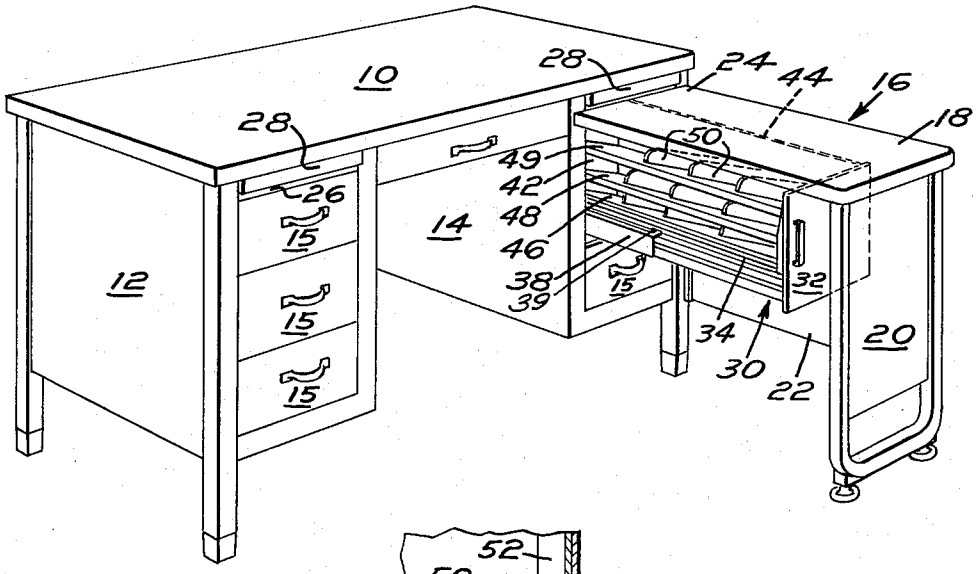
Oct. 3, 1961 F. G. STARK 3,002,797

OFFICE DESK EQUIPMENT

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FIG. 1



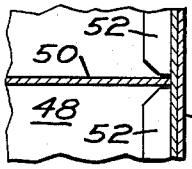


FIG. 3

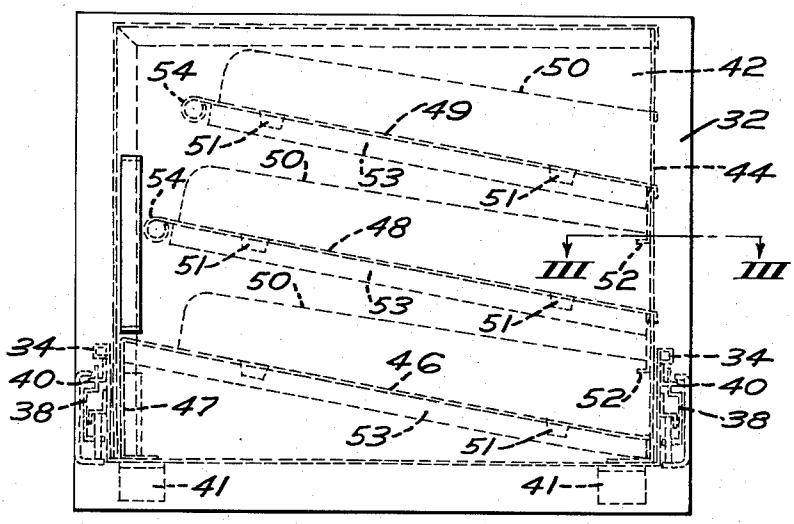


FIG. 2

INVENTOR:
FOREST G. STARK

BY:
Beau, Brooks, Buckley & Beau,
ATTORNEYS.

