May 26, 1970 T. E. FORD 3,514,173

COMBINED ARTIST'S PAINT BOX AND EASEL

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Fig. 1

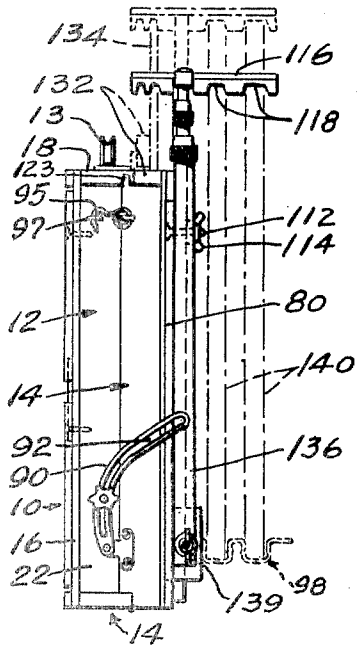


Fig. 2

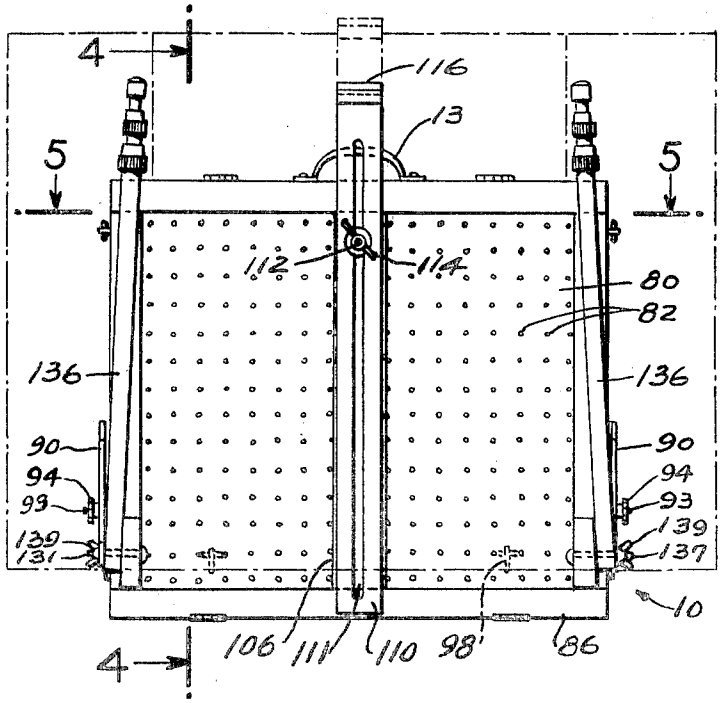


Fig. 4

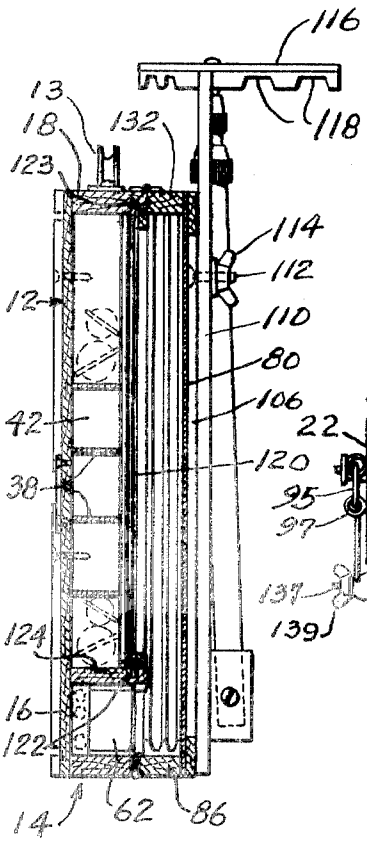


Fig. 3

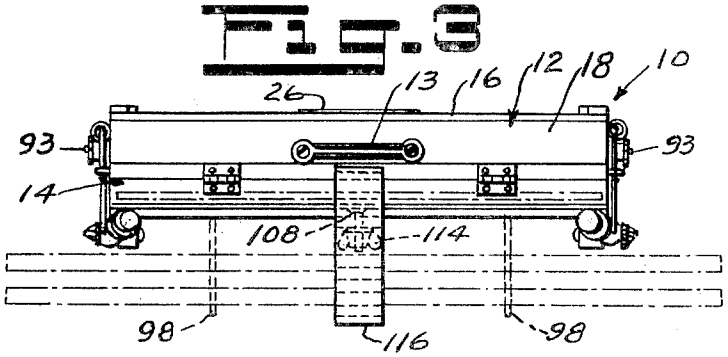
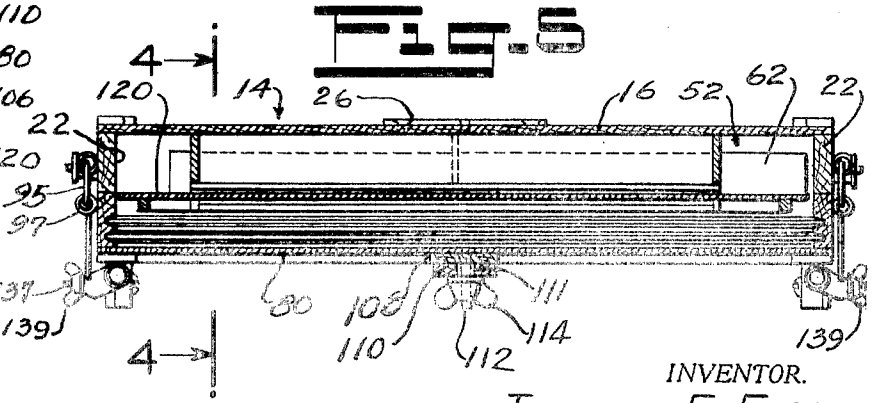


