June 17, 1941. K. T. NORRIS 2,245,705

VOTING BOOTH

Filed Sept. 26, 1938

FIG. 1.

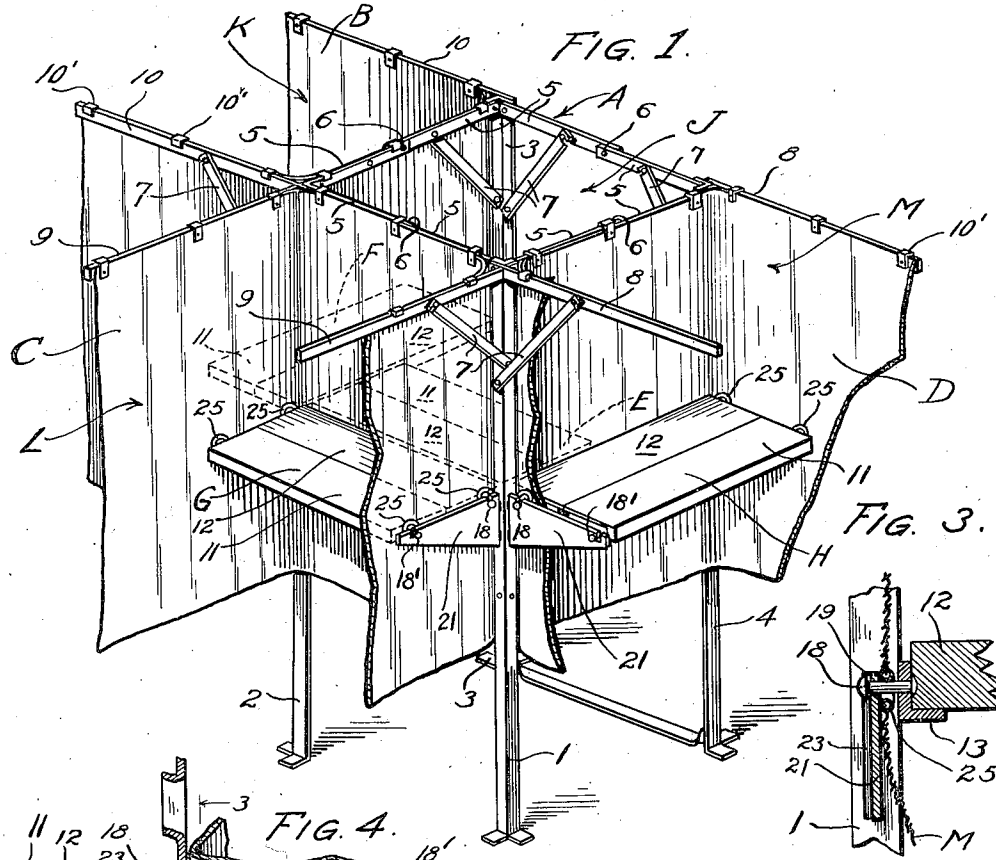


FIG. 3.

FIG. 4.

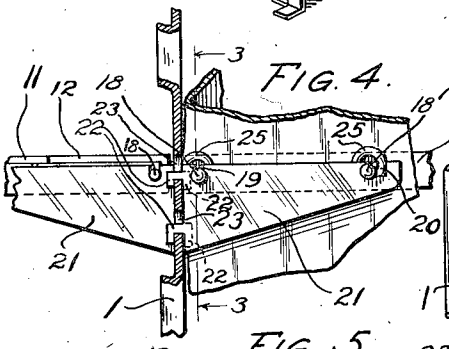


FIG. 2.

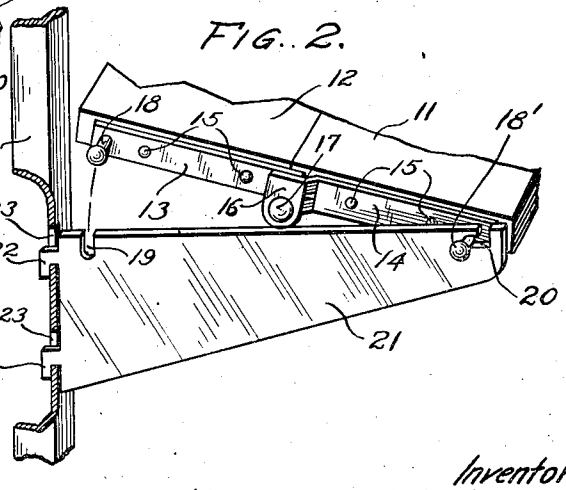


FIG. 5.

