June 2, 1959 F. H. LINDSEY 2,888,687

BED-CHEST UNIT

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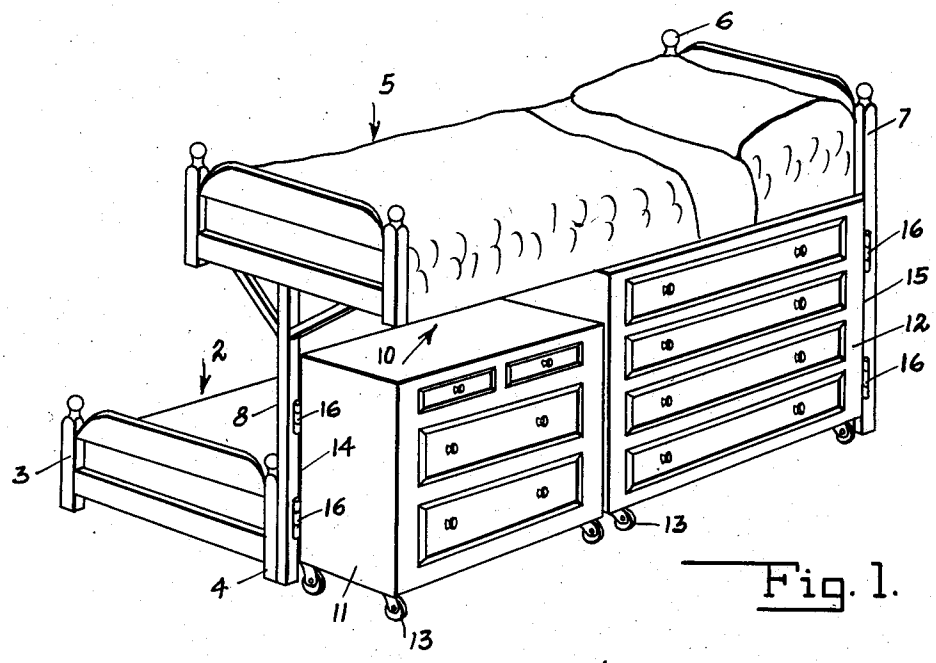


Fig. 1.

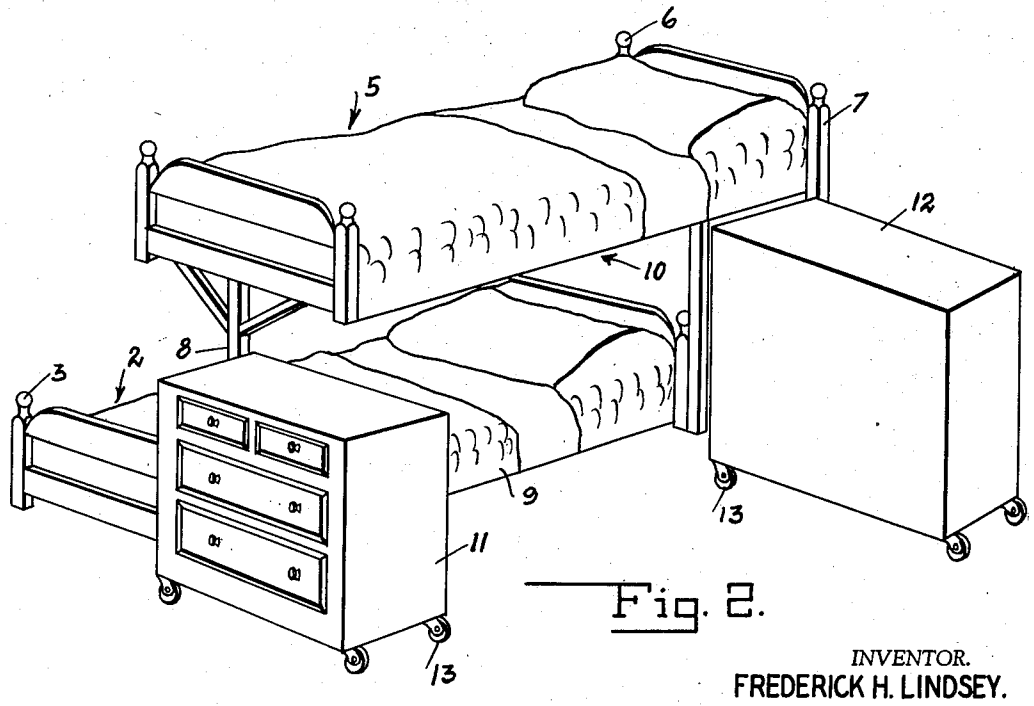


Fig. 2.