Fig. 5



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Fig. 6

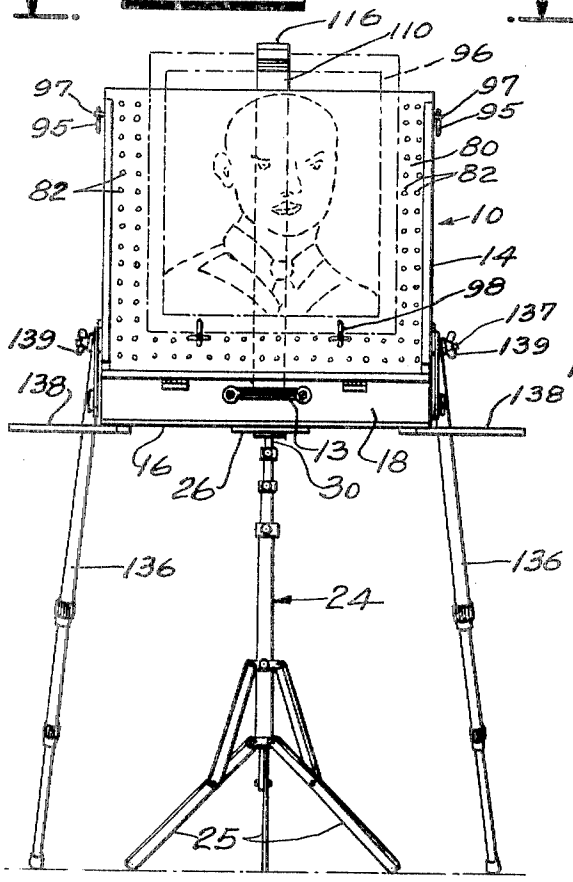


Fig. 7

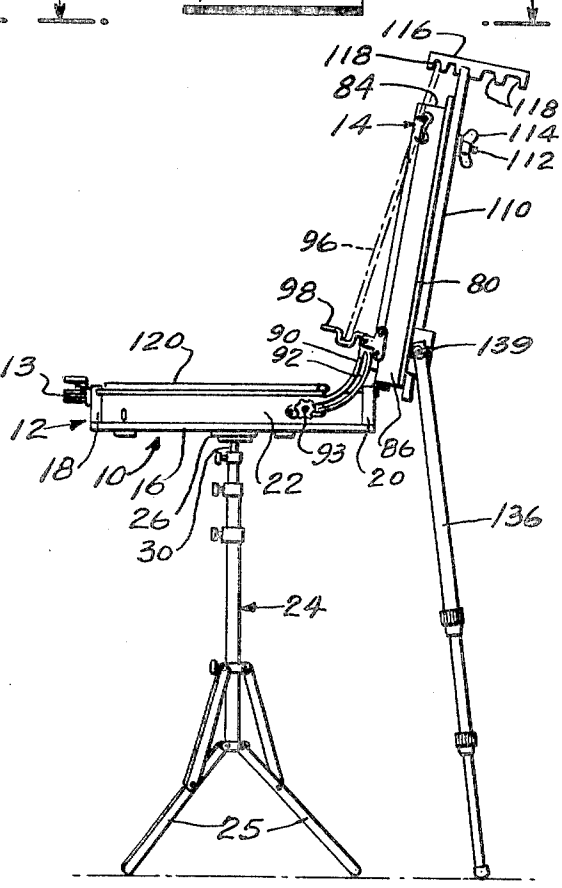


Fig. 8

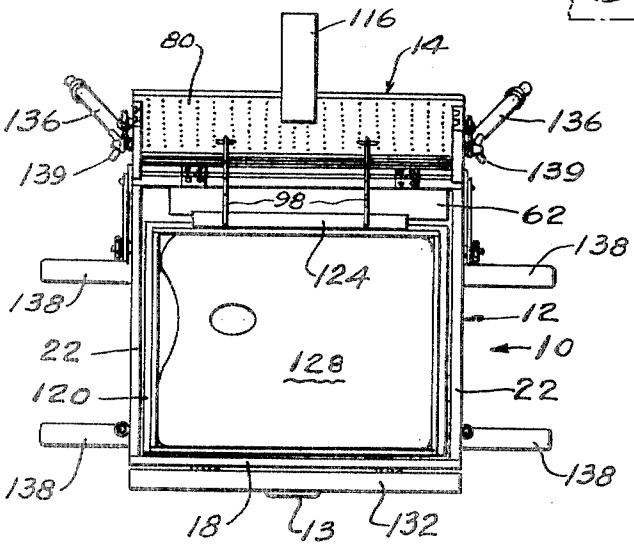
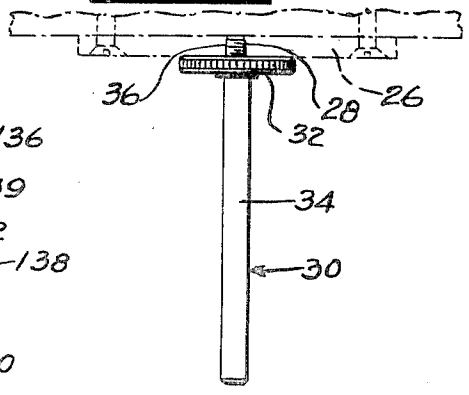


Fig. 14



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COMBINED ARTIST'S PAINT BOX AND EASEL

