** to provide a good bond therebetween, the preferred adhesive being a synthetic rubber resin adhesive of the contact type such as that sold under the trademark "D–500" by the Armstrong Cork Co., the two parts being oven heated to about 200° F. to drive off the volatile ingredients in the adhesive. The outer edge of the covering **125** extends slightly beyond the outer edge of the top plate **102** (see FIGS. 9 and 12). The upper outer corner being slightly beveled as at **126**.

To complete the desk top **101**, a decorative trim **130** is provided therearound (see FIGS. 8, 9 and 12 particularly). In a first preferred form of the trim **130**, it comprises a length of extruded aluminum metal including a decorative body **131** having a rounded or curved outer surface **132** extending from adjacent to the upper surface of the covering **125** and downwardly below the upper edge of the edging **103** and terminating in the bottom edge **133**. Integral with the body **131** is a neck **134** from which extends an integral mounting tongue **135**, the tongue **135** being concavely curved as viewed in FIG. 12 and having an inner end **136** disposed against the undersurface of the top plate **102**. As constructed, the neck **134** and the mounting tongue **135** both lend resiliency to the trim at the respective points indicated and, as is diagrammatically illustrated in FIG. 8, the trim **130** is installed upon the desk top **101** by progressively urging the mounting tongue **135** into the space defined between the outer edge of the top plate **102** and the mounting flange **106** on the edging **103**. Preferably before installation the mounting tongue **135** has a curvature such that the thickness thereof as viewed in FIG. 12 is greater than the space between the top plate **102** and the flange **106**, whereby the mounting tongue **135** must be resiliently deformed upon insertion into that space, whereby the neck **134** and the inner end **136** are pressed against the underside of the top plate **102** while the lower surface of the mounting tongue **135** presses against the upper surface of the mounting flange **106**. The resilient neck **134** also accommodates a small amount of movement between the trim body **131** and the mounting tongue **135**, thereby to accommodate slight variations in the abutment between the body **131** and the covering **125**, preferably the body **131** having an inwardly directed sharp edge **137** that bears into the covering **125** slightly below the upper surface thereof at the bevel **126**.

There is illustrated in FIG. 13 of the drawings a modification of the trim, it being noted that the covering **125** also has a notch **126A** at the periphery thereof in lieu of the bevel **126** described above with respect to FIG. 12. The trim **130A** illustrated in FIG. 13 is preferably formed of sheet metal, the preferred material being stainless steel, which is bent to provide an outer wall **131A**, a top flange **132A**, a bottom flange **133A**, a curved portion **134A**, a mounting tongue **135A** and an inner end **136A**. As illustrated, the outer wall **131A** is disposed essentially vertically and carries on the upper edge thereof the top flange **132A** that extends inwardly and slightly upwardly from the outer wall **131A** and abuts against the edge of the covering **125** at the notch **126A**. The lower edge of the outer wall **131A** extends downwardly at least to the top of the edging **103** and carries on the lower end thereof the bottom flange **133A** that extends inwardly toward the space formed between the top plate **102** and the mounting flange **106**. The curved portion **134A** extends upwardly from the bottom flange **133** to bear against the undersurface of the top plate **102** and the mounting tongue **135A** extends downwardly therefrom

and presses against the upper surface of the mounting flange **106**, and the inner end **136A** is integral therewith and extends upwardly to contact the underside of the top plate **102**. Prior to the mounting of the trim **130A** and in the normal condition thereof, the curved portion **134A** and the mounting tongue **135A** and the inner end **136A** combine to provide a thickness or vertical extent greater than the distance between the top plate **102** and the flange **106**, whereby in the driving of the mounting tongue **135A** thereinto, the tongue **135A** is resiliently deformed with the curved portion **134A** and the inner end **136A** being resiliently pressed against the underside of the top plate **102** and the mounting tongue **135A** being resiliently urged against the upper surface of the flange **106**, thereby resiliently to hold the trim **130A** in the mounted position around the periphery of the desk top **101**.

