No. 894,653. PATENTED JULY 28, 1908.

J. B. HUSTON, DEC'D.

F. K. HUSTON, ADMINISTRATOR.

COMBINATION CAMP TABLE AND CHEST.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 27, 1907.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

FIG. 1.

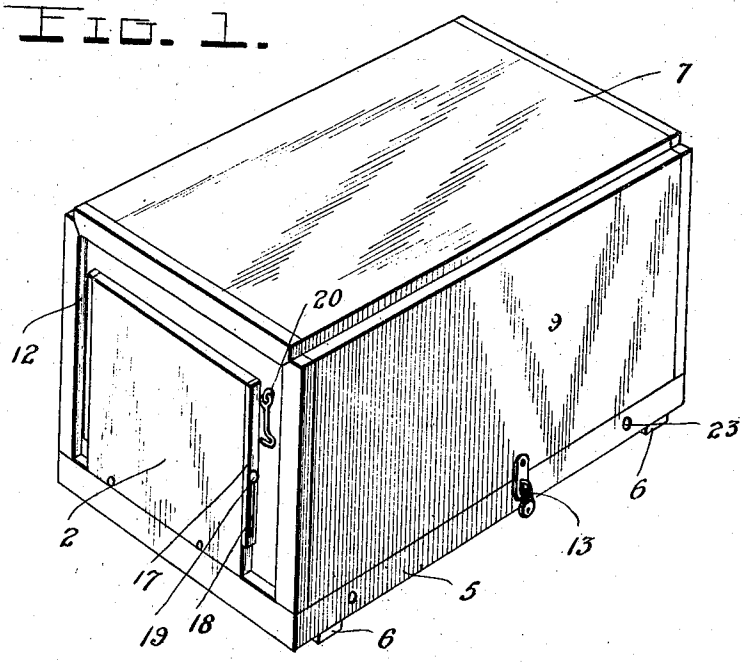


FIG. 3.

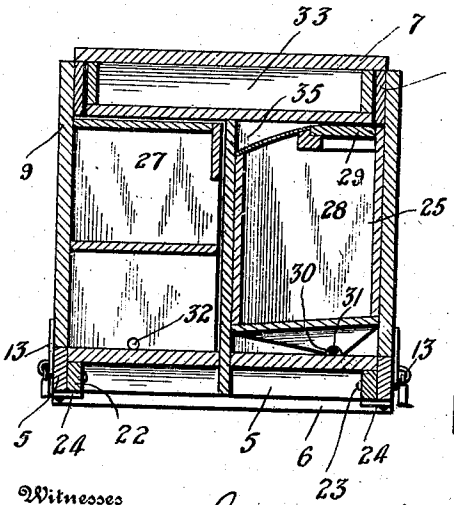
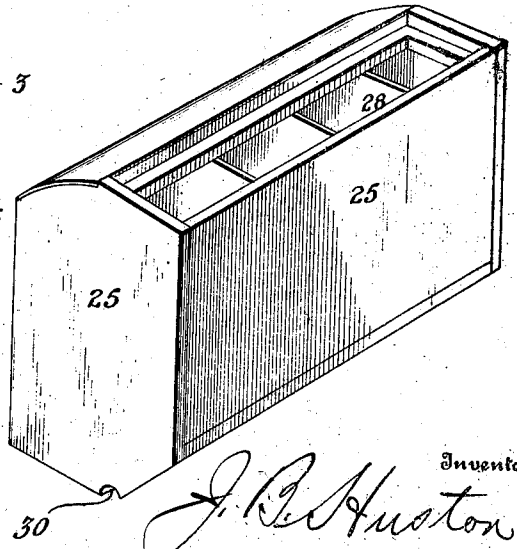


FIG. 2.



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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

FIG. 2.

