Oct. 30, 1928. 1,689,890

S. J. ROBERTS

DESK COVER

Filed Nov. 17, 1927

Fig. 1.

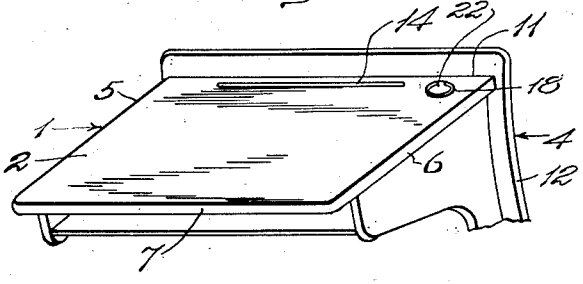


Fig. 8.

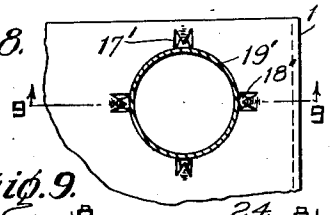


Fig. 9.

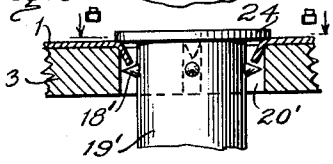


Fig. 1a.

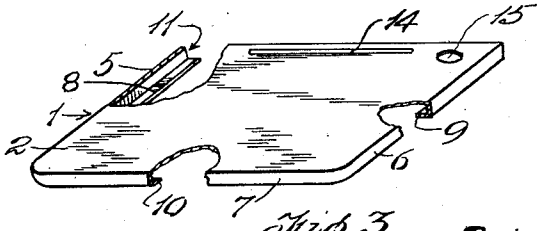


Fig. 2.

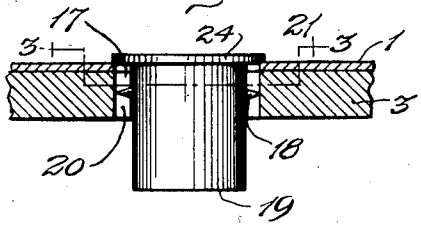


Fig. 3.

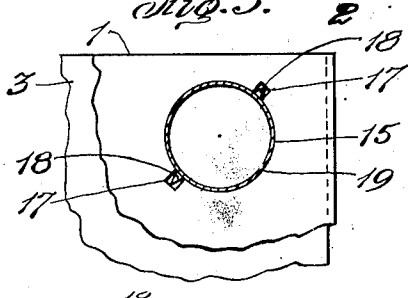


Fig. 4.

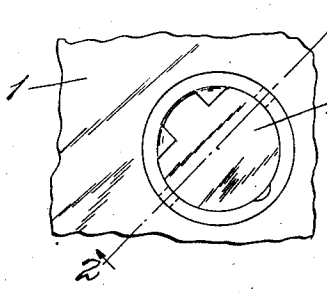


Fig. 5.

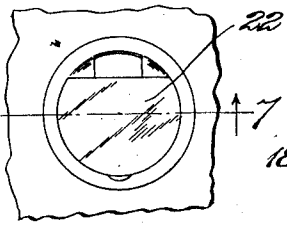


Fig. 6.

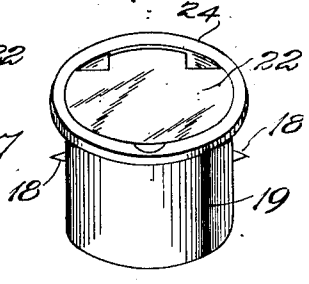
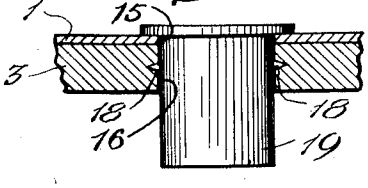


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL J. ROBERTS, OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

DESK COVER.

Application filed November 17, 1927. Serial No. 233,988.

The subject matter of this application is an envelope designed to be slipped over the tops of wooden desks, especially the tops of school desks which have been badly mutilated or worn, in order to present a smooth working surface without the necessity of refinishing such wooden tops.

It is well known that the wooden tops on school desks are subjected to very rough usage, that the children using them continually carve their initials and other designs onto these tops and eventually render them practically unfit for use without refinishing.

The main object of this invention then is to provide a sheet metal envelope which can be readily slipped over the wooden desk top, and which is provided with sprung-under flanges adapting the envelope to be held securely to the top without screws or nails or other means for securing it thereto.

A further object of the invention is to provide the envelope with an ink-well opening adapted to register with the ink-well opening usually found in the wooden tops of school desks to which the invention is designed to be applied, such openings being provided with slots adapted to correspond with diametrically opposite projecting lugs on an ink-well of special construction designed to form with the wooden top and envelope a bayonet joint connection for locking the envelope rigidly and securely to the wooden desk top.

Other objects of the invention will appear as the detailed description thereto proceeds.

In the drawings:

Figure 1, is a perspective view of the top of a school desk with the envelope applied thereto.

Figure 1a, is a perspective view of the envelope separated from the desk top.

Figure 2, is a fragmentary vertical section through the desk top with the envelope positioned thereon and with the locking ink-well applied thereto in the position indicated by the section line 2—2 of Figure 4.

Figure 3, is a fragmentary plan view of and part section on line 3—3 of Figure 2 of a portion of the desk top and of the envelope positioned thereon and showing the locking ink-well removably inserted in the registering apertures of the desk top and envelope.

Figure 4, is a fragmentary plan view of the desk top and envelope with the locking ink-well positioned in the registering apertures prior to the turning of the ink-well to lock the envelope and the inkwell to the desk top.