As has been mentioned heretofore, all of the other structures combining to form desk **100** are secured to the desk top **101** through the mounting channels **120** on the underside thereof. There is illustrated in FIGS. 9 and 10 of the drawings the details of an improved nut **140** particularly useful for engagement with bolts, it being understood that the nut **140** is not generally accessible to the workmen during assembly with the associated desk bolts. As is best seen in FIG. 10, the nut **140** has the outline of a rhombus having parallel longer sides **141** and parallel shorter sides **142** connected by rounded acute corners **143** and rounded obtuse corners **144**. As illustrated, the distance between the sides **141** is slightly less than the distance between the inner edges of the flanges **123**, whereby the nut **140** can be inserted therebetween at any point therealong, and the corners **143** are adapted to engage the side flanges **122** of the mounting channels **120** to limit the rotation of the nut **140** with respect thereto. The underside of the nut **140** also has the outer ends cut away as at **145** to provide edges **146** spaced apart a distance slightly less than the distance between the inner edges of the holding flanges **123**, whereby the edges **146** depend downwardly along the adjacent inner edge of the associated holding flange **123** also to provide abutment therewith when necessary. Disposed essentially centrally of the nut **140** is a threaded opening **147** threadedly to receive therethrough a threaded shank such as the shank **148** of the bolt **149** as illustrated.

Referring to FIGS. 14 to 20 of the drawings, there are illustrated the details of construction and mounting of the back panel **400**, the back panel **400** being disposed toward the rear of the desk top **101** and disposed immediately below the rear mounting channel **120** thereon and extending between the pedestal **150** and the end panel **450**. As may be best seen in FIG. 15, the back panel **400** includes a pair of substantially rectangular side walls **401** formed of sheet metal and disposed substantially parallel to each other, the ends of the side walls **401** being enclosed by end walls **402** and the bottom edges of the side walls **401** being provided with bottom flanges **403** that overlap and are suitably secured together as by welding. The inner side wall **401**, i.e., the side wall disposed to the left in FIG. 15, has a rearwardly directed upper flange **404** integral with the upper edge thereof and extending rearwardly toward the outer side wall **401** and terminating adjacent thereto (see FIG. 16 also). The outer side wall **401**, i.e., the side wall **401** disposed to the right in FIG. 15, extends upwardly beyond the upper flange **404** and has integral with the upper edge thereof a forwardly directed top flange **405** that overlies and is spaced from the upper flange **404** and in the mounted position is disposed substantially in alignment with the bottom flange **107** on the desk top **101**. Disposed between the side walls **401** and the end walls **402** is a filler **410** of cellular construction and formed of a paper product including a pair of outer layers adhesively secured to an inner body of honeycomb construction, the filler **410** being secured by bodies of mastic **411** disposed between the outer surfaces thereof and the inner surfaces of the side walls **401**, thereby fixedly to mount the filler **410** in the back panel **400**. By reference to FIGS. 14 and 15 it will be seen that the filler **410** extends from a point spaced slightly above the bottom flanges **403** upwardly to the upper flange **404**.

The back panel **400**, as are all of the other parts of the desk **100**, is mounted upon the desk top **101** and particularly upon the rear mounting channel **120** thereof. To this end a pair of hangers **420** is provided, each of the hangers **420** being mounted on the upper portion of the back panel **400** and spaced a short distance inwardly from the end walls **402** thereof. Each hanger **420** further is in the form of a substantially elongated and vertically arranged body extending into an opening **412** in the filler **410** and upwardly therefrom through aligned slots **406** and **407** in the flanges **404** and **405**, respectively, the upper end of the hanger **420** being disposed well above the top flange **405**. Integral with the hanger **420** is an attachment flange **421** disposed substantially parallel to the forward side wall **401** and suitably secured thereto as by welding. The upper end of the hanger **420** has a cutout **422** therein that serves to define a hook-like portion **423** at the upper end thereof having a support edge **424** on the underside thereof adapted to engage the upper surface of one of the inturned holding flanges **123** on the associated mounting channel **120**. The upper edge of the hook-like portion **423** curves downwardly and forwardly (to the left as viewed in FIGS. 15 and 16) and terminates in a forwardly directed abutment shoulder **425**, the abutment shoulder **425** being disposed below the other or forward inturned holding flange **123** on the associated mounting channel **120** and serving to limit movement of the lower end of the back panel **400** in a forward direction. In this manner, the two hangers **420** serve to support the weight of the back panel **400** upon the rear mounting channel **120** and thus upon the desk top **101**. Referring to FIG. 3, it will further be seen that the back panel **400** has a pair of wiring openings **415**, in the upper edge thereof for receiving telephone wires and the like therethrough.

