April 16, 1929. E. L. PRICHET 1,709,540

FOLDING TABLE

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Fig. 1.

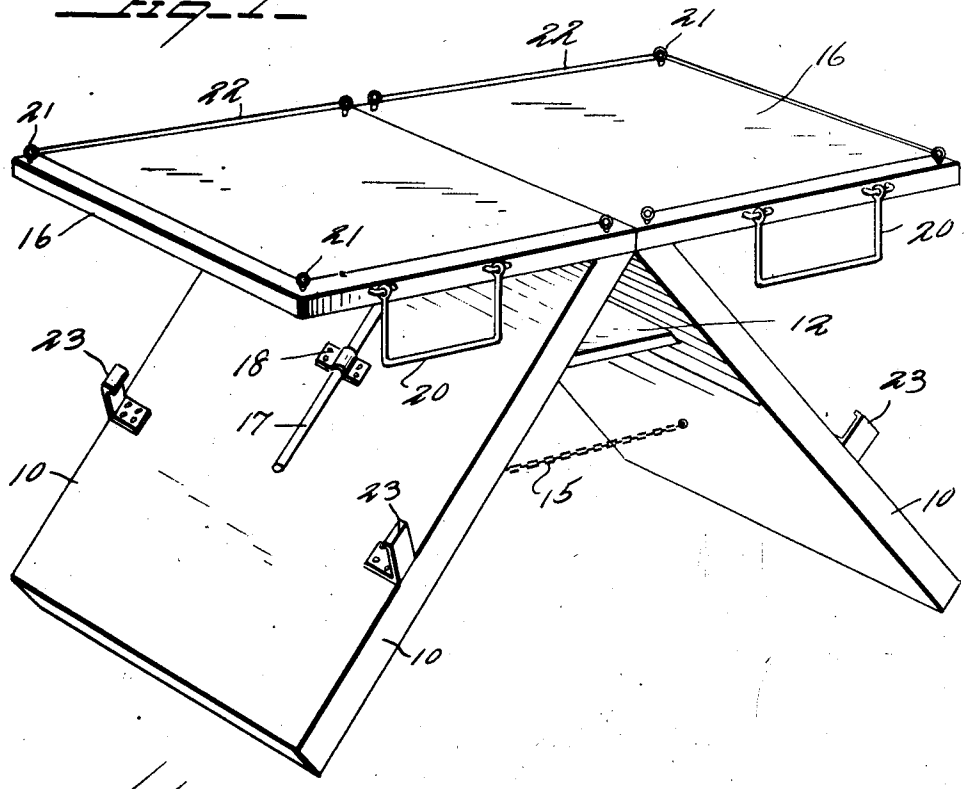


Fig. 2.

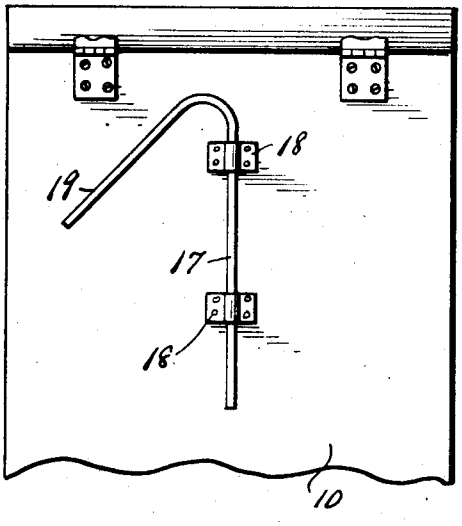
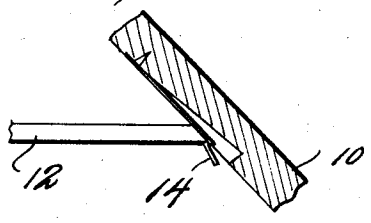


Fig. 3.



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Fig. 4.

