

May 2, 1944.

C. WULSTEIN

2,347,760

ATTACHMENT FOR WORK BENCHES

Filed Dec. 12, 1942

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

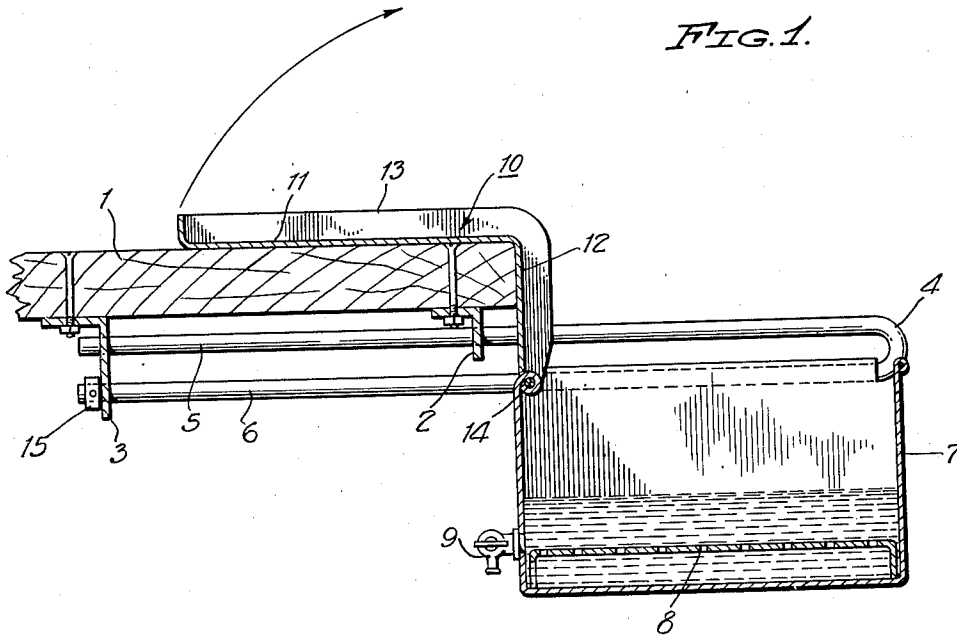
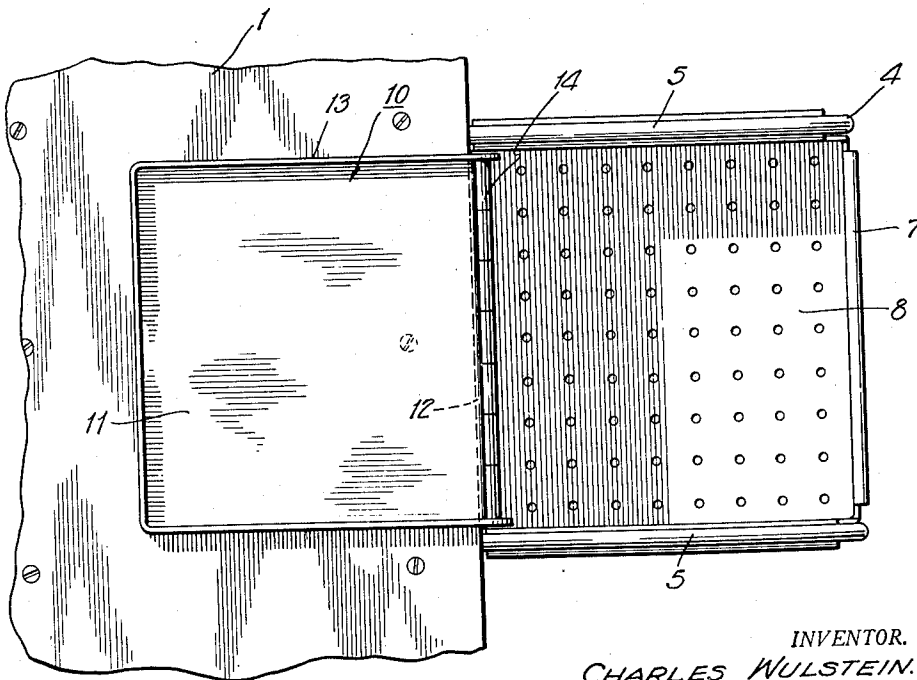


FIG. 2.



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FIG. 3.

