

H. C. LIETZ.
 DRAWER DESK.
 APPLICATION FILED JAN. 20, 1920.

1,358,004.

Patented Nov. 9, 1920.
 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

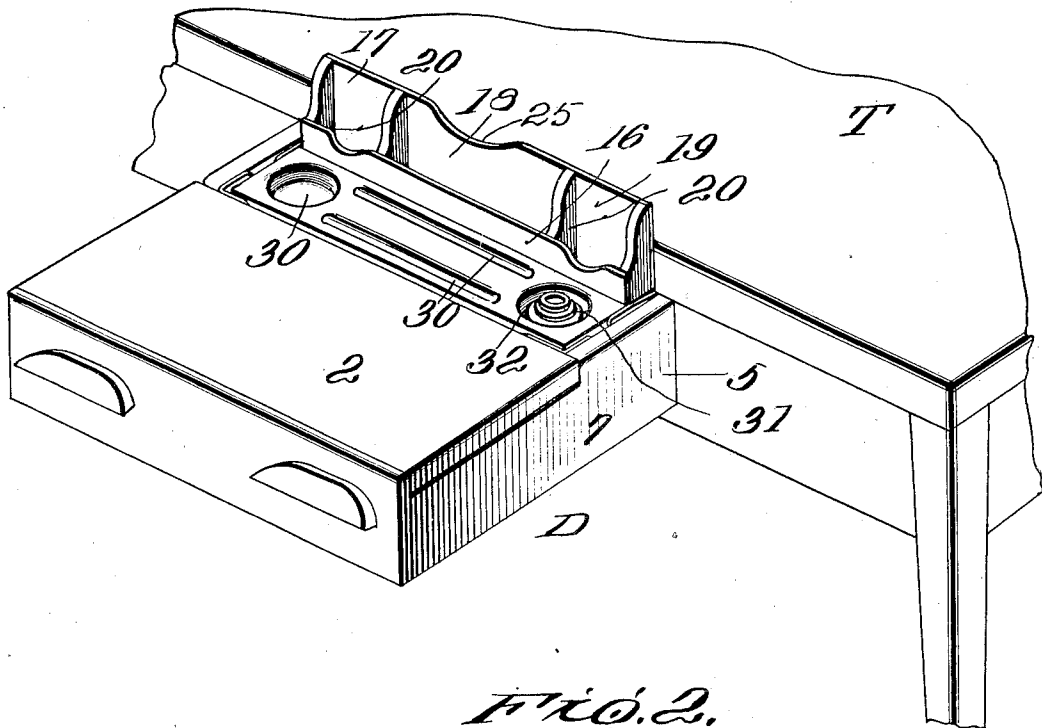
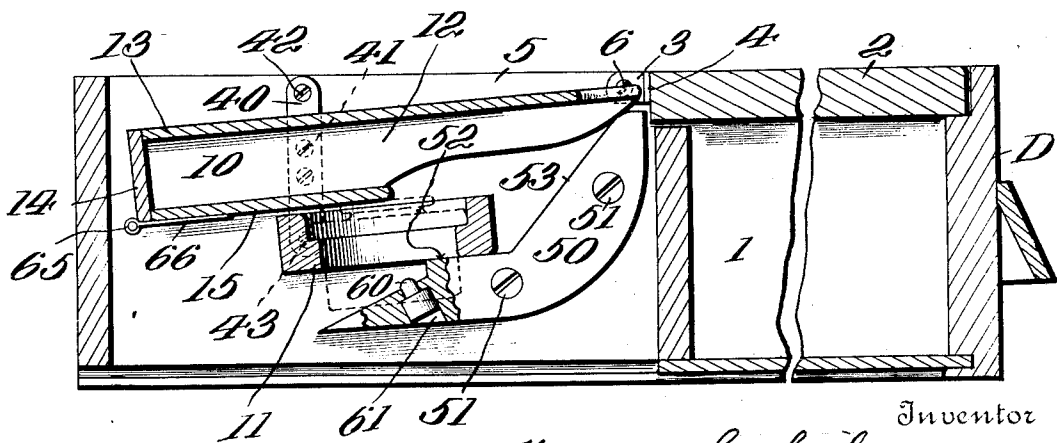


Fig. 2.