In order to secure the lower lefthand corner of the back panel **400** to the adjacent rear portion of the pedestal **150**, a clip **430** has been provided. The clip **430** is generally a rectangular strip of metal bent and shaped to provide a pedestal attachment flange **431** which lies against the underside of the pedestal bottom wall **167** and is secured thereto as by a screw **435**. Integral with the righthand end of the flange **431** as viewed in FIG. 14 is an upwardly curved portion **432** following the curvature of the pedestal **150** and terminating in a back panel attachment flange **433** disposed substantially parallel to the flange **433**, the flange **433** passing through an opening in the bottom flanges **403** of the back panel **400** and resting upon the upper surface of the lowermost bottom flange **403** and secured thereto as by a screw **435**. The righthand end of the flange **433** carries thereon an offset flange **434** offset downwardly and disposed substantially parallel to the flanges **431** and **433**, the flange **434** extending through a second opening in bottom flanges **403** and lying underneath the lower surface of the lowermost bottom flange **403**. In this manner, the lower lefthand corner of the back panel **400** is securely fastened to the rear righthand portion of the pedestal **150**.

Disposed at the righthand end of the desk **100** is the end panel **450**, the construction and connection thereof being best illustrated in FIGS. 17 to 20 of the drawings. The end panel **450** more specifically is disposed adjacent to the righthand edge of the desk top **101** and extends from a point substantially at the lower edge of the front edging **103** rearwardly to a point immediately below the lower edge of the back edging **103** and actually beyond the rear surface of the back panel **400** (see FIGS. 1 to 4 also). As may be best seen in FIG. 18, the end panel **450** includes a pair of substantially rectangular side walls **451** formed of sheet metal and disposed substantially parallel to each other, the ends of the side walls **451** being enclosed by end walls **452** and the bottom edges of the side walls **451** being provided with bottom flanges **453**

