July 7, 1964

T. STOHLBERG

3,140,135

TYPEWRITER SUPPORTING SHELF

Filed Oct. 6, 1961

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

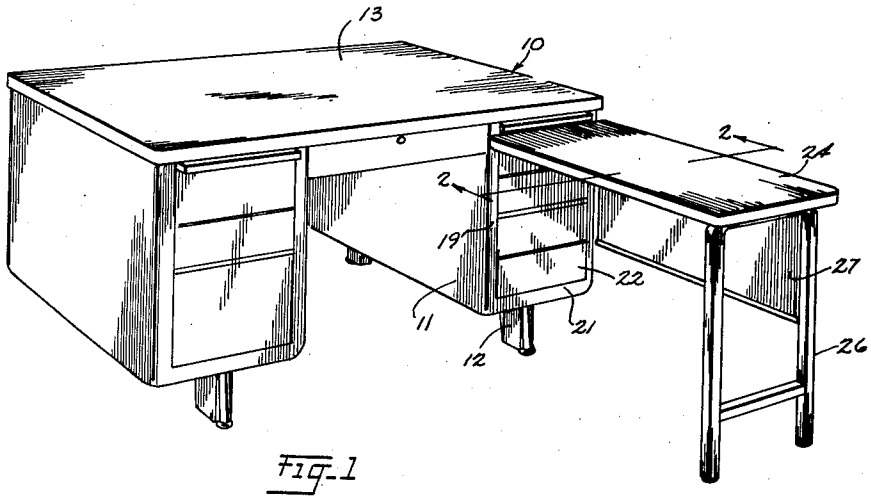


Fig. 1

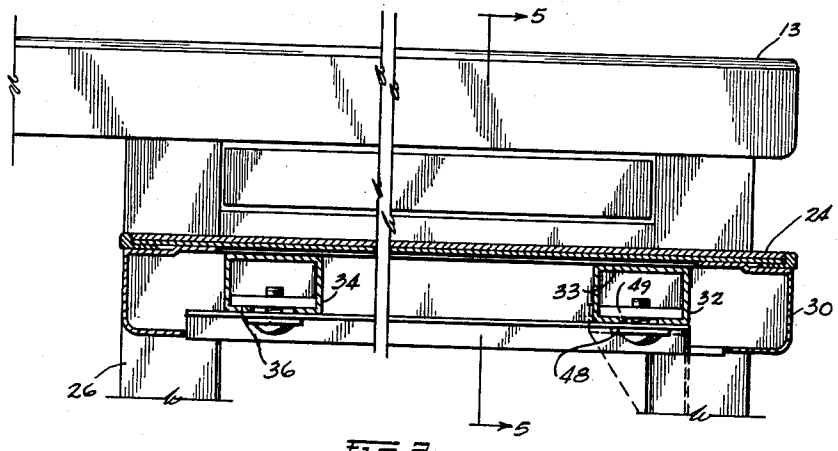


Fig. 2

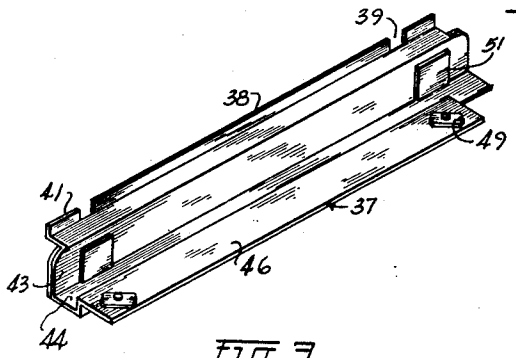


Fig. 3

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

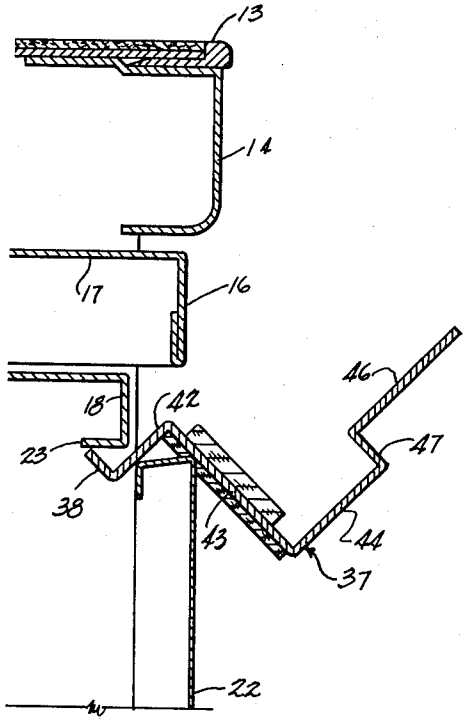


Fig. 4

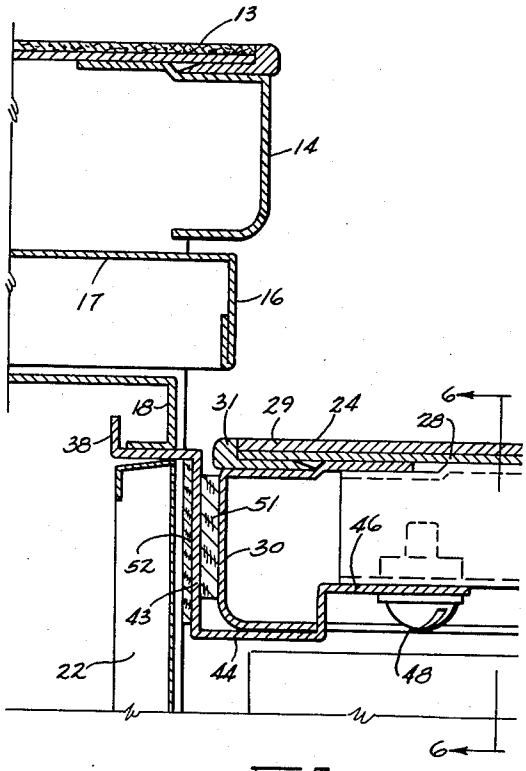


Fig. 5

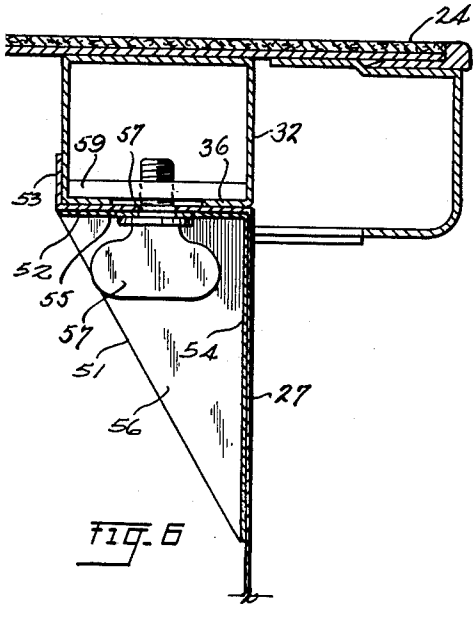


Fig. 6

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United States Patent Office 3,140,135 Patented July 7, 1964

3,140,135

TYPEWRITER SUPPORTING SHELF

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Filed Oct. 6, 1961, Ser. No. 143,471
2 Claims. (Cl. 312—208)

This invention relates to improvements in a typewriter supporting shelf and more particularly to one designed to be applied to the side or edge of a desk or table.

Heretofore accommodations for typewriters intended to be associated with desks have taken the form of a pedestal mounted shelf that was contained in a compartment vacated by the usual two or three drawer area of a desk. Such a shelf would support a typewriter and was movable from a position of concealment within a desk pedestal to a position of use at a desk end. Acceptance by the public of this type of typewriter support has been somewhat mixed if for no other reason than the fact that a desk arranged to accommodate a typewriter lost approximately half its intended storage or filing space and, furthermore, the movable supporting shelf could not have the firmness and rigidity normally required in the customary use of a typewriter. It is here mentioned that typing errors frequently occur as a result of an unsteady shelf or other typewriter support.

The present invention is directed to and has for one of its objects the provision of a typewriter shelf that is of sufficient rigidity to withstand and be unaffected by the vibration inherent in the normal use of a typewriter.

Further, it is an important object of the invention to provide a shelf that may be conveniently attached to a desk or table, thereby enabling adaptation of various pieces of office furniture to typewriter use.