Oct. 3, 1961 F. G. STARK 3,002,797

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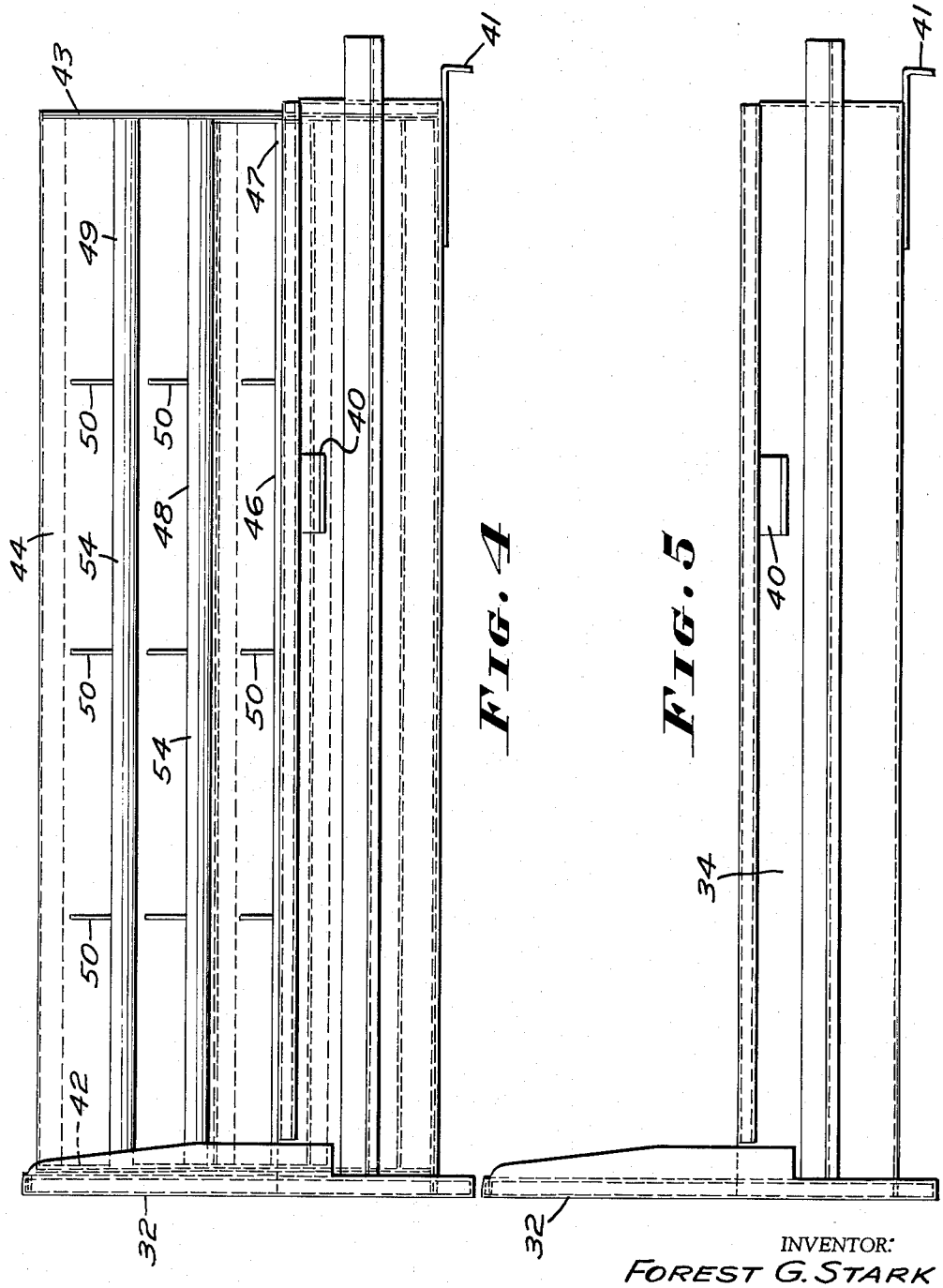


FIG. 4

FIG. 5

INVENTOR:
FOREST G. STARK
BY:
Beau, Brooks, Buckley & Beau,
ATTORNEYS.

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3,002,797

OFFICE DESK EQUIPMENT

Forest G. Stark, Jamestown, N.Y., assignor to Art Metal Construction Company, Jamestown, N.Y.

Filed Mar. 25, 1958, Ser. No. 723,693
1 Claim. (Cl. 312—194)

This invention relates to office furniture, and more particularly to office desks and the sliding drawer facilities thereof.

It is an object of the present invention to provide, in combination with a conventional type desk drawer, a novel rack insert comprising essentially a plurality of shelves for accommodation of stationery supplies and the like.

Another object is to provide a device as aforesaid which is particularly suited for use in combination with a detachable machine platform when disposed to extend at one side of the desk, whereby the underlying drawer space is nevertheless usable as distinguished from prior arrangements rendering such spaces inaccessible.

Another object is to provide a device as aforesaid which is versatile, in that it is fully adapted to alternative use in either right and left hand desk drawers.

Still another object is to provide a device as aforesaid which wastes none of the available drawer space, and which is so designed that it may be constructed inexpensively of sheet metal or the like by standard shop procedures.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear from the specification and drawings hereinafter wherein:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a device of the invention arranged in combination with a standard type desk and machine platform unit;

FIG. 2 is an enlarged scale front elevational view of the open desk drawer of FIG. 1; showing in broken lines the rack device of the invention;

FIG. 3 is a fragmentary, enlarged scale, sectional view taken along line III—III of FIG. 2;

FIG. 4 is an open side elevation of the drawer and rack of FIG. 2, as viewed by the user in an arrangement opposite that shown in FIG. 1; and

FIG. 5 is a view corresponding to FIG. 4 but of the rack support drawer component only.

