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C. H. WHITE

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BOOKHOLDER AND TABLE

Filed Nov. 28, 1930

Fig. 1.

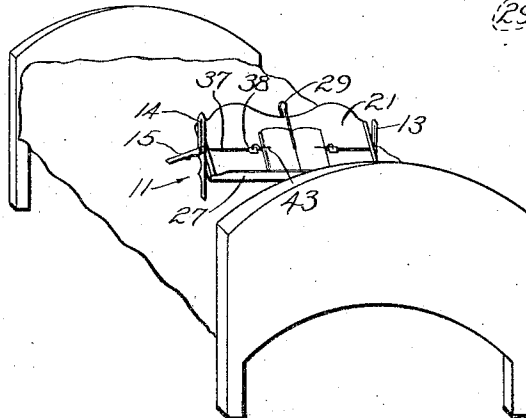


Fig. 4.

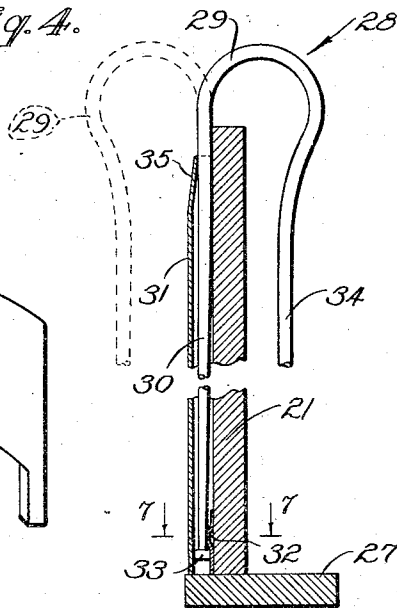
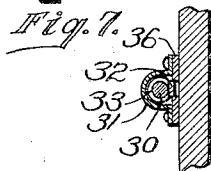


Fig. 2.

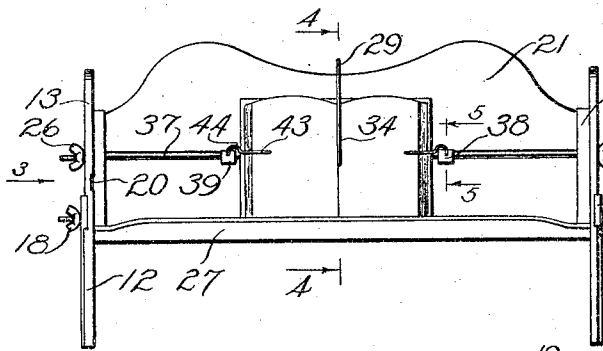


Fig. 3.

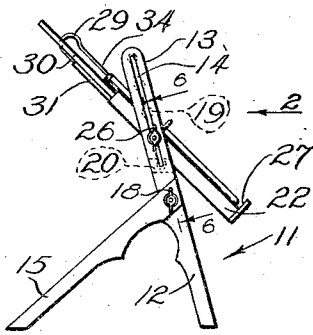


Fig. 5.

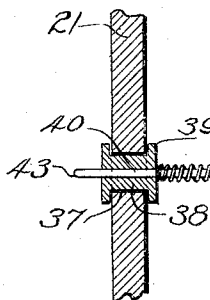
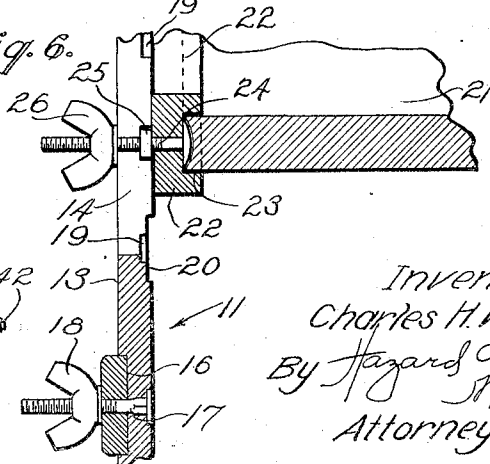


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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BOOKHOLDER AND TABLE

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My invention relates to a book holder and table forming a combination article particularly adapted for the use of an invalid for placing on a bed.

5 An object of my invention is the construction of a combination book holder and table with provision for supporting the structure resting on the bed clothes of the bed and in which the top may be placed in a horizontal position for use as a table or in an inclined position for use as a book holder. And in connection with the use of my invention as a book holder, I provide a ledge on which to rest a book and auxiliary features to retain the book in position and to hold the leaves.

