Feb. 21, 1967 W. O. FLEENOR 3,305,076

TOOL CHEST

Filed Oct. 28, 1965

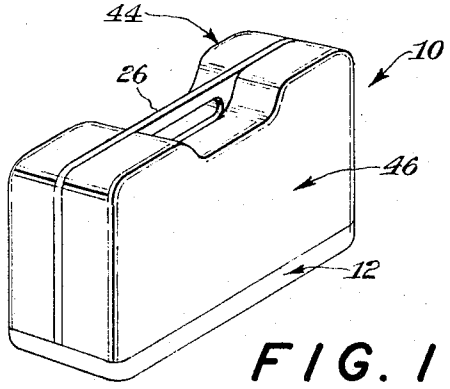

FIG. 1

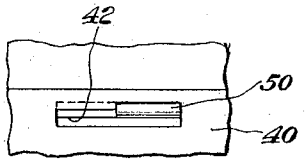

FIG. 3

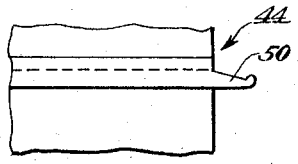

FIG. 4

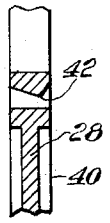

FIG. 5

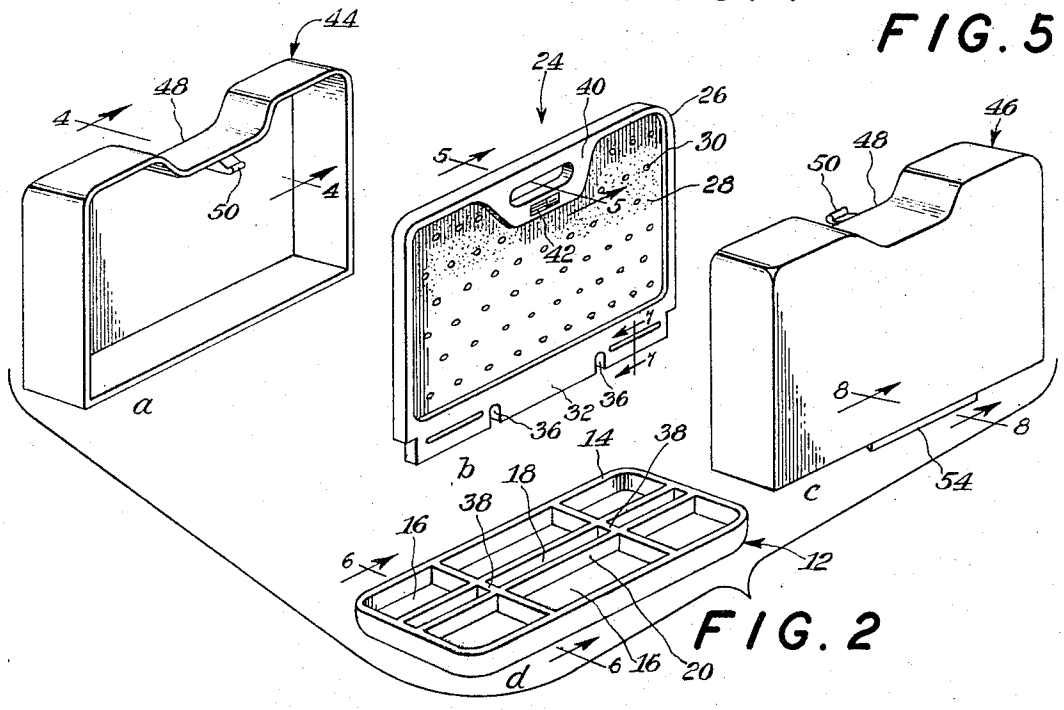

FIG. 2

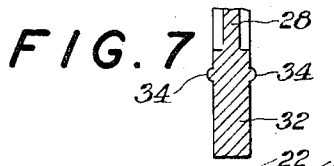

FIG. 7

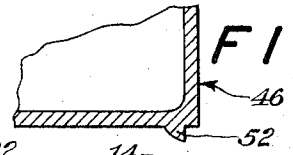

FIG. 8

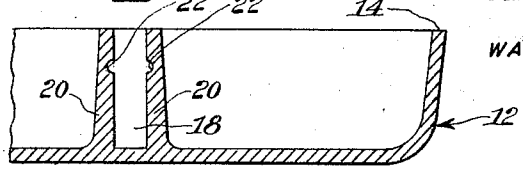

FIG. 6

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TOOL CHEST

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5 Claims. (Cl. 206—16)

My invention is directed toward a portable chest containing tools and the like.