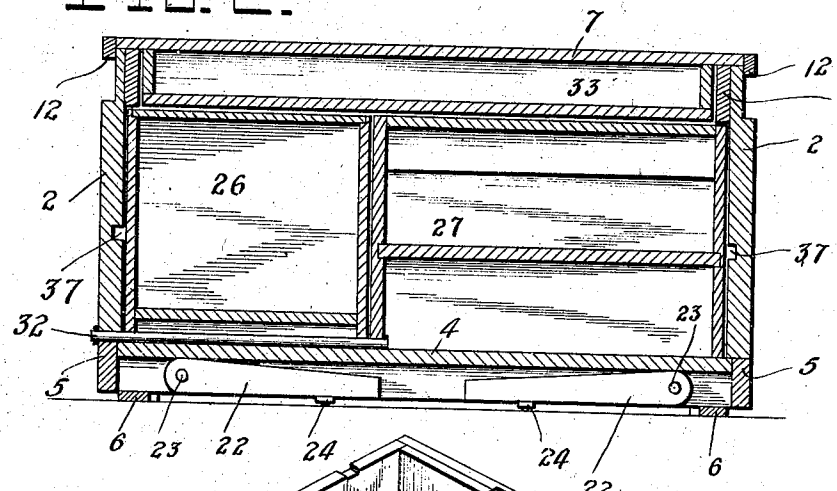


FIG. 3.

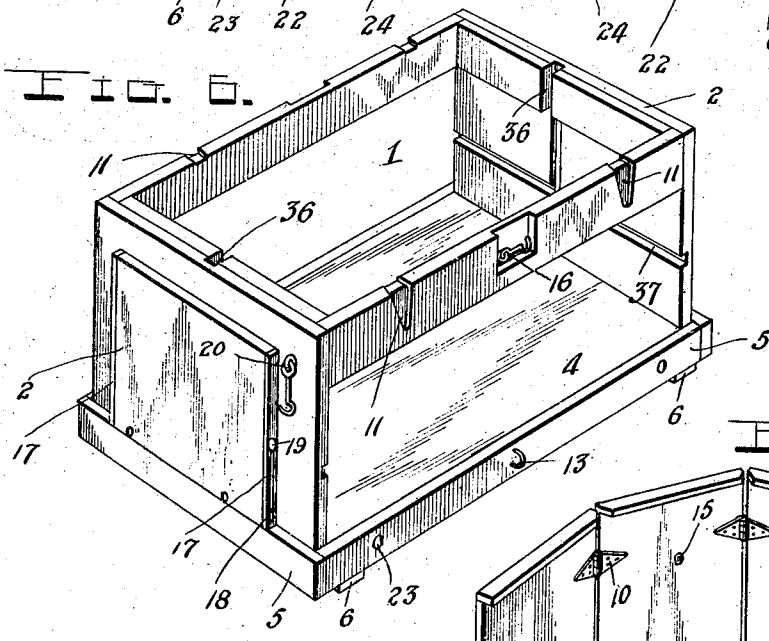
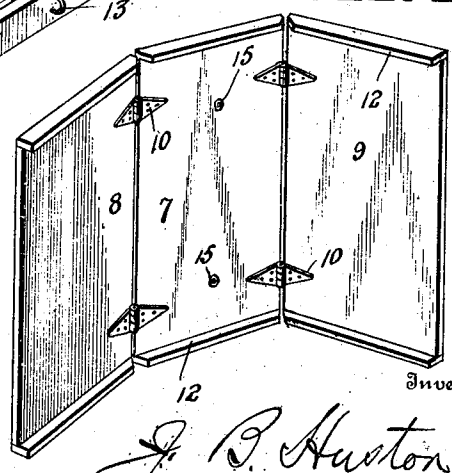


FIG. 4.



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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

FIG. 4.

