Oct. 23, 1962 F. F. S. SIEVE 3,059,361

TRAY CALENDAR

Filed Sept. 8, 1961 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

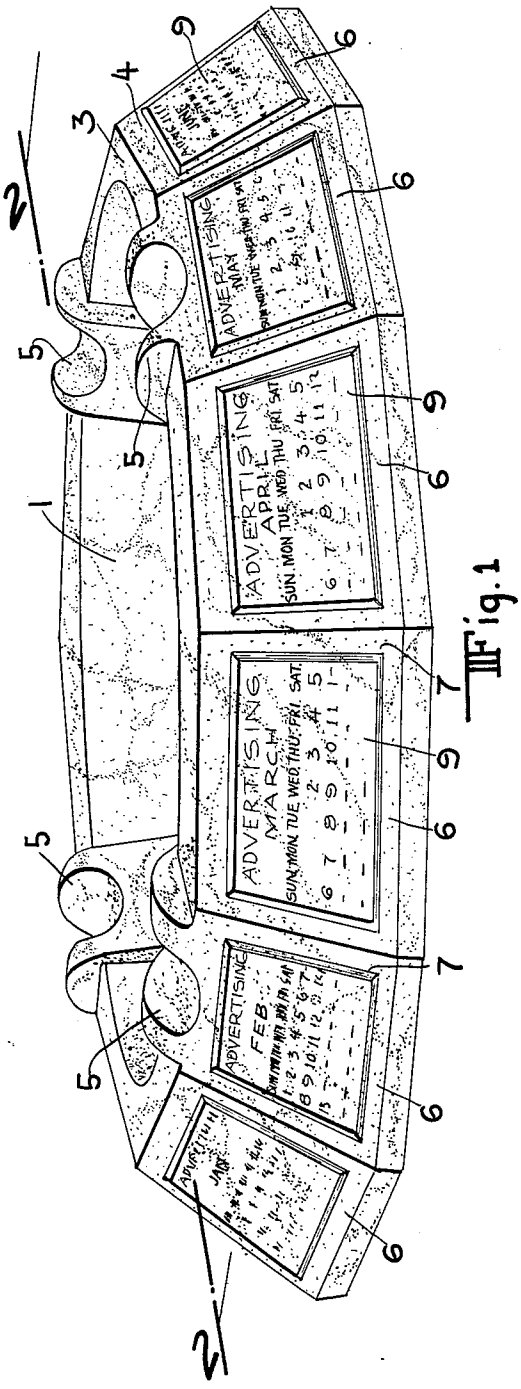


Fig. 1

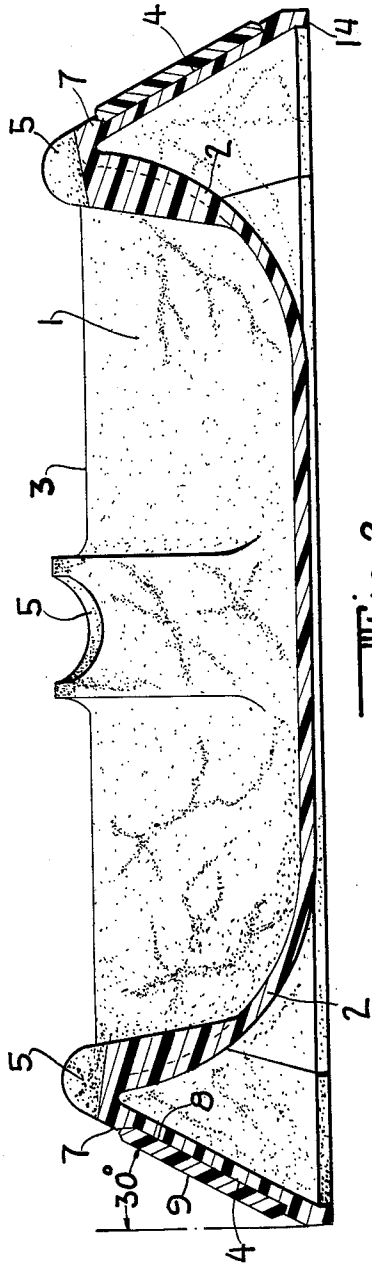


Fig. 2

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TRAY CALENDAR

