

Oct. 30, 1951

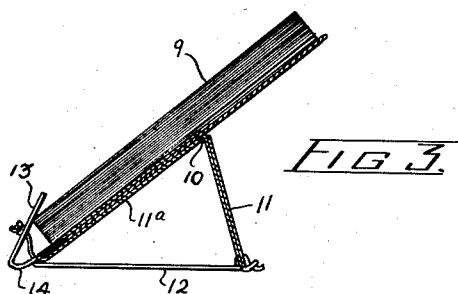
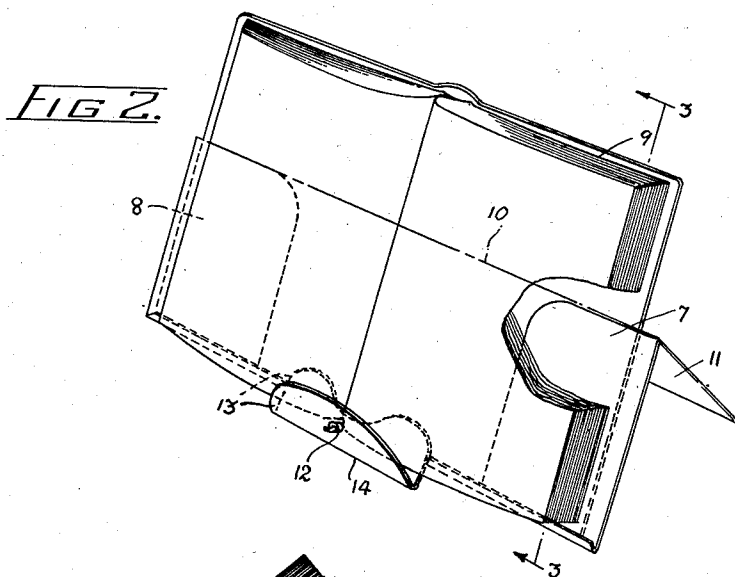
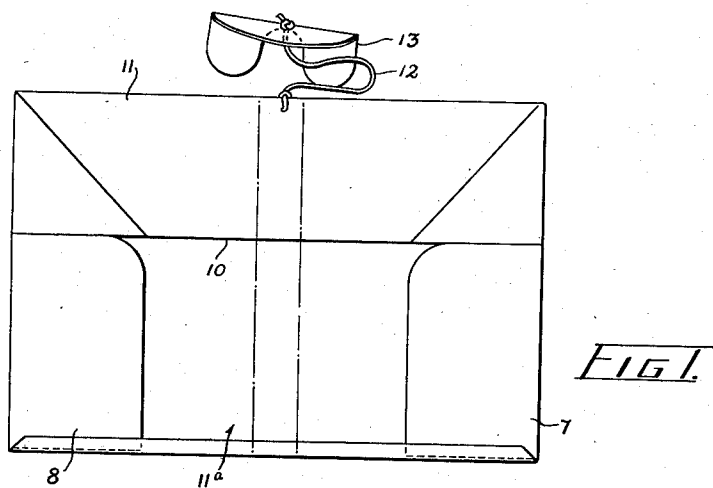
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2,573,191

