Sept. 16, 1930. M. B. KING 1,775,769

COMBINED FOLDING DESK AND TABLE

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Fig. 1.

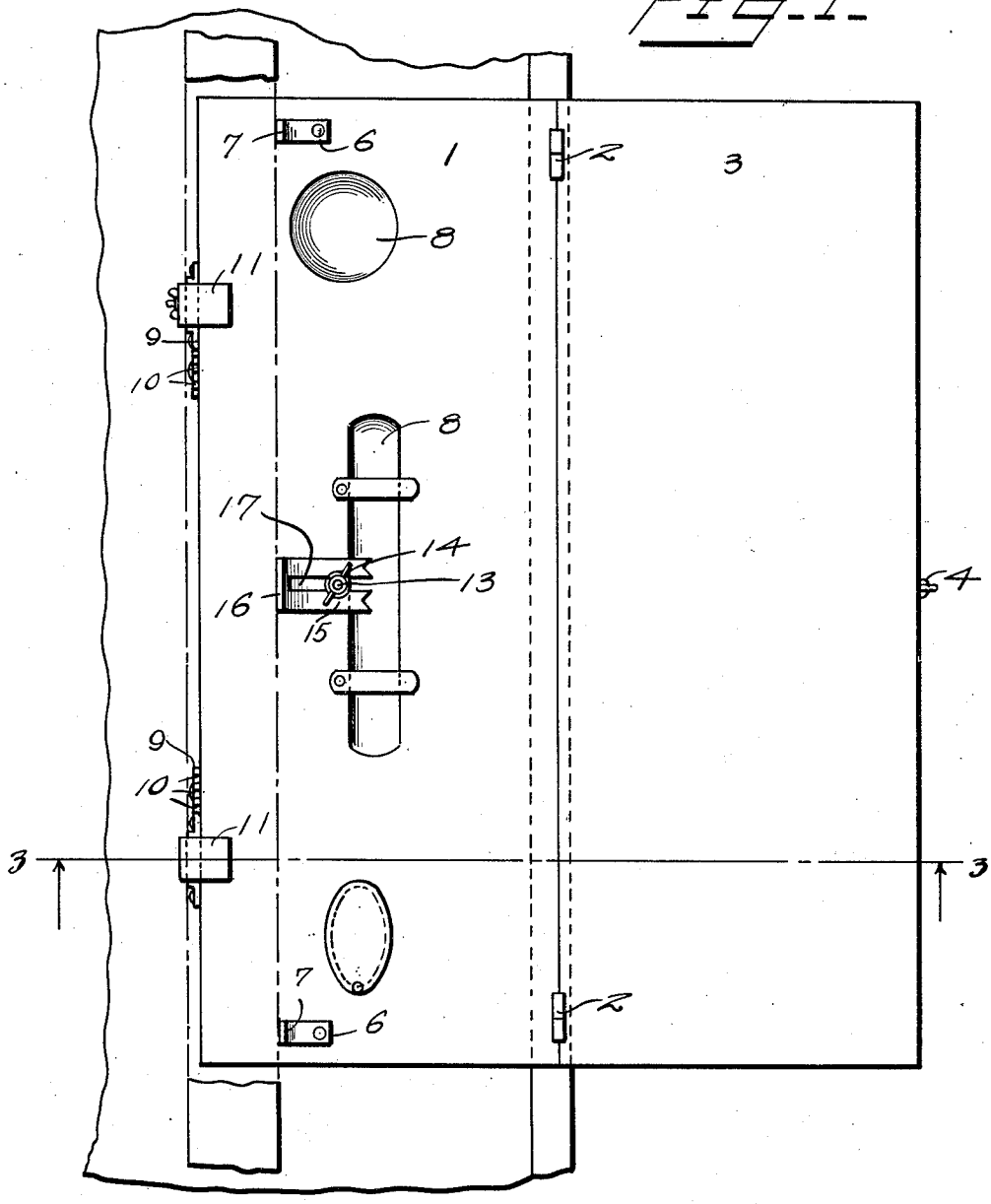
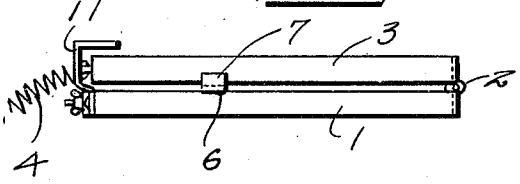


Fig. 6.



