The present invention appertains to portable desks and the like such as would be useful to students or traveling salesmen.

An important object of the invention is to provide a desk of this nature which will fill the needs of a student or the like by providing a convenient place to keep papers in such a manner that they may be easily found and the device itself may be easily folded for carrying about.

Another important object of the invention is to provide a device of this nature which is readily manipulated so as to be either in a compact folded position or in an extended position upon a table or flat top desk.

A still further important object of the invention is to provide a desk of this nature having a simple and efficient construction, one which is comparatively inexpensive to manufacture, attractive in appearance, durable, and well adapted to the purpose for which it is designed.

With the above and numerous other objects in view as will appear as the description progresses, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the novel details of construction as will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the desk showing the same in an extended position.

Figure 2 is a front elevation thereof.

Figure 3 is a vertical section taken through the desk in an extended position substantially on the line 3--3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the device in a partially folded condition.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the device folded, and

Figure 6 is a section therethrough.

Referring to the drawing in detail it will be seen that there are two chests or box-like structures 1 and 2. These chests or box-like structures are hinged to the ends of a panel 6 as is indicated at 3. Each chest is divided into a plurality of compartments by the partitions 7 for receiving drawers 8. One chest is provided with a side vertically extending compartment indicated at 4 for receiving papers which are too large to be put in any of the drawers 8. The chest or box-like structures 1 and 2 may be hinged to an extended position as is shown in Figure 1 so as to be placed on the top of a table or a flat topped desk or they may be hinged to a folded position as shown in Figure 5.

Two auxiliary closure panels 10 and 11 are hinged together as at 12. The panel 11 is hinged at 13 to the panel 6 and is provided on its outer face with the handle 14. The panel 11 when the chest or box-like structures 1 and 2 are folded is disposed on top of these chests while the panel 10 is disposed over the front thereof and the panel will be disposed over the rear thereof. The panel 12 is secured to the chest by means of the hasps 15 on the chest engaging rotatable bolts 16 on the panel 10. It is evident that other suitable means may be used for this purpose.

It is evident that the drawers may be locked in any suitable manner as desired and in the present instance we provide them with finger engaging indentures 18 so that they may be easily pulled from their respective compartments. It will also be seen that these indentures will not interfere with the proper folding of the device especially the panel 10 thereover as would be the case with any projecting handles.

The device is preferably constructed of a light material and we have found it practical to use what is commonly known as art metal. When the device is made of such metal it is durable and strong and possesses an artistic appearance.

Although we have described our invention with a certain degree of particularity, it is to be understood that numerous changes in the details of construction, material, and in the combination and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention as hereinbefore claimed or sacrificing any of its advantages.

What we claim as new is:

1. In combination, a panel, a pair of chests one hinged at each end of the panel, each chest provided with a plurality of compartments, drawers in said compartments, auxiliary closure panels hinged together and to the first panel so as to be positioned one on top of the chest and one in front thereof when they are folded against the first panel, and means for locking the panel in front of the chest to the bottom thereof.

2. A portable desk, comprising, in combination, a pair of chests, a panel equal in
width to the height of the chests and of a length equal to the combined lengths of the chests, means for hingedly connecting the said panel to a vertical edge of each chest, a pair of auxiliary panels hingedly connected along their adjacent longitudinal edges, and one of the panels hingedly connected with the first mentioned panel, and means for fastening the said auxiliary panels so as to enclose the top and front of the chests.

3. A portable desk comprising in combination, a pair of rectangular shaped chests provided with a plurality of sliding drawers, a panel adapted to fit the rear sides of the chests in exact contour, means for hingedly connecting a chest with each end of the panel, a pair of auxiliary panels hingedly connected along their adjacent longitudinal edges and hingedly connected with the first mentioned panel, and means for fastening the panels in closed positions about the chests so that one of the auxiliary panels will be fitted on the top of the chests and the complementary auxiliary panels will be snugly fitted against the forward ends of the chest in the folded position of the desk.

4. A portable desk comprising, in combination, a pair of rectangular shaped chests, a main panel equal in width to the height of the chests and equal in length to the combined lengths of the chests, means for hingedly connecting each end edge of the panel with a vertical edge of a chest, so that the chest may be swung from adjacent positions in contact with the said panel to outwardly extended positions, an auxiliary top panel, means for hingedly connecting the said auxiliary top panel and the first mentioned main panel along their adjacent longitudinal edges, an auxiliary front panel hingedly connected along its longitudinal edge with the auxiliary top panel, and means for fastening the auxiliary panels so as to enclose the chests in their adjacent positions in the folded position of the desk.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

SAMUEL J. HOLDERMAN.
RAY E. CRYDER.