Aug. 21, 1945. E. J. W. RAGSDALE 2,383,162

SLEEPING CAR ROOM ARRANGEMENT

Filed Oct. 14, 1943

FIG. 1

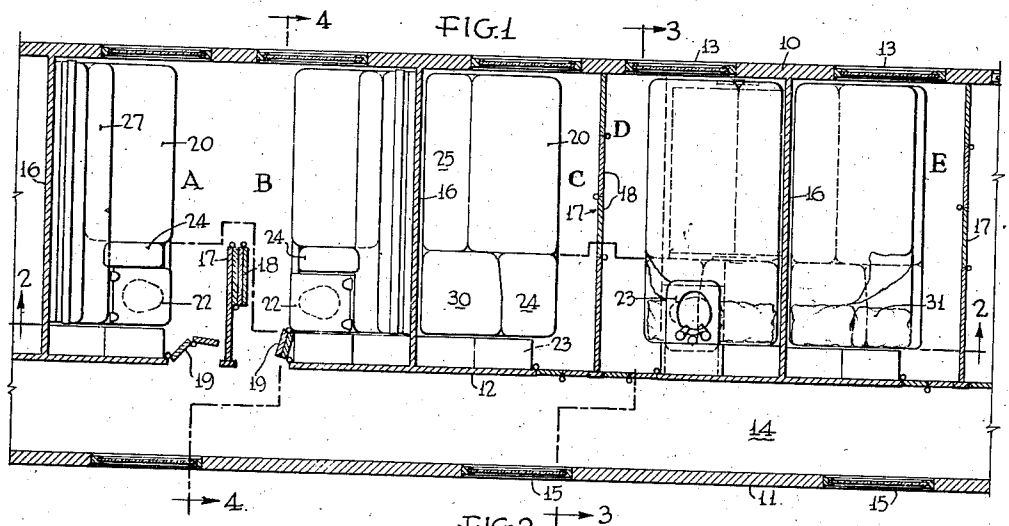
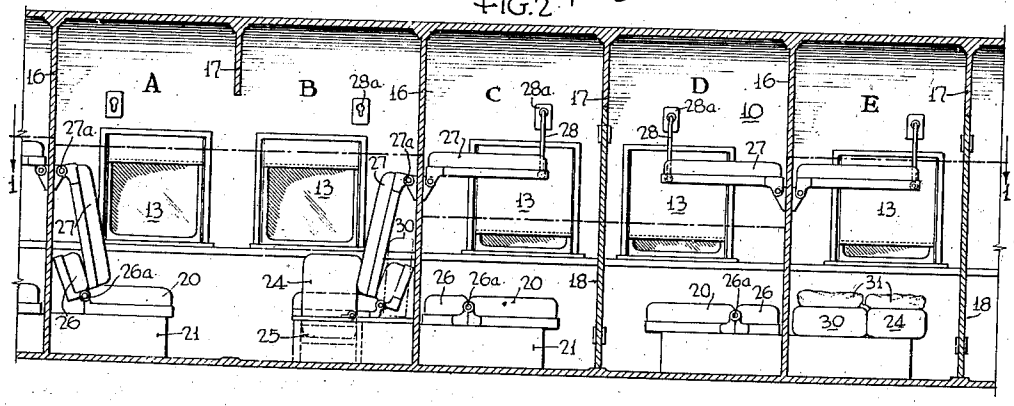