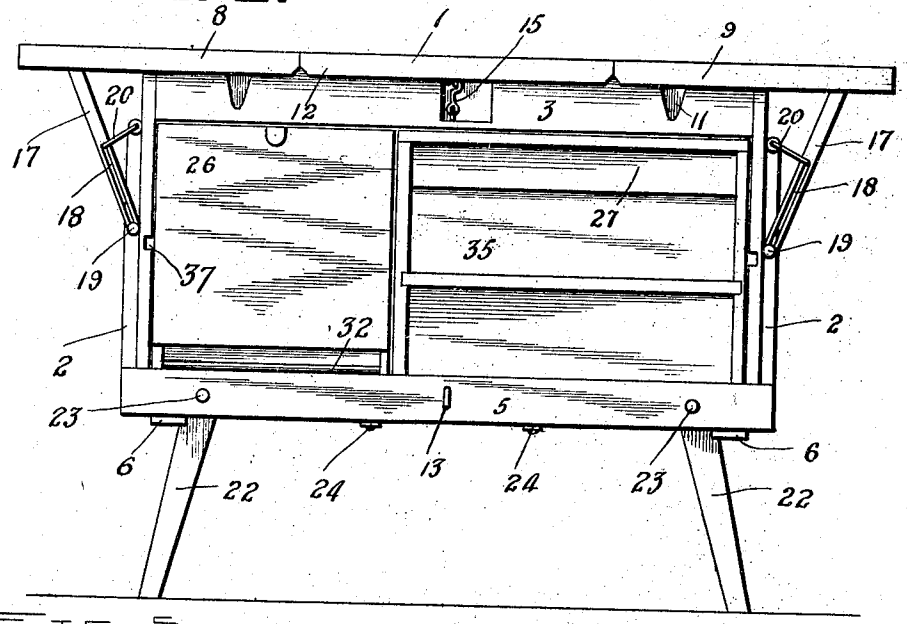
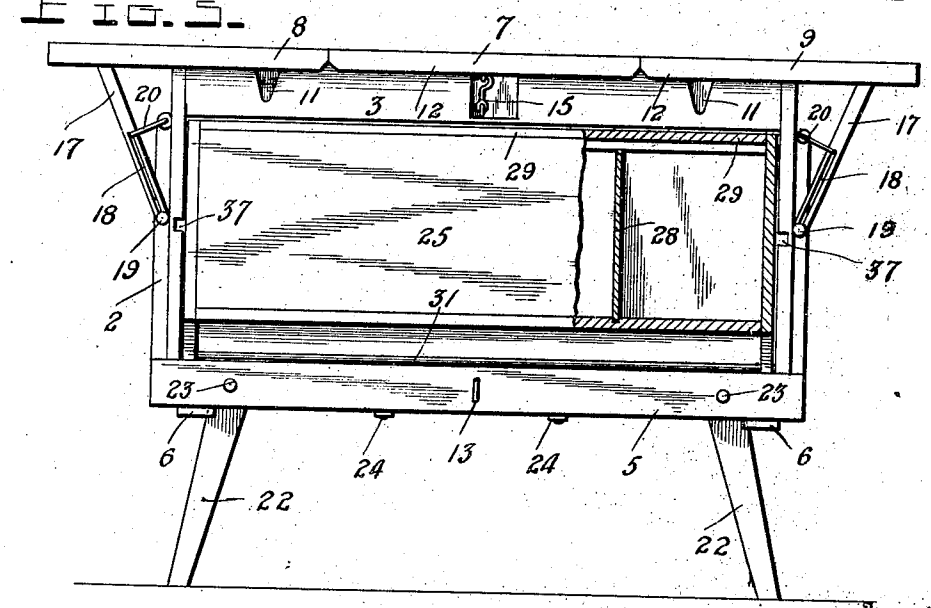


FIG. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH B. HUSTON, OF LOS BANOS, CALIFORNIA; F. K. HUSTON ADMINISTRATOR OF SAID JOSEPH B. HUSTON, DECEASED.

COMBINATION CAMP TABLE AND CHEST.

No. 894,653. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 28, 1908.

Application filed August 27, 1907. Serial No. 390,386.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH B. HUSTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Los Banos, in the county of Merced and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combination Camp Table and Chest, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention is a combination camp table and chest and consists in the novel construction and the combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

The object of the invention is to provide a device of this character which when closed will form a chest or case in which provisions, dishes, food and the like may be conveniently carried and which when set up for use will form a dining table especially effective for camping parties.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device of this character which will be simple, compact and inexpensive in construction and strong, durable and convenient in use.