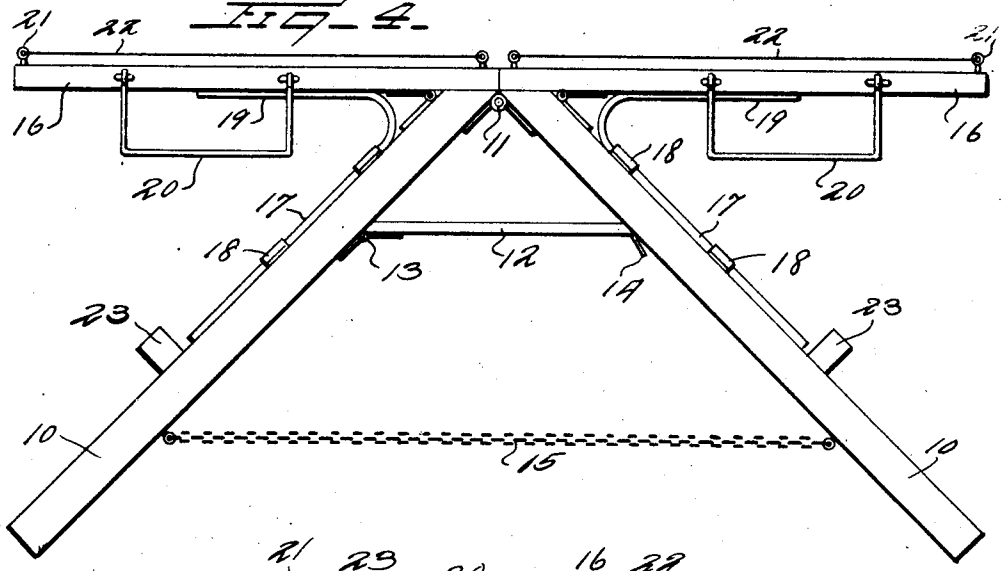


Fig. 5.

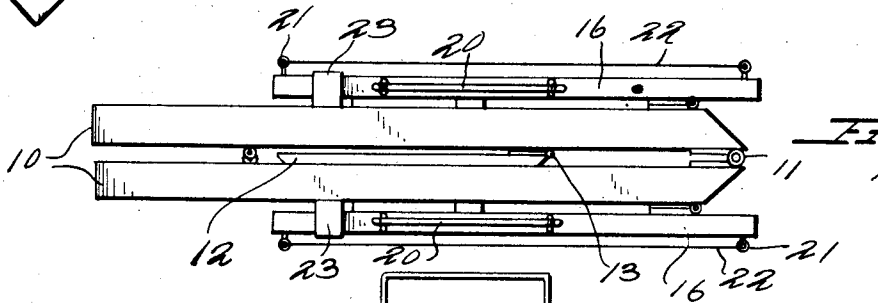
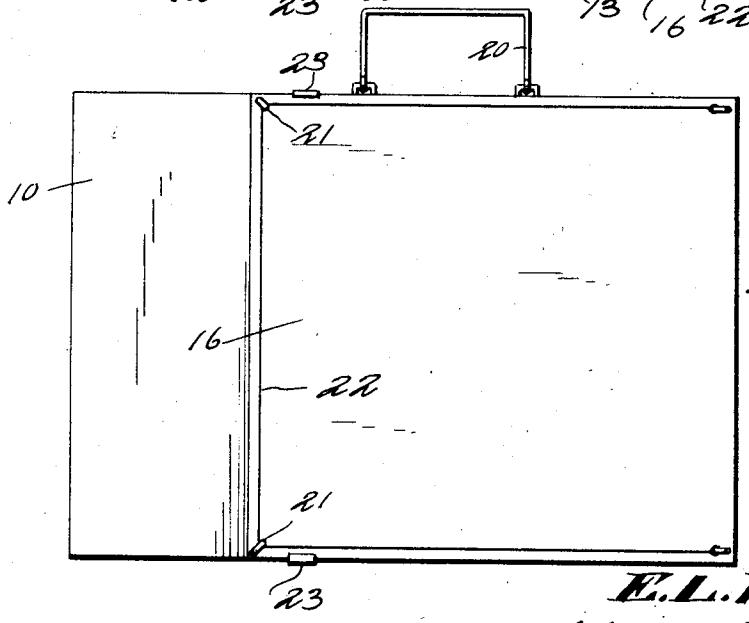


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD L. PRICHET, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

FOLDING TABLE.

Application filed June 28, 1927. Serial No. 202,098.

This invention relates to folding tables, and the general object of the invention is to provide a folding table which is particularly adapted to be used when carrying luncheon to hotel rooms, though it is also adapted to be used for outings, parks, traveling, and by campers.

A further object is to provide a table of this character which will fold up into a small compass and in which the parts will lie flat against each other and which will be quickly unfolded and locked in its unfolded position and which is provided with handles whereby it may be readily carried when folded.