that overlap and are suitably secured together as by welding. The inner side wall **451**, i.e., the side wall disposed to the left in FIG. 18, has a rearwardly directed upper flange **454** integral with the upper edge thereof and extending inwardly toward the pedestal **150**. The outer side wall **451**, i.e., the side wall **451** disposed to the right in FIG. 18, extends upwardly slightly beyond the upper flange **454** and has integral with the upper edge thereof an inwardly directed top flange **455** that overlies and bears against the upper flange **454** and is suitably secured thereto as by welding, the longitudinal extent of the flanges **454** and **455** being less than the longitudinal extent of the end panel **450**, the flanges **454** and **455** terminating at the inner surfaces of the desk top mounting channels **120** as may be best seen in FIG. 17. Disposed between the side walls **451** and the end walls **452** is a filler **460** of cellular construction and formed of a paper product including a pair of outer layers **462** (see FIG. 19) and adhesively secured to an inner body **463** of honeycomb construction and more specifically formed by suitably bent strips of paper having adjacent surfaces glued together as is best illustrated in FIG. 20. The filler **460** is further secured by bodies of mastie **461** to the inner surfaces of the end panel side walls **451** throughout substantially the entire adjacent area thereof, whereby to form a strong yet lightweight structure that has good sound deadening properties. The mastic **461** is preferably a heavy bodied, short, water dispersed asphalt adhesive such as that sold under the trademark "W–870" by Armstrong Cork Co. or "EC–321" by Minnesota Mining & Mfg. Co. Mounted in each end of the end panel **450** is a generally vertically arranged channel **470** having the lower end thereof spaced upwardly from the lower end of the end panel **450** and extending upwardly beyond the upper end of the end panel **450** as is best seen in FIG. 17, the channel **470** including a main wall **471** and a pair of side flanges **472** integral therewith and disposed parallel to each other, whereby to provide a channel that is essentially U-shaped in cross section. The side flanges **472** are suitably secured as by welding to the inner surfaces of the side walls **451**, it being seen from FIG. 18 that the channel **470** extends completely between the side walls **451**. There further is disposed within the lower portion of the end panel **450** and adjacent to the lower end of each of the channels **470** a leg support **473** including a bottom wall **474** from which extend upwardly a pair of parallel side walls **475**, the upper edges of the side walls **475** sloping downwardly from the associated channel **470** as may be best seen in FIG. 17. The side walls **475** are disposed within the side flanges **472** of the adjacent channel **470** and are suitably secured thereto as by welding. There further are provided in the bottom wall **474** two openings and in alignment with each of the openings is an internally threaded nut, two welded nuts **476** and **477** having been provided as illustrated for the mounting of the associated leg **550** thereon as will be described more fully hereinafter. At the upper end of each of the channels **470** there is provided an anchor clip **480** formed of a single sheet of metal shaped to provide the several parts thereof including an attachment flange **481** resting upon the upper surface of the top flange **455** and suitably secured thereto as by welding. Extending upwardly from the attachment **480** is an upstanding flange **482** that carries on the upper edge thereof an outwardly directed mounting flange **483**, both the upstanding flange **482** and the mounting flange **483** having wings **484** extending laterally therefrom and provided in the mounting flange **483** with fastener receiving openings therein to receive bolts **485** for engagement with nuts **140** in the associated mounting channel **120**. Further, the mounting flange **483** has on the outer edge thereof a downturned flange **486** that is suitably secured as by welding to the main wall **471** of the associated upstanding channel **470**, whereby the anchor clip **480** is fixedly secured both to the channel **470** and the side walls **451**.

There further is provided between the lower rear corner of the end panel **450** and the adjacent lower corner of the bottom panel **400** a clip **490** interconnecting the two panels, the clip **490** being formed of a strip of metal bent to provide a back panel attachment flange **491** having integral therewith a curved portion **492** terminating in an end panel attachment flange **493**. The back panel attachment flange **491** extends into an opening in the lower wall of the back panel **400** and is secured thereto by means of a screw **494**. The end panel attachment flange **493** likewise has an opening therein that receives therethrough a screw (to be described later) that connects the flange **493** to the back flanges **453**.

The end panel **450** is supported by two end panel legs **550**, one of the legs **550** being disposed toward the forward end of the end panel **450** and the other leg **550** being disposed toward the rear end of the end panel **450**, both of the legs being centered laterally under the end panel **450**. In order to attach each of the legs **550** to the underside of the end wall **450**, two bolts **562** and **565** have been provided as illustrated in the drawings.

Fundamentally the desk **100** is formed of sheet metal with the exception of the several parts mentioned during the above description. Furthermore, the sheet metal forming the various parts is of relatively light gauge, as will be appreciated from the following examples of the gauge of the sheet metal utilized to form various parts of the desk **100**. For example, in a typical illustrative embodiment of the desk top **101**, the top plate **102** is formed of 20 gauge steel, the edging **103** is formed of 18 gauge steel, reinforcing sheet **110** is formed of 24 gauge steel and the mounting channel **120** is formed of 18 gauge steel. In a typical construction of the back panel **400**, the outer side wall **401** is formed of 24 gauge steel, the inner side wall **401** is formed of 26 gauge steel and the hangers **420** are formed of 14 gauge steel. Similarly, in a typical construction of the end panel **450**, both of the side walls **451** are formed of 24 gauge steel, the channel **470** is formed of 16 gauge steel, the anchor clips **480** are formed of 14 gauge steel and the leg support **473** is formed of 12 gauge steel.