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Fig. 9

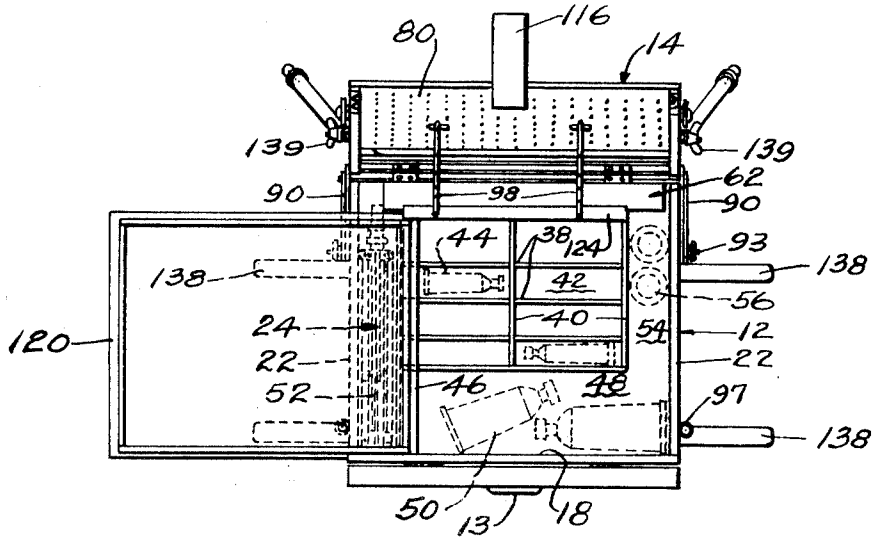


Fig. 10

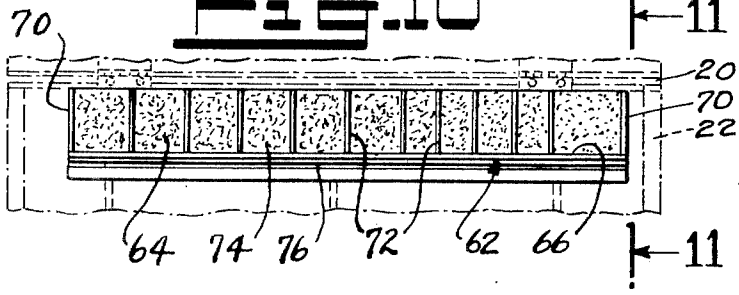


Fig. 11

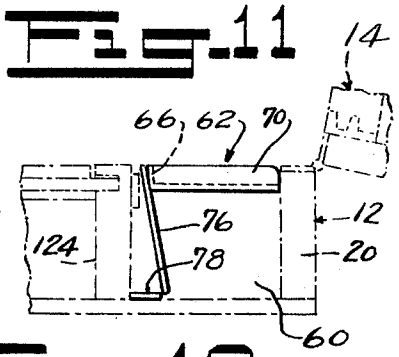


Fig. 12

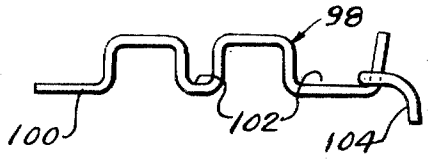
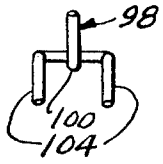


Fig. 13



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3,514,173

COMBINED ARTIST'S PAINT BOX AND EASEL

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U.S. Cl. 312—231 4 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A combined artist's paint box and easel having a compartmented box body open at the top with a hinged cover for closing the opening therein, the hinged cover serving as an easel when in open position. A sliding cover is provided for the open top of the compartments in the body when the box cover is in open position. The hinged box cover is provided with a perforated peg board adapted to receive and support removable brackets. An upright slat having a crosspiece is adapted to coact with the brackets for removably supporting the canvas to be painted upon. A tripod is removably secured to the box body for supporting the box body in horizontal position. A pair of legs is telescopically hinged to the box cover and when the cover is in open position is adapted to engage the supporting surface for steadying the paint box in erected condition. A tray is removably supported in the box body for holding a supply of pigments in spaced compartments therein.

This invention relates generally to painting outfits for artists and more particularly to new and useful improvements in a combined artist's paint box and easel.

The general purpose of the invention is to provide an easily portable painting outfit by which the user can carry to the point of use all required facilities and which can be easily and quickly set up for convenient use of the facilities.

Another object of the invention is to provide a painting outfit for artists with simple and effective arrangements of the extensible and collapsible parts and with simple means whereby these parts may be securely held in collapsed relation for transportation.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a combined paint box and easel which includes a utility compartment for the storage of art supplies in an easily accessible location.

Yet another object is to provide a combined paint box and easel which is of reduced bulkhead when closed while being capable of offering the artist a large useful surface in an operative position.

Still another object is to provide a combined paint box and easel which includes a pigment holder which is conveniently and detachably secured for facilitating cleaning.

Still another object is to provide a combined paint box and easel having a pegboard thereon which supports a plurality of projections in adjustable position, the projections being adapted to engage and detachably support the board or canvas in operative position.

