Sept. 15, 1953 S. J. HARAZIM 2,652,307

SUPPORT STRUCTURE

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FIG. 1

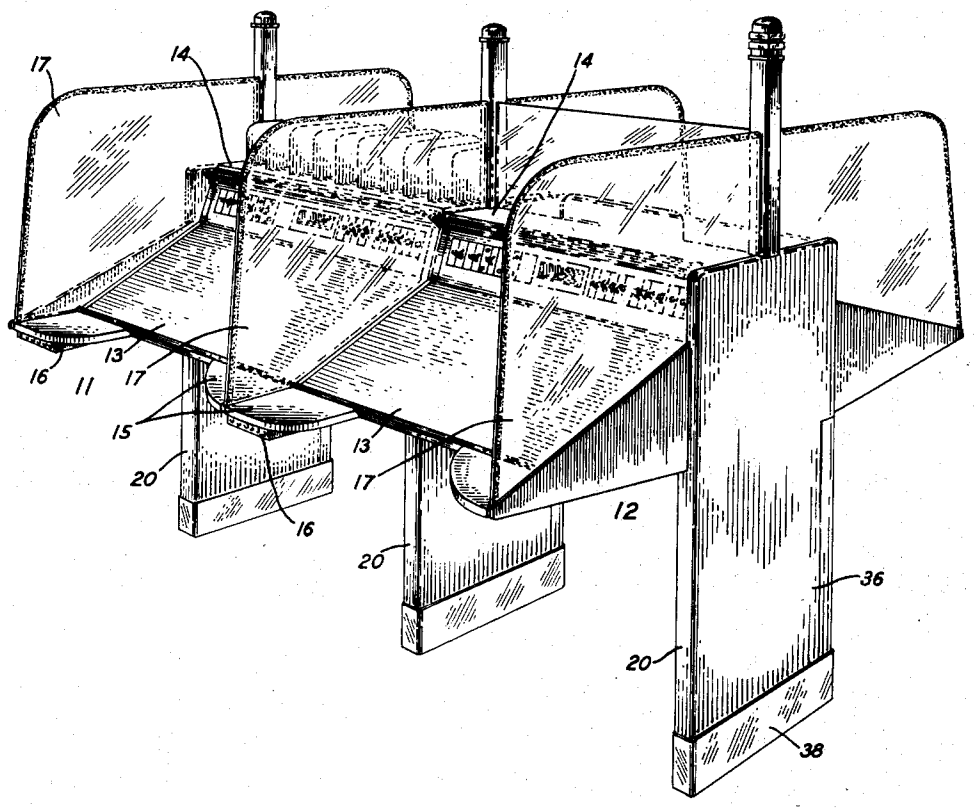

FIG. 3

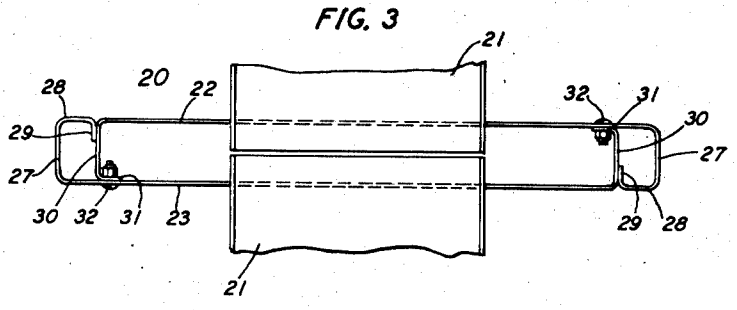

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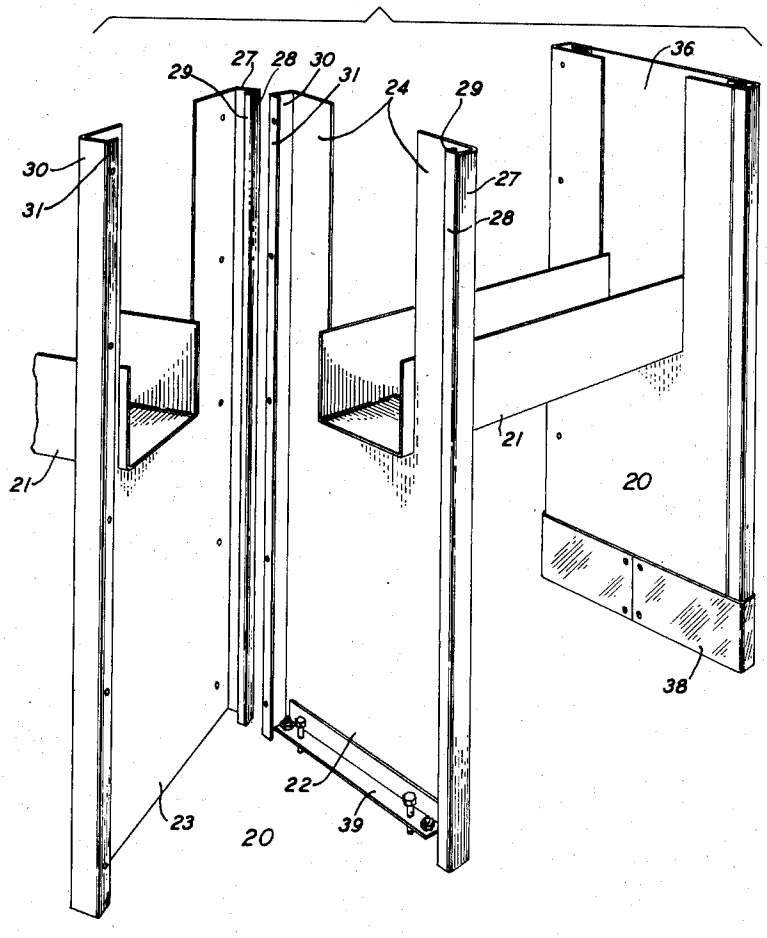
FIG. 2



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Patented Sept. 15, 1953

2,652,307

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,652,307

SUPPORT STRUCTURE

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Application December 20, 1950, Serial No. 201,796

3 Claims. (Cl. 312—255)

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This invention relates to furniture and more particularly to a series of interconnected desks.

An object of this invention is to effect economies in the construction of desks.

Another object of this invention is to simplify the manufacture and installation of series of desks.

Another object of this invention is to effect savings of space and material in the installation of a series of interconnected desks.

A further object of this invention is to improve the appearance of a series of desks placed adjacent one another.

A feature of this invention is the interassociation of two adjacent desks in such a manner that a single upright is common to both desks.

Another feature of this invention is an upright adapted to perform the functions of plural uprights.

Another feature of this invention is a plural-element upright in which a supporting element thereof may be associated either with another supporting element or with a finishing element.

A further feature of this invention is a plural-element upright which gives the appearance of being a unitary structure.

The manner in which the objects are attained and the above and other features of the invention may be more fully understood from the following description of a preferred embodiment thereof when read with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 shows a perspective view of a series of interassociated desks constructed in accordance with the principles of the invention;

Fig. 2 shows a perspective view of the uprights associated with one desk and with the next adjacent desk, with the two major portions of the upright common to the two desks being separated; and

Fig. 3 shows a top view of one of the inner pedestal assemblies and the associated horizontal support members.

In many commercial uses of working surfaces such as desks, a plurality thereof are to be arranged in side-by-side relation. Adjacent uprights or columns of the several desks are frequently bolted, welded or otherwise rendered integral to provide a stable permanent or semi-permanent installation. As a result, a dual upright, pedestal or column exists at the point of junction of the two desks producing an uneconomic, space-consuming assembly lacking in aesthetic quality. The present invention relates to a structure in which a single pedestal assembly is used in common by two adjacent desks. The upright or pedestal assembly is formed of two major elements so interassociated as to provide a highly rigid and stable member giving the appearance of being unitary. Additionally, a face or finishing plate may be substituted for either of the elements of the pedestal assembly to provide a suitably attractive termination at either end of a series of interassociated desks or working surfaces.