It is also of importance to note that the present shelf not only readily attaches at one end to a desk or table, but includes floor engaging structure that assists in rendering it sufficiently rigid for useful purposes as to practically become a part of the article to which it is joined.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be more fully understood from a consideration of the following specification, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a desk to which is attached one embodiment of the invention;

FIG. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical sectional view taken substantially on the line 2—2 of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a perspective view of the bracket by means of which a typewriter shelf is attached to an article of office furniture such as the desk shown;

FIG. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical sectional view showing the shelf bracket partially engaged with the conventional front of a desk pedestal;

FIG. 5 is a view similar to FIG. 4, showing the bracket fully engaged with the desk pedestal and the shelf in position of use. (See line 5—5 of FIG. 2); and

FIG. 6 is a fragmentary sectional view taken substantially as indicated by the line 6—6 of FIG. 5.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, the reference numeral 10 is employed to generally designate a desk to which the invention is presently applied. The desk, for purposes of illustration, consists of two spaced pedestals 11 supported on suitable bases or legs 12. A conventional top 13 overlies and connects the pedestals and, since they are spaced apart, adequate knee-area is provided. Referring to FIG. 4, it will be noted that directly beneath the front edge 14 of the top 13 the forward end 16 of a work slide 17 is shown. Beneath this slide is a top rail 18 which, in conjunction with sides 19 and sill 21, forms a front opening to the pedestal to receive the usual drawers 22. As may be seen, the rail 18 includes an inturned flange 23. The structure of that portion of a desk pedestal above the drawer opening is substantially the same in all desks and, consequently, the invention may be considered as applicable to pedestal desks in general.

The subject of the invention, as stated, concerns the provision of a typewriter table or shelf attachable to a conventional pedestal desk. To this end, attention is directed to the structure thereof as disclosed in the various figures of the drawings. In FIG. 1, a shelf 24 is shown to extend forwardly from the front end of one of the pedestals 11. This shelf, in general, includes a work or typewriter receiving top. The unattached end of the shelf is supported upon suitable legs 26. Although a so-called modesty panel 27 is shown, the use of such a panel is optional and forms no part of the invention.

The shelf 24 includes a metal sheet 28 to which a suitable surface material 29 is applied. Conventional edge binders 31 frame the material 29 and, of course, the shelf edges are defined by downwardly extending flanges 30, such as suggested in FIGS. 2 and 5. By way of further rigidifying the shelf, at least two channels 32 are provided, which, as suggested in FIG. 2, extend lengthwise and are secured, as by welding, along their base walls 33 to the under surface of the metal sheet 28. The channel side walls 34 terminate in inwardly turned flanges 36 which serve to restrict the channel opening. The present shelf, or a similar well constructed member, is attached to one of the pedestals 11 by means of a bracket 37. This bracket (see FIGS. 3, 4 and 5) consists of a series of integral flanges that provide a stepped down end support as between the desk pedestal and the shelf.

Referring to FIG. 4, the bracket will include a lip flange 38 which is of a length slightly less than the width of the pedestal opening. Should a particular pedestal opening be of less width than the lip flange, it is proposed to notch this flange, as at 39, to enable ready removal of a thus formed tab flange 41. From the flange 38, a right angle flange 42 continues which then extends downwardly as a flange 43 which is parallel to, but horizontally offset from, the lip flange. From the flange 43, a horizontal flange 44 extends downwardly and is offset from a terminal flange 46 by an angle flange 47. The flange 46 is fitted with bolts 48 that extend upwardly from beneath this flange and are engaged by elongated nuts 49. Two or more compressible pads 51 of cork-like material are secured to one face of flange 43, whereas the other face of this flange carries a similar pads 52. It will be appreciated that the bracket 37 is first attached to one end of the shelf. This is accomplished by abutting the padded flange 43 against the shelf end flange 30. This brings flange 44 into abutment with the inturned portion of the shelf flange 30. In fact, flanges 43, 44 and 47 form a channel in which this inturned portion is fitted. Due to the width of flange 47, the terminal flange 46 is caused to abut the inturned flanges 36 of the channels 32. The nuts 49, being of a lateral size greater than the restricted openings in the channels, have been turned to permit their entry. They may then be rotated on the bolts 48 to occupy a position transverse to the channel length and in so doing they bridge the channel openings with the ends resting on the inner surfaces of flanges 36. Rotating the bolts 48 draws down the nuts 49 and causes the terminal flange 46 to be rigidly secured to the channels. Of course, the pads 51 are somewhat compressed between the flanges 43 and 30, thus making a tight, non-noise transmitting connection between the bracket and the shelf.