The above and other objects which will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, are attained in the preferred embodiment of the invention illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved combined camp table and chest showing the same closed to provide a chest which may be conveniently transported; Figs. 2 and 3 are longitudinal and transverse sectional views through the device when arranged as shown in Fig. 1; Fig. 4 is an elevation of the device set up for use as a table; Fig. 5 is a similar view of the opposite side of the same, parts being broken away and in section to more clearly illustrate the construction; Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the body portion or frame of the device; Fig. 7 is a similar view of one of the bins, and Fig. 8 is a perspective view of the hingedly connected top and sides of the box which form the table top.

In the drawings 1 denotes the body or frame of the device which comprises two ends 2 united adjacent to their upper corners by longitudinal or side bars 3 and at their lower portions by a bottom 4 and a surrounding rim 5; the latter forming a rectangular frame which is strengthened at its end by cross bars 6. The open top and sides of this body or frame are adapted to be closed by hingedly connected top and sides 7, 8, 9 which are also adapted to serve as a table top when the device is set up for use, as presently explained. The sides 8, 9 each have one of their longitudinal edges connected to one of the corresponding edges of the top 7 by hinges 10 which latter are arranged upon the inner faces of said parts and when the device is closed are adapted to enter recesses or seats 11 formed in the bars 3. Upon the end edges of the top and sides are cleats 12 which form inwardly projecting flanges adapted to fit over the edges of the ends 2 when the device is closed.

While any suitable means may be employed for retaining the top and sides upon the body or frame 1 to close the same, I preferably employ fastenings 13 as illustrated. These fastenings are detachable so that the top and sides may be removed from the frame and then turned at right angles and supported upon the upper edges of the ends 2 and bars 3 to form a table top, as illustrated in Fig. 4. When this is done the sides 8, 9 are swung up into the plane of the top 7 and are supported in such position by their engagement with the body or frame, said top being of less width than the length of the body or frame, as will be seen upon reference to Figs. 3 and 4.

For the purpose of retaining the table top in position I preferably provide eyes 15 upon the under side of the top 7 and pivoted hooks 16 arranged in recesses formed in the side bars 3. If desired I may further support the sides 8, 9 while they are being used as the table top by foldable braces 17 in the form of bars having their lower ends slotted at 18 to receive headed pivot pins 19 upon the ends 2 and also to receive pivoted hooks 20 upon said ends. When the braces 17 are elevated and engaged by the hooks 20, as shown in Fig. 4, it will be seen that they will be arranged in inclined positions to support the outer portions of the sides 8, 9, and that when they are not needed they may be folded against the ends 2 and into suitable recesses or depressions therein.

In order to permit the device to have the desired elevation when set up for use as a table I preferably provide upon the bottom of the body or frame four foldable supporting legs 22, which are pivoted at 23 adjacent to the corners of the frame and upon the inner faces of the longitudinal members of the rim 5 so that they may be folded inwardly within

said rim. When these legs are swung outwardly they pass the vertical center of their pivots 23 and engage the cross bars 6 which form stops to hold them in angular position, as seen in Figs. 3 and 4, so that there will be little or no danger of the table tilting over. Any suitable means such as turn buttons 24 may be provided for holding the legs in their folded positions while the device is being transported.

