June 15, 1926. 1,588,759

F. C. LEWIS

FOLDING TABLE

Filed Dec. 20, 1923

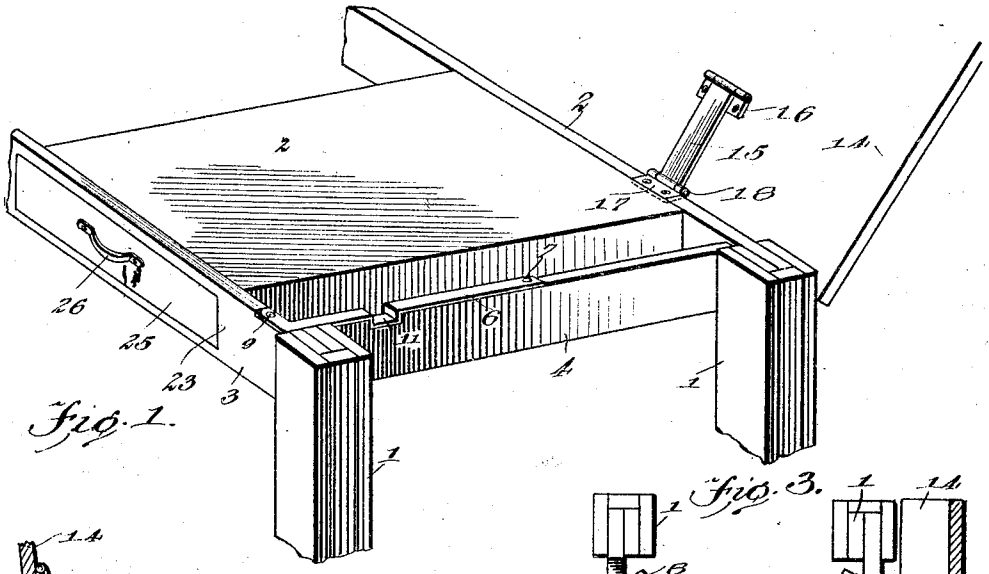


Fig. 1.

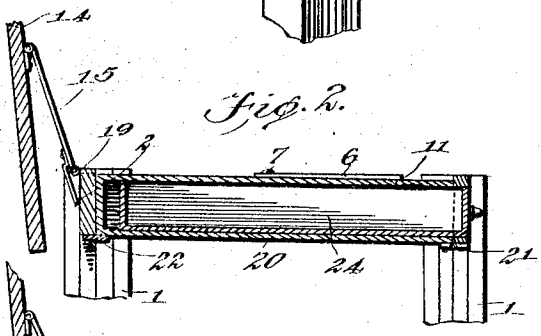


Fig. 2.

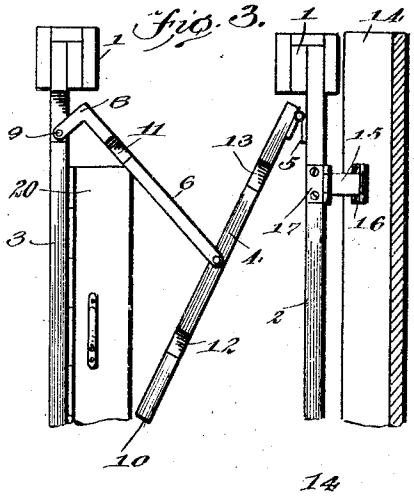


Fig. 3.

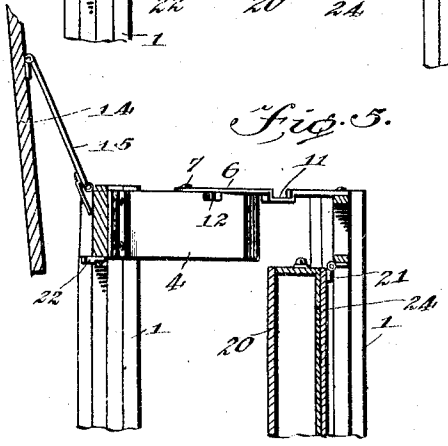


Fig. 5.

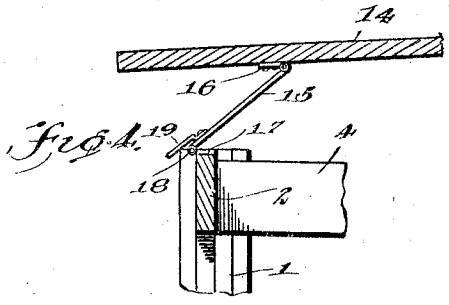


Fig. 4.

WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FOLDING TABLE.

Application filed December 20, 1923. Serial No. 681,833.

