Dec. 7, 1954 C. BOMBARA 2,696,418

COMBINATION BENCH, BOOKRACK, SHELF, AND DESK

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Fig. 1.

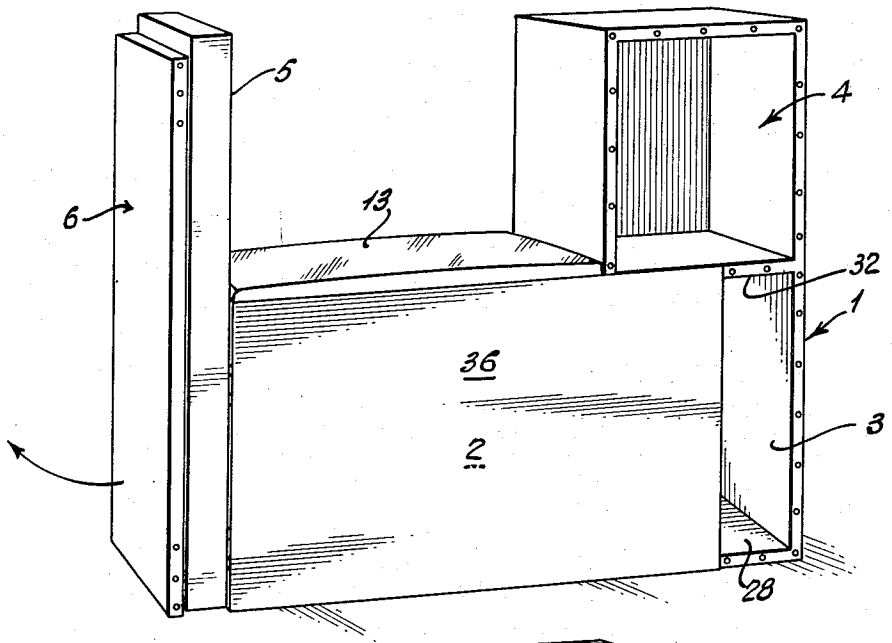
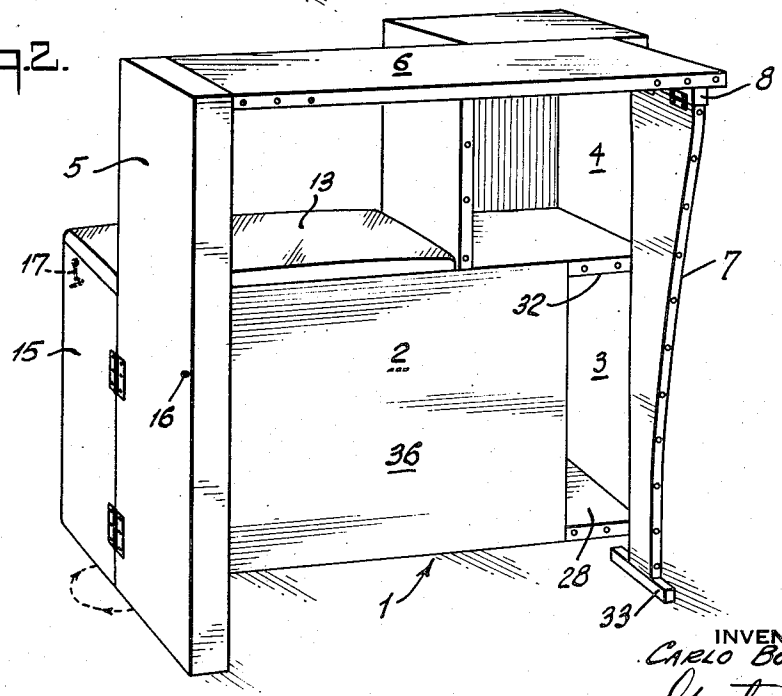


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 3.