While the interior of the body or frame 1 may be equipped with any suitable means or devices for holding food, dishes, knives, forks and the like, I preferably provide on one side of the body a long removable bin 25 having a plurality of compartments for sugar, cornmeal, coffee and the like and upon the other side a smaller bin 26 for flour or the like and a removable frame 27 containing one or more shelves or drawers. The bin 25 is a substantially rectangular box containing a plurality of partitions 28 and having a cover or lid 29. The bottom edges of the ends of said bin are angular and at their lowermost points are formed semi-circular notches 30 adapted to receive a pivot rod 31 which extends through and is removably secured in apertures formed in the ends 2. It will be seen that this construction enables said bin to be tilted outwardly for ready access to its interior and that by making the pivot rod removable the bin may be readily removed from the body or frame of the device. The flour bin 26 is similar in construction and operation to the bin 25 and its pivot rod 32 is removably secured in one of the ends 2 and one end of the shelf frame 27, so that the bin 26 may also be tilted outwardly for ready access to its interior and may also be removed from the frame. The bins 25 and 26 and the shelving 27 are of less height than the depth of the body or frame and in the top portion of the latter between the side bars 3 I preferably provide a removable tray 33 in which various articles may be packed. I also preferably provide the device with a dough or biscuit board 35. This board is preferably dropped between the two bins into vertical grooves 36 formed in the inner faces of the ends 2, when the device is closed for transportation as a crate; but when the device is set up for use as a table and the bins and shelving are removed said board may be inserted in horizontal grooves 37 formed in the ends 2, and thus provides a shelf or platform beneath the table top.

From the foregoing it will be seen that this device is exceedingly well adapted for the use of camping parties, that it may be quickly and easily taken apart and set up for use, and as readily knocked down and closed for convenient transportation. It is strong and durable in construction and at the same time may be produced at a comparatively small cost.

While I have shown and described the preferred embodiment of my invention I wish it understood that I do not limit myself to the precise showing herein set forth and that various changes in the form, proportion and minor details may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of my invention.

Having thus described my invention what I claim is:

1. A combined table and chest comprising a body having a bottom, upright ends projecting therefrom and upper side bars uniting said ends, a top section, two side sections hinged to the opposite sides of the top section, means for securing said hingedly connected top and side sections in their folded position upon the body to close its open top and sides, and means for retaining said top and side sections in their extended position transversely upon the top of the body to provide a table top.

2. A combined table and chest comprising a body having a bottom, upright ends projecting therefrom and upper side bars uniting said ends, a top section, two side sections hinged to the opposite sides of the top section, flanges upon the ends of said top and side sections to engage the outer faces of the ends of the body when said sections are in their folded position upon the body to close its open top and sides, said connected top and side sections being also adapted to be extended and placed transversely upon the top of the body to provide a table top, and fastening devices for securing said sections in both their folded and extended positions.

3. A combined table and chest comprising a body having a bottom, upright ends projecting therefrom and upper side bars uniting said ends, a top section, two side sections hinged to the opposite sides of the top section, means for securing said hingedly connected top and side sections in their folded position upon the body to close its open top and sides, said sections being adapted to be extended and placed transversely upon the top of the body to provide a table top, detachable fastenings for securing the top section to the side bars of the body and foldable braces or supports upon the ends of the body for supporting the side sections.

4. A combined table and chest comprising a body having a bottom, upright ends projecting therefrom and upper side bars uniting said ends, a top section, two side sections hinged to the opposite sides of the top section, flanges provided upon the ends of said sections to engage the ends of the body and prevent said sections from shifting longitudinally when in their folded position upon the body to close its open top and sides, fastening devices for securing the side sections to the body when the connected sections are in such folded position, said connected sec-

tions being adapted to be placed in an extended position transversely of the body and upon its top to provide a table top, detachable fastenings for securing the top section to the side bars of the body, foldable braces or supports upon the ends of the body for supporting the side sections, and foldable supporting legs upon the bottom of the body.

5. A combined table and chest comprising a body having open sides and top, hingedly connected top and side sections adapted when folded and placed upon the body to close its open top and sides and adapted to be extended into the same plane and placed transversely on top of the body to provide a table top, the side sections being adapted to project beyond the ends of the body, brace bars arranged on the ends of the body and formed with longitudinal slots, pivots arranged upon said ends of the body and projecting into the slots of the brace bars and hooks upon the ends of the body and adapted to engage said slots in the brace bars.

6. In a device of the character described, a body having grooves in its opposite walls, said grooves being arranged in planes at right angles and a board adapted to engage one set of grooves to provide a partition and to engage the other set of grooves and provide a shelf.

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

JOSEPH B. HUSTON.

Witnesses:

C. O. FREEMAN,

E. D. CHARTERS.