This invention relates to folding tables and is more particularly directed to the type of table described and claimed in my copending application, filed June 11, 1923, Serial No. 644,764.

An object of the invention is the provision of a table which is adapted to be folded in a compact unitary structure and stored in a small space when not in use.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a foldable frame provided with legs and hinged means for a table top which permits the top to be located in a plurality of different positions either when the frame is extended or folded.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a foldable frame adapted for supporting a table top and in which a link connects the members of the frame and permits them to be swung into folded position or locked in extended relation.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a foldable table having an oscillating table top and an oscillating pocket carrying a drawer, the top and pocket being adapted to be folded with the frame for forming a compact and unitary structure.

This invention will be best understood from a consideration of the following detailed description in view of the accompanying drawings forming a part of the specification; nevertheless it is to be understood that the invention is not confined to the disclosure, being susceptible of such changes and modifications which shall define no material departure from the salient features of the invention as expressed in the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a fragmentary view in perspective showing a foldable table constructed in accordance with my invention.

Figure 2 is a transverse vertical section taken along the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary plan view partly in section of the table in the process of being folded into a compact and unitary structure.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary view in vertical section showing a detailed construction of the hinging mechanism of the table top.

Figure 5 is a vertical section showing the table in the process of being folded.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, 1 designates the legs of a supporting frame of a table. The pairs of legs are rigidly connected by either of the side members 2 and 3. An end member 4 of the frame is hingedly connected to the inner face of the rear member 2, as shown at 5, whereby said end member may be oscillated at its pivotal connection with the front member and placed in face to face engagement with said member.

A rod or link 6 is pivotally connected at 7 to a point on the end member 4 which is intermediate its ends. The outer end of the rod 6 is bent at right angles as shown at 8 with the outer free end of the bent extension pivotally connected at 9 to the top of the front member 3 of the frame. A second end member 4 (not shown) is hingedly connected to the other end of rear member 2 on bottom as well as top.

The outer free ends 10 of the end members are adapted to tbe moved into engagement with the inner faces of the front member 3 and abut the inner face of the adjacent post 1. The rod 6 is provided with a U-shaped depressed portion 11 adapted to be seated within a notch 12 in the end member 4 when the frame is rocked in extended relation, or located within a notch 13 when the frame is folded into a compact unitary structure. The ends of the members 4 where the same are hinged to the front element of the frame are adapted to abut the inner faces of the said members while the outer faces of the end members 4 are adapted to abut the inner faces of a pair of the posts 1 which are adjacent the hinged connections of said end members to the front member of the frame when the frame is located in supporting position for a top 14.

It must be borne in mind that the other end member, not shown, is similar in construction to the member shown and described, together with the connecting link 6 and the respective notches 12 and 13, and is hingedly connected to the opposite end of the member 2 forming the other end of the foldable supporting frame of the table.

The top of the table is pivotally connected to the rear member 2 of the frame by means of metal straps 15 having leaves 16 and 17 hingedly connected to the outer free ends of said straps 15. The ends of each strap are formed into a cylindrical bearing while the leaves 16 and 17 are provided with spaced cylindrical bearings adapted to receive the

cylindrical bearing 18 of the strap therebetween and a pintle is passed through the alined bearings for pivotally connecting the leaves 16 and 17 to the strap.

Leaves 16 are rigidly secured by means of screws to the inner face of the table 14 at a suitable point, while leaves 17 are secured in countersunk recesses in the upper ends of the rear member 2. It will be seen that the straps 15 through their hinged connections with the rear member 2 and the top 4 will not only permit the top to be disposed in a horizontal plane on top of the legs 1 and the corresponding front, rear and end members, but will permit the leaves to swing over the top of the folded frame and be located in a vertical position in order to provide a compact and unitary structure when not in use.

It will be seen that the depressed portion 11 in the link 6 which is seated in the notch 13 of the end member 4 permits the strap 15 to rest within the depressed portion 11 when the table top is located in a vertical position and the supporting frame has been folded into a compact structure. The notch 12 is provided to permit the link 6 to lie flush with the top of the end member 4 when the frame is located in extended relation for supporting the table top.

The link 6 while cooperating with the members 4 to lock the end members in position when the frame of the table has been extended also permits the end member 4 to be swung into face to face engagement with the rear member 2 and the front member 3 to be swung into face to face engagement with the end members 4.

The straps 15 together with their pivoted leaves 16 and 17 not only permit the table top to be located at an acute angle to the horizontal when the same is being used as a drawing table but provides for a horizontal position and also a vertical position after the frame has been folded.

It will be noted that a portion of the upper edge of the side member 3 is cut away in which the bent extension 8 is located when the table has been assembled.