BOOKREST

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 1



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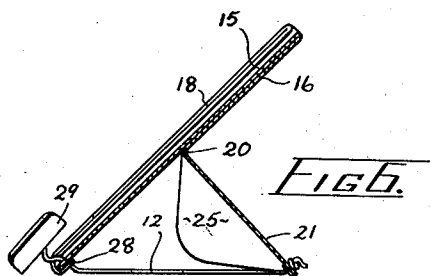
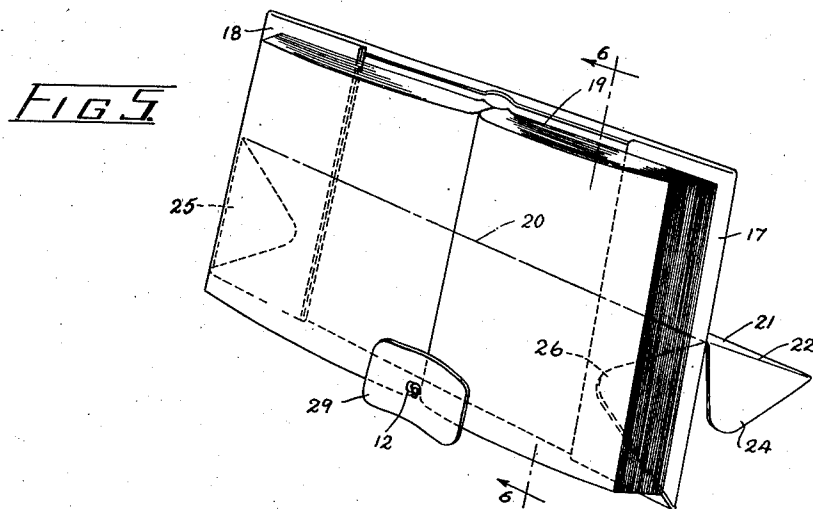
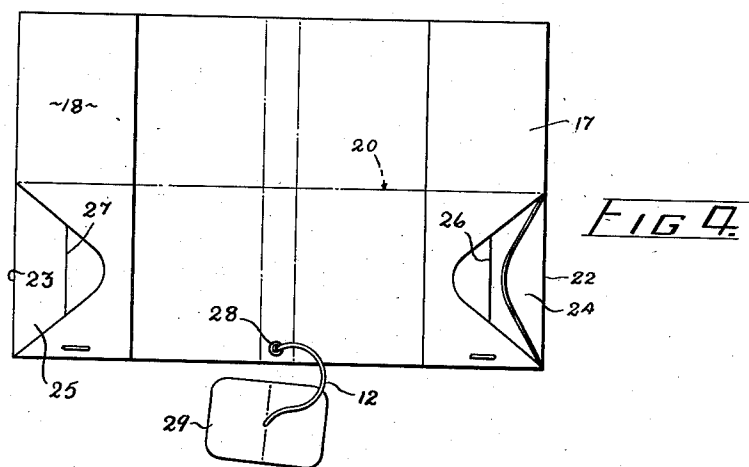
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2,573,191

BOOKREST

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2



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BOOKREST

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3 Claims. (Cl. 281-33)

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This invention relates generally to book rests, and more particularly to a combination book cover and book rest adapted to be self-supporting so that a book may be supported on a plane surface at an inclination thereto.

An object of this invention is to provide a book rest which is readily adaptable to protectively cover the book when the book is closed, and which will support the book in an inclined position on a plane surface when it is desired to read the contents of the book.

A further object of this invention is to provide means whereby pages of the book may be held apart while the reader reads the contents thereof.

The features of this invention which are believed to be novel and patentable are pointed out in the appended claims, but for a better understanding of the foregoing and still further objects and advantages of the invention, reference may be had to the following specification and accompanying drawings wherein like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views and wherein:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of one embodiment of this device;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the support shown in Fig. 1 illustrating how a portion of the cover is folded down in order to provide a support and showing the manner in which a typical book would be supported;

Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3-3 in Fig. 2 illustrating the manner in which the folded portion is maintained in place, and also illustrating the manner in which the pages of the book are held apart;

Fig. 4 is a plan view of an alternative construction;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the support shown in Fig. 4 and illustrating the manner in which a book is placed therein and the manner in which the pages are held apart; and

Fig. 6 is a section on the line 6-6 in Fig. 4 illustrating how the portions are folded and maintained in place, the book being omitted to better show the construction of the device.

Referring to Figs. 1, 2 and 3 the rest is in the form of a book cover of cardboard or similar stiff blendable material, having rectangular pockets 7 and 8 at its lower corners secured along two sides to the edges of the cover and free along the other two sides to receive and retain the back of a book 9 as shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

A transverse crease line 10 is provided in the cover to allow the upper portion 11 of the cover

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to be swung to a position out of alignment with, or at an angle to, the lower portion thereof, to provide a support. For convenience the upper and lower portions of the cover will be hereinafter referred to as the support 11 and the supporting member 11^a respectively.

Figs. 2 and 3 illustrate the manner in which the rest may be used as a support for retaining the book in an inclined position on a plane surface such as a table. It will be evident that to use the rest as a cover for the book, it is merely necessary to swing the support 11 back into alignment with the supporting member 11^a in order that the book may be closed.

Retaining means extending between the support and the supporting member are used in order to retain the support in book-supporting position. The said means comprises a cord 12 secured to the outer edge of the support 11 by passing it through a hole in the support and tying it. At the free end of the cord is a tab 13. When the rest is in book supporting position the cord can be arranged to extend forwardly beneath the base of the supporting member with the tab 13 located between the open pages of the book as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. The tab is constructed of the same material as that of the cover and is provided with a crease line 14 extending thereacross and to one side of the point of junction of the cord with the tab. The tab may therefore be folded so that a portion thereof may extend between the lower edge of the book and the supporting member as shown in Figure 3. Due to the weight of the book, the cord 12 is maintained in a taut condition and the remaining portion of the tab 13 is pressed down upon the pages of the book thereby holding them in pressed apart condition.