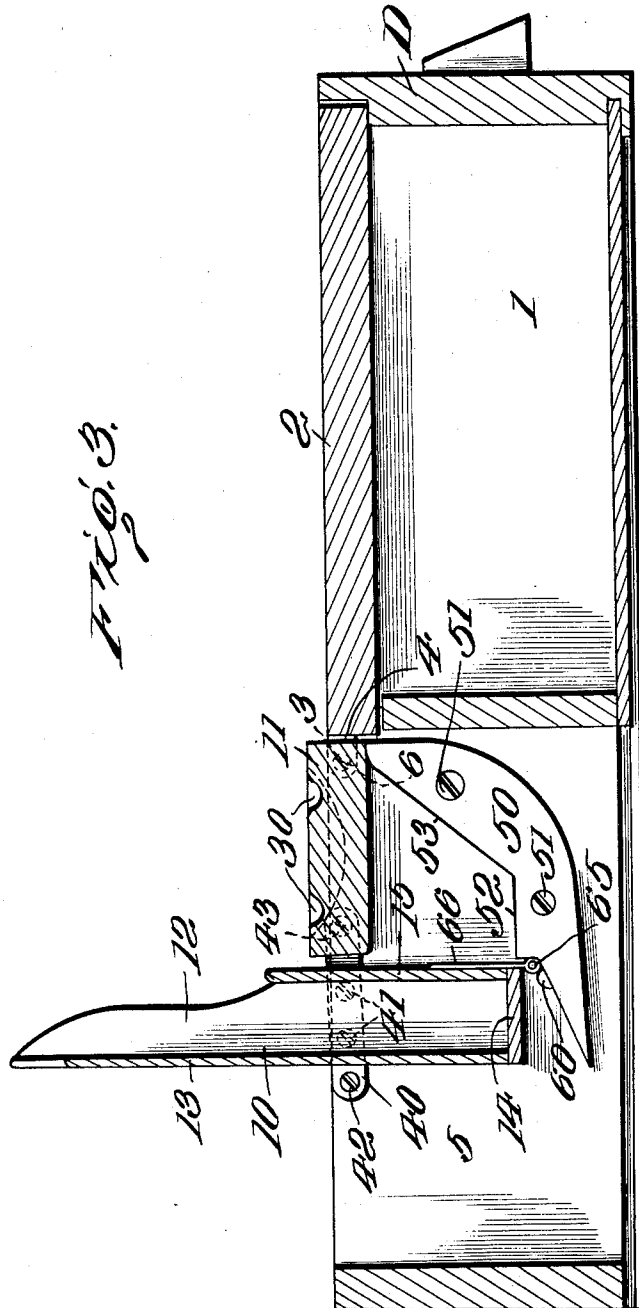


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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERMAN C. LIETZ, OF NEW BREMEN, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO THE AUGLAIZE FURNITURE COMPANY, OF NEW BREMEN, OHIO, A CORPORATION OF OHIO.

DRAWER-DESK.

1,358,004.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERMAN C. LIETZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Bremen, in the county of Auglaize and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Drawer-Desks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved drawer desk or desk appliance designed especially for location in a drawer of a table or other article of furniture.

More particularly described, the invention consists in a stationery tray or rack connected with a pen and ink holder or tray, both of these being arranged in a drawer and connected so that in one position the tray and rack are folded entirely within the drawer to permit the drawer to be closed, and in another position, when the drawer is open, the tray and rack are moved simultaneously to active position by actuating only one of them. These devices are arranged also in relation to a desk surface or writing bed which is also made the movable cover of a box or front compartment of the drawer.

The characteristics and advantages of the invention are further described, so far as is necessary, in connection with the following detail description of the accompanying drawing, which shows one exemplifying embodiment of the invention. After considering this embodiment, persons skilled in the art will understand how the invention may be embodied in other forms and I do not limit myself to details except as claimed.

Figure 1 is a perspective of a table including the drawer desk, the drawer being shown open, and the rack and tray being shown in open or active position.

Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the drawer showing the desk parts in closed position.

Fig. 3 is a similar section showing the desk parts in open position.

Reference character T indicates the top of a table or other article of furniture in which the drawer D is installed, usually centrally in respect to the table top and arranged to open at one side thereof. The front part of the drawer is formed into a box or compartment 1 having a top 2 provided with angular hinges 3 connected to the cover at 4 and pivoted to the inner surface of the drawer sides 5 on screws or other suitable studs 6. Preferably the upper por-

tions of the drawer sides 5 are cut away at 7 so that the top or cover 2 of the compartment 1 extends the full width of the drawer. The top 2 thus affords both a movable cover for the compartment and an extensive, convenient writing surface. To the rear of the compartment 1 is a stationery rack 10 and a pen tray 11. The rack comprises side members 12, a back piece 13, bottom 14, and front piece 15. The front piece 15 is usually cut away as shown, so that its upper edge 16 when open, is much lower than the upper edge of the back piece 13. The parts described form a box-like space for the reception of stationery and the like, and this may be, and usually is, divided into several compartments 17, 18, 19 by partitions 20, all of similar shape to the side pieces 12. A notch or recess 25 is preferably cut in the upper edge of the back piece 13, to afford a finger-hold for raising the stationery rack. The pen tray is usually provided with a plurality of shallow trough-like depressions 30, for the reception of pens, pencils, paper clips, etc., and is also provided usually with an aperture 31 suitably countersunk to receive an ink stand 32. Of course more than one ink stand and any suitable arrangement of troughs may be provided in the pen tray.