Filed Sept. 8, 1961 3 Sheets-Sheet 2

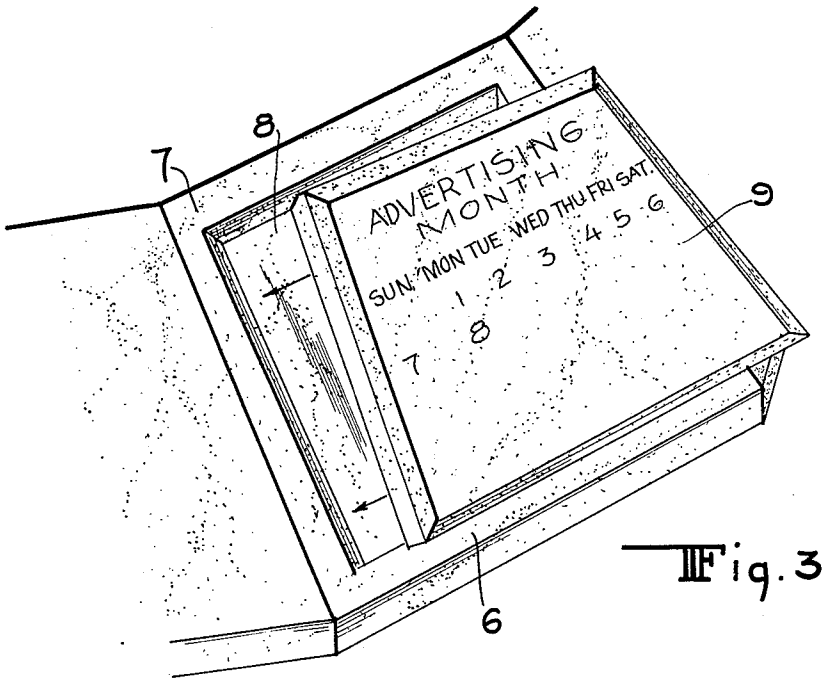


Fig. 3

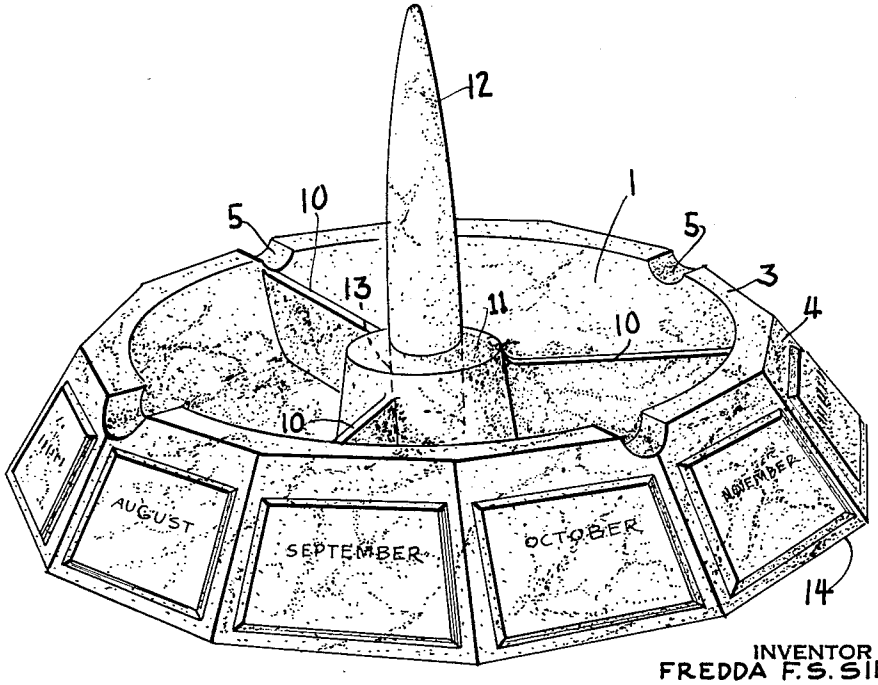


Fig. 4

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Oct. 23, 1962 F. F. S. SIEVE 3,059,361

