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W. M. HANSON ET AL

2,285,159

DESK

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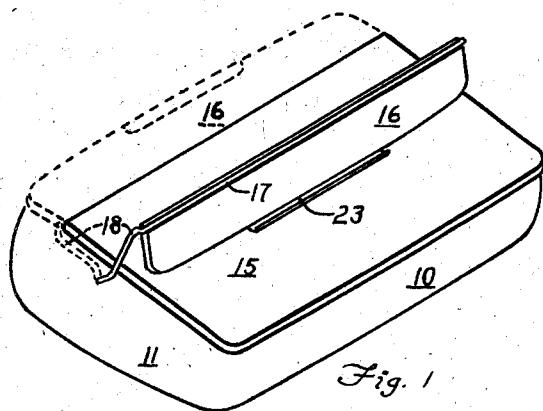


Fig. 1

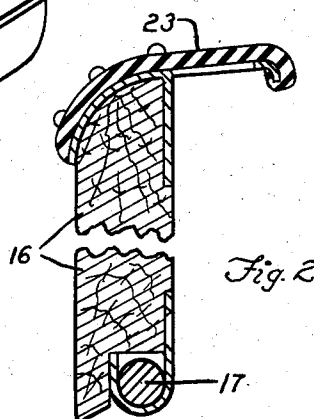


Fig. 2

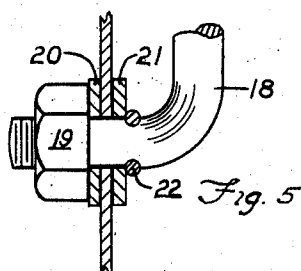


Fig. 5

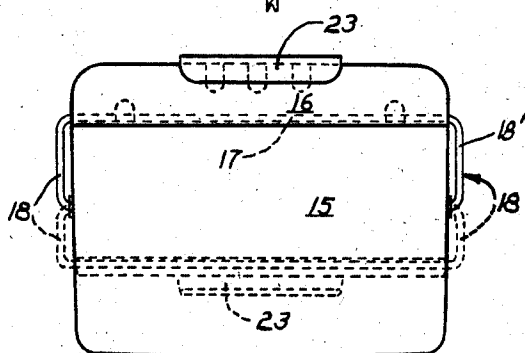


Fig. 3

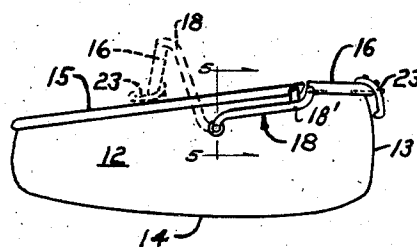


Fig. 4

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DESK

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5 Claims. (Cl. 45—91)

The present invention relates to desks and more particularly to desks especially adapted for use in schools.

The primary objects of the instant invention are to provide a desk of the general character above indicated having a desk top portion which may be folded relative to another desk top portion to form an easel; to provide such a structure whose foldable desk top portion provides a novel type of easel when folded as above indicated; to provide such a structure which is compact and simple yet rugged in construction; to provide such a structure whose easel forming desk top portion is readily foldable to positions of use and non-use; and, to provide such a structure which is economical in manufacture.

An illustrative embodiment of the invention is shown in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a top plan perspective view of the desk, the foldable desk top portion and its supporting bail which are shown in dotted lines and which are shown in full lines as folded to its position to form an easel;

Figure 2 is an enlarged cross sectional view of the foldable desk top portion which when folded forms the easel;

Figure 3 is a top plan view showing in dotted lines the foldable desk top portion which when thus folded forms the easel;

Figure 4 is an end elevational view showing in dotted lines the foldable desk top portion which when thus folded forms the easel; and

Figure 5 is an enlarged fragmentary view showing the manner wherein the easel supporting bail ends are secured to opposite ends of the box compartment on which the desk top portions lie.

Referring then to the drawing wherein like parts of the structure shown are designated by the same numerals in the several views, a box for the storage of school books and the like and here shown as of stamped and drawn sheet metal, has a forward side 10, opposite ends 11, 12, a rear side 13 and a bottom or floor 14, the same being supported on a pedestal or between a pair of spaced vertically disposed standards, not shown.

A forward desk top portion 15 is supported on the upper edges of the forward side and opposite ends of the box and is pivoted adjacent its rearward opposite ends to the opposite ends of the box to permit an upwardly rearward tilting movement to give access to the interior of the box as is conventional in school desks of this character.