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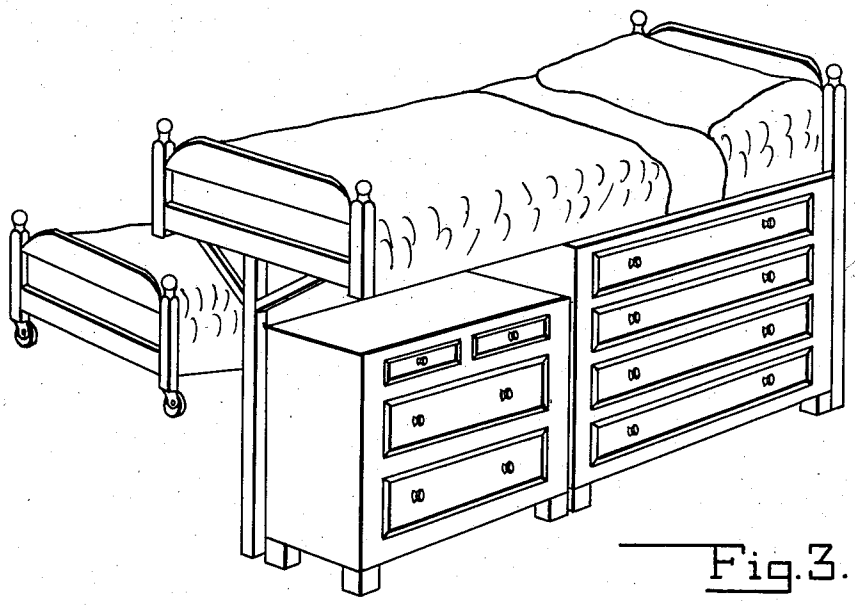


Fig. 3.

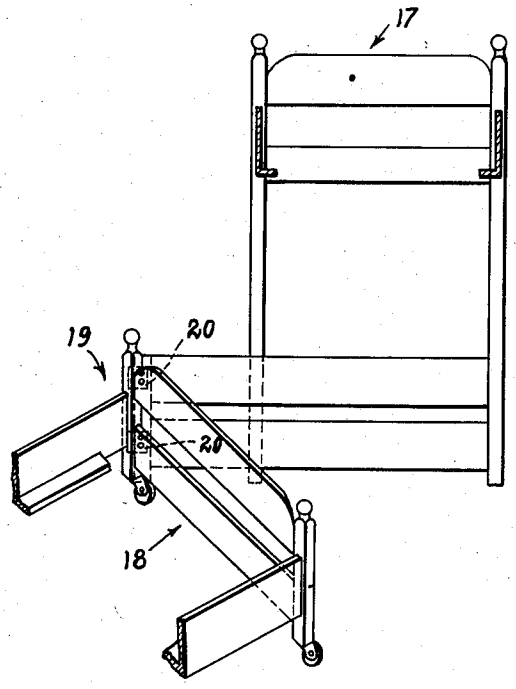


Fig. 4.

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BED-CHEST UNIT

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2 Claims. (Cl. 5—2)

My invention relates to bedroom furniture, particularly designed for the small bedrooms found in present-day apartments and homes.

More particularly, the invention consists in an improved assembly of two beds with one or more chests of drawers, or a chest and a vanity table, or a chest and a dresser, or the like, and in the following specification the invention will be described in exemplary way as it is embodied in an assembly comprised of two "twin" beds and two chests of drawers. It is noteworthy that the assembly, even though it includes two full-size twin beds in fixed relative vertical positions and two chests of drawers, requires no more floor space or wall space in a room than is normally required by a standard double bed.

The object of my invention is to provide a compact bed-chest assembly or combination, in which the beds and chests are readily accessible for use and servicing. Other objects are implicit in the following context.

In my bed-chest unit one bed is mounted in permanently fixed spaced relation above the other, and the upper bed is laterally offset from the lower bed by a distance approximately one-half of the bed width, to provide a receptacle or an "alcove" beneath the overhang of the upper bed. In this alcove the chests of drawers are nested, with provision for the lateral or horizontal movement of the chests to and from such nested position beneath the upper bed.

The lower bed may be supported on four or more legs or posts, while the upper bed may be supported on three or more legs or posts. The chests are assembled in such manner that they may be swung laterally outward in a horizontal plane from nested position in the alcove, with the effect that both sides of the lower bed, as well as both sides of the upper bed, are freely accessible for "making" the beds. Additionally, such mobility of the chests affords ready access for cleaning the bedroom floor beneath the furniture unit. The arrangement of the beds makes it possible for the occupant of the lower bed to sit in an upright position on that portion of the bed which extends laterally from beneath the upper bed. And during sleeping hours the removal of the chests of drawers from nested position provides at the two sides, as well as the two ends of the lower bed, an unrestricted circulation of air for the occupant of the said lower bed.