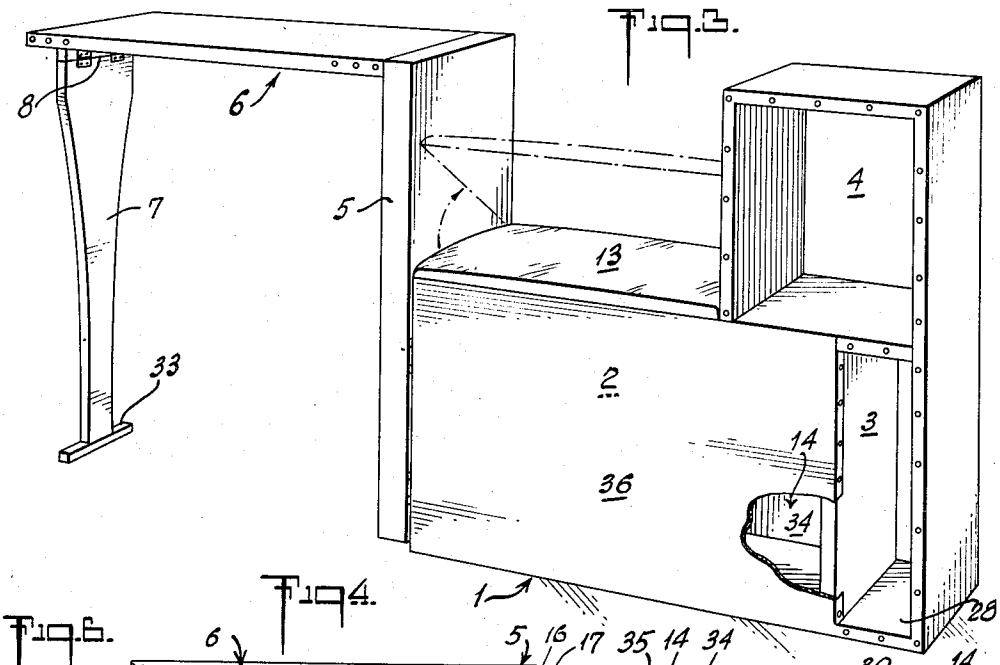


Fig. 4.

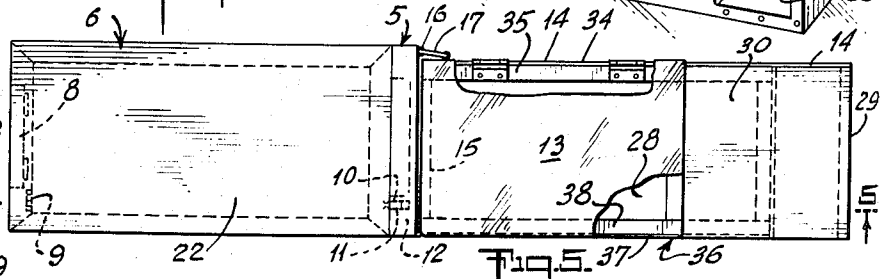


Fig. 6.

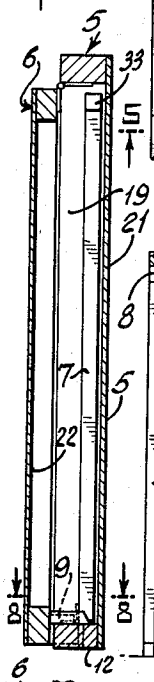


Fig. 5.

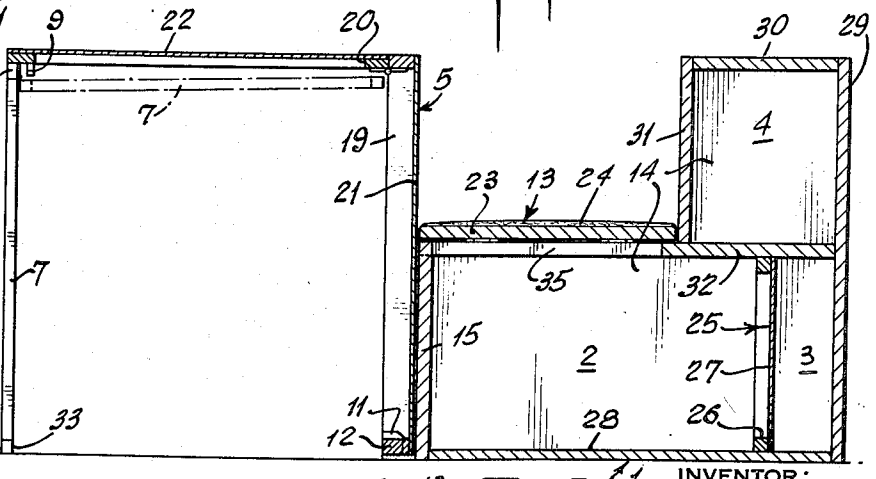


Fig. 7.