A combined desk top and easel-forming portion 16 is supported on the upper edges of the rearward side and opposite ends of the box, the forward side thereof being pivotally secured to a bail 17 whose opposite ends 18 are turned inwardly to provide in effect spaced links 18' which are projected inwardly through apertures in the opposite ends 11, 12 of the box. The ends of the bail are each screw threaded and nuts 19 in screw threaded engagement with the threaded ends of the bail, secure the bail ends on the inside of the opposite ends of the box. Washers 20, 21 are disposed on opposite sides of the box, the washer 21 being interposed between the outside surface of the box and a ring 22 which encircles the bail and is seated within a groove therein, all as best shown in Figure 5.

The rearward desk top portion 16 is provided with a shelf 23, preferably of rubber to prevent marring of the forward desk top portion 15 when the rearward desk top portion 16 is swung to its easel-forming position shown in full lines in Figure 1.

Operation

In normal use as a desk, the rearward desk top portion 16 is in its position shown in full lines in Figure 3, the shelf 23 overhanging the rearward side 13 of the box as shown in full lines in Figure 4. When it is desired to use this rearward desk top portion as an easel, the bail is swung to the position shown in full lines in Figure 1 or from its position shown in full lines in Figures 3 and 4 to its position shown in dotted lines in the same views, the rearward desk top portion 16 being angularly adjustably disposed as shown in Figures 1, 3 and 4 to form the easel.

It will thus be seen that the desk herein shown and described is compact and simple yet rugged in construction, that the desk top portion which provides the easel may be readily folded to positions of use as a portion of the desk top or as an easel and that the desk is reasonably economical in manufacture.

While but one specific embodiment of the invention has been herein shown and described, it will be understood that certain details of the construction shown may be altered or omitted without departing from the spirit of the invention as the same is defined by the following claims.

We claim:

1. A desk including a box-like structure having side and end walls and a flat forward top portion hingedly connected to the desk end walls

and movable from an open position to a closed position on the desk sides and vice versa, said top portion when in its closed position at least partially closing the top of the desk, and a combined rear top portion and easel-forming member comprising a flat elongated strip of material, means providing a pair of spaced links pivotally connecting the opposite ends of said strip to the desk end walls for swinging movement about a horizontal axis extending transversely of the desk, said links being of such length that the strip may be swung from a position of alignment with the forward top portion of the desk at the rear end thereof to a substantially erect easel-forming position medially of the desk with an edge of the strip supported medially on said forward top portion.

2. A desk including a box-like structure having side and end walls and a flat forward top portion hingedly connected to the desk end walls and movable from an open position to a closed position on the desk sides and vice versa, said top portion when in its closed position at least partially closing the top of the desk, and a combined rear top portion and easel-forming member comprising a flat elongated strip of material, a bale having its medial region extending along and pivoted to one elongated edge of the strip and having its ends pivotally connected to the desk end walls beneath said forward top portion whereby the strip may be swung from a position of alignment with the forward top portion of the desk at the rear end thereof to a substantially erect easel-forming position medially of the desk with an edge of the strip supported medially on said forward top portion.

3. A desk provided with a bail whose opposite ends are pivotally secured to the opposite ends of the desk, a desk top divided into a forward portion and a rearward portion, and a ledge de-

pending from the rearward side of the rearward desk top portion and overhanging the rearward side of the desk, the forward side of the rearward portion of the desk top being pivotally connected to the bail intermediate the ends thereof whereby the bail and its pivotally connected desk top portion may be manually swung to adjusted position relative to the forward desk top portion to form an easel with said ledge forming a shelf supported on the upper surface of said forward desk top portion.

4. A desk top including a body and forward and rearward upper portions the forward portion being mounted on the body for turning movement to and from approximately horizontal lowered position, and a bail spacedly pivoted to the body and the rear portion respectively for alternate turning movements of the rear portion rearwardly to an approximately horizontal position behind the forward portion and forwardly to a comparatively upright position on the forward portion in its horizontal position.

5. A desk top including a body and forward and rearward upper portions the forward portion being mounted on the body for turning movement to and from approximately horizontal lowered position, and a bail spacedly pivoted to the body and the rear portion respectively for alternate turning movements of the rear portion rearwardly to an approximately horizontal position behind the forward portion and forwardly to a comparatively upright position on the forward portion in its horizontal position, the rearward portion having a ledge extending forwardly in said upright position thereof and downwardly behind the body in said portion's horizontal position.

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