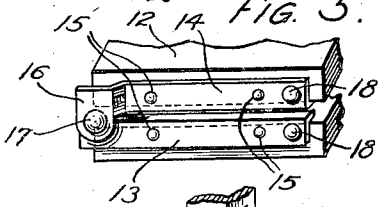
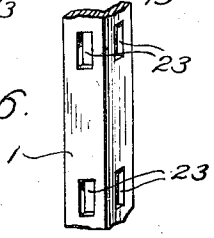


FIG. 6.



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VOTING BOOTH

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Application September 26, 1938, Serial No. 231,768

1 Claim. (Cl. 20—3)

This invention relates to improvements in voting booths of the type wherein a collapsible metal frame, together with canvas curtains and shelves are combined to form a plurality of booths, said structure being foldable into small compass when not in use.

The present invention deals primarily with the construction and arrangement of shelves and means for supporting them in connection with the other structural elements of the booth unit, said shelves being of themselves foldable and serving together with the means for detachably connecting them with the frame structure to assist in holding the canvas curtains in proper position and to also strengthen and reinforce the entire structure.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a voting booth or other structure, wherein the shelves may be quickly and easily mounted upon and detached from the frame of said structure and yet securely held against accidental dislodgment.

A further object is to provide in a voting booth of the character described, a novel and simple, one-piece shelf bracket which may be quickly and easily mounted upon and detached from the frame structure, and when in position of use, affords a quick and easy mounting of a shelf thereon with the latter held against tilting, rocking or unintentional movement out of position.

I have shown a preferred form of a voting booth in the accompanying drawing, embodying my invention, subject however, to modification within the scope of the appended claim, without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Referring to the drawing:

Fig. 1 represents a fragmentary perspective view of a voting booth constructed in accordance with this invention, with parts such as the closure flaps being omitted, for clarity of illustration.

Fig. 2 represents an enlarged fragmentary perspective view of one of the shelves and the supporting means therefor, showing the manner of mounting the shelf on said means.

Fig. 3 represents a sectional view taken on the plane of line 3—3 of Fig. 4, particularly showing the manner in which the shelves, shelf supporting brackets and canvas curtains are related.

Fig. 4 represents an enlarged fragmentary perspective view of the shelf supporting brackets and associated elements particularly showing the manner of mounting the brackets on the frame structure.

Fig. 5 represents a fragmentary perspective view of one of the shelves as when folded.

Fig. 6 represents a fragmentary perspective view of one of the standards of the frame structure showing the manner of aperturing the same for reception of the shelf brackets.

One form of the invention, as shown in detail in the accompanying drawing, comprises a collapsible metal frame structure A, canvas or like fabric curtains B, C and D, and shelf structures E, F, G and H, in an arrangement such that there will be provided as one unit, four voting booths designated J, K, L and M.

The frame structure A is preferably made of light metal members in an arrangement such that it may be readily collapsed into small compass when not in use, to facilitate shipping and storing thereof. Likewise, the shelf structures and canvas curtains are foldable into small compass for the same purposes.

As here shown the frame structure A comprises primarily four upright angle iron standards 1, 2, 3 and 4 joined by a plurality of horizontal or cross bars 5 so as to form a substantially rectangular frame structure. These bars are preferably pivotally or hingedly connected as at 6 and are held in operative position by suitable pivoted braces 7 in an arrangement such that the entire structure may be readily collapsed and set up as desired. Certain of the cross or connecting bars 5 are provided with extensions 8, 8, 9, 9, and 10, 10 which support the canvas curtains K, L and M whereby to form the four booths, as particularly shown in Fig. 1. The canvas curtains are provided with hooks 10' adapted to be mounted upon the bars 5, 8, 9 and 10.