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Fig. 2.

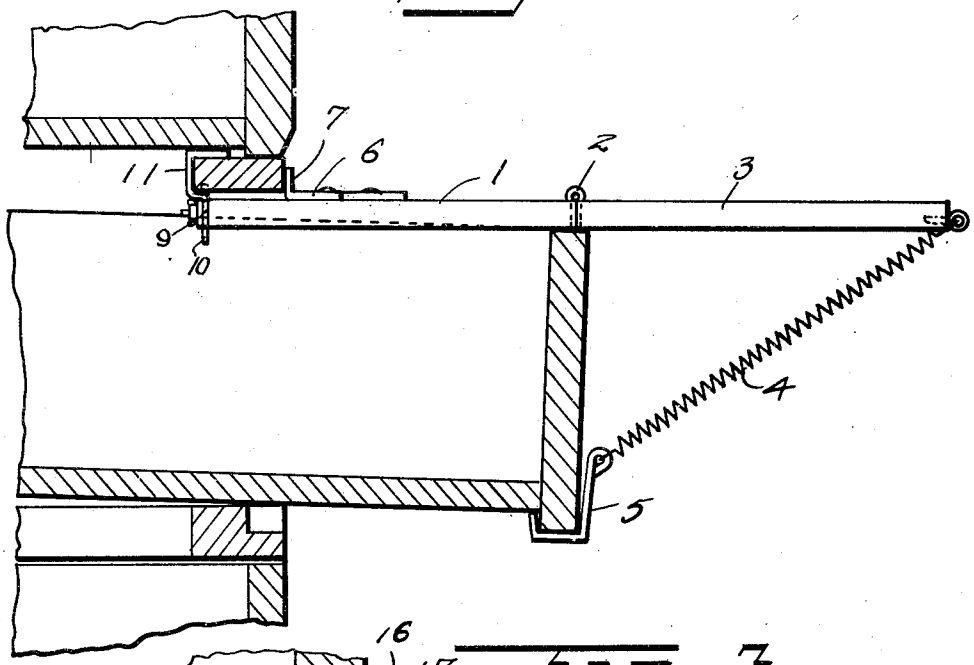


Fig. 3.

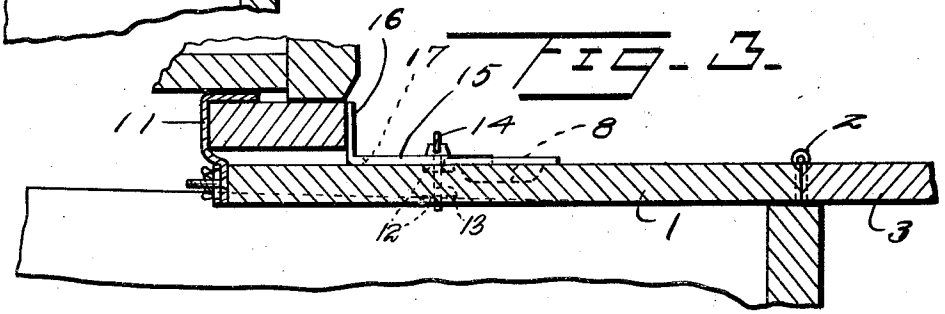


Fig. 4.

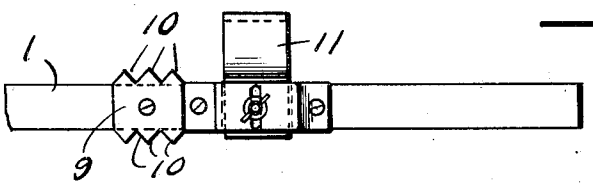
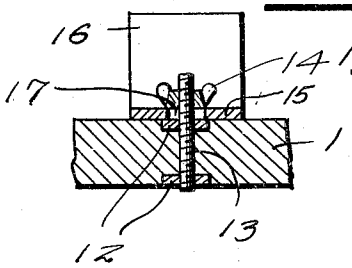


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

MOLESWORTH B. KING, OF ELGIN, ILLINOIS

COMBINED FOLDING DESK AND TABLE

Application filed July 23, 1927. Serial No. 207,991.

This invention relates to a combined folding desk and table especially adapted to be used as an attachment for application to an article of furniture, as for instance a dresser or to the sash and frame of a window, and it consists in the novel features hereinafter described and claimed.