From the above description it will be seen that there has been provided an improved article of furniture, and specifically an improved desk construction, which fulfills all of the objects and advantages set forth above.

There further has been provided an improved back panel of composite construction including a pair of outer metal side walls and a honeycomb construction disposed therebetween and secured thereto by mastic; provided on the back panel is a pair of hangers for mounting the back panel on the mounting channels of the improved furniture top.

While there have been described what are at present considered to be the preferred embodiments of the invention, it will be understood that various modifications may be made therein, and it is intended to cover in the appended claims all such modifications as fall within the true spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A desk top and back panel construction comprising a top including a substantially flat top plate, a mounting channel disposed adjacent to the underside of said top plate and spaced inwardly from the rear edge thereof and secured thereto, said mounting channel including a pair of downwardly extending side walls and a pair of inwardly directed retaining flanges on the lower edges thereof and having the inner edges spaced apart, an edging extending along the rear edge of said top plate and including a dependent side flange that extends downwardly well below said mounting channel, a back panel disposed below said top adjacent to the rear edge thereof, and a pair of hangers respectively attached to said back panel at spaced apart points thereon and extending upwardly therefrom, each of said hangers having a hook portion extending upwardly through the space between the adjacent

edges of said retaining flanges and overlying one of said retaining flanges to mount said back panel upon said mounting channel.

2. The desk top and back panel construction set forth in claim 1, wherein said back panel is disposed directly below said mounting channel and extends upwardly at least to the lower edge of said edging, thereby to conceal the connection between said desk top and said back panel.

3. The desk top and back panel construction set forth in claim 1, wherein each of said hangers further includes an abutment shoulder disposed on the side thereof opposite the direction in which said hook portion extends, said abutment shoulder engaging the lower surface of the other of said retaining flanges to assist in positioning said back panel with respect to said desk top.

4. A desk back panel comprising a pair of spaced apart and substantially parallel sheet metal side walls, a pair of sheet metal end walls interconnecting said side walls at the opposite ends thereof and a sheet metal bottom wall interconnecting said side walls at the lower edges thereof, a body of rigid cellular construction disposed between said side walls and extending between said end walls and substantially filling the space therebetween, layers of adhesive disposed between the inner surfaces of said side walls and the adjacent surface of said body of cellular construction for securing said side walls to said body of cellular construction throughout the adjacent surfaces thereof, and a pair of hangers respectively attached to said back panel at spaced apart points thereon and extending upwardly therefrom, each of said hangers having a hook portion at the upper end thereof for engagement on a retaining flange.

5. The desk top and back panel construction set forth in claim 4, wherein the upper edge of said back panel has a wiring opening therethrough immediately below said top.

6. The desk back panel set forth in claim 4, wherein the one of said side walls to be disposed outwardly in use extending well above the other to cover the major portion of said hangers.

7. The desk back panel set forth in claim 4, wherein the one of said side walls to be disposed outwardly in use extending well above the other and having a flange on the upper edge thereof extending in a direction toward said other side wall.

8. The desk back panel set forth in claim 4, wherein the one of said side walls to be disposed outwardly in use extends well above the upper edge of the other one of said side walls and carries on the upper edge thereof a first flange extending toward the other one of said side walls, and the upper edge of the other one of said side walls having a second flange thereon extending toward said one side wall and overlying the upper portion of said body of rigid cellular construction.

9. The desk back panel set forth in claim 4, wherein each of the hangers further has an abutment shoulder disposed on the side thereof opposite the direction in which said hook portions extend, said abutment shoulders in use assisting in positioning the back panel with respect to the other structures.

10. The desk back panel set forth in claim 4, wherein a pair of wiring openings is provided along the upper edge thereof.

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