The invention hereof primarily deals with the shelf construction and while the frame structure here shown for forming the booths is particularly well adapted to the present invention, it is to be understood that any frame or shelf supporting structure for forming a booth will make possible the use of the improved shelf structure of and in accordance with this invention.

Each of the shelves E, F, G and H is made up of like halves or sections 11 and 12 of wood or other suitable material hingedly connected so that they may be extended in coplanar relation or folded one upon the other. Angle hinge bars 13 and 14 are secured by suitable fastenings 15 to the ends of the shelf sections 11 and 12, as particularly shown in Figs. 2, 3 and 5, so that the inner ends of said bars will overlap. The bars 14 are provided with outwardly offset inner ends 16 which overlie the corresponding ends of the bars

13 and are pivoted thereto as by means of the pivot pins 17 which may be riveted in place. This provides a hinge joint whereby the sections may be folded and extended.

At the outer ends of the bars 13 and 14 are headed pins 18 and 18' which are disposed adjacent the inner and outer longitudinal edges of the shelves and are adapted to engage in slots 19 and 20 formed in bracket plates 21 adjacent the inner and outer ends thereof. These bracket plates are provided at their inner ends with hook-shaped lugs 22 adapted to engage in slots 23 formed at the standards 1, 2, 3 and 4 whereby the inner edges of the plates will abut the standards and the brackets will be securely supported in place. The slots 19 are vertical to provide for a ready insertion of the pins 18 therein, whereas the slots 20 are L-shaped or bayonet type so that the pins 18' must be inserted vertically and then moved laterally into locked position therein. After the bracket plates 21 are mounted upon the standards in proper position and the shelves are unfolded, the pins 18' are inserted in the slots 20 and moved horizontally inwardly into locked position whereupon the pins 18 are then automatically positioned so that as the inner edges of the shelves are lowered, pins 18' will engage in the slots 19. When thus positioned the front edges of the shelves are locked against being accidentally lifted from the brackets, due to the bayonet slots 20 and the position of the pins 18' therein. To remove the shelves the inner ends thereof are lifted so that the pins 18 will be free of the slots 19, whereupon the shelves may be moved bodily forwardly to dispose the pins 18' in registration with the vertical portions of the slots 20 and the shelves may then be lifted clear of the brackets. Preferably the curtains are interposed between the brackets and the ends of the shelves, as particularly shown in Fig. 3, and therefore said curtains are provided with eyelets 25 to accommodate the pins 18 and 18'. The pins are extended thru these eyelets and then engaged in the slots 19 and 20 as aforesaid. This holds the canvas curtains in the desired position to form the booths.

It should be noted that the standards 1 and 2 have certain of the apertures 23 therein arranged to receive pairs of bracket plates 21 which extend from opposite sides of the standards for the shelves E and G, as shown in Fig. 4. Each of the standards is preferably formed with the apertures 23, in the arrangement as particularly shown in Fig. 6, for convenience of manufacture.

It will now be seen that I provide a voting booth structure which will be particularly efficacious by reason of the shelf construction of this invention and in that said shelf construction facilitates a quick and easy setting up of the booths and reinforces the frame structure of the booths, while at the same time affording a stable writing surface, the shelf being prevented from dislodgment, should the forward end of the shelf be struck upwardly or otherwise.

While the shelf and supporting means thereof are particularly adapted to voting booths it is seen that they may be used in other arts and on other shelf supporting structures wherein apertured members will accommodate the mounting of the shelf brackets and shelves in accordance with this invention.

I claim:

A shelf supporting structure, a curtain thereon having openings therein, a shelf, pins on said shelf extending thru said openings, and brackets carried by said structure and having slots for reception of said pins, certain of said slots and pins being respectively located adjacent the outer ends of said bracket and the outer longitudinal edge of said shelf and said certain slots being of the bayonet type to prevent accidental dislodgment of said shelf from said bracket, the other of said slots and pins being disposed adjacent the inner edge of the bracket and said other slots being substantially straight and opening upwardly at the upper edges of said brackets.

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