Still another object is to provide a combined paint box and easel wherein the easel is universally adjustable, the inclination and elevation of the easel being each independently adjustable so as to allow the board or canvas to be supported on a sufficiently low plane as well as a proper horizontal distance from the painter.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a side elevational view of a combined paint box and easel embodying my invention, in closed position, canvas boards being shown carried in dot-dash lines.

FIG. 2 is a rear elevational view thereof.

FIG. 3 is a top plan view thereof.

FIG. 4 is a sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of FIG. 5.

FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of FIG. 2.

FIG. 6 is a front elevational view of the combined artist's paint box and easel in open position, and in erected operative position.

FIG. 7 is a side elevational view thereof.

FIG. 8 is a top plan view thereof with the compartment cover in closed position.

FIG. 9 is a view similar to FIG. 8 showing the compartment cover in open position.

FIG. 10 is a top plan view of the removable tray.

FIG. 11 is a sectional view taken on the line 11—11 of FIG. 10.

FIG. 12 is a detail plan view of a bracket.

FIG. 13 is an end view thereof.

FIG. 14 is a detail plan view of the adapter.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Referring in detail to the various views of the drawings, in FIG. 1 a combined artist's paint box and easel **10** embodying the invention is illustrated in closed position. With particular reference to FIG. 6, the combined artist's paint box and easel comprises a box-like body **12** and a hinged cover **14**. The box-like body and cover may be made of wood, plastic or other suitable material.

The box-like body **12** consists of a bottom wall or base **16**, a front wall **18**, a rear wall **20** and side walls **22** as viewed in FIG. 6, and a handle **13**. The device is adapted to be detachably mounted on a conventional tripod having three legs **25**. This detachable mounting includes a metal plate **26** on the bottom surface of the bottom wall **16**, the plate being formed with a socket hole **28**. An adapter **30** consisting of a metal disc **32** with a radial stem **34** extending from one surface thereof and a pin-like plug **36** extending from the opposite surface thereof. The plug **36** detachably seats in the socket hole **28** of the metal plate and the stem **34** is detachably sleeved into the top tubular end of the tripod.

The box-like body **12** has a series of longitudinal partition walls **38** intersected by a transverse partition wall **40**. The walls **38** and **40** define compartments **42** for holding articles used in painting such as tubes **44** of paint and the like. A partition wall **46** extending from the front wall **18** to the rear wall **124** at one side of the interior of the box-like body forms with the walls **38** a compartment **48** for holding larger articles such as tubes **50**. The partition wall **46** also forms with the adjacent side wall **22** of the box-like body another compartment **52** for holding other articles and may also hold the tripod **24** when detached and in collapsed condition for transportation. The other side wall **22** of the box-like body with the adjacent transverse partition wall **40** defines a compartment **54** for holding articles such as turpentine containers **56**. Between the rear longitudinal wall **124** and the rear wall **20** of the box-like body there is a compartment **60** for detachably holding a tray **62** for holding pigments **64**. The detachable tray comprises an

elongated rectangular shaped body with a front side wall **66**, a flat rear side wall **68** and end walls **70, 70**. Partition walls **72** extend across from the front side wall to the rear side wall dividing the tray into a plurality of compartments **74** for holding various colored pigments **64**. The tray is provided with a hinged cover **76** having an extension **78** for manipulating the tray. The top of the tray is on a level with the pallet.

The hinged cover **14** is box-like in configuration with a peg board or base **80** formed with spaced holes **82** over the entire area thereof. A front wall **84** and rear wall **86** are joined by side walls **88**. The hinged connection between the box-like body and cover includes curved hinge plates **90** with elongated closed slots **92** pivotally connected at one end to the side walls **22** of the cover **14** and at the other end to the adjacent side walls **22** of the body. Pins **93** extend radially from the side walls **88** into and through the slots **92**, sliding in the slots. These pins are threaded to receive thumb nuts **94**. The rear and side walls of the cover are adapted to contact and engage with the rear and side walls of the box-like body when the cover is in closed condition as shown in FIG. 1. A pivotal hook **95** and eye **97** hold the cover closed.

