

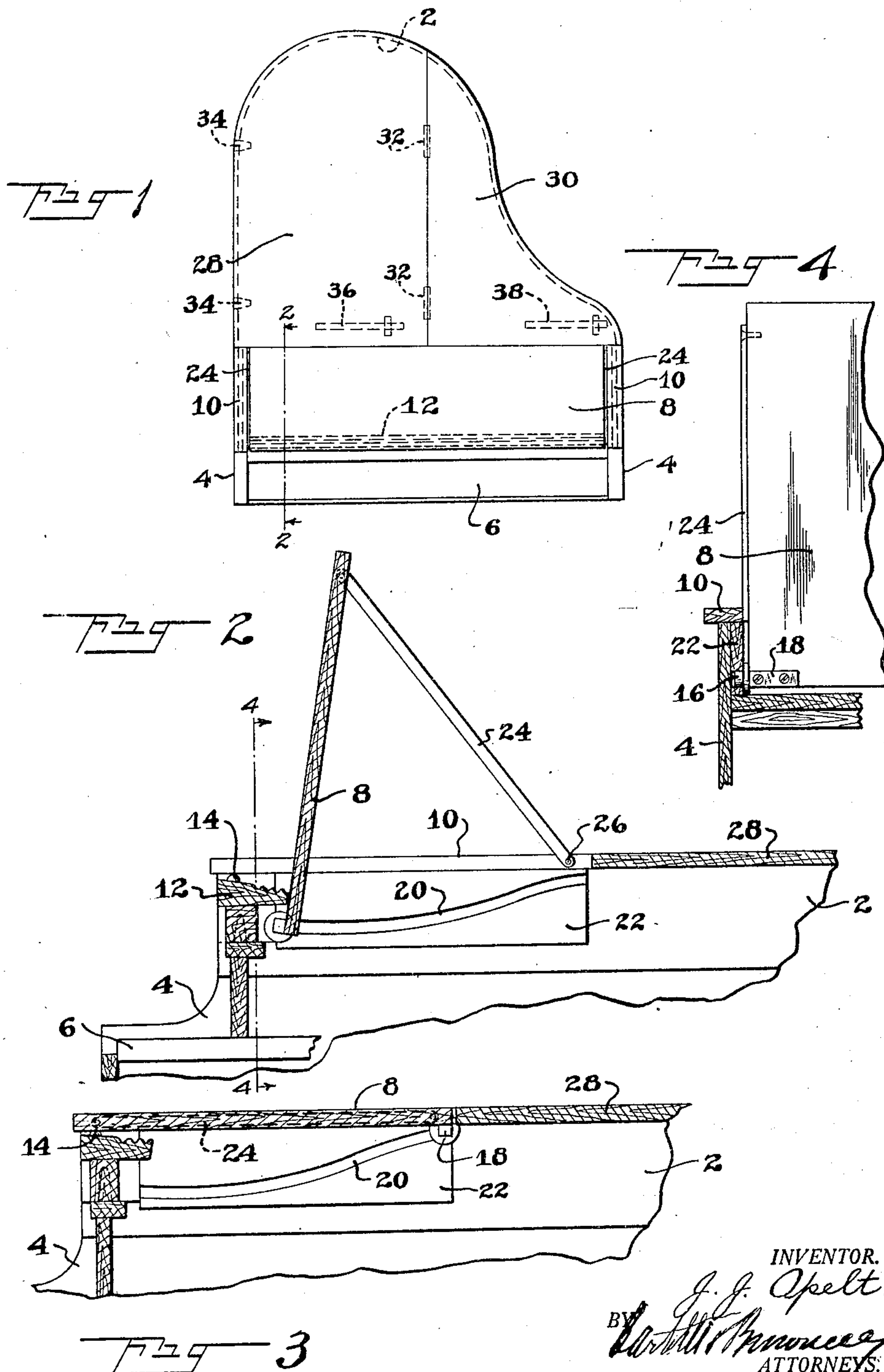
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PIANO CASE

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## PIANO CASE.

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My invention relates to pianos, and has special reference to cases for grand pianos.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a piano case of this character which is less expensive to manufacture, and more convenient in use than those heretofore proposed.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved piano case of the character indicated in which the front part of the top lid or cover thereof may be utilized as a music desk, and the rear part may be opened and closed independently of said front part.

The several features of the invention, whereby the above mentioned and other objects may be attained, will be clearly understood from the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a plan view, partly diagrammatical, of a grand piano embodying the features of the invention in their preferred form, the top lid or cover of the piano case being shown closed;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view on an enlarged scale taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, but showing the front part of the top lid or cover of the piano case in open position, and utilized as a music desk;

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2 but showing said front part in closed position; and

Fig. 4 is a sectional elevation taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

The piano illustrated in the drawings is provided with the usual vertical side wall having the curved rear portion 2 and the forwardly extending parallel portions 4, and is further provided with the usual key-board 6 extending between projecting ends of said parallel portions 4 and spaced the usual distance below the plane of the top of the piano.

In my improved construction as illustrated in the drawings, the forward part of the top lid or cover of the piano case is formed by a member 8 which, when in closed position, extends between end pieces or ledges 10 secured on the upper edges of said portions 4 of the side wall of the case, and is arranged flush with said ledges and with the remaining portion of the top cover. This cover member 8 is adapted to be moved from its horizontal or closed position, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, to an upright position as shown in Fig. 2, with its lower portion abutting against the rear edge of a music rack

rail or base 12. This base 12 may be of the usual construction, and is removably secured at its ends to the parallel side portions 4 of the piano case with its top surface spaced a slight distance below the top of the case. When the cover member or desk 8 is in closed position it extends over this base 12 and its forward portion rests upon abutment members 14 secured on the top surface of the base.

