July 7, 1931. C. C. BULLOCK 1,813,793

PULPIT DESK

Filed May 3, 1930

Fig. 1

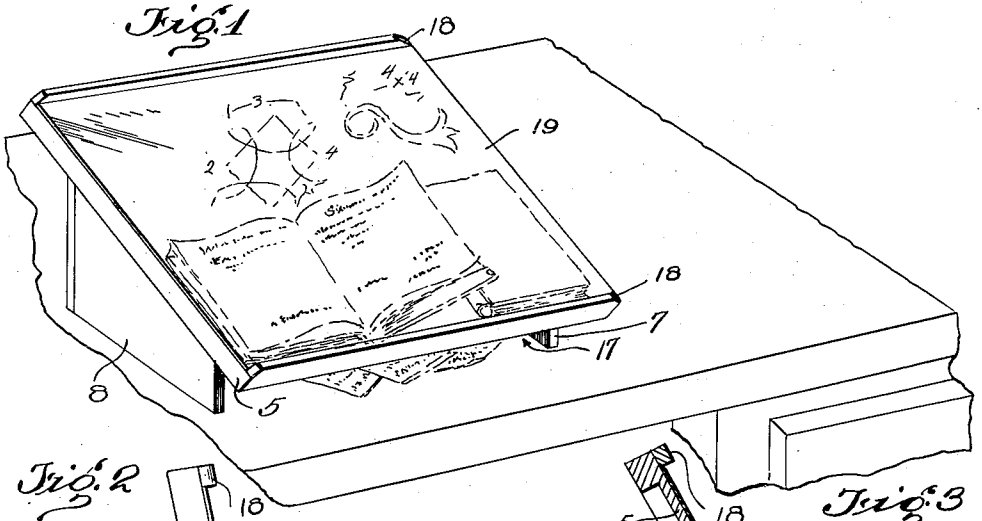


Fig. 2

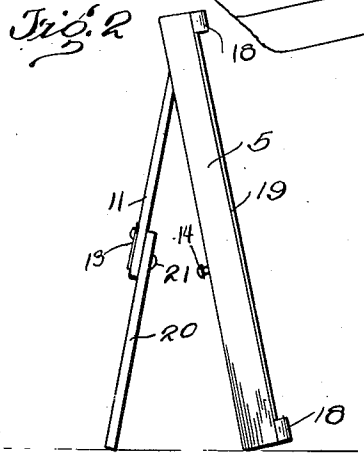
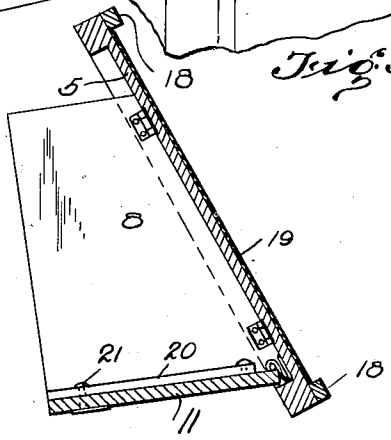


Fig. 3



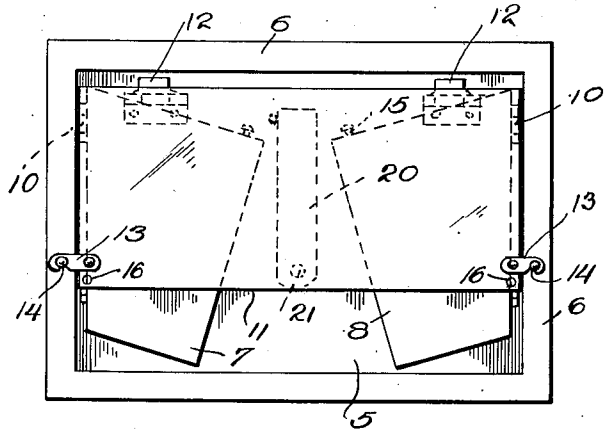
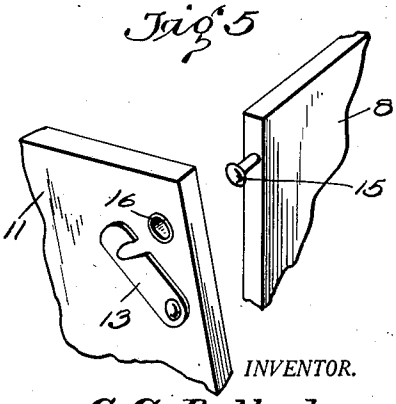


Fig. 4

Fig. 5



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Patented July 7, 1931 1,813,793

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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PULPIT DESK

Application filed May 3, 1930. Serial No. 449,570.

This invention relates to pulpit desks, and more particularly to a small folding desk attachment which can be easily and quickly set up on a table and be used as a pulpit for lecturers and preachers.

One of the objects of the present invention is to provide a compact, folding table attachment which may be conveniently carried about in a satchel or brief-case, and quickly set up and placed upon a table, thereby to form an inclined surface upon which books may be rested and to provide a chamber therebeneath for keeping concealed notes and other papers.