A still further object is to provide means whereby the parts may be locked in their folded position.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a folding table constructed in accordance with my invention;

Figure 2 is a fragmentary end elevation showing the leaf support folded;

Figure 3 is a fragmentary section through one of the supporting elements of the table showing the brace and locking means therefor;

Figure 4 is a side elevation of the table;

Figure 5 is a side elevation of the table in folded condition;

Figure 6 is a face view of the table in its folded condition ready for transportation.

Referring to these drawings, it will be seen that my table comprises the oppositely disposed boards 10 which have a width equal to that of the table and which are hinged to each other by the hinges 11 so that these two pieces 10 may be folded into or out of parallel relation. When folded into an angular relation to each other as, for instance, at an angle of 45° to each other, they are held apart by the brace 12 which is hinged at 13 to one member 10 of the table and engaged with any suitable detent 14 on the other member 10 of the table. A chain 15 limits the degree to which these supports 10 may be spread apart.

Hingedly mounted upon the two supports 10 are the two leaves 16. Each of these leaves is supported in a horizontal position when the supports 10 are in an inclined position by means of the angular brace 17. Each brace is mounted in a bearing 18 upon the outer face of the table so that the brace may be turned from a position flat against the table to a position outstanding therefrom, and in this latter position the upper end 19 of the brace extends beneath the corresponding leaf 16 and supports it in a horizontal position.

Attached to one edge of each of the leaves 16 are the swinging handles 20 which, when the leaves are folded against the supports, may be used to carry the table. Preferably each table leaf has at its corners the eyes 21, and connected to these eyes is the flexible cord, wire or other like element 22 which constitutes a rail extending around three sides of each leaf, as illustrated in Figure 1.

For the purpose of holding the parts in a folded condition, I provide the springs 23 which project outward from the supports 10 and extend outward on each side of the leaves 16 when the latter are folded against the supports 10, as illustrated in Figure 5. These clamps act to hold the table in its folded condition so it will not unfold accidentally. When the table is in its folded condition, it may be carried by means of the handles 20. These handles, when the table is set up, may be also used as napkin racks upon which the napkins may be hung.

This folding table, it will be seen, is very simple, portable, and is thus particularly adapted for use by waiters carrying lunches to hotel bedrooms or under other circumstances. When set up, the table is firm and rigid and cannot be accidentally collapsed. The table may be opened out and then the table may be carried by means of the brace 12.

While at the outset of this specification I have referred to my invention as particularly adapted for use when carrying luncheon to hotel rooms as well as for outings, parks, traveling, and for use by campers, it is also to be understood that the invention is especially applicable for use in dining cars in connection with Pullman service.

I claim:—

1. A table of the character described including two supporting members hinged at their upper ends to each other for movement into or out of parallel relation, means limiting the outward movement of the supporting members into angular relation to each other, means detachably holding these supporting members in angular relation to each other, leaf members hinged to the upper ends of the supporting members and adapted to be turned downward into parallel relation to the supporting members or upward into a horizontal position, and means carried by one of said members and adapted to engage the

other corresponding member whereby said leaf members may be held in a horizontal position, said means being foldable flat against the member which supports it to thereby permit the leaf member to be flat against the supporting member, the supports having clamping flanges thereon adapted to clampingly engage the leaf members when the latter are shifted into parallel relation to the supporting members.

2. A folding table including two supporting members abutting at their upper ends and hinged directly to each other at their upper ends whereby they may be folded in parallel relation or disposed to intersect at their upper ends, two leaves, each leaf being hinged directly to one of the supporting members, the leaves abutting when the supporting members are turned into angular relation to each other but moving away from each other when the leaves are turned into parallel relation to the supporting members and the supporting members disposed in parallel relation, braces mounted upon the supporting members for folding movement into or out of parallel relation to the supporting members and when projecting out from the supporting members acting to support leaves in a horizontal position, and means engaging the two supporting members and detachably holding them spread apart.

3. A folding table including supporting members hinged together at their upper ends whereby they may be folded in parallel relation or disposed in an upwardly convergent position and intersecting with each other at their upper ends, two leaves, each leaf being hinged directly to one of the supporting members, the leaves being adapted to be folded flat against the exterior faces thereof or turned into a position in the same plane but at an angle to the supporting members, angular braces swingingly mounted upon the outer faces of the supporting members for folding movement at right angles to the length of the supporting members into or out of parallel relation to the supports and when folded outward from the supports acting to support the leaves in a horizontal position, means for detachably locking the supporting members spread apart, and handles swingingly mounted upon the like edges of the two leaves whereby the table may be carried in a folded condition.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

EDWARD L. PRICHET.