

April 23, 1929.

G. E. WHITNEY

1,709,928

SERVICE TRAY

Original Filed Aug. 3, 1926

FIG. 1.

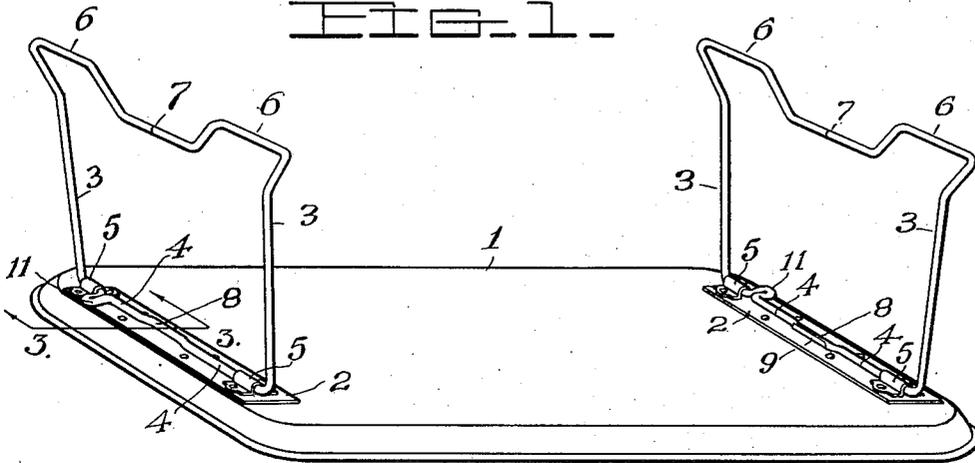


FIG. 2.

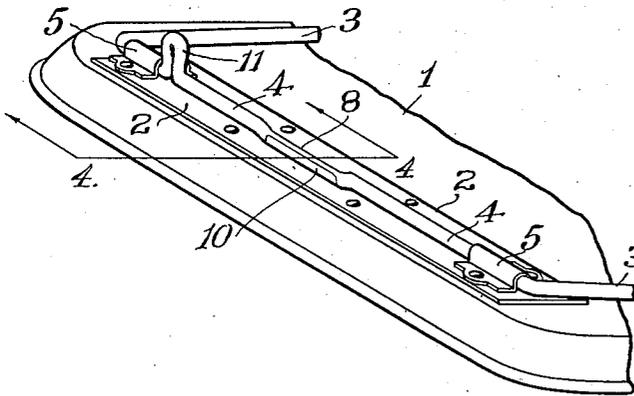


FIG. 3.

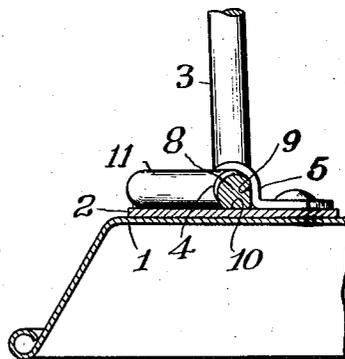


FIG. 4.

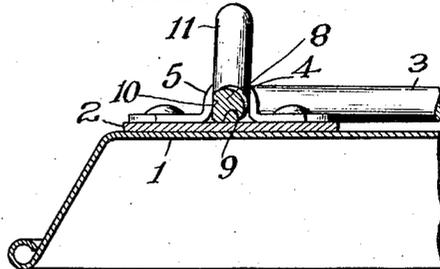
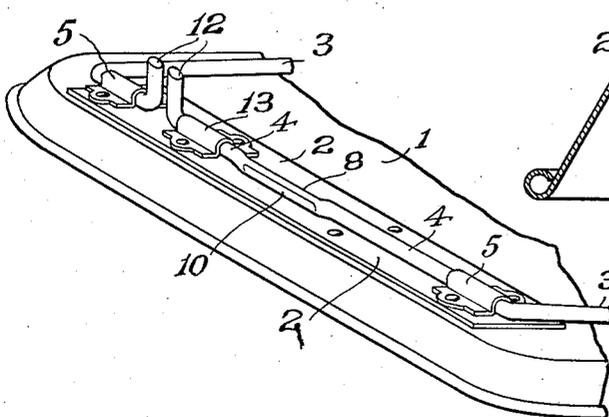


FIG. 5.



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SERVICE TRAY.

Application filed August 3, 1926, Serial No. 126,866. Renewed February 1, 1929.

This invention relates to service trays, but more particularly to devices of this description which are equipped with two pairs of foldable legs one at each end of the bottom portion of the tray.

The object of the present invention is to maintain the legs in closed or opened positions without the aid of any special fixtures.

In the accompanying drawings which form a part of this application—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the bottom of a tray equipped with this improvement, the legs being shown in opened position.

Figure 2 is a broken perspective view, on an enlarged scale, of one end of the bottom portion of the tray with the leg closed.

Figure 3 is a section at the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a section at the line 4—4 of Figure 2, and

Figure 5 is a view similar to Figure 2 but showing a modified form of the invention.

Similar numerals of reference denote like parts in the several figures of the drawing.

1 is the tray proper having secured to each end of the bottom portion a reinforcing metal strip 2.

The legs are denoted by the numeral 3, each leg consisting of a continuous wire formed into a cross rod 4 at the inner portion of the leg, which rod is pivotally swung from hangers 5 secured to the strip 2, the wire immediately beyond the hangers being bent at right angles to form the legs proper and fashioned into feet 6 and then preferably welded intermediate the feet at the point 7.

The cross rods 4 have their central portions deflected so as to form cams 8 which, when the legs are folded, extend outwardly and are in contact with the strip 2, the contact surfaces of the cams being flattened as shown at 9, and when the legs are opened these cam portions will extend inwardly and will contact the strip 2 at the flattened portions 10.

The swinging of the legs from opened to

closed position will cause the cams 8 to operate against the strips 2, thereby causing the rods 4 to yield resiliently, so that when the legs are folded against the bottom of the tray the recovery of the rods and the disposition of the cams will cause the legs to be securely held in folded position, particularly since the cams will contact the strips 2 along the flattened portion 9. When the legs are opened the cams will also contact the strips 2 and cause the legs to yield resiliently and to recover when the legs are fully opened with the cams extending inwardly, and contacting the strips 2 at the flattened portions 10.

In order to prevent the overthrow of the legs when they are opened the rods near one end have a bight 11 formed therewith which operates as a shoulder to strike against the strips 2 when the legs are fully opened.

But instead of this bight the legs may be formed with the free ends 12 of the wire bent as shown at Figure 5, in which instance an extra hanger 13 secured to the strip 2 is provided through which one end of the wire pivotally extends.

The strip 2 greatly reinforces the tray and offers such resistance to the action of the cams, that considerable force is necessary both in opening and closing the legs, thus greatly contributing toward their security in both folded and opened positions.

What is claimed is:—

1. A service tray comprising a tray proper having at each end of its bottom portion an elongated metal strip, hangers secured to said strip, cross rods pivotally swung in said hangers and having formed at their central portions cams, said rods immediately beyond the hangers being bent at right angles to constitute the legs proper and then fashioned into feet, the rods being provided with shouldered portions to limit the outward throw of the legs.

2. A construction as in claim 1 in which the surfaces of the cams that contact the strips are flattened.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature hereto.

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