In order to permit the cover member or desk 8 to be moved from horizontal closed position to open position, as above described, laterally projecting studs 16 formed on blocks 18 are secured to the underside of the desk adjacent the rear edge thereof when said desk is in closed position. These laterally projecting studs 16 are received in suitable guiding grooves 20 that are formed in blocks 22 secured to the parallel portions 4 of the side wall of the piano case. Also, links 24 have one end pivotally connected with opposite ends of said desk 8 adjacent its forward edge, and have their other ends pivotally mounted on pivot pins 26 secured to the inner sides of the rear end portions of the ledges 10. With this construction the links 24 and studs 16 cooperate to guide the desk as it moves into said upright position, and to hold it in said position. It will be apparent that the desk 8 may be opened and closed without difficulty, and when closed will effectively cover the front part of the piano between the ledges 10, and when open will form with the base 12 a conveniently located music rack.

The portion of the top lid of the piano case back of the music desk 8 and ledges 10 is centrally divided longitudinally into two sections 28 and 30 that are hinged together by hinges 32, and the outer longitudinal edge of the section 28 is hinged by hinges 34 to the upper edge of the vertical side wall of the piano case. With this construction it will be apparent that the right hand section 30 may be swung over upon the other section 28 and then the two sections swung open on the hinges 34; or if desired both sections may be swung open about the hinges 34 while maintaining them in the same plane; and also, if desired, the right hand section 30 alone may be swung open, suitable prop sticks 36 and 38 being provided for holding the two sections, respectively, in open positions.

With this construction of piano case as



above described, it will be apparent that the rear sections 28 and 30 of the top cover thereof may be opened without opening the front portion or desk 8. Also, the desk 8 may be easily swung into upright position so as to form with the base member 12 a conveniently located music rack, thus doing away with the usual music rack which in pianos in general commercial use are made separate from the top cover of the piano. Also, it will be apparent that the ledges provide convenient supporting shelves for books or other articles, and in fact the desk 8 when closed provides a convenient support upon which books or other articles may be placed, and need not be opened except when it is desired to use the music rack.

At will be evident to those skilled in the art, my invention permits various modifications without departing from the spirit thereof or the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. A case for grand pianos having, in combination, a side wall having its end portions projecting forwardly, a bar extending between said forward end portions and spaced a slight distance below the upper edge of the side wall, a top cover comprising a rear section hinged at one edge on one of the longitudinal upper edges of said side wall and having its forward edge spaced a distance back of said bar, and a front section when closed having its rear edge arranged adjacent the front edge of said rear section and having its forward portion resting upon said bar, shelves mounted on the upper edges of said projecting end portions of said side wall with their inner edges arranged adjacent the ends of said front section, said rear section, front section and shelves together covering the top of the piano back of the keyboard, and devices for guiding said front section to permit its forward edge to be swung upwardly and rearwardly and its rear edge forwardly and downwardly to move the front section into upright position adjacent the rear side of said bar so as to form with said bar a music rack.

2. A case for grand pianos having, in combination, a side wall having its end portions projecting forwardly, a bar extending between said forward end portions, a top cover comprising a rear section having its forward edge spaced a distance back of said bar, and a front section when closed having its rear edge arranged adjacent the front edge of said rear section and having its forward portion extending over said bar, and devices for guiding said front section to permit it to be moved into upright position adjacent the rear side of said bar so as to form with said bar a music rack.

3. A case for grand pianos having, in

combination, a side wall having its end portions projecting forwardly, a bar extending between said forward end portions, a top cover comprising a rear section having its forward edge spaced a distance back of said bar, and a front section when closed having its rear edge arranged adjacent the front edge of said rear section and having its forward portion extending over said bar, and devices for guiding said front section to permit its forward edge to be swung upwardly and rearwardly and its rear edge forwardly and downwardly to move the front section into upright position adjacent the rear side of said bar so as to form with said bar a music rack, said devices comprising a link having one end pivotally connected with one end of the forward portion of said front section and its other end pivoted on a stationary part of the piano case, a lateral projection on one end of the rear portion of said member, and a member for guiding said projection.

4. A case for grand pianos having, in combination, a side wall having its end portions projecting forwardly, a bar extending between said forward end portions, a top cover comprising a rear section having its forward edge spaced a distance back of said bar, and a front section arranged in the plane of said rear section for closing the space between the front edge of said rear section and said bar, and devices for guiding said front section to permit it to be moved into upright position adjacent the rear side of said bar so as to form with said bar a music rack.

5. A case for grand pianos having, in combination, a side wall having its end portions projecting forwardly, a bar extending between said forward end portions, a top cover comprising a rear section having its forward edge spaced a distance back of said bar, and a front section arranged in the plane of said rear section having its rear edge arranged adjacent the front edge of said rear section and closing the space between the front edge of said rear section and the bar with its ends spaced a distance from said forward end portions of the side wall, shelves mounted on said forward edge portion of the side walls arranged in the plane of said cover sections and filling the space between the ends of said front section and said forward end portions, and devices for guiding said front section to permit it to be moved into upright position adjacent the rear side of said bar so as to form with said bar a music rack.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification this 22nd day of November, 1926.

JOSEPH JOHN OPELT.