The object of the invention is to provide an attachment of the character stated which is of simple structure and which may be easily and quickly applied to the supporting device or removed therefrom and which may be collapsed or folded so that it may be carried in a suitcase and will be ready at hand for use when desired.

With this object in view the structure includes a pair of leaf panels hingedly connected together and foldable one upon the other or adated to be extended and laid in the same horizontal plane. Means are provided at the edge of one of the leaf panels for holding the same in engagement with the center-piece of the dresser or with the sash of a window, and spring means are provided at the free edge of one of the leaf panels for detachably and resiliently connecting the same with one of the drawers of the dresser or with an eye applied to the baseboard of a wall when the device is used in conjunction with a window sash and frame.

The invention consists further in the detailed structure of the various parts and elements serving to make up the complete device. One of the leaf panels is provided at one side with depressions or pockets adapted to receive small articles as pens, pencils and postage and a socket for an ink bottle, and the said panel may be provided at its opposite side with suitable pockets for the reception of thread, needles, thimble and other articles used in sewing.

The device may be readily converted from a writing desk to a table to be used for sewing or for supporting articles of food.

Referring to the drawings.

Figure 1 is a plan view of the combined folding desk and table showing the parts thereof extended.

Figure 2 is an edge elevational view thereof with the supporting parts in section.

Figure 3 is a transverse sectional view thereof cut on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary inner edge view thereof.

Figure 5 is a detailed sectional view through the inner portion of one of the panels thereof.

Figure 6 is an end view showing the parts in folded position.

The combined folding desk and table comprises a leaf-panel 1 which is hingedly connected at one edge by means of hinges 2 with the leaf-panel 3. The panel 3 may swing from a position upon the panel 1 to a position in alignment with the same so that the adjacent edges of the said panels will abut squarely against each other. These panels may be extended with relation to each other to form a table top or a desk. The coil-spring 4 is connected at one end with the free edge of the panel 3 and is provided at its opposite end with a hook 5 which may be engaged under the edge of a drawer of the dresser when the device is applied to such an article of furniture or which may be engaged with an eye (not shown) placed at the base-board of a wall when the device is used in conjunction with a window sash and frame. Clip members 6 are pivotally mounted upon the panel 1 in the vicinity of the end edges thereof and are provided with upstanding flanges 7 adapted to bear against the outer surface of the center piece of the article of furniture when the device is applied to the drawer thereof and when the panels are folded with relation to each other the said clip members may swing so that the flanges thereof will engage around the end edges of the leaf-panel 3 thus the said clip members assist in holding the panels in closed position with relation to each other. The panel 1 is provided at one side with pockets or recesses 8 adapted to receive and retain small articles, as for instance pens, pencils, postage and for the reception of the base of an ink bottle. The said leaf panel may be provided at its opposite side for retention of articles used in sewing. Plates 9 are applied to the free edge of the leaf-panel 1 and the said plates are provided at their opposite longitudinal edges with outstanding

teeth 10 which are disposed beyond the planes of the said surfaces of the leaf-panel 1. These teeth are adapted to engage in the center piece of the article of furniture to which the device is applied and to hold the attachment firmly with relation to the said support. Spring cleats 11 are fixed to the edge of the leaf panel 1 at the ends of the plates 9 and the said cleats are adapted to engage over the upper surface of the center piece of the article of furniture to which the device may be applied. When the device is applied to a drawer and the panels are disposed in the same horizontal plane the surfaces of the flanges 7 bear against the outer surface of the center piece of the article of furniture. The panels 1 and 3 extend transversely across the upper edge of one of the drawers of the article which is partially opened and the spring 4 is connected with one of the lower drawers of the article by engaging the hook under the edge of the said drawer or by engaging the hook in a screw-eye which may be applied to the inner surface of the lower drawer of the article of furniture. Internally threaded taps 12 are inserted in the opposite side surfaces of the panel 1 in the vicinity of the free edge thereof and a threaded stud 13 passes through the said panel and is threaded in the taps 12. The stud 13 may be moved transversely through the panel 1 and the taps by turning the screw and a wing-nut 14 may be applied to either end portion of the said stud. A cleat member 15 is provided at one end with an upstanding flange 16 and its opposite end portion is provided with a recess 17 which receives the stud 13. The inner surface of the wing-nut 14 is adapted to engage upon the upper surface of the cleat 15 at the opposite sides of the recess 17 and thus the said cleat member is secured at an adjusted position upon the leaf-panel 1. When the device is applied to a supporting article the upstanding flange 16 of the cleat member 15 is moved against the surface of the bottom rail of the window sash or the center piece of the article of furniture and is held by tightening the wing-nut 14 upon the cleat member 15 at the opposite sides of the recess 17.