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Fig. 1 of the drawing shows a plurality of desks of the type utilized in telephone offices as working spaces for toll and local information operators, rate and route operators, charge-quoting operators, etc. The general configuration and ornamental design of desks of the disclosed type is claimed in the design patent 164,297, granted August 21, 1951, to A. C. Gilmore and S. J. Harazim.

In general, a two-desk assembly is shown, with each desk providing dual working surfaces, although it is to be understood that three or more desks may be interassociated in accordance with the principles of the invention. Each of the shown desks 11 and 12 may comprise a working surface 13, a space 14 for reference books such as telephone directories, arm rests 15 and jack mountings 16. The desks may be provided with and separated by vertical transverse baffles 17 and these may be utilized as an element of supervisor signaling means in the manner shown in Patent 2,609,436, granted September 2, 1952, to W. T. Sermeus. Each of the desks 11 and 12 is supported by a pair of columns, uprights or pedestal assemblies 20 with the one or ones of those pedestal assemblies intermediate adjacent desks being common to both adjacent desks.

The details of the construction of the pedestal assemblies may be seen in Figs. 2 and 3 of the drawing. Adjacent pedestal assemblies 20 are interconnected by and position horizontal support members 21 which are in the shape of channels with a U-shaped cross-section in the preferred embodiment of the invention. These support members 21 may serve as cable troughs or may be the basic support elements of the working surfaces of the desks.

Each pedestal assembly is in two major portions which, in the case of an inner pedestal, are substantially identical, such as portions 22 and 23. Each pedestal-assembly portion which must engage a support member 21 is provided with two upstanding extensions 24 so spaced as to define a slot into which the horizontal support members 21 may fit. The pedestal assembly

20 and the horizontal support members are preferably welded, bolted or otherwise rendered integral.

The two major portions 22 and 23 of any one of the internal pedestal assemblies 20 are so conformed that they may be assembled in offset nesting relation. This conformation is obtained by forming each vertical edge of each of the portions 22 and 23 with plural flanges as may best be seen in Fig. 3. Thus, one vertical edge of each of the portions 22 and 23 is provided with a flange 27 extending perpendicularly therefrom. A flange 28 extends from flange 27 in spaced parallelism with the body of the pedestal portion, and the flange 28 is or may be terminated with another flange 29 extending in spaced parallelism with the flange 27. The other vertical edge of each of the portions 22 or 23 is also provided with plural flanges so formed as to cooperate with the flanges at the opposite vertical edge of the other pedestal portion 23 or 22. Thus, the other vertical edge of each of the pedestal portions 22 and 23 is provided with a flange 30 extending perpendicularly therefrom, and with a second flange 31 depending from flange 30 and extending in spaced parallelism with the body of the pedestal portion 22 or 23. When the two pedestal portions 22 and 23 are placed in the aforesaid offset nesting relation, the flange 30 of each of the portions abuts the flange 29 of the other portion, and the flange 31 of each of the portions abuts the body of the other pedestal portion 22 or 23. At each point of abutment, the two flange portions may be rendered integral, but in practice it has been found that the use of fastening means, such as bolts 32, at the point of abutment between the flanges 31 and the bodies of the pedestal portions will provide a rigid structure. It will be apparent that by virtue of the above-described arrangement, there is not only but a single pedestal assembly common to two adjacent support members 21, but also the construction is such as to give the appearance that a single tubular member constitutes the pedestal assembly, as may best be seen in Fig. 1.

Another advantage which accrues from the use of a dual-element pedestal assembly is that one of the elements may be replaced with a face or finish plate 36 to provide a suitably attractive termination for the row of desks. This finish plate 36 is or may be identical to the pedestal-assembly portions 22 and 23 except that no slot for the horizontal support member 21 is provided.