Attention is now directed to FIG. 4 wherein the bracket 37 is shown in a partially assembled position. For space and simplicity of disclosure, the bracket in this figure is shown without the shelf 24. However, it is to be assumed that the bracket and shelf may, as one, be

joined to the desk or removed in the following manner. As mentioned, it is common practice to provide a rail, such as indicated at **18**, which is stiffened by the usual inturned flange **23**. The top drawer **22** is moved to a slightly opened position, such as shown in FIG. 4. This gives enough space between the drawer front and rail **18** to permit the angled insertion of the bracket tongue flange **38**. By swinging the bracket and shelf downwardly toward a horizontal position, flange **38** moves upwardly behind flange **23** and, simultaneously, flange **42** assumes a horizontal position as flange **43** urges the drawer **22** into fully closed position. The completed assembly is shown in FIG. 5. It will be noted that when the bracket is fully assembled, the pads **52** are caused to bear against the sides **19** that in part define the pedestal opening. It will be observed that the weight of the shelf, especially with a typewriter on it, will continually urge the bracket into and hold it in tight engagement with the pedestal. Not only will the shelf and typewriter weight assure securement of the bracket, but the legs **26** will also be caused to rest firmly on a floor or comparable surface. Any vibration resulting from typewriter or other use will be absorbed by the pads, thus eliminating transmission of any vibration to the desk. This could be of importance when it is considered that a typist could be producing a transcript of a message from a recording machine located on a desk to a typewriter mounted on the desk attached shelf.

Although the modesty panel **27** mentioned above constitutes no direct part of the invention, it is pointed out that the channels **32**, as seen in FIG. 2, are relatively close to the side flanges **30** that define the sides of the shelf. In showing this panel, it is intended to disclose that one or the other of these reinforcing channels may serve an added purpose by providing the same structure for attaching the panel **27** as is used to secure the bracket **37** to the shelf.

Referring to FIG. 6, the panel **27** is shown to include a horizontal flange **52** that terminates in an upstanding flange **53**. The width of flange **52** enables flange **53** to engage one of the channel side walls **34** with the body of the panel flush with the other channel side wall. This relationship brings the panel **27** suitably close to the side of the shelf and does not in any way decrease the leg room for a typist. A pair of brackets **51** are considered adequate to locate and support this panel. Each bracket includes a perpendicular flange **54** joined at its upper end to a horizontal flange **55**, this last mentioned flange abutting the under surface of panel flange **52**. To rigidify the bracket, integral webs or wings **56** are provided. It will be understood that each bracket is nested into the upper portion of the panel and permanently joined thereto.

When the panel is positioned as indicated in FIG. 6, coinciding openings **57** in flanges **52** and **55** enable projecting the threaded shaft of a wing bolt **58** into the space between the channel flanges **36**. Elongated nuts **59**, similar to nuts **49**, rest on the channel flanges **36** and are engaged by the shafts of bolts **58**. Tightening these bolts secures the brackets **51** and the flange **52** to a selected channel **32** in exactly the manner and with the same effectiveness as stated about the joining of bracket **37** to the shelf **24**.

Although applicant has shown and described only one particular form of bracket by which to enable attaching a typewriter shelf to a desk or other pedestal, it will be understood that in view of the differences in desk sizes, it is contemplated to modify one or more of the bracket flanges for this purpose and such modification is considered as being within the spirit and scope of the invention as set out in the annexed claims.

Having thus set forth my invention, what I claim as new and for which I desire protection by Letters Patent is:

1. A typewriter shelf in combination with a bracket for attaching said shelf to a desk or the like, said shelf including a work receiving member marginally reinforced by a depending flange, downwardly opening channels secured to the under surface of said member, said channels extending substantially the full length of said member and being within the vertical confines thereof as determined by said marginal depending flange, said bracket having opposite marginal flanges in stepped relation, one of said flanges abutting said channels adjacent one end of said member, clamping means carried by said one flange engaged with said channels and locating the other bracket flange above and beyond the one end of said member, said last named bracket flange being interfitted with a rail of said desk that defines the top of a drawer opening, an intermediate portion of said bracket being interposed between said desk and the referred to end of said member.

2. A typewriter shelf in combination with a bracket for attaching said shelf to a desk or the like, said shelf including a work receiving member marginally reinforced by a depending flange, downwardly opening channels secured to the under surface of said member, said channels extending substantially the full length of said member and being within the vertical confines thereof, inturned flanges on the sides of said channels restricting the width of the openings therein, said bracket having opposite marginal flanges in stepped relation, one of said flanges abutting said channels adjacent one end of said member, clamping means carried by said one flange securing it to said channels, an intermediate portion of said bracket engaging and enclosing one end of the depending flange of said member, said portion serving to locate the other marginal flange of said bracket above and beyond said member, said other bracket flange being capable of interfitting engagement with a rail that defines the top of a drawer opening in said desk through a hooking and downwardly swinging movement to a position to cause abutment of said intermediate portion with further desk parts that cooperate in defining a drawer opening.

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