TRAY CALENDAR

Filed Sept. 8, 1961 3 Sheets-Sheet 3

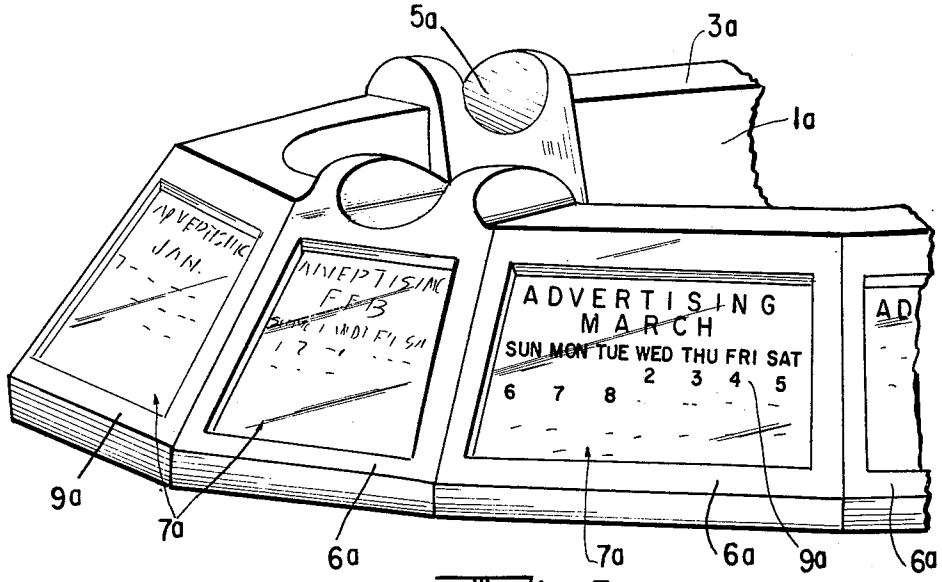


Fig. 5

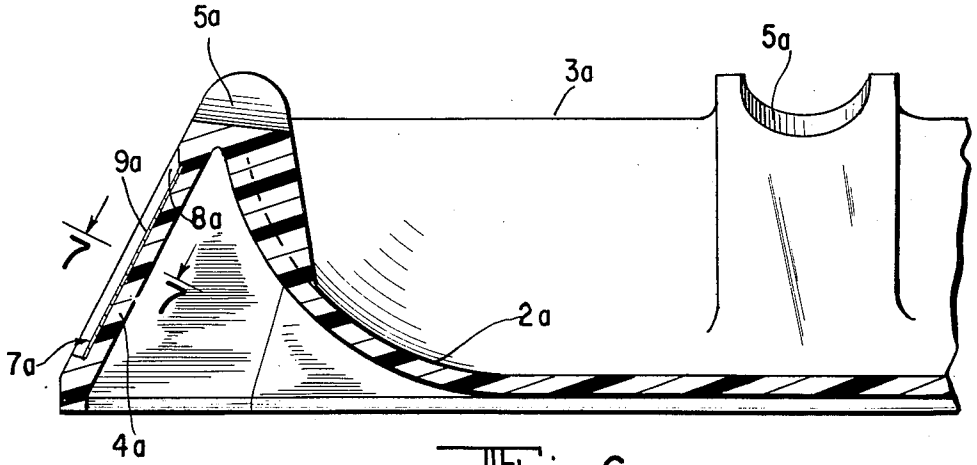


Fig. 6

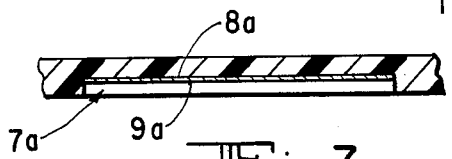


Fig. 7

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United States Patent Office 3,059,361 Patented Oct. 23, 1962

3,059,361

TRAY CALENDAR

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Filed Sept. 8, 1961, Ser. No. 137,716
4 Claims. (Cl. 40—107)

This invention relates to an improvement in desk trays and calendars.

In my prior Patent No. 2,797,512, granted July 2, 1957, I have described a dodecahedron desk calendar in which the twelve months of the year are displayed in consecutive order and in a manner in which three consecutive months are readily readable from any position around the desk. The desk calendar described in this patent has proved to be a convenient type of calendar for use.

In the desk tray and calendar described hereinafter I provide a tray compartment which can be used for paper clips, as an ash tray or for various other desk uses and around the circular and outer side of the tray I provide for the display of either twelve calendar months of the year or advertising displays or both. This application is a continuation-in-part of my copending application Serial No. 853,535, filed November 17, 1959.

It is the object of this invention to provide a desk tray and calendar which will be conveniently readable from various positions on the desk and in which the calendar month as well as the preceding and subsequent month within a given year can be read without movement of the tray or the viewer.

Another object of the invention is to provide a desk tray having a center recess for the reception of paper clips, cigar ashes or other materials, which desk tray is molded of a thermosetting plastic material, such as vulcanite, phenol-aldehyde (Bakelite), glyptal and other thermosetting resin, which is immune to damage by lighted cigarettes, cigars, etc., and which has, as an outer frame **12** substantially equal recessed frame members each adapted to receive a separate insert of readily printable substantially inflammable material, such as anodized aluminum, flame proof paper or readily printable thermo plastic material, such as a vinyl polymer or styrol resin, on which a calendar, advertising material or other material has been produced by etching, printing, hot stamping or the like.