When it is desired to fold the leaf-panels 1 and 3, the member 15 is removed and the wing-nut 14 is unscrewed from the end of the stud and the stud is turned in the taps 12 so that one end of the said stud is brought flush with the outer surface of one of the taps.

If desired, the combined desk and table can be made in the form of a single panel, so that it may be easily and readily applied and which may be used by children for study and can be secured in place, so that the children cannot shove or move it out of place.

When it is desired to fold the desk or table structure, after removing the same from engagement with a bureau or similar article of furniture, the member 16 is first removed and the threaded stud 13 threaded downwardly until the upper end is flush with the top of the panel 1 after which the angled members 7 are swung laterally to bring the upstanding portions thereof beyond the adjacent end edges of the panel. The outer panel or leaf 3 is then swung over, the spring cleats 11 first having been shifted by loosening their holding members so that the edge of the leaf 3 can pass thereunder. These cleats may then be secured back in the former positions where they will overlie the edge of the panel 3 as shown in Figure 6 to prevent the leaves of the device from separating. As will be seen in this figure the upstanding portions 7 of the clip members 6 extend over the adjacent end edges of the leaf 3 when the desk is folded in the manner described.

From the foregoing description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, it will be seen that the combined folding desk and table is a simple durable structure, that the same may be readily carried and easily and quickly applied or set up upon an article of furniture, a window frame and sash or any other suitable support having a sliding member.

Having described the invention, what is claimed is:

1. A portable desk or table of the character described designed to be mounted with the inner edge arranged between a pair of vertically spaced holding members, comprising a panel, a plate secured to said inner edge and projecting above the top face thereof, said projecting portion of the plate being formed to provide teeth designed to engage in the overlying one of said members, and relatively adjustable gripping members carried by the panel adjacent said inner edge for engaging therebetween said overlying member.

2. A portable desk or table designed to be mounted in position by inserting the inner edge between a pair of vertically spaced supporting members, comprising a panel, toothed members carried by the panel at said inner edge and designed to engage the overlying one of said members, adjustable cleat devices secured to the panel at said inner edge for engaging one face of said overlying member, an adjustable cleat upon the upper face of the panel designed to engage the face of the overlying member opposite the first mentioned cleat, and swinging clip members yieldably carried by the panel and coacting with the second mentioned adjustable cleat in engaging the overlying member for holding the device in position.

3. A portable desk or table designed to be mounted in position by inserting the inner edge between a pair of vertically spaced supporting members, comprising a panel, toothed members carried by the panel at said inner edge and designed to engage the overlying one of said members, adjustable cleat devices

secured to the panel at said inner edge for engaging one face of said overlying member, an adjustable cleat upon the upper face of the panel designed to engage the face of the overlying member opposite the first mentioned cleat, swinging clip members carried by the panel and coacting with the second mentioned adjustable cleat in engaging the overlying member for holding the device in position, a second panel hingedly secured at the inner edge to the outer edge of the first mentioned panel, and yieldable means for connecting the outer edge of the second panel with the underlying supporting member to maintain the panels in position.

4. A portable desk or table designed to be mounted in position by inserting the inner edge between a pair of vertically spaced supporting members, comprising a panel, toothed members carried by the panel at said inner edge and designed to engage the overlying one of said members, adjustable cleat devices secured to the panel at said inner edge for engaging one face of said overlying member, an adjustable cleat upon the upper face of the panel designed to engage the face of the overlying member opposite the first mentioned cleat, swinging clip members carried by the panel and coacting with the second mentioned adjustable cleat in engaging the overlying member for holding the device in position, a second panel hingedly secured at the inner edge to the outer edge of the first mentioned panel, and yieldable means for connecting the outer edge of the second panel with the underlying supporting member to maintain the panels in position, said second mentioned cleat and said clips being designed to be shifted to permit the second panel to be brought into superimposed relation with the first panel.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

MOLESWORTH B. KING.