At each side the stationery rack is provided with a combined hinge and link member 40 which, in this embodiment, consists merely of a strip of metal, rigidly secured to the side piece 12 of the rack, by at least two screws or other connections 41, to make the hinge members rigid with the rack. One end of each hinge member is pivoted to the adjacent side piece 5 of the desk usually by means of a screw 42. The other end of the hinge member extends beyond the front piece 15 of the rack, and is pivoted, by means of a screw 43 or the like, to one end of the pen tray, near the rear edge of the latter.

The front edge of the pen tray is supported in its different positions by a guide member 50, which may be of wood and secured to the inner surface of one of the side pieces 5 of the drawer, by suitable fastenings such as screws 51. One guide is sufficient, but two may be employed when necessary or desirable. The guide comprises a substantially horizontal surface 52 and an inclined surface 53.

When the rack and tray are inclosed posi-

tion, as shown in Fig. 2, entirely within the limits of the drawer outline, the front edge of the tray rests on surface 52 of the guide, and its rear edge is supported, so that the tray is substantially horizontal, by hinge links 40. When the drawer is opened, the user inserts a finger in the notch 25 and raises the rack to vertical position, as shown in Fig. 1. The hinge links 40 push the tray forward until its front edge encounters the inclined surface 53 of the guide, and the front edge of the tray then rises slightly in advance of the rear edge, but with the tray nearly enough in horizontal position, so that ink will not spill from the ink well 32, and articles will not be displaced from the trough 30 of the tray. When the tray is in vertical position, the rack is brought into horizontal position, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

It is desirable to provide means for holding the tray and rack in open position. Such means may, in the preferred embodiment of the invention, consist of a spring plunger 60, secured as a unit, in a hole 61 bored in the rearward portion of the guide piece 50. The stationery rack 10 is provided with a detent member 65 which may be the rounded edge of a metal strip 66, secured to the front piece 15 near one side thereof. The detent 65 is so placed that as the rack approaches nearly to the vertical position, it depresses the plunger and then passes, and thereupon the plunger springs up behind the detent and holds the rack and also the tray in vertical position, until they are intentionally folded.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. In a drawer desk or the like, the combination with a drawer of a stationery rack, a pen tray, a hinge link rigidly connected to one end of the rack and pivoted to a side member of the drawer, and also pivoted to the tray near the rear edge thereof, and a guide for the front edge of the tray, arranged to cooperate with the hinge link to keep the tray nearly horizontal in its opening movement and to support the tray in horizontal position when the rack is retained in vertical position.

2. In a drawer desk or the like, the combi-

nation with a drawer, of a stationery rack, a pen tray, a hinge link rigidly connected to one end of the rack and pivoted to a side member of the drawer, and also pivoted to the tray near the rear edge thereof, and a guide for the front edge of the tray, arranged to cooperate with the hinge link to keep the tray nearly horizontal in its opening movement and to support the tray in horizontal position when the rack is retained in vertical position, and a spring detent cooperating between a part of the drawer and the rack to retain the rack and tray in open position.

3. In a drawer desk or the like, the combination with a drawer, of a stationery rack, a pen tray, a hinge link rigidly connected to one end of the rack, and pivoted to a side member of the drawer, and also pivoted to the tray near the rear edge thereof, and a guide for the front edge of the tray, the guide comprising an approximately horizontal surface to support the tray in closed position, and an inclined surface to guide the front edge of the tray in opening movement and to support it horizontally in cooperation with the hinge link when the rack is in vertical position.

4. In a drawer desk or the like, the combination with a drawer, of a stationery rack, a pen tray, a hinge link rigidly connected to one end of the rack, and pivoted to a side member of the drawer, and also pivoted to the tray near the rear edge thereof, and a guide for the front edge of the tray, the guide comprising an approximately horizontal surface to support the tray in closed position, and an inclined surface to guide the front edge of the tray in opening movement and to support it horizontally in cooperation with the hinge link when the rack is in vertical position, and a spring detent cooperating between a part of the drawer and the rack to retain the rack and tray in open position.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HERMAN C. LIETZ.

Witnesses:

J. C. GROTHAUS,

A. F. ISERN.