FIG. 2



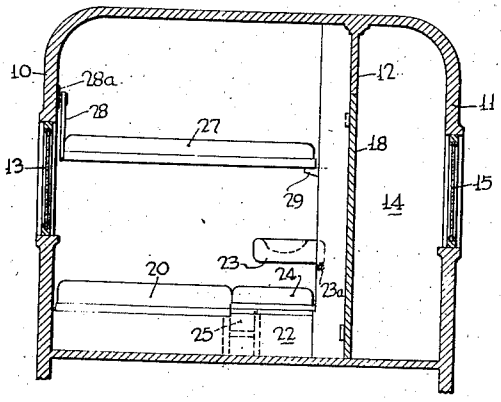


FIG. 3

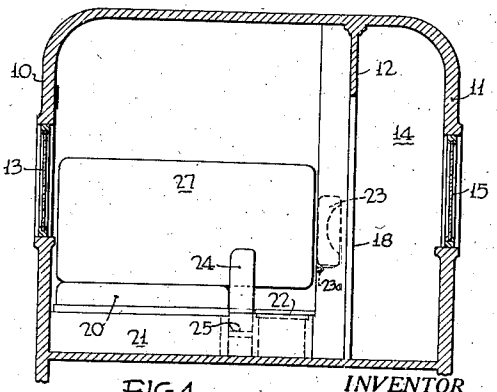


FIG. 4

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SLEEPING CAR ROOM ARRANGEMENT

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9 Claims. (Cl. 105—315)

The invention relates to sleeping cars and particularly to the bedroom arrangement of such cars.

Cars equipped with bedrooms having transversely extending beds have heretofore not as economically utilized the space available as is possible, or where they have been designed to do so they have done so at the sacrifice of bed width. This is for the reason that the arrangement of the hopper and other toilet facilities alongside the bed between the bed and the adjacent transverse wall of the room has had a limiting tendency to the width of the room or the width of the bed.

It is an object of the invention to improve the arrangement in such bedrooms without sacrificing comfortable bed width, say 36 inches, and at the same time make the bedroom of less width than heretofore longitudinally of the car, thereby making it possible to arrange more bedrooms in a car and accommodate more passengers while retaining substantially all the comforts and conveniences and provide additional ones, as compared with the bedrooms heretofore used, both when used as bedrooms or when converted into sitting rooms. To this end, the novel bedroom of the invention provides the toilet facilities, such as the hopper and wash basin, in such relation to the seating and sleeping facilities that such toilet facilities are at all times readily accessible for use but at the same time are disposed in position for use over the floor space normally occupied by a bed. According to another feature of the invention, the seating facilities are made more comfortable by the provision of an arm rest between the seat and the toilet facilities, and when converted into beds, the arm rest so provided is utilized to form a part of the bed extended over the hopper. The seat is further arranged so that it does not project into the room the same distance as the bed made up from it so that when the room is used as a sitting room, the usual width of floor space is provided between it and the opposite transverse wall of the room and, while this space is narrowed at the bottom when the seat is converted into upper and lower beds, due to the widened lower bed, said space may still be of a width to provide comfortable space for dressing and undressing.

These and other objects and advantages and the manner in which they are attained will become fully apparent from the following detailed description when read in connection with the drawing forming a part hereof.

In the drawing,

Fig. 1 is a diagrammatic sectional plan view showing a portion of a sleeping car equipped with rooms according to the invention, the rooms being shown in various possible arrangements and stages of conversion from sitting room to sleeping room, the section being taken substantially on the line 1—1 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view taken substantially along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse sectional view taken substantially on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 4 is a similar view taken substantially on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

The section of the car body shown in the drawing comprises, in addition to the usual flooring and roof or ceiling, the longitudinally extending side walls 10 and 11 and the aisle wall 12 paralleling the side walls. The side wall 10 is provided with spaced windows 13, one for each room, and the side wall 11 flanking the aisle 14 is provided with windows 15 spaced further apart than windows 13.

The space between the floor and ceiling and the side wall 10 and the aisle wall 12 is divided by transversely extending spaced vertical walls 16 and 17, respectively, interconnecting them to form the sepaarte rooms, as A, B, C, D and E. The rooms A and B are shown made up as sitting rooms, the room C as a bedroom without the bed clothing in place, and the rooms D and E as bedrooms with the beds fully made up.

To enable two adjoining rooms to be converted into a single large room, the alternate transverse walls 17 are provided with a wide doorway opening normally closed by a folding door 18, as shown between rooms C and D. The folding door 18 is preferably made of a number of hinged together sections having one end section hinged to a fixed wall portion of partition 17 and the other end portion locked to a door joint at the outside wall 10.