Figure 5 is a plan view of the desk top and envelope with the locking inkwell inserted in the registering apertures thereof and rotated from the position shown in Figure 4 to a position in which the inkwell securely clamps the envelope to the desk top and prevents removal of the envelope from said top.

Figure 6, is a perspective view of the locking inkwell forming part of this invention;

Figure 7 is a vertical section on the line 7—7 of Figure 5.

Figure 8 is a fragmentary plan view of a modified form of the invention; and

Figure 9 is a vertical section on the line 9—9 of Figure 8.

Referring to the drawings; the reference numeral 1 designates the envelope generally which is preferably constructed of sheet metal. The top portion 2 of the envelope is rectangular and fits snugly over the top 4 of the desk. The top 2 is bent down around three of its sides to form the sides 5 and 6 and a front end 7. The sides 5 and 6 are bent inwardly towards each other to form flanges 8 and 9 respectively and the front 7 is also bent inwardly to form flange 10. These flanges 8, 9 and 10 are bent upwardly toward the top 2 so that when the envelope is slid over the desk top 3, the flanges act in a spring-like manner to hold the envelope frictionally secured to said top. The rear end 11 of the top 2 is left open so that the envelope may be readily slid over the desk top from front to rear and have its open end 11 fit closely against the back of the seat 12. The usual pencil holding recess 14 is formed in the envelope in a position to register with a corresponding recess formed in the desk top and this recess forms at the under side of the envelope a rib which seats in the corresponding recess on the desk top and, in effect, serves partly as a lock to secure the envelope to the desk top.

The envelope 1 is provided with a cylindrical aperture 15 adapted to register with a corresponding aperture 16 in the desk top proper. The aperture 15 of the envelope is provided on diametrically opposite sides with slots 17 adapted to receive lugs 18 extending from the side of the ink-well 19. If the apertures 16 of the desk top are not provided with slots in registering with the slot

17, it will be necessary to form such slots 20 in the said aperture 16 which can be readily done by the use of a lock screw after the envelope is properly positioned.

In order to lock the envelope to the top, it will be necessary, then, to slide the envelope on to the top until rear end contacts with the back of the seat 12 and the aperture 15 registers with the aperture 16 in the desk top. The ink-well 19 is then inserted in these registering apertures as shown in Figure 4, which corresponds to the positions of the slots 17 shown in Figure 3. The projecting lugs 18 pass down through these slots 17 and 20 until the flange 21 of the ink-well contacts firmly with the top of the envelope 1. When in this position with the flange 21 and top 1 held down firmly on the wooden desk top, the lid 22 of the ink-well may be raised upwardly and used as a lever to rotate the ink-well as a whole and cause the projections 18 to be embedded in the wooden top 3, as shown clearly in Figure 7. These projections 18, which may be stamped out of the cylindrical side of the ink-well, are downwardly tapered so that when the ink-well is rotated from the position shown in Figure 4 to that shown in Figure 5, the projections 18 dig into the wood with a wedge-like action to pull down the envelope to fit securely onto the top of the desk 3.

It has been found in actual practice that it is impossible, after this ink-well has been positioned as described, to remove the ink-well from the desk top without actually breaking it apart. It will, therefore, become apparent that I have provided an envelope and locking means therefor which will prevent children or others from removing the envelope from the desk top. It will also be apparent that this envelope can be applied without the necessity of removing the desk from its position and that it can be applied without the use of skilled labor and without requiring any elaborate tools to effect its application.

While I have described this invention as being particularly adapted for application to a wooden desk top, it must not be considered as in any way limited to such use as it is intended to cover broadly the combination of the envelope with a top of any kind of suitable material.

The projecting lugs 18 of the cylinder-locking inkwell are shaped to embed in or to engage the desk top with a downward wedging action for the purpose of locking the enevelope securely against the desk top so that its cannot be moved in any direction thereon without breaking the inkwells.

In the modification shown in Figures 8 and 9, the inkwell 19′ is provided with four projecting lugs 18′ so disposed as to slide freely into slots 20′ formed in the wooden desk top. Slots 17′ on cover 1 are stamped out so as to form inwardly projecting lugs 23 which are adapted to be pressed downwardly by lug 18′ when the inkwell 19 is inserted in the desk top, and to spring back over the tops of said lugs 18 (as shown in Figure 9), to prevent removal of the locking inkwell.

In the several modifications, it must be understood that the flange 24 is wide enough to cover the slots 17 or 17′ formed on the cover 1, and that the well 19 may be rotated slightly to embed its lugs 18′ in the wooden desk to 3.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A desk having a wooden top provided with an ink-well aperture, an envelope covering said top and slidably mounted thereon and having an aperture registering with said ink-well aperture, and a cylindrical locking member seated in said apertures and having a flange engaging the top of said envelope and having laterally projecting prongs embedded in said desk top to lock the envelope to said desk top.

2. A desk top having an ink-well aperture therein, a sheet metal envelope on said top and having an aperture registering with said ink-well aperture, each of said apertures having registering slots, and a cylindrical locking member securing said envelope to said top and having a flange at one end thereof to cover said slots and having laterally projecting lugs adapted to slide in said slots and to be embedded in envelope locking position in said top by rotation of said member when seated in said apertures.

3. A desk top, an envelope slidably positioned on said desk top, said desk top and envelope having registering apertures therethrough, and a locking member seated in said apertures in bayonet joint connection with said desk top and envelope to lock the envelope to said desk top.

4. A desk top, an envelope positioned thereon, said desk top and envelope having registering cylindrical apertures provided with registering notches in their peripheries, a locking member seated in said apertures, and means on said member slidable through said notches and engageable by rotation with said top to lock said envelope to the top and to lock said member in said aperture.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

SAMUEL J. ROBERTS.