15 Another object and feature, therefore, of my invention is a book holder adapted to engage the book and hold it firmly resting on the ledge so that no matter how the table top construction is tilted, the book may still be retained in place, but the holder may be readily removed or swung out of operative position. The holder proper comprises a rod having one portion fitting in a tube secured to the back of the table top and another portion extending downwardly over the table top when inclined, these portions being connected by a U-shaped bend. The rod is slidable in the tube and has an interconnecting means to restrain the rod in the tube when in operative position. The rod is adapted to engage between leaves and thus hold the book firmly in position. This holder may be entirely removed or withdrawn until the outer or operating end may be swung to the rear of the inclined table top.

25 Another object and feature of my invention is the provision of leaf holders for engaging the leaves of a book and holding them in position, such leaf holders being adjustable for books of different widths, the leaf holders having resiliently mounted arms which may engage the leaves with a resilient pressure, and such arms being readily oscillated to allow convenient turning of the leaves. To effect this construction I provide the table top with two aligned slots, in which slots there are slidable blocks, and through each block from front to rear extends a pivot wire for the leaf holding arm. This pivot

wire, therefore is normal to the table top and has an extension arm parallel to the top to engage the leaves. A compression spring is secured to the pivot wire and bears against this and the block.

35 Another detail object and feature of my invention is constructing the table top adjustable in height, whether used as a table or as a book holder, and to effect this the legs are provided with a slot having recesses therein, and the table top is provided with an adjusting set screw operating through the slot and having a washer thereon to fit in these recesses, thus giving a series of fixed adjustments for the table top.

40 In order to conveniently store the device a rearwardly extending prop is connected to each leg by a disconnectible screw allowing such prop to be swung parallel to the leg.

45 My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a bed showing my invention positioned thereon;

Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the book holder and table taken in the direction of the arrow 2 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 3 is a side elevation taken in the direction of the arrow 3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2 in the direction of the arrows, illustrating the book retainer;

Fig. 5 is a detailed section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 2 in the direction of the arrows, illustrating the leaf holder;

Fig. 6 is a detailed section on the line 6—6 of Fig. 3 in the direction of the arrows, illustrating the adjustment of the table top in reference to the legs.

Fig. 7 is a transverse section on the line 7—7 of Fig. 4 in the direction of the arrows.

In constructing my invention, I provide the device with side legs 11 which have a lower portion 12 and an upper portion 13, this latter part having an elongated slot 14 and rearwardly extending props or legs 15. The leg 12 is illustrated as having a transverse slot 16 in which the upper end of the prop 15 fits and is secured by a clamping bolt 17 having a thumb nut 18.

Circular recesses 19 are provided in the slot 14 of each of the legs for the purpose hereinunder detailed, and at the bottom of the slot and on one of the legs there is a transverse groove 20.

The table top comprises a table panel 21 set in side frames 22, each of which has a groove 23 accommodating the panel, and from the bottom of the groove there extends a clamping and adjusting bolt 24. This bolt has a washer 25 thereon and a thumb nut 26. A ledge 27 is provided at the bottom edge of the panel and is utilized to support the lower end of the book when the device is used as a book holder.

The book retainer designated generally at 28 comprises a rod 29 having a straight section 30 fitting in a tube 31 on the back of the panel. This tube has a bulged spring 32 adjacent the bottom; and the portion 30 of the rod has an enlarged head 33. The tube is also reduced at the top 35 to prevent withdrawal of the head. This tube is preferably made by bending a strip of metal as illustrated in Fig. 7 and securing the edges 36 to the back of the panel by screws or the like. The operative end 34 of the holder is connected to the end 30 by a reverse bend and this end 34 is adapted to extend across the front of the panel, or the rod may be drawn out and the front end swung back of the panel into the dotted line position shown in Fig. 4.

The leaf retainers are constructed by providing the panel with two longitudinal slots 37, these being in alignment; and fitted in each slot there is a block 38, this having guide flanges 39, the block being inserted in its groove before the side frames are attached to the panel. Extending through each block there is a pivot wire 40 (note Fig. 5) which rod has a compression spring 41 coiled thereabout secured by a weld 42 at the end of the rod and bearing against one end of the block. An operating arm 43 is bent at substantially right angles to the pivot wire 40 having a slight curve 44 therein to add resiliency, and these arms may engage the leaves of a book on opposite sides.