When folded to throw two rooms together, the door 18 may occupy the position shown between rooms A and B in Fig. 1, where it will be seen that these rooms form in effect one large room in which the persons seated therein face each other and are all in full view of each other.

Adjacent each of the transverse walls 17, the rooms are each provided with a doorway and door 19 leading to the aisle 14. These doors 19 are preferably two-part doors hinged so as to fold one upon the other and be disposed when open against thickened portions of the aisle wall at the hinge sides of the doors.

The transverse walls 16 are fixed walls and it is along these walls that the convertible seating and sleeping accommodations are arranged.

Since the rooms are all similarly arranged, except that the seats in the alternate ones face oppositely, a description of one will suffice for all. It will be understood, of course, that other types of rooms may be combined with the rooms of this invention in the same car where it is desired to provide varied accommodations in the same car.

Referring now to rooms A and B which are arranged as sitting rooms, it will be seen that the seat proper **20** is supported a suitable distance above the floor by a support, diagrammatically indicated at **21**, and extends adjacent the wall **16** lengthwise from the side wall **10** a distance inwardly sufficient to provide comfortable seating accommodations for at least two people. Between the inner end of the seat **20** and the thickened portion of the aisle wall **12** opposite the seat and in alignment with the length of the seat, is disposed a hopper **22** and above the hopper and foldable into a recess in the thickened aisle wall portion, is arranged a folding wash basin **23**.

A movable seat part **24** is arranged between the hopper **22**, the hinged top of which is substantially at the level of the seat support **21**, and the seat proper **20**, this part **24** being normally held in a vertical position to form an arm rest. It is held in this position, as shown, by having its lower end telescope within a recess as **25** provided therefor in the seat support **21**, see Figs. 2 and 4.

The thickened aisle wall portion housing the wash basin when folded, as shown in Fig. 4, may be extended along the aisle wall vertically to the ceiling and laterally from the doorway **19** to the transverse wall **16** and this space may be utilized to provide other accessories therein, such as a medicine closet, etc.

When the room is made up as a sitting room, the seat proper **20** has a part **26** hinged thereto at **26***a*, Fig. 2, inclined upwardly at an angle to the seat proper and resting against the wall **16**. The seat back **27** may be hinged along its upper edge at **27***a* to the wall **16** and normally extends in forwardly and downwardly inclined direction to the seat proper. In this position the back of its lower free margin rests against the hinged portion **26** of the seat **20**. The seat back **27** extends from outside wall **10** to thickened wall **12** across the length of the seat proper, across the arm rest part **24** and across the space occupied by the hopper **22**, so that it may also serve as a back for the hopper seat.

In room C, Figs. 1 and 2, is shown the manner in which the seat and seat back may be converted into an upper and lower bed or berth. The seat back **27** is swung upwardly about its hinge **27***a* to the horizontal position, Fig. 2, to form the upper berth or bed. It may be supported in this position by any suitable means. As shown, the end adjacent the outside wall **10** is supported by a link **28** whose free end locks in a key slot **28***a* formed in a bracket in the wall **10**. Its opposite end may be supported by a latch, diagrammatically indicated at **29**, Fig. 3, projecting from the thickened portion of the aisle wall.

After the seat back **27** has been thus secured in elevated bed-forming position, the seat proper **20** is drawn forwardly on its support, i. e., toward the wall **17**, until the hinged part **26** drops down on the support to form with the seat portion proper **20** the full width bed as shown in room C, Fig. 1. To extend the bed its full length, the movable parts **24** and **30** are put in place as shown in Fig. 1 and may be removably secured together and to the main seat part **20** if desired by suitable means, not shown. Ordinarily, the support may be formed with suitable stops, not shown, engaging the parts **24** and **30** to hold them in place. Normally, when the room is made up as a sitting room, the movable part **30** of the bed may be stored in vertical position behind the seat back **27** in rear of the hopper **22** as indicated in dotted lines in room B, Fig. 2.

The movable parts **24** and **30** make the hopper **22** accessible when the bed is made up as by simply lifting the edges of these parts disposed adjacent the aisle wall **12**, they can be turned about their opposite edges and thrown back over the parts **20** and **25**.