An important feature of the present invention is the means for removably supporting a canvas or painting **96** and the like in a vertical position to be painted upon. For this purpose, a pair of wire brackets **98, 98** is provided for the bottom of the canvas to be painted upon. Each bracket **98** has an elongated body **100** bent at intervals therealong to form grooves **102** into which the bottom of the canvas seats. One end of the body is provided with a pair of hooks **104, 104** adapted to be removably inserted through a pair of adjacent holes **82** in the peg board or base **80** of the cover **14**, so that the body **100** of the bracket extends radially forwardly of the peg board or base. A flat bar **196** extends across the cover from the front wall **84** to the rear wall **86** and is provided with central spaced holes **108**. An elongated slat **110** with a closed slot **111** is in juxtaposition with the bar **106** and is slidable thereupon. The slat is provided with a radially protruding threaded bolt **112** protruding through the slot **111** and has a wing nut **114** for engaging the threads of the bolt for holding the slot in adjusted position. At the top free end of the slat **110** as viewed in FIG. 6, a crosspiece **116** of the same material is fixed thereat, extending beyond both sides of the slat. The under surface of the crosspiece **116** is formed with spaced grooves **118** adapted to receive and seat the top of the canvas being painted upon. The bottom end of the convas may be placed in any of the grooves in the brackets **98** and cross piece **116** for supporting the canvas at any inclination desired.

Another important feature of the present invention is a slidable cover or tray **120** for covering the compartments in the box-like body and preventing the articles therein from becoming displaced during transportation. The long edges of the cover slide in grooves **122** formed in the enlargement **124** on the outer surface of the rear wall **124** and a groove **123** in the front wall **18**. The cover serves as a flat support for storing a removable card board pallet **128**.

An extension **132** is hingedly secured to the top surface of the front wall **18** of the box-like body **12**. The extension is adapted to be swung downwardly leaving an elongated opening for fittingly receiving a removable canvas or canvas board **134** or the like when the combined artist's paint box and easel is being transported.

Elongated flat bars **138** may be pivotally secured at one end to the undersurface of the side walls **22** of the box-like body.

In use, the tripod **24** is erected on a supporting surface and the stem **34** of the adapter **30** is inserted into the top thereof. The closed combined artist's paint box and easel is then supported horizontally on the adapter by

positioning the plate **26** over the adapter with the pin-like plug **36** of the adapter inserted into the socket hole **38** of the plate. The cover **14** is then opened and a pair of pivoted telescopic legs **136** secured at one end to a bolt **137** on the side walls **88** of the cover, is swung outwardly of the cover and extended so that they rest on the supporting surface. A wing nut **139** holds the leg in adjusted position. The combined artist's paint box and easel is thus supported on the three legs of the tripod **24** and the two pivotal legs **136**, giving it a five-point support. The cover is supported at a slight slant to the vertical and serves as an easel. The perforated peg board or base **80** of the cover coacting with the brackets **88** and cross piece **116** provide a very fine adjustment for supporting various sizes of canvas and the like for painting upon, in adjusted positions.

The versatility of the peg board or base **80** of the cover is brought out by the fact that the brackets **98** may be inserted into the holes **82** and extended forwardly of the cover for supporting the canvas or canvas board, painting or the like to be painted upon, when painting, and a pair of brackets **98, 98** may be inserted through the holes and extended rearwardly for supporting a canvas or a pair of canvases **140** during transportation of the combined artist's paint box and easel as shown in FIG. 1.

When the box-like body **12** is closed by the cover **14**, all of the tubes of paint, brushes, canvas boards, pallets and the like stay in place. When opened, the artist is ready to work without having to remove anything from the box body. This is made possible by the use of the sliding cover or tray **120**. The cover or tray **120** is able to slide from right to left or from left to right enabling the artist to reach the paint tubes, brushes, paint rags, oil and terpentine without lifting the cover or tray from the box-like body.

