Sept. 9, 1930. J. BULKOWSKI 1,775,156

FOLDING DESK

Filed Oct. 3, 1929

Fig. 1.

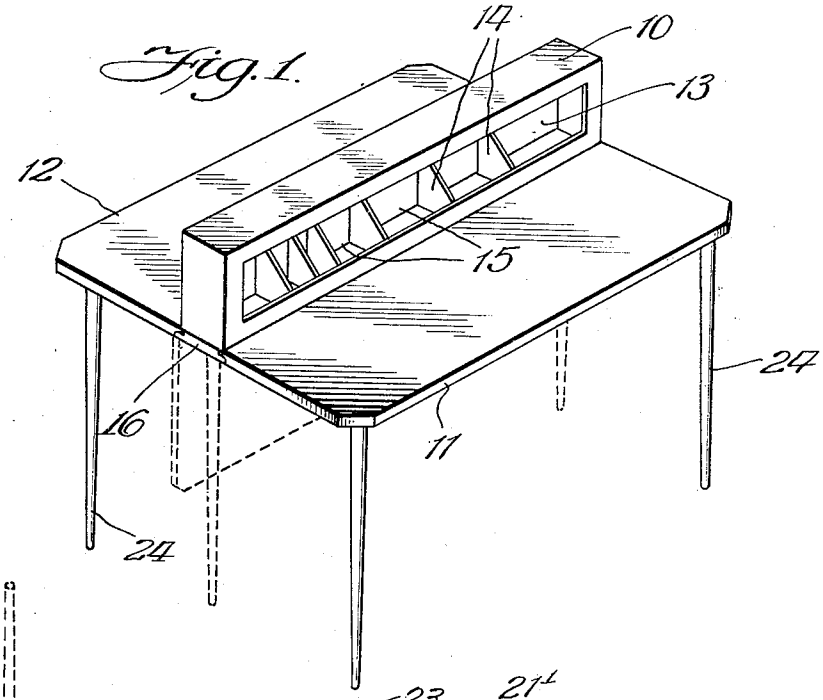



Fig. 2.

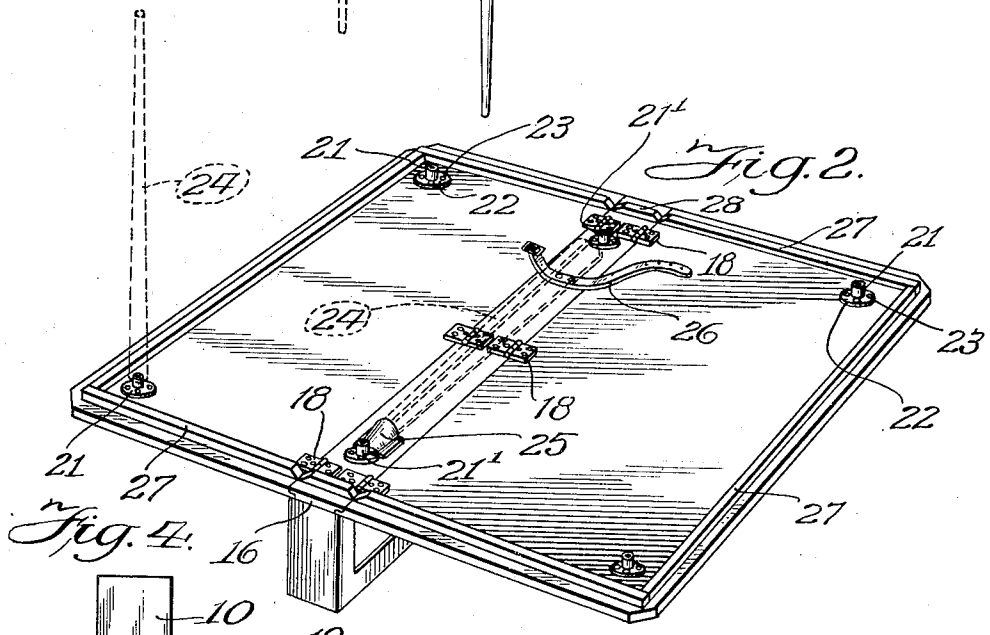



Fig. 4.

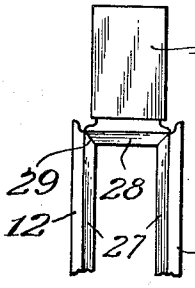
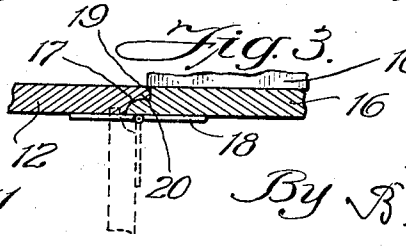



Fig. 3.




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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## FOLDING DESK

Application filed October 3, 1929. Serial No. 397,008.

The present invention relates to foldable desks and has for its object the construction of a desk adapted for use by two persons at a time, and which may have two table plates, each hingedly connected to a central portion, and which table plates may be selectively closed, one or both at a given time.

A still further object of the present invention is the provision of a foldable desk of the character stated which may be suitable for use by school children and which would be simple in construction and which may be easily and inexpensively manufactured.

