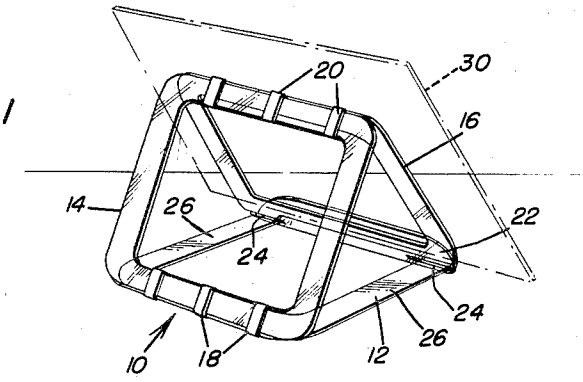
March 12, 1957 G. W. DIENING 2,784,929

ADJUSTABLE AND COLLAPSIBLE EASEL

Filed Aug. 21, 1953

Fig. 1



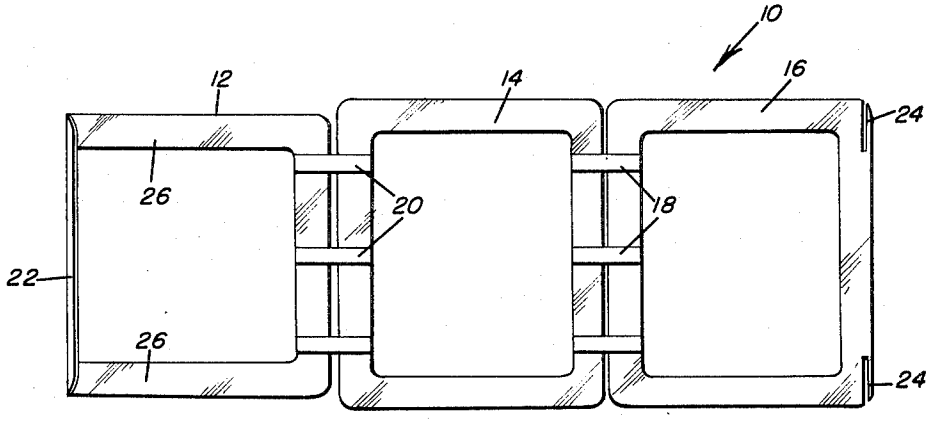
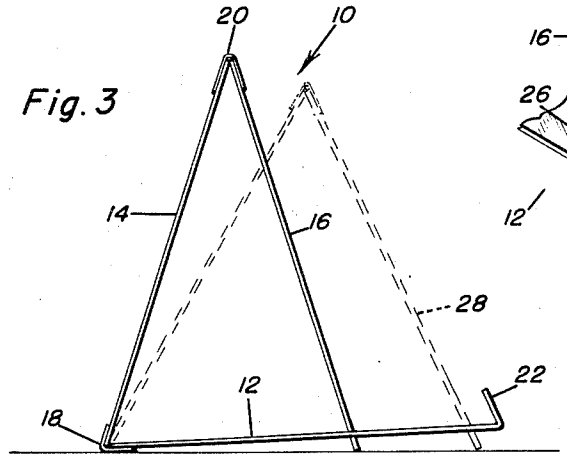


Fig. 2

Fig. 3



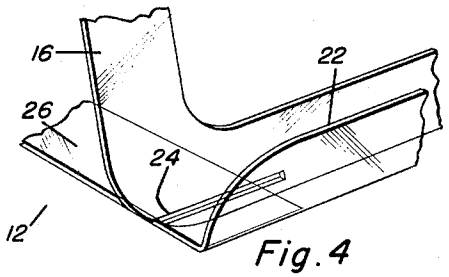


Fig. 4

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ADJUSTABLE AND COLLAPSIBLE EASEL

George W. Diening, Hamilton, Ohio

Application August 21, 1953, Serial No. 375,670

1 Claim. (Cl. 248—35)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements and structural refinements in easels, and the principal object of this invention is to provide an easel of the character herein described, which may be quickly and easily adjusted so as to support a book, or the like, in a proper, conveniently readable position, whereby to avoid eye strain while reading, copying, etc.

While the invention is primarily intended for supporting books and other similar material while reading or copying, in which sense the invention assumes the general form of a book holder or copy holder, it is to be understood that the use of the invention is by no means restricted to this environment and that the invention may be effectively employed in the general nature of any easel for supporting in an inclined position work of any substantially flat type.

An important feature of the invention resides in its adjustability to accommodate work of various thicknesses, while another feature of the invention resides in its collapsibility which permits the invention to be folded into a compact form while it is being carried or while it is otherwise not in use.

Some of the advantages of the invention reside in its simplicity of construction, in its efficient and dependable operation, and in its adaptability to economical manufacture.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

Figure 1 is a rear perspective view of the invention in use;

Figure 2 is a developed plan view of the invention per se;

Figure 3 is an end view of the invention; and

Figure 4 is a fragmentary, perspective detail illustrating the adjustable and separable connection between the front and base members of the invention.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings in detail, the easel is designated generally by the reference character **10** and embodies in its construction a base member **12**, a back member **14**, and a front member **16**.

These various members are preferably of a frame-shaped configuration and it will be observed that suitable hinges **18** connect the lower edge of the back member **14** to the rear edge of the base member **12**, while similar

hinges **20** connect the upper edge of the back member **14** to the upper edge of the front member **16** as shown.

The base member **12** is provided at the front edge thereof with an upstanding ledge **22**, the latter being spaced forwardly from the front member **16**.

Moreover, means are provided for adjustably and separably connecting the lower edge portion of the front member **16** to the base member **12**, these means consisting of the provision of a pair of slots **24** in the side portions of the front member **16**. These slots slidably and removably receive therein the side portions **26** of the base member **12**, so that the entire device may be adjusted with respect to the spacing of the front member **16** from the ledge **22**, as exemplified by the dotted lines **28** in Figure 3.

When the invention is placed in use, the book, or the like, indicated at **30** in Figure 1, is simply positioned against the front member **16** and behind the keeper edge **22** and the adjustability of the front member **16** with respect to the base member **12** will, of course, accommodate books etc. of different thicknesses.

It is preferred that the members **12**, **14**, **16** be fabricated from relatively stiff yet flexible material such as cardboard, resinous plastic, or the like, so that by simply twisting the slotted portions **24** of the front member **16**, the front member may be disengaged from the base member **12** and the entire device conveniently folded by superposing the members **12**, **14**, and **16** on one another.

From the foregoing, the construction and operation of the device will be readily understood and further explanation is believed to be unnecessary. However, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction shown and described, and accordingly all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the appended claim.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

An adjustable easel comprising a rectangular base frame having laterally spaced side members and a rear edge, a back frame having upper and lower edges and a front frame having upper and lower edges, said back frame being hinged at its lower edge to the rear edge of the base frame and said front frame having its upper edge hinged to the upper edge of the back frame for folding of said back and front frames over the base frame into angular upstanding relation, said front frame having horizontal slots adjacent its lower edge slidably receiving the side members of the base frame, said slots having parallel sides fitting flush against said side members, and an upstanding front ledge on said base frame cross-connecting the side members of the base frame, said front frame having a straight lower edge for flush engagement with a supporting surface.

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