When the combined artist's paint box and easel is in closed position, the tray **62** is also closed and may be wrapped with tin foil to keep it air tight which in turn keeps the unused paint in the compartments thereof which was squeezed from the tubes still moist for the next session of painting. When the combined artist's paint box and easel is opened, when painting, the artist can open the cover or tray **62** enabling the artist to dip his brush into moist paint and start painting without having to squeeze colors out of the paint tubes onto the pallet as is the custom in other paint boxes.

I claim:

1. A combined artist's paint box and easel comprising a shallow box-like body open at the top with compartments therein for painting articles and a hinged cover for closing the open top of the box-like body, said cover serving when in open position as an easel for supporting work to be painted upon, said body having a bottom wall and side walls, said cover having a base and side walls, said base constituting a pegboard with perforations to receive and support brackets for supporting the work to be painted upon, a slat being slidably mounted in upright position on the cover when the cover is in open position, said slat having means coacting with the brackets supported in the perforations of the pegboard for supporting work to be painted upon, the brackets comprising wire rods with spaced grooves formed therein for receiving the bottom end of work to be painted upon, said means including a crosspiece carried at the top of the slat, said crosspiece having spaced cross grooves in the undersurface thereof in line with the grooves in the brackets for removably receiving the top end of the work to be painted upon, and a slidable cover shaped to conform to the area of the compartmented sections of the box body, said cover being reciprocally mounted on the compartmented sections of the box body for closing said compartments and for supporting a pallet, and paper for painting upon, and the like.

2. A combined artist's paint box and easel comprising a shallow box-like body open at the top with compart-

ments therein for painting articles and a hinged cover for closing the open top of the box-like body, said cover serving when in open position as an easel for supporting work to be painted upon, said body having a bottom wall and side walls, said cover having a base and side walls, said base constituting a pegboard with perforations to receive and support brackets for supporting the work to be painted upon, a slat being slidably mounted in upright position on the cover when the cover is in open position, said slat having means coacting with the brackets supported in the perforations of the pegboard for supporting work to be painted upon, the brackets comprising wire rods with spaced grooves formed therein for receiving the bottom end of work to be painted upon, said means including a crosspiece carried at the top of the slat, said crosspiece having spaced cross grooves in the undersurface thereof in line with the grooves in the brackets for removably receiving the top end of the work to be painted upon, and a tripod adapted to be detachably connected to the box-like body for supporting the box-like body at the center thereof from three points, and a pair of telescopic legs hinged to the cover of the box-like body and adapted when the box body cover is in open position to support said combined paint box and easel at two additional points of support.

3. A combined artist's paint box and easel comprising a shallow box-like body open at the top with compartments therein for painting articles and a hinged cover for closing the open top of the box-like body, said cover serving when in open position as an easel for supporting work to be painted upon, said body having a bottom wall and side walls, said cover having a base and side walls, said base constituting a pegboard with perforations to receive and support brackets for supporting the work to be painted upon, a slat being slidably mounted in upright position on the cover when the cover is in open position, said slat having means coacting with the brackets supported in the perforations of the pegboard for supporting work to be painted upon, the brackets comprising wire rods with spaced grooves formed therein for receiving the bottom end of work to be painted upon, said means including a crosspiece carried at the top of the slat, said crosspiece having spaced cross grooves in the undersurface thereof in line with the grooves in the brackets for removably receiving the top end of the work to be painted upon, and a detachable pigment holder having a box-like body with bottom wall, side walls and end walls and being open at the top, said body having partitions dividing the body into compartments for holding paint in paste form and a hinged cover for closing the open top of the body, a slidable cover shaped to conform to the area of the compartmented section of the box body, said cover being reciprocally mounted on the compartmented section of the box body for closing said compartmented section and for supporting a pallet and the like during transportation.

4. A combined artist's paint box and easel as defined in claim 3 and a tripod adapted to be detachably connected to the box-like body for supporting the box-like body at the center thereof from three points, and a pair of telescopic legs hinged to the cover of the box-like body and adapted when the box body cover is in open position to support said combined paint box and easel at two additional points of support.

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CASMIR A. NUNBERG, Primary Examiner

U.S. Cl. X.R.

248—461; 312—244