With the above general objects in view and others that will appear as the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing and pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawing forming a part of this application, and in which like designating characters refer to corresponding parts throughout the several views,

Fig. 1 is an elevational perspective view of the desk in its open position;

Fig. 2 is an elevational view of the bottom of the table plates when the same are in an open position;

Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view through a table plate and a central stationary portion of the desk showing the hinge connections therebetween; and

Fig. 4 is the end view of the desk while the same is in a folded position, with table plates partly broken away.

Referring in detail to the present drawing there is shown therein a central box-like housing 10 which ordinarily remains in a raised position with respect to the table plates 11 and 12 when the same are in an open position. Said housing 10 may be centrally divided into two portions by means of a central plate 13 and a plurality of partition walls 14 may be provided to affect a series of pigeon holes or partitions 15 to which access may be had through each side wall of said housing 10.

Said housing 10 rests upon and is rigidly affixed to the base board 16. Said base board 16 may be slightly wider than the width of the housing 10, and its upper longer edges may be curved as at 17, for the purpose hereinafter described.

Each of said table plates 11 and 12 is connected to the base board 16 by means of a plurality of hinges 18. The adjacent edges of said plates 11 and 12 are lengthwise molded to conform to the curvatures 17 of the base board 16. The upper portion of said base-board 16 is slightly narrower than the housing 10 for affecting longitudinal grooves 19 wherein the corresponding portion 20 of the table plates 11 and 12 are adapted to enter when said plates are in an open position. Briefly, by virtue of this construction upper portions of table plates 11 and 12, at the edges thereof which are nearest to the housing 10, will be permitted to enter below said housing 10, by virtue of which construction, when plates 11 and 12 are in an open position, no outward indication will remain whereby one could be appraised of the fact that said table plates are hingedly connected to said housing 10, and in addition this construction will not permit entrance of dust and dirt which otherwise could find its way in-between the plates and the housing.

At each outer corner in each table plates 11 and 12 cups 21 are positioned, said cups 21 having integrally formed flanges 22, whereby said cups 21 are affixed to the underface of said plates 11 and 12 by means of screws 23 or other like fastenings. Receivable in each of said cups 21 is leg 24, by means of which the desk is supported. Similar cups 21′ are provided in the underface of base board 16. When both table plates 11 and 12 are open, the legs 24 held in cups 21 support the device. When one of said table plates is dropped down on hinges 18 to the position shown by dotted lines on Fig. 1, then legs 24 are removed from that plate and inserted into cups 21′ beneath base board 16, as is clearly shown by dotted lines on Fig. 1. When one of said table plates 11 or 12 is permitted to drop down upon its hinges 18, that side of the desk may be brought near to the wall and the desk in that case will

present an appearance as if though it was devoid of any additional table plate.

On removing all legs 24 from table plates 11 and 12 the latter may be folded on their hinges 18 to the position shown on Fig. 4, wherein said plates will assume a position which is substantially in alinement with the side faces of housing 10, in which case the device will assume a book-like formation, which is compact and neat. The legs 24 when the device is in a folded position may be placed beneath the base board 16. One end of said legs may be held by sheath 25 mounted upon the lower face of said base board 16 and the other end of said legs 24 may be fastened by strap 26 which is mounted to the underface of said base board 16 adjacent its opposite end, as clearly seen on Fig. 2.

For strengthening the table plates 11 and 12 strips 27 are affixed to the underfaces thereof and adjacent their outer edges as seen on Fig. 2. Bars 28 are affixed to the underface of base board 16 and in alinement with strips 27. The ends of said bars 28 as well as the adjacent ends of strips 27 are beveled, so that when the table plates 11 and 12 are in a closed position the beveled ends of said strips 27 and bars 28 are adapted to meet as at 29, and the contact of the beveled ends constitutes a means whereby further movement of the table plates 11 and 12 toward each other when in closed position is limited.

While there is described herein a preferred embodiment of the present invention it is nevertheless to be understood that minor changes may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

What I claim as new is:

1. A folding desk comprising a housing, a base board upon which the housing is mounted, the former having a projection defining each of its longitudinal edges and partially extended beyond the latter, plates hingedly connected to the base board, said plates having grooved edges for receiving the aforesaid projections so as to effectively conceal the joints formed by the grooves and projections beneath the housing in extended position of the plates.

2. A folding desk comprising a housing, a base board upon which the housing is mounted, table plates hingedly connected to the base board, legs removably carried by the plates and means upon the base board for receiving a plurality of the legs, so that when the legs are removed from one of the plates and the latter placed in non-extended position the removed legs may be attached to the means upon the board to operatively support the desk.

3. A folding desk comprising a housing, a base board upon which the housing is mounted, table plates hingedly connected to the base board, legs removably carried by the plates, means upon the base board for receiving a plurality of the legs, so that when the legs are removed from one of the plates and the latter placed in non-extended position, the removed legs may be attached to the means upon the board to operatively support the desk, and additional means upon the base board for holding all the legs.

4. A folding desk comprising a housing, a base board upon which the housing is mounted, table plates hingedly connected to the base board, legs removably carried by the plates, means upon the base board for receiving a plurality of the legs, so that when the legs are removed from one of the plates and the latter placed in non-extended position, the removed legs may be attached to the means upon the board to operatively support the desk, and additional means upon the base board for holding all the legs, said last mentioned means comprising a sheath at one end of the board and a strap at the opposite end.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JOZEF BULKOWSKI.