It is an object of my invention to provide a new and improved portable chest which is light in weight and readily storable in any convenient location such as a cabinet, shelf or closet and is adapted to receive a limited number of tools which can be light weight and not bulky.

Another object is to provide a new and improved chest of the character indicated which can be easily disassembled and assembled and which can be manufactured easily and inexpensively.

All of the foregoing and still further objects and advantages of my invention will either be explained or will become apparent hereinafter.

An illustrative embodiment of my invention will now be explained with reference to the accompanying drawings wherein:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of my chest fully assembled;

FIG. 2 is a perspective exploded view of the parts thereof;

FIG. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary plan view of portions of FIGURE 2;

FIG. 4 is a view through 4—4 in FIG. 2;

FIG. 5 is a view through 5—5 in FIG. 2;

FIG. 6 is a view through 6—6 in FIG. 2;

FIG. 7 is a view through 7—7 in FIG. 2; and

FIG. 8 is a view through 8—8 in FIG. 2.

Referring now to FIGS. 1–8, my chest identified generally at **10** comprises a hollow base member or tray **12** having an upper horizontal peripheral lip **14** and having a plurality of compartments **16** as well as a central slot **18**. Slot **18** has opposite side walls **20** having oppositely disposed horizontal grooves **22**.

A vertical panel **24** having a flat peripheral lip **26** and a perforated peg board main section **28** with holes **30** has a bottom horizontal edge **32** with horizontal projections **34** adapted to detachably engage grooves **22** and notches **36** adapted to fit over end walls **38** of slot **18**. A handle **40** is secured to the top of lip **26**. Handle **40** has a horizontal slot **42**.

A left hand vertical hollow member or cover **44** having an inward opening and a right hand vertical hollow member or cover **46** having an inward opening each have a bottom horizontal projection **52** adapted to engage the inner side of lip **14** to engage the member **12**. Moreover members **44** and **46** each have a top depressed region **48** having a horizontal projection **50** adapted to engage slot **42** to form detachably the closed sides of the chest. Regions **48** permit access to handle **40** for carrying.

The series of holes **30** spaced uniformly in panel **78** can receive any one of the several means available on the present lay market to hold tools and devices such as a hammer, pliers, file, screw driver, flashlight, scraper, saw, and others.

Tray **12** can hold, in its compartments, nails, screws, bolts, nuts, tacks, brads, washers, hooks and other loose items.

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The purpose of this invention or case design came into existence because of the need by the housewife, office worker, apartment dweller or newlywed for some tool to perform some necessary repair or project around the house, kitchen or office. The only source sometimes for the housewife is to get these tools from the tool chest or shop belonging to her husband, whereby the husband may resent having these tools used if said tools are not cleaned or replaced in their proper place after use. Now the housewife can have her own tool case with a limited number of tools that will not be too bulky or in excessive weight. This particular case can be placed on some shelf or into a remote corner of the house or office.

Many uses are possible for this case other than what has been mentioned. It is well adapted for the use as a sewing box whereby spools of thread could be placed upon the panel by suitable means while the tray compartments could hold needles, pins and other notions. Another possible use would be as a sample case for certain sales people.

While I have described my invention with particular reference to the drawings, my protection is to be limited only by the terms of the claims which follow.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A chest for tools and the like, said chest comprising a hollow base member having a centrally disposed slot, a vertical panel having a bottom horizontal edge detachably mounted in said slot, a first vertical hollow member adapted to detachably engage the portion of the base member disposed on one side of said panel and to also engage the periphery of said one panel side to define a first hollow chamber therebetween, and a second vertical hollow member adapted to detachably engage the portion of the base member disposed on the other side of said panel and to also engage the periphery of the other panel side to define a second hollow chamber therebetween.

2. A chest as set forth in claim 1 further including a handle secured to the upper horizontal edge of said panel, portions of said first and second vertical members adjacent said handle being depressed to provide access to said handle.

3. A chest as set forth in claim 2 wherein said panel is perforated.

4. A chest as set forth in claim 3 wherein said panel and said slot are provided with cooperating locking means.

5. A chest as set forth in claim 4 wherein each of said first and second members and said base member are provided with cooperating locking means.

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