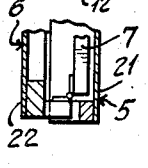
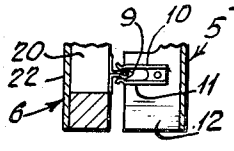


Fig. 8.



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United States Patent Office 2,696,418 Patented Dec. 7, 1954

2,696,418

COMBINATION BENCH, BOOKRACK, SHELF, AND DESK

Carlo Bombara, Rosedale, N. Y.

Application October 7, 1952, Serial No. 313,391

2 Claims. (Cl. 312—235)

This invention relates to combination benches, bookracks, shelves and desks.

Among the objects of the present invention, it is aimed to provide an improved combination bench, bookrack, shelf and desk which can be folded into a bench and bookrack alone in one position, unfolded into a bench, bookrack and shelf formation in alinement with one another in another position, and unfolded in still another position into bench and bookrack formation with the shelf in desk position in front of the bench.

It is still another object of the present invention to provide an improved combination bench, bookrack, shelf and desk which in one position can be folded into bench and bookrack formation, unfolded in another position into bench, bookrack and shelf in alinement with one another, and unfolded in still another position into bench and bookrack formation with the shelf in desk position in front of the bench, which combination can be produced at low cost, and when produced manipulated with ease by a child or an unskilled user.

These and other features, capabilities and advantages of the present invention will appear from the subjoined detailed description of one specific embodiment thereof illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which

Fig. 1 is a perspective of the combination bench, bookrack and shelf in folded bench and bookrack position.

Fig. 2 is a perspective of the combination unfolded with the shelf in desk position in front of the bench.

Fig. 3 is a perspective of the combination unfolded with the shelf in alinement with, and to one side of, the bench.

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the combination as arranged in Fig. 3 with parts broken away.

Fig. 5 is a section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a vertical section of the shelf portion in folded position but removed from the bench portion.

Fig. 7 is a fragmental vertical section of a part of the shelf portion in folded position as shown in Fig. 6.

Fig. 8 is an enlarged section on line 8—8 of Fig. 6.

In the embodiment shown, the combination consists essentially of a frame 1 formed into a large chest or container 2, a narrow lower bookrack or pocket 3, a wide upper bookrack or pocket 4, and hingedly connected thereto a partition or upright wall 5 having hingedly connected thereto the shelf 6, which in turn has hingedly connected thereto the leg 7. The leg 7 is hingedly connected at its upper end to the strip 8 secured to the lower face of the outer end of the shelf 6 so that it may either be folded into shelf supporting position as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, or folded up against the lower face of the shelf 6 as shown in Fig. 6. In this folded up position, the metal catch 9 on the inner face at the outer end of the shelf 6 will yieldably wedge between the yieldable jaws 10 and 11 on the cross piece 12 on the outer face at the lower end of the wall member 5.

The wall member 5 in turn is hingedly connected at the front vertical edge of its inner face to the front outer edge of the container or chest 2, so that when it is desired to use the shelf 6 as a desk or table, the wall member 5 with its associated shelf 6 and leg 7 may be swung around into the position shown in Fig. 2 where the shelf 6 may serve as a desk for the user sitting on the seat 13.

Preferably the seat 13 may serve as the cover for a part of the container 2 being hinged in the present instance at its rear edge to the upper edge of the rear wall 14 of the container 2.