Another object of the invention is to provide a desk tray and calendar in which the center portion is adapted to receive and hold various objects and the outer portion is provided with recessed frames forming an angle of approximately 30° to the vertical so that advertising material, calendars or the like inserted in the recessed frames are readable from the top as well as from the sides of the frame.

Various other objects of the invention will appear as this description proceeds.

Referring now to the drawings which illustrate preferred forms of embodiment of the invention—

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of one embodiment of the said tray and calendar.

FIG. 2 is a sectional view substantially on line **2—2** of FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is an enlarged view illustrating one way of applying the printed calendars and advertising inserts in the frames consituting the outer rim of the tray.

FIG. 4 is a perspective view of a modified form of tray having a central pedestal and a post thereon.

FIG. 5 is a perspective view of a portion of another embodiment of said tray and calendar.

FIG. 6 is a part sectional view through the portion of the tray and calendar illustrated in FIG. 5, and

FIG. 7 is a sectional view on the line **7—7** of FIG. 6 illustrating another way of applying the printed calendars and advertising inserts in the frames constituting the outer rim of the tray.

In the embodiment illustrated in FIG. 1 the tray consists preferably of a molded thermosetting plastic material forming a dished central portion **1** having curved inner walls **2** terminating in a rim **3** having an outer apron **4** which forms an angle of substantially 30° to the vertical as illustrated in FIG. 2. The tray may be circular, oval, hexagonal or the like, but has been illustrated as circular. When not used as a calendar it may have various numbers of side walls, other than twelve. As illustrated, the rim **3** may be provided with a plurality of cigar or cigarette holding notches **5** and the outer apron **4** is provided with twelve smooth substantially rectangular side walls **6** each providing a recessed frame member **7** having a bevelled recess **8** therein adapted to receive an insert **9** of readily printable substantially inflammable material, such as metal, anodized aluminum, flame proof paper or flame proofed thermo plastic material which can be readily printed by printing, etching, embossing, hot stamping or the like to carry one month of the calendar and some advertising or other decorative material thereon. The printing must be clear, sharp and legible for some distance away from the tray. As illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 2 the inserts **9** extend forward from the sides of frames **7** so that the inserts stand out from the background of the frames but they may be recessed within the frames or applied in any other way so that they stand out as a framed picture which will make them easy to read. Preferably the plane of the inserts is offset with reference to the plane of the sides of the frames **7**.

In the embodiment illustrated in FIGS. 5, 6 and 7 the tray consists preferably of molded thermosetting plastic material as previously described forming a dished central portion **1***a* having curved inner walls **2***a* terminating in a rim **3***a* having an outer apron **4***a* which forms an angle of substantially 30° to the vertical as illustrated in FIG. 2. This tray may be circular, oval, hexagonal or the like, but has been illustrated as circular. When not used as a calendar it may have various numbers of side walls, other than twelve. As illustrated, the rim **3***a* may be provided with a plurality of cigar or cigarette holding notches **5***a* and the outer apron **4***a* is provided with twelve smooth substantially rectangular side walls **6***a* of substantially equal size and each providing a recessed frame member **7***a* having a bevelled recess **8***a* therein adapted to receive an insert **9***a*, preferably of anodized aluminum or other thin material which can be readily etched or printed to carry one month of the calendar and some advertising or other decorative material thereon. As illustrated in FIGS. 5, 6 and 7 the inserts **9***a* are recessed within the sides of frames **7***a* so that the inserts stand recessed from the outer frames for easier reading thereof.

While the inserts **9** or **9***a* are preferably either recessed within the frames **7** or **7***a*, or made to extend forward from the frames as illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 2, they may also be mounted flush with the outer surface of the frames **7** or **7***a*. By virtue of the bevelled edges and the separate frames surrounding the printed or embossed inserts the inserts stand out and are more readily readable than they would be if the calendars or other printed material were printed directly on the material constituting the body of the trays **1** and **1***a*.

Both embodiments of the tray have been illustrated as having twelve consecutive months of a calendar arranged therearound. It will be understood that each of the inserts **9** or **9***a* can carry merely advertising or decorative material if desired, or signs of the zodiac symbolizing the twelve months of the year, or that each of the inserts **9** or **9***a* can carry two or more printed calendar months thereon and the intervening inserts **9** or **9***a* can carry ad-

vertising or decorative material. Also, that the frames **7** or **7***a* and inserts **9** or **9***a* need not be rectangular, but may be shaped as ovals, circles or other decorative shapes.