A further object is to provide a device of the above character which may be used as a pulpit and also as a blackboard when turned on end for the purpose of illustrating various prints during a lecture.

A further object is to provide a device of the above character which may be inexpensively manufactured and assembled.

A further object is to provide a device of the above character which will be strong and substantial, and retain its position upon a table without danger of collapsing.

Other objects will be in part obvious from the annexed drawings and in part indicated from the following analysis of the invention, in which reference is made to the accompanying drawings illustrating one embodiment of my idea.

In the drawings—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the complete device in operative position upon a desk or table;

Figs. 2 and 3 are sectional views showing the device used as a blackboard;

Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of the device in folded position; and

Fig. 5 is a detail view showing the securing means.

Referring now to the drawings in detail and more particularly to Fig. 4, 5 indicates the underside of the desk surface which is provided with a thickened peripheral marginal portion 6 extending preferably all around the four sides.

Adjacent each of the two shorter sides two side members 7 and 8 are hinged as at 10 near the side marginal portions 6 whereby when they are swung outwardly at right angles they rest against the inner sides of the marginal portions 6 thereby to provide a stronger and more substantial construction. These sides are further engaged by the rear wall surface 11, which is provided with offset hinges 12 adjacent one of the long marginal sides. These three sides form a strong base for the top side as well as a chamber open towards the lecturer within which to keep notes and papers.

It will be noted, by referring to Fig. 4, that the rear wall 11 of the pulpit, when viewed from the lecturer's normal standpoint, is provided at the corners with securing means 13 which cooperate with complementary means 14 of the marginal portion 6 when the device is in folded position, and also with second complementary fastening means 15 when the device is in extended position as shown in Figs. 1 and 5. These cooperating securing means 14 and 15 are preferably headed screws or pins adapted to be engaged by the pivotally mounted latch 13. The screw or headed pin 15, it will be noted, passes through a metal lined opening 16 in the wall 11 prior to being engaged by the fastening means 13.

By referring to Fig. 1, it will be seen that the top front edge of portion 5 is spaced from the table to provide an open recess 17 within which notes or papers may be kept during the lecture and concealed from the audience. The exposed or upper surface 19 of the portion 5 is preferably provided with a blackboard surface upon which chalk marks or illustrations may be made to illustrate some particular point. Retaining edges 18 will keep books and papers from slipping off due to inclination of top surface.

When the device is used as a blackboard, it is swung through 90° so as to have this exposed surface 19 towards the audience, as in Fig. 3. If desired, however, a leg 20 pivoted at 21 may be swung around from the dotted line position, Fig. 4, thereby to raise the rear end, but when so used, of course, the pulpit has to be turned through 180° in order to be viewed properly by the audience, as in Fig. 2.

From the above description, it will be seen that the present invention comprehends a small compact, temporary table or pulpit, which is exceedingly stable and strong when in erected position, and especially provides a chamber in which notes and papers may be conveniently concealed during the lecture. When the lecture is closed, it is a very simple matter to release the cooperating fastening means 13—15, and fold in the side and end walls one above the other, as desired, and secure the fastening means 13—14, thus preventing a separation of the parts and rattling after they are placed in the brief-case or other traveling receptacle.

The invention may be inexpensively manufactured and assembled, and is well adapted to accomplish among others all of the objects and advantages herein set forth.

Without further analysis of this invention, the foregoing will so fully reveal the gist thereof that others can, by applying current knowledge, readily adapt it for various applications without omitting certain features that, from the standpoint of the prior art, fairly constitute essential characteristics of the generic or specific aspects of this invention and, therefore, such adaptations should and are intended to be comprehended within the meaning and range of equivalency of the following claims.

I claim:

1. A pulpit or the like comprising a top inclined surface having side and rear walls thereby to provide a concealed chamber in which notes may be placed, said side and end walls being foldable one above the other and in a position parallel to the top surface, and securing means for holding said side and end walls either closed or erected as desired.

2. A pulpit or the like comprising a top inclined surface having side and rear walls thereby to provide a concealed chamber in which notes may be placed, said side and end walls being foldable inwardly one above the other to a position parallel to the top surface, and securing means holding said side and end walls either closed or erected as desired, part of said fastening means being mounted upon the rear wall and cooperating either with the underside of the top surface or the edges of the side walls according to the position of the parts.

3. A foldable pulpit or the like comprising a relatively flat top member provided with a marginal flange thereby to provide a recessed underside, rear and side walls hinged to the under side of said top member within the marginal flange adapted to be swung outwardly at right angles thereto and to each other to provide a base for the top surface and provide a concealed chamber within which notes and papers may be housed, and securing means on the rear wall having cooperative securing means on the marginal portion and side walls depending upon the position of said side walls with respect to the rear wall.

Signed at Washington, District of Columbia, this 29th day of April, 1930.

CARL C. BULLOCK.