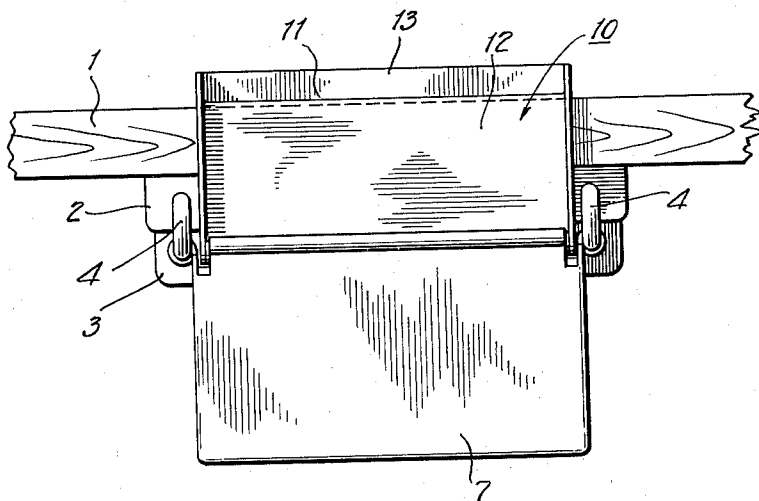
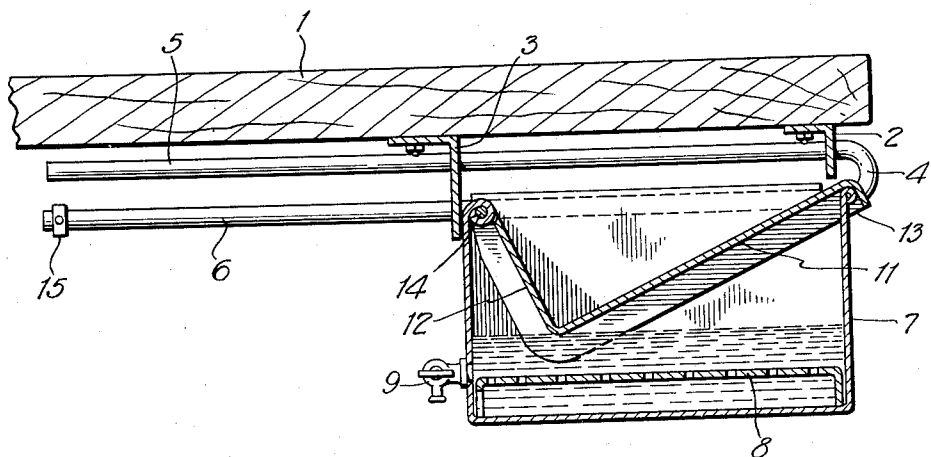


FIG. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,347,760

ATTACHMENT FOR WORKBENCHES

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Application December 12, 1942, Serial No. 468,856

4 Claims. (Cl. 141-1)

My invention relates to attachments for work benches, desks, tables or shelves, and more particularly to a drawer-like extension structure including a container such as for cleaning liquid.

In manufacturing and repair shops, some means must often be provided for storing and applying cleaning liquid to be readily available at the work bench. In an automotive repair shop, for instance, a container and some auxiliary equipment is as a rule required for cleaning electrical and machine parts such as parts of the starter, generator or distributor, carburetors, magnetos, etc. Similar conditions occur in shops for repairing or assembling watches, clockworks or other mechanical devices. It is customary in many such places to use cans, separate trays or the like makeshift equipment for these purposes.

It is an object of my invention to provide improved means for storing and applying cleaning liquid for uses of the above-mentioned type. More specifically, an aim of the invention is to provide a drawer-like attachment for work benches or the like which combines a container, a working tray and a drain so as to have this equipment readily available and in proper position relative to the bench top when needed, while permitting the entire outfit, when not in use, to be moved beneath the top. Another object of my invention is to provide a drawer-like extension structure, preferably in combination with a container and tray device, which is capable of supporting heavy loads when in extended position and hence is sturdy enough to permit being used in small as well as in large-size constructions and suitable for shops where a relatively rough treatment is to be expected.

To achieve these ends, the invention provides a slidable drawer-like structure of particular type and, in another though correlated aspect, a tray of particular shape movably associated with a container secured to the slidable drawer structure. Details of these devices as well as their function will be explained presently with reference to the example illustrated in the drawings.

Fig. 1 represents a sectional side elevation of an attachment according to the invention, the drawer structure being in extended position and ready for use.

Figs. 2 and 3 are a top view and a front elevation of the same attachment shown in the same operative position.

Fig. 4 is another sectional side elevation of the same attachment as shown in Fig. 1, the drawer, container and tray structure, however, being in

stored-away position underneath the top of the working bench or desk.

In these figures, 1 denotes the top of the bench. Two supporting members 2 and 3, each of angular cross section, are firmly secured to the underside of the top 1. The member 2 lies close to the edge of the top, while member 3 is relatively remote therefrom. These supporting members have bores so as to form slide bearings for two spaced drawer members, both denoted by 4. Each of the drawer members has two limbs 5 and 6 running in parallel to each other. Iron or brass rods of circular or other cross section and bent to a U-shape may be used as such drawer members. As apparent from the drawings, the two limbs 5 and 6 of each member 4 lie one above the other, only the upper limb 5 being guided in the slide bearing formed by supporting member 2, while the lower limb 6, or preferably both limbs, are in slidable engagement with supporting member 3. It is apparent that both drawer members 4 can be pushed beneath the top 1 (Fig. 4) or pulled out into extended position (Fig. 1), stops 15 being provided for limiting the extension and preventing the members 4 from being pulled out of the supporting member 3.