As shown in the drawing, the invention is employed in conjunction with a standard office type flat top desk indicated generally at **10**; having pedestals **12, 14** carrying drawers **15**. A detachable machine platform as indicated at **16**, comprising a flat top portion **18**; an end support **20**; and a back panel **22**, is hooked at its inner end portion **24** by means of a bent metal clip over the rail **26** under the reference slide **28**, such as is conventionally supplied with the desk. Thus, the platform **16** is detachably mounted as an extension of the standard desk to support either a typewriter or calculator or other office machine; it being understood that the desk and machine platform arrangements hereinabove described are of previously known constructions, and per se are not claimed as new in the art.

Whereas heretofore use of machine platforms as hereinabove described rendered the drawer space directly below the platform top panel to be substantially inaccessible for practicable use, the present invention contemplates employment in novel combination, of a modified drawer construction and a removable rack disposed therein and having vertically spaced shelves opening toward an open side portion of the supporting drawer. Thus, the rack is thereby adapted to receive classified stenographic supplies such as stationery and the like, in such manner as to be readily accessible to the stenographer.

For example, as shown in FIGS. 1, 2, the upper drawer space immediately below the position of the machine platform is arranged to be occupied by a drawer as indicated generally at **30** (FIG. 1) including a front panel portion **32** and reduced-height side wall portions **34—34**; the drawer assembly being slidably supported in the desk in any suitable manner, such as for example by means of a pair of so-called "side arm roller suspensions" indicated at **38**. A hook as indicated at **39** is provided on the suspension rail **38** to contact a stop bracket **40** on the drawer to limit its outward movement, relative to the slide, as is known in the art; and a stop flange **41** at the rear end of the drawer limits its ultimate outward movement.

The rack of the invention is illustrated in more detail in FIGS. 2–4 (the latter view being of a drawer mounted in the left pedestal **12**); and as illustrated therein comprises a unitary assembly including front and rear sheet metal end walls **42—43** respectively; a back wall **44**; a false bottom plate **46** terminating at its front edge in a down-turned skirt portion **47**; and vertically spaced inclined shelves **48—49** opening on the exposed side of the drawer. Vertical partitions **50** may be provided for optional use as shown for subdividing the shelf spaces into separate compartments for receiving different supplies.

The rank unit is overall dimensioned so as to easily slip-fit into the drawer **30**, as shown for example in FIGS. 1, 2, 4; whereupon the shelf spaces will be freely accessible to the stenographer by simply reaching under the platform top plate through the substantially open side of the drawer. The slopes of the shelves operate to guard against unintended displacements of the stationery or other supplies. It will be appreciated that the rack of the invention is adapted to be manually lifted in and out of and set into either a right hand drawer of the desk, as shown in FIGS. 1–3; or in a left hand drawer thereof as shown in FIGS. 4 and 5, to suit different stenographers simply by turning the rack to face in the proper direction and then setting it in an appropriate drawer.

As shown in FIG. 2 the partitions **50** may be conveniently mounted on the shelves by means of depending ears **51** slip-fitting downwardly into slots formed in the shelves; and at their upper rear corners the partitions for the two lower shelves slip-fit between opposed ends of flanges portions **52** formed integrally with the shelves and running horizontally inside of the rear wall plate **44** of the rack. The shelves are conveniently fabricated of sheet metal or the like, flanged at their opposite ends as indicated at **53** to abut the end plates **42, 43**; and are preferably rolled at their front edges as indicated at **54** to provide smooth contact surfaces for the hands of the stenographer.

Whereas only one form of the invention has been illustrated and described in detail hereinabove, it will be understood that various changes may be made therein without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the following claim.

I claim:

In combination with a desk, a machine platform detachably connected to the desk for temporary association therewithin either one of two alternate positions relative thereto, and a removable rack cooperable with the desk structure for disposition in cooperation with the machine platform to retain the useful drawer space of the desk, said desk having a pedestal at either side thereof and there being drawers in each of said pedestals, at least one of said drawers being of modified construction having front and back walls, side walls and a bottom wall, at least one of said side walls being of reduced height so that such drawer is open throughout the major extent of its side, said machine platform being cooperable with the desk structure for fixed disposition relative thereto adjacent one of said pedestals and in such position as to overlie the region into which the drawers of that pedestal are movable when in open position, said rack being posi-

tionable in said modified drawer in either one of said pedestals, dependent upon the position of said machine platform and being disposed in a drawer of that pedestal with which the machine platform is associated, said rack having a front and rear wall, a side wall of a height corresponding to the height of said front and rear walls, and having a wall at its opposite side of reduced height and corresponding to the open side wall of the modified drawer, said rack also having a bottom wall portion sloping downwardly from the open edge of the side wall thereof of reduced height toward and to the other side wall thereof, said rack also including a plurality of shelves extending between the front and rear walls thereof and disposed in vertically spaced relationship and generally in parallelism with said bottom wall portion of the rack, whereby the rack structure forms, in association with the modified drawer with which it is to be used, a means adapted to receive classified stenographic supplies such as stationery and the like, in such manner as to be readily accessible to the stenographer.

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