The beds may be finally made ready for occupancy as shown in rooms D and E by adding the usual bed clothes, including bed linen, blankets and pillows, generally indicated at **31**.

It will be noted by reference to Fig. 3 and room D of Fig. 1 that the folding wash basin **23** is at such a height above the hopper **22** that it may be swung out about its hinge **23***a* to its operative position directly over the hopper, as shown, when the upper and lower beds are made up so that it is at all times available for use. Fig. 4 shows in dotted lines the position of the wash basin **23** in its inoperative position folded into the thickened portion of the aisle wall.

By reference to room E, Fig. 1, it will be seen that the top and bottom beds are of slightly different width, the bottom one being wider than the top one. This arrangement is desirable, since the top bed is located at about shoulder height, and it is desirable for comfortable standing room while dressing and undressing that more space be provided between the transverse walls at shoulder height than at or adjacent the floor.

It will be understood, of course, that the parts entering into the seat and seat back and arm rest as **20**, **24** and **25** and the beds comprising the same parts and the additional part **30** are suitably upholstered and cushioned to provide comfort in the use for which they are intended.

While a preferred arrangement has been shown and described in detail, it will be understood that changes and modifications may be made without departing from the main features of the invention, and such changes and modifications are intended to be covered by the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A sleeping car room enclosed laterally by a longitudinally extending outside wall of the car, an opposed longitudinally extending aisle wall and spaced transverse walls interconnecting said outside and aisle walls, a bed arranged a short distance above the floor extending in length along one of said transverse walls and being of a width approaching the width of the room leaving a relatively narrow standing room space between it and the opposite transverse wall, a hopper arranged under one end of the bed, said end of the bed being readily removable while leaving the remainder of the bed undisturbed to provide access to the hopper.

2. A sleeping car room according to claim 1 in which a folding wash basin is supported by the wall at the hopper end of the bed, said basin being adapted to extend over the bed when moved to operative position.

3. A sleeping car room according to claim 1 in which the bed is convertible into a seat extending to the hopper, and a movable portion of the bed extending over the hopper is adjustable

to a position in which it forms an arm rest for the seat and makes the hopper accessible.

4. A sleeping car room enclosed laterally by a longitudinally extending outside wall of the car, an opposed longitudinally extending aisle wall and spaced transverse walls interconnecting said outside and aisle walls, a seat and seat back convertible into upper and lower beds extending along one of said transverse walls, a hopper having its top below the level of the seat and arranged in alignment with the length of the seat, the seat having a movable portion normally serving as an arm rest therefor but movable, when the seat is converted into a bed, to a position extending over the hopper and serving as a part of the bed.

5. A sleeping car room enclosed by a longitudinally extending outside wall of the car, an opposed longitudinally extending aisle wall, and spaced transverse walls interconnecting said outside and aisle walls, a seat and seat back extending along a transverse wall, from one longitudinal wall of the room to a position adjacent the other such wall, a hopper disposed adjacent the last-named wall between the end of the seat and said wall, the seat back extending beyond the seat along the space occupied by the hopper, and an arm rest separating the seat from the hopper.

6. A sleeping car room having a bed arranged a short distance above the floor and extending along one of its walls, a hopper arranged under one end of the bed, said end of the bed being readily removable while leaving the remainder of the bed undisturbed so as to provide access to the hopper.

7. A sleeping car room according to claim 6 in which a folding wash basin is supported by the wall at the hopper end of the bed, said basin being adapted to extend over the bed when moved to operative position.

8. A sleeping car room according to claim 6 in which the bed is convertible into a seat extending to the hopper, and a movable portion of the bed extending over the hopper is adjustable to a position in which it forms an arm rest for the seat and makes the hopper accessible.

9. In a sleeping car room, a seat and seat back convertible into upper and lower beds extending along one of the walls of the room, a hopper having its top below the level of the seat and arranged in alignment with the length of the seat, the seat having a movable portion normally serving as an arm rest therefor but movable, when the seat is converted into a bed, to a position extending over the hopper and serving as a part of the bed.

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