The several pieces of furniture, which may be constructed in usual commercial sizes and assembled in accordance with my invention, require a floor area four feet ten inches by six feet eight inches, plus about three feet six inches along the alcove side of the assembly to permit the movement of the chests outwardly from nested position. The wall area required by the assembly in any room is only the area taken by the head end of the beds (no wall area being required for the chests), leaving the remaining floor area in the room free for access to the beds and chests, or to any other furniture that may be installed in the room.

The exemplary embodiment of my invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a view in perspective of a bed-chest assembly, showing the chests in nested position;

Fig. 2 is a view comparable with Fig. 1, showing the chests in extended positions;

Fig. 3 is a view in perspective, illustrating a modification wherein the lower bed may be swung outwardly relatively to the upper bed and the nested chests, the lower bed in this view being shown in an outwardly swung position; and

Fig. 4 is an outline view of the head-ends of the beds of the modified structure of Fig. 3.

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings, the bed-chest assembly comprises a lower bed **2**, which may be of conventional twin-bed construction, adapted to be supported on a bedroom floor on four legs or posts, only two of which (**3** and **4**) appear at the foot-board end of the bed, as shown in the drawings. Mounted in spaced relation above the lower bed is an upper bed **5**, which may be an interchangeable duplicate of the lower bed, with the qualifications that the two legs or support members **6** and **7** at the corners of the head-board end of the upper bed are of required greater length to reach the supporting floor, and that a single leg or support member **8** extends upwardly from beside the leg **4** of the lower bed and medially engages the foot-board end of the upper bed. The upper bed, otherwise aligned with the lower bed, is laterally offset from the said lower bed, providing an alcove or a receptacle **10** that opens laterally along the side **9** of the lower bed and beneath the overhang of the upper bed, in which alcove two chests of drawers **11** and **12** are neatly nested. The chests may be mounted on casters **13**, whereby the chests may be swung laterally on their casters from nested position for the purposes mentioned in the foregoing specification; that is, to give access to all sides of both beds in their vertically fixed positions to facilitate "making" the beds; or to enhance the circulation of air for the occupant of the lower bed; or to give better access for cleaning the floor beneath the assembly; or to place the drawers of the chests in more convenient position for use.

While the chests may be freely movable on their casters to and from nested position in the alcove **10**, I conveniently hinge, as at **16**, the chest **11** at its inner corner **14** to the foot-board supporting leg **8** of the upper bed, and similarly hinge the chest **12** at its outer corner **15** to the leg **7** of the head-board end of the upper bed. Thus, the legs **8** and **7** of the foot-board and head-board supporting structures of the two beds provide in effect vertical axes or fulcrums on which the chests may be swung severally to and from the nested position in which they appear in Fig. 1.

In modification of the structure described, the upper bed and the chests may be designed normally to remain stationary, and the lower bed may be mounted on casters to swing relatively thereto, as indicated in Fig. 3. The advantages described may be realized. Fig. 4 illustrates how the head-board ends **17** and **18** of the upper and lower beds, respectively, may be constructed for this purpose, and preferably, if not essentially, the two beds may be articulated at their common corner **19**, as by means of hinges **20**.

Various other modifications will occur to the artisan, without departing from the spirit of the invention defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A bedroom set comprising two beds, and head-board and foot-board structures for the common support of the two beds in permanent vertically fixed spaced relation, with the upper bed laterally offset from the

lower bed and forming along one side of the lower bed and beneath the free overhang of said upper bed a laterally open alcove, said head-board structure comprising an elongate supporting leg for each of the two corners of the upper bed, an elongate supporting leg extended upwardly from the foot-board structure adjacent to one corner of the lower bed and engaged medially to the upper bed, and two chests nested in said alcove, one corner of one of said chests being hinged on a vertical axis to said head-board structure, and one corner of the other of said chests being hinged on a vertical axis to said foot-board structure, whereby the chests may be swung laterally from said alcove into outwardly swung positions in which both sides of each bed are readily accessible for "making" the beds.

2. A bedroom set comprising a twin-bed unit having head-board and foot-board structures for the common support of the two beds in permanent vertically fixed spaced relation, with the upper bed laterally offset from the lower bed and forming along one side of the lower bed and beneath the free overhang of said upper bed a laterally open alcove for the nested reception of two chests of drawers, said head-board structure including

corner members for vertically supporting the two corners of each of the two beds at their head ends, and the foot-board structure including corner members for vertically supporting both corners of the lower bed and an intermediate member extending upwardly from and adjacent to one corner of the lower bed and engaged with the foot-board of the upper bed intermediate its ends for the vertical support thereof, whereby chests nested in said alcove, with corresponding end corners of the chests disposed adjacent said intermediate foot-board member and a corresponding one of said corner head-board members and with the adjacent ends of the chests slightly spaced, may be swung angularly from the alcove about said intermediate foot-board member and the last-mentioned head-board member to give access to both sides of both beds for "making" same.

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