If desired, skirts 38 may be affixed at the base of each of the pedestal assemblies and leveling details 39 may be provided for each of the pedestal assemblies.

It will be seen that the resultant structure is not only highly aesthetically appealing, but constitutes an economical, compact, readily installable and readily interchangeable columnar support having a high degree of rigidity.

It is to be understood that the above-described arrangements are but illustrative of the application of the principles of the invention. Numerous other arrangements may be devised by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. In a support structure, a pedestal assembly having a first body portion and a second body portion in spaced parallelism with said first body portion; a first flange, a first depending flange depending from said first flange, a second flange, and a second depending flange depending from said second flange on each of said body portions; said first depending flange of each of said body portions abutting said second flange on the other of said body portions and said second depending flange on each of said body portions abutting the other of said body portions, first and second upstanding portions on each of said body members, said upstanding portions being spaced apart to define a slot therebetween, a first channel-shaped support member affixed to and extending perpendicularly to the upstanding portions on said first body portion and positioned in the slot therebetween, a second channel-shaped support member affixed to, and positioned in the slot between, the upstanding portions on said second body portion, said second support member extending perpendicularly to said second body portion and in an opposite direction to said first support member, and means spaced from said first and second body portions for supporting said first and second support members.

2. In a support structure, a pedestal assembly having a first body portion and a second body portion in spaced parallelism with said first body portion; a first flange, a first depending flange depending from said first flange, a second flange, and a second depending flange depending from said second flange on each of said body portions; said first depending flange of each of said body portions abutting said second flange on the other of said body portions and said second depending flange on each of said body portions abutting the other of said body portions; means for attaching said portions together; first and second upstanding portions on each of said body members, said upstanding portions being spaced apart to define a slot therebetween, a first channel-shaped support member affixed to and extending perpendicularly to the upstanding portions on said first body portion and positioned in the slot therebetween, a second channel-shaped support member affixed to and positioned in the slot between the upstanding portions on said second body portion, said second support member extending perpendicularly to said second body portion and in an opposite direction to said first support member, a third body portion lying in spaced parallelism with said first and second body portions, two upstanding portions on said third body portion spaced apart to define a slot therebetween, said first support member engaging said last-mentioned upstanding portions and positioned in the slot therebetween, a fourth body portion lying in spaced parallelism with said first and second body portions, and two upstanding portions on said fourth body portion spaced apart to define a slot therebetween, said second support member engaging the upstanding portions on said fourth body portion and positioned in the slot therebetween.

3. In a support structure, a pedestal assembly having a first body portion and a second body portion in spaced parallelism with said first body portion, a first flange depending from one edge of each of said body portions and extending perpendicularly thereto, a second flange integral with and extending perpendicularly to said first flange, a first depending flange depending from and extending perpendicularly to said second flange, a third flange depending from the other edge of each of said body portions and extending perpendicularly thereto, and a second depending flange depending from and extend-

ing perpendicularly to said third flange, said first depending flange on each of said body portions abutting said third flange on the other of said body portions, and said second depending flange on each of said body portions abutting the other of said body portions, means for attaching said portions together, first and second upstanding portions on each of said body members, said upstanding portions being spaced apart to define a slot therebetween, a first channel-shaped support member affixed to and extending perpendicularly to the upstanding portions on said first body portion and positioned in the slot therebetween, a second channel-shaped support member affixed to and positioned in the slot between the upstanding portions on said second body portion, said second support member extending perpendicularly to said second body portion and in an opposite direction to said first support member, a third body portion lying in spaced parallelism with said first and second body portions,

two upstanding portions on said third body portion spaced apart to define a slot therebetween, said first support member engaging said last-mentioned upstanding portions and positioned in the slot therebetween, a fourth body portion lying in spaced parallelism with said first and second body portions, and two upstanding portions on said fourth body portion spaced apart to define a slot therebetween, said second support member engaging the upstanding portions on said fourth body portion and poistioned in the slot therebetween.

STANLEY J. HARAZIM.

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