In the manufacture of the tray and calendar illustrated in FIGS. 1 to 7, the tray constituting the parts **1** to **8** or **1***a* to **8***a*, is preferably molded in one piece from a thermosetting plastic, such as a phenol-formaldehyde resin, vulcanite or the like, with the recessed and bevelled frame portions **7**—**8** or **7***a*—**8***a* molded therein. The printed calendar and advertising or decorative material is then etched, printed or stamped on the panels **9** or **9***a* and the panels are inserted in the recess frames **7**—**8**. In this manner large numbers of the tray sections can be molded at one time and the calendar, advertising or decorative sections inserted as the demand arises. At the end of a given calendar year or at the end of any month during the year the unused tray sections may have calendars for the next succeeding twelve months inserted therein so that from a manufacturing standpoint the trays as they are shipped will cover the next succeeding twelve months from the approximate date of shipment rather than be confined to twelve months of a given year. By forming the tray and apron of a thermosetting material and the inserts **9** or **9***a* of a separate inflammable or substantially inflammable material no problem of fire resistance of the tray is encountered and the inserts **9** or **9***a* can still be readily provided with the desired characters by etching, embossing, hot stamping or printing. Any suitable adhesive may be used to secure the inserts **9** or **9***a* in the frames **7** or **7***a*.

In the embodiment illustrated in FIG. 4 the tray **1** having the rim **3**, outer apron **4** and cigarette or cigar holding recesses **5** is provided with separating partitions **10** dividing the tray into a number of compartments and with a central pedestal **11** which may be provided with a post **12** or may be left with an opening indicated in dotted lines at **13** to receive a pen, pencil or other desk equipment. The base **14** of the apron **4** or **4***a* may be provided with a sponge rubber, felt or other cushioning material for the tray to rest upon or may be left open as desired.

While I have illustrated preferred embodiments of the invention it will be understood that various modifications and changes may be made therein within the spirit of the invention and the scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. As an article or manufacture a circular desk tray made of molded, heat resistant, thermosetting material having a dished center portion for receiving and holding material placed therein and an outer side apron sloping approximately 30° from the vertical and arranged in twelve flat panels, each panel providing a recessed frame for receiving an insert, a separate insert secured in each of said recessed frames, said inserts designating a yearly calendar with the calendar months being arranged in consecutive order around said tray, and at least three of said inserts being visible to the viewer without changing the position of the viewer or said tray, the plane of the face of said inserts being offset with reference to the plane of the sides of said frames whereby each insert appears as a framed picture.

2. As an article of manufacture a circular desk tray made of molded, heat resistant, thermosetting material having a dished center portion for receiving and holding material placed therein and an outer side apron sloping approximately 30° from the vertical and arranged in twelve flat panels, each panel providing a recessed frame for receiving an insert, a separate insert secured in each of said recessed frames, said inserts designating a yearly calendar with the calendar months being arranged in consecutive order around said tray, and at least three of said inserts being visible to the viewer without changing the position of the viewer or said tray, the plane of the face of said inserts being offset with reference to the plane of the sides of said frames whereby each insert appears as a framed picture, said inserts being made of material from the group consisting of metal, flame proof paper and flame proofed thermoplastic material which can be printed.

3. As an article of manufacture a circular desk tray made of molded, heat resistant, thermosetting material having a dished center portion for receiving and holding material placed therein and an outer side apron sloping approximately 30° from the vertical and arranged in twelve flat panels, each panel providing a recessed frame for receiving an insert, a separate insert secured in each of said recessed frames, said inserts designating a yearly calendar with the calendar months being arranged in consecutive order around said tray, and at least three of said inserts being visible to the viewer without changing the position of the viewer or said tray, said inserts extending forward from the sides of said frames and being made of thermo plastic material which can be printed by hot stamping.

4. As an article of manufacture a circular desk tray made of molded, heat resistant thermosetting material having a dished center portion for receiving and holding material placed therein and an outer side apron sloping approximately 30° from the vertical and arranged in twelve flat panels, each panel providing a recessed frame for receiving an insert, a separate insert secured in each of said recessed frames, said inserts designating a yearly calendar with the calendar months being arranged in consecutive order around said tray, and at least three of said inserts being visible to the viewer without changing the position of the viewer or said tray, said inserts being recessed rearwardly from the sides of said frames and being made of anodized aluminum.

No references cited.