Attached to the lower limbs 6 of the drawer members is a container 7 for cleaning liquid. This container is preferably secured to the limbs by turning the lateral edges of the container around the limbs. A strainer 8 serves to provide a sump underneath the supporting surface for sludge removed from articles placed into the container. The provision of such a strainer has the advantage that it separates the sludge from the liquid and prevents it from being stirred up each time an article or cleaning brush is placed into the container. Thus the liquid is much better conserved than in the customary containers. A drain petcock 9 permits removing the upper, less contaminated portion of the liquid. The strainer can be removed and the more or less solid sump depositions scraped out from time to time.

Hinged to the container 7 is a wash or working tray 10, the hinge being located at 14. The tray 10 is of a bent shape so that its portion 11, in the working position of Figs. 1, 2 and 3, rests flat on the top surface of the bench. The portion 12 of the tray closer to the hinge forms a drain, and hence guides liquid escaping from the tray portion 11 back into the container 7. Both portions 11 and 12 of the tray are surrounded by rim 13 bent away from the tray surface to prevent spilling of the liquid.

When turning the tray 10 down towards the

container 7, it reaches the position apparent from Fig. 4 in which it forms a lid-like cover with its center portion projecting towards the bottom of the storage container. When in this position, the tray is entirely removed from the working surface of the bench top 1, and permits moving the entire drawer structure beneath the bench top, as is also illustrated in Fig. 4.

It will be seen from the foregoing description that when the attachment is in working position according to Figs. 1 to 3, the surface of the tray portion 11 is virtually flush with the surface of the bench top and in proper position for placing articles on the tray. The articles can then be cleaned, using for this purpose liquid taken from the container 7. The liquid is prevented from spilling over the bench, any excess liquid being drained into the container by means of the rimmed tray portion 12. Since the tray is secured to the container, it is always readily available despite the fact that it is automatically stored away after the container is closed and pushed into the position according to Fig. 4. Since the container is secured to the bench, it can also be used to advantage for the temporary safekeeping of articles to be cleaned.

It will be noted that the container when stored away lies underneath the supporting member 2. In other words, due to the attachment of the container to the lower limb 6, leaving the upper limb 5 entirely free, the slide bearing formed by member 2 can be placed close to the edge of the bench top 1 without interfering with the above-described slide-away motion of the drawer structure. This has the advantage that the arrangement offers a very favorable leverage as regards forces acting on the structure when it is in the extended position shown in Fig. 1. Consequently, the container can be loaded with relatively heavy weights without damage. For instance, if the container and drawer structure is in the position of Fig. 1 but with the tray 10 placed on the container, a board may be placed across the upper limbs 5 and thus serve as an extension of the bench top. Very heavy pieces can then be placed on the board without over-stressing the structure.

I claim:

1. Attachment for work benches and the like, comprising in combination with a drawer-type structure adapted to be slidably secured beneath the top of the bench, a container mounted on said structure so as to be extensible from beneath to a position in front of said top, a tray hinged to said container to form a lid-like member, said tray having a bent shape so as to project towards the bottom of said container when turned down while having one portion of said tray rest on said top when said container is in the extended position and said tray turned up, another portion of said tray when in said turned-up position forming a drain leading into said container.

2. Attachment for work benches and the like, comprising in combination with a drawer-type structure adapted to be slidably secured beneath

the top of the bench, a container for cleaning liquid mounted on said structure so as to be extensible from beneath to a position in front of said top, a tray hinged to said container to form a lid-like member, said tray having a bent shape so as to project towards the bottom of said container when turned down while having one portion of said tray rest on said top when said container is in the extended position and said tray turned up, another portion of said tray when in said turned-up position forming a drain leading into said container, both said portions having a continuous peripheral rim bent upwardly to prevent spilling of the liquid.

3. Drawer-type attachment for work benches and the like, comprising two drawer members each having two elongated limbs forming together a U-shaped structure, supporting means for securing said members beneath the top of the bench so as to have said limbs of each disposed one above the other, said supporting means forming a bearing slidably engaging the upper one of said limbs while leaving the lower one unengaged, said bearing being arranged close to an edge of said top, another bearing formed by said supporting means and slidably engaging at least the lower one of said limbs, said latter bearing being remote from said edge as compared with said first bearing, and a container mounted on said drawer members and secured to said lower limbs of said members so as to lie in front of said top when said members are in extended position and under said first bearing when moved beneath the top.

4. Drawer-type attachment for work benches and the like, comprising two drawer members each having two elongated limbs disposed in parallel to each other, supporting means for securing said members beneath the top of the bench so as to have said limbs of each disposed one above the other, said supporting means forming a bearing slidably engaging the upper one of said limbs while leaving the lower one unengaged, said bearing being arranged close to an edge of said top, another bearing formed by said supporting means and slidably engaging at least the lower one of said limbs, said latter bearing being remote from said edge as compared with said first bearing, a container for cleaning liquid mounted on said drawer members and secured to said lower limbs of said members so as to lie in front of said top when said members are in extended position and under said first bearing when moved beneath the top, and a tray hinged to said container to form a lid-like cover, said tray having a bent shape so as to project towards the bottom of said container when turned down while having one portion of said tray rest on said top when said drawer members and container are in the extended position and said tray turned up, said tray having another portion extending from said first portion to said container between said upper limbs so as to form a drain leading into said container when said tray is in the turned-up position.

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