The manner of operating and using my device is as follows:

When this is stored out of use, the clamping screw 17 may be loosened so that the prop leg 15 may be pulled outwardly from the groove 16 in the main supporting leg 11, and such prop may be swung parallel to the lower portion 12 of the leg. Or when the leg and the prop 15 are clamped in the position shown in Fig. 6 there is provided a rigid non-adjustable support for the panel and the associated parts.

The transverse groove 20 is provided in one of the legs to accommodate the side frame 22 on one side of the device, and this positions the table top in a horizontal position for

use as a table for serving meals or the like; and if the bed clothes should be uneven the opposite side of the table may be adjusted up and down by the slot 14 in the other leg and both clamping nuts 26 may be clamped tightly, thus holding the top in the desired position.

When used as a table the book retainer may be swung with its operating end on the under side of the table and the leaf holders may be shifted by sliding their blocks 38 to the opposite ends of the panel.

When it is desired to use the device as a book holder the panel 21 with the attached frames 22 and ledge 27 may be adjusted up and down in the slot 14 and is preferably fixed in the desired positions by fitting the washer 25 in one of the recesses 19, then on clamping the clamp nut 26 the panel may be placed either in a horizontal or any desired inclined position. When in the inclined position a book may readily be supported on the ledge 27. When the book is opened, the book retainer may be shifted so that the end portion or arm 34 extends downwardly in front of the panel and may engage the center of the book with the leaves open. The leaf holder having the arm 43 has the adjustable structures operating in each of the slots 37 and these may be pulled out and in, due to the use of the compression spring 41, to engage books of different thicknesses, and hold such books open by holding down the leaves. It will be obvious, to turn the pages of the book each leaf holder may be drawn outwardly slightly, the leaf turned and the arm portion of the holder allowed to slip back and retain the leaves in the desired open position.

Various changes may be made in the details of construction without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a book holder, a panel having means to support a book and having a longitudinal slot, a block slidably mounted in said slot, a leaf engaging arm having a pivot wire extending through the block, a resilient means interconnecting said wire and the block drawing said arm toward the panel, the said arm being adapted to engage leaves of books of different thicknesses and to be turned on its pivot to disengage or engage such leaves.

2. In a book holder, a panel having means to support a book, said panel having a longitudinal slot, a block slidably mounted in said slot and having a wire slidably mounted therein and extending through the block normal to the plane of the panel and having a coiled compression spring secured to the wire and bearing against the block on the rear side of the panel, the said wire being bent and having an arm extending parallel to the

panel, said arm being adapted to engage leaves of a book.

3. In a book holder as claimed in claim 2, the said panel having a book holder comprising a rod bent in U shape and having one portion slidably mounted on the back of the panel transverse thereto and another portion in front of the panel, the said rod passing over one edge of the panel, the portion of the rod in front of the panel being adapted to engage and retain a book on the panel.

4. In a book holder, the combination of a panel having longitudinal guideways and a transverse guideway on the back, a book retainer having one element slidable in the transverse guideway at the back and another element positioned in front of the panel, said retainer passing over the edge of the panel, and the said retainer being slidable and rotatable in the guideway to reverse the portion in front of the panel to the back of the panel, the longitudinal guideway having a structure slidable therein with a leaf engaging means shiftably and pivotally mounted therein to shift at right angles to the plane of the panel and having an arm to turn in a pivotal movement parallel to the plane of the panel.

5. In a book holder the combination of a panel having a pair of longitudinal slots in substantial alignment extending toward each other from opposite ends of the panel, a tubular structure secured to the back of the panel and having a retaining spring therein with a contracted end, a book retainer having a rod bent in U shape with the back portion fitted in the tubular guide and having a head to engage the spring, the contracted end engaging the head and preventing withdrawal of such portion of the rod, the other end of the rod being adapted to extend in front of the panel and parallel thereto to engage a book or to be reversed to the back of the panel, leaf holding devices each comprising a block slidable in one of the longitudinal slots, a wire arm having a right angular bend with a portion of the wire extending through the block and having a coiled spring secured thereto and bearing against the back of the block, a portion of the arm being adapted to move in rotation on the portion extending through the block and in planes parallel to that of the panel and thereby engage leaves of books of different thicknesses.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification.

CHARLES H. WHITE.