The cord 12 is shown as a string of several strands but it is clear that a piece of woven material such as a ribbon or a strip of fibrous material such as leather, or a strip of plastic or the equivalent material could be used, and the word cord is used as a generic term to cover all of the above.

To provide strength and rigidity for the support the upper portion 11 is of two-ply construction, whereas the lower portion is single ply.

Referring to the alternative construction disclosed in Figs. 4, 5 and 6, the book rest is formed of cardboard or similar stiff bendable material folded along its upper edge to form inner and outer plies 15 and 16, and folded in at each side to form pockets 17 and 18 adapted to receive the back of a book 19.

A transverse crease line 20 is provided in the outer ply in order to allow a portion to be swung to a position out of alignment with the other portion to provide a support 21 for the supporting member. It will be evident that before this can be done it is necessary to release the edges 22 and 23 from the pockets 17 and 18 respectively. This may be done by simply shearing the outer ply along the said edges, but it is preferably accomplished by providing a substantially triangular cut in the outer ply of the pocket, so that, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5, a tongue is provided at each end of the support 21, the tongues being indicated at 24 and 25. In this manner the support is rendered more rigid, and in addition, when the book is closed and the support is swung downwardly and inwardly adjacent the inner ply, the tongues 24 and 25 may be folded into the pockets to secure the support 21 in place. The tongues are slipped into place through a pair of slots 26 and 27 which extend longitudinally of the pockets and open through the inner ply into the pockets per se. To illustrate this more clearly, in Fig. 4 the tongue 24 is shown uninserted in the slot 26 whereas the tongue 25 is shown in inserted position in the slot 27.

Retaining means is provided in this construction in the same manner as in the preferred construction, a cord 12 being secured to the lower portion of the support 21 and extending forwardly through an eyelet 28 in the supporting member and it is there attached at its free end to a tab 29. In this case, the tab is not shaped in the same manner as the tab 13 since by providing the eyelet 28 through which the cord 12 passes, the tab will stay in place adjacent the bottom portion of the book.

It should be noted that the tabs used in both constructions, provide not only a means for holding apart the pages of the book when the devices are used as book rests, but when the book is closed and the devices are used as book covers, the tabs then may be used as page markers. The tabs are at all times attached to the devices, and therefore can never become lost or misplaced.

It is thought that the construction and use of the invention will be apparent from the above description of the various parts and their purpose. It is to be understood that the form of the invention herewith shown and described is to be taken as a preferred example of the same and that various changes in the shape, size and arrangement of parts may be resorted to, without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claims.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A book rest having a substantially rigid supporting member adapted to engage the covers of a book, a support hingedly secured to the supporting member and foldable out of alignment therewith to support the supporting member in an inclined position on a plane surface, a cord secured at one end to the support and at the other end to a tab of substantially rigid material, said tab being adapted to engage a book between the

pages thereof to retain the book rest in folded position and hold apart the pages of the book when the book rest is in book supporting position, said tab having a line of weakness extending transversely thereof and on one side of the junction of the cord and tab, the portion of the tab engaged by the cord being adapted to be positioned over the hinged portion of the open book and to extend past each side of the hinge portion over the pages of the book to hold apart the pages of the book and the remaining portion thereof being adapted to extend beneath the supporting member.

2. A book rest comprising a cover having a transverse line of weakness intermediate its upper and lower edges whereby the upper portion may be folded out of alignment with the lower portion to provide a support to support the lower portion in an inclined position on a plane surface, pockets at each side of the cover below the line of weakness adapted to receive the covers of a book to hold the book open when it is supported by the support, a cord attached at one end to the support, an eyelet provided in the supporting member through which the cord extends and a tab secured to the other end of the cord, said tab being adapted to be positioned over the hinge portion of the open book and to extend past each side of the hinge portion over the pages of the book to hold apart said pages.

3. A book rest comprising a cover having an inner ply and an outer ply both of substantially rigid material, a pair of oppositely disposed pockets adapted to receive and retain the covers of a book to hold the book open when it is supported by the support, and a transverse line of weakness in the outer ply to allow a portion of said ply to be swung out of alignment with the remainder of the cover to provide a support when the book is in opened position, the portion of the outer ply which is swung out having a tongue at each side thereof, said tongue providing rigidity to the support and serving to retain the outer ply in contact with the inner ply when it is not swung out, a cord secured at one end to the support and at the other end to a tab of substantially rigid material, said tab being adapted to be positioned over the hinge portion of the open book and to extend past each side of the hinge portion over the pages of the book to hold apart the pages of the book when the book rest is in book supporting position.

WILLARD GEORGE FINCH.

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