To anchor the wall 5 to the outer face of the wall 15 of the container 2 either in the folded position of the

shelf 6 shown in Fig. 1, or the shelf forming position shown in Fig. 3, the eye 16 may be secured to the outer face of the wall 5 to receive the hook 17 pivotally connected to the rear face of the rear wall 14 of the container 2 adjacent to the eye 16 when the wall 5 is disposed against the wall 15.

In the interest of reducing the cost of manufacture to a minimum, the wall 5 and the shelf 6 may consist essentially of rigid rectangular frames 19 and 20, respectively, comopsed of wood or the like, with composition boards 21 and 22 secured across the same, the board 21 forming the outer wall portion of the wall 5, and the board 22 forming the upper wall portion of the shelf 6 in shelf forming position. The seat 13 is preferably composed of a rigid board 23 composed of wood or the like, having a cushioned layer 24 covering the upper face thereof. The partition 25 between the compartment 2 and the bookrack 3 is similar to the wall 5 and shelf 6, being composed of a rectangular frame 26 to which the composition board 27 is secured forming the main wall portion of the partition 25 between the compartment 2 and the bookrack 3. The rectangular frames 19, 20 and 26 may be composed of wood and the composition boards may be composed of beaver board, laminated board or the like.

The wall 15, floor 28, outer wall 29 extending from the floor 28 to the upper end of the compartment 4, the upper wall 30 and the partition or wall between the bookrack 4 and the seat 13 are preferably composed of some rigid substance, such as wood or the like. The rear wall 14 is L-shaped and may be composed of a composition board, such as beaver board or the like, which is secured to the rear edges of the walls 15, 29, floor 28, ceiling 30 and partition 31 to form the rear wall for the compartments 2, 3 and 4. Also secured to the upper end of the rectangular frame 26 and the inner faces of the wall 29 and lower edge of the wall 31, there is provided a substantially rigid floor 32 which forms the floor for the bookrack 4, the ceiling for the bookrack 3, and extends inwardly a slight distance beyond the wall 31 so that the seat 13 in closed position will overlap the portion of the wall 31 of the floor 32 projecting beyond the wall 31.

The leg 7 is preferably composed of a rigid material such as wood and as shown may have an extended bar 33 at its lower end to form a foot to steady the leg 7 when in shelf supporting position.

The beaver board wall portion 34 of the rear wall 14 has secured to its upper edge a rigid bar 35 composed of wood or the like. Similarly the front wall 36 of the chest 2 is composed of a composition board 37 which is secured at its upper edge to the front face of a rigid bar 38 extending from the wall 15 to the upper face of the frame 26. The beaver board partition 37 is additionally secured to the front faces of the walls 15, floor 28 and front face of the frame 26.

It is obvious that various changes and modifications may be made to the details of construction, without departing from the general spirit of the invention as set forth in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a combination bench and shelf, the combination of a rectangular shaped container forming the main frame having a main floor, a vertically extending end wall, a vertically extending rear wall and a vertically extending front wall, a seat forming cover hingedly connected to the upper edge of the rear wall and resting at least on the upper edge of the front wall in seat forming position, a vertically extending upright wall hingedly connected to the end wall adjacent the front wall and swingable from a position in alinement with, and extending forward of, said end wall and perpendicular to said front wall to a position flat against said end wall, the upright wall being rectangular in cross section to enable its one face to engage said end wall to determine one extreme position and to enable its edge to engage said front wall to determine its other position, a rectangular frame secured to the other face of said upright wall to form a compartment with said upright wall and having a bar extending horizontally adjacent the upper edge of said other face, a shelf hingedly connected to said bar to swing up from a

position adjacent to said rectangular frame in collapsed position to a position perpendicular to said upright wall in shelf forming position, and a leg pivotally connected adjacent the outer edge of said shelf to swing from a position adjacent to said shelf in collapsed position to a position perpendicular to said shelf in shelf supporting position.

2. The combination as set forth in claim 1 having a bar interposed between said rectangular frame and said leg to supplement said leg in length when in shelf supporting position, said bar being spaced from the outer edge of said shelf to fit, with said leg in collapsed position, into the compartment formed by said rectangular frame.

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