The leaves 15 which form portions of the supporting hinges of the table top 14 are provided at their lower ends with projections 19 which, as shown in Figures 2 and 5, are adapted to engage the outer wall of the side member 2 and maintain the leaves and the table top in a position which is to one side of the vertical when the table is being folded into a compact structure.

The pocket 20 is hingedly mounted, as shown at 21, to the lower edge of the side member 3 and is swingable downwardly and adapted to be so positioned when the table is folded. A latch member 22 secured to the bottom and at the rear edge of the pocket is adapted to engage a socket for locking the pocket 20 in a horizontal position. The side member 3 is provided with an opening 23 adapted to aline with the mouth of the pocket and in which is adapted to be inserted a drawer 24. The outer end 25 of the drawer, which carries a handle 26, is adapted to be moved inwardly and through the opening 23 in the side member 3 when the pocket 20 is swung to a vertical position.

What I claim is:

1. In a folding table, a frame comprising side bars, legs rigidly connected to the side bars, end bars hinged at one end to one of said bars, and a link pivotally connected with the other side bar and with the end bars for permitting swinging movement of the end bars to face to face engagement with one of the side bars and permitting the other side bar to be moved into face to face engagement with the end bars, said link lying over and in the same plane with an end bar when the table is either folded or in erected position.

2. In a folding table, a frame comprising front and rear bars, legs rigidly connected to the opposite ends of the front and rear bars, end bars hingedly connected adjacent the ends of the front bar, a rod having a right angular extension pivotally connected at the end of the extension to the rear bar, the other end of the rod being pivotally connected intermediate the ends of an end bar.

3. A folding table comprising a frame composed of side bars, legs rigidly connected to the side bars, end bars having one end hingedly connected to one of the side bars, and means connecting an intermediate portion of the end bars to the other side bar, a table top, straps provided with hinged leaves, with one leaf secured to one of the side bars, the other leaf being secured to the inner face of the table top.

4. A folding table comprising a frame composed of side bars, legs rigidly connected to the side bars, end bars having one end connected to one of the side bars, and means connecting an intermediate portion of the end bars to the other side bar, a table top, straps provided with hinged leaves, with one leaf secured to one of the side bars, the other leaf being secured to the inner face of the table top, said end bars being provided with notches adapted to receive the straps when the table is folded into a compact unitary structure.

5. A folding table comprising a frame composed of side bars, legs rigidly connected to the side bars, end bars having one end connected to one of the side bars, and rods connecting an intermediate portion of the end bars to the other side bar, a table top, straps provided with hinged leaves, with one leaf secured to one of the side bars, the other leaf being secured to the inner face of the table top, the end bars being pro-

vided with notches and said connecting rods being provided with a depressed portion adapted to be seated within the notches in the end bars, said straps adapted to be located within the notches in the depressed portion of the rods when the table is folded into a compact unitary structure.

6. A folding table comprising a frame including legs, a table top, straps provided with leaves hingedly connected to the ends of the straps, the corresponding leaves connected to the adjacent ends of the straps being secured to the inner face of the top, the other leaves being secured to the frame whereby said top may be adjusted through a plurality of different positions.

7. A folding table comprising a frame composed of side bars, legs rigidly connected to the side bars, end bars having one end hingedly connected to one of the side bars, and means connecting an intermediate portion of the end bars to the other side bar, a table top, straps provided with hinged leaves, with one leaf secured to one of the side bars, the other leaf being secured to the inner face of the table top, said straps being provided with an extension adapted to engage the side bars of the table for maintaining the top in a substantially vertical position when the table is being folded.

8. In a folding table, a frame comprising side bars, legs rigidly connected to the side bars, end bars hinged at one end to one of said bars, and a link pivotally connected with the other side bar and with the end bars for permitting swinging movement of the end bars to face to face engagement with one of the side bars and permitting the other side bar to be moved into face to face engagement with the end bars, a pocket hingedly connected to one of the side bars and swingable to a horizontal or vertical plane, a keeper for locking the other end of the pocket to the other side bar.

9. In a folding table, a frame comprising side bars, legs rigidly connected to the side bars, end bars hinged at one end to one of said bars, and a link pivotally connected with the other side bar and with the end bars for permitting swinging movement of the end bars to face to face engagement with one of the side bars and permitting the other side bar to be moved into face to face engagement with the end bars, a pocket hingedly connected to one of the side bars and swingable to a horizontal or vertical plane, a keeper for locking the other end of the pocket to the other side bar, the first mentioned side bar having an opening, a drawer insertable through the opening and carried by the pocket.

10. In a folding table, a frame including side and end bars and legs supporting the side bars, the end bars being hinged at one end to one of the side bars, links for connecting the end bars with the other side bar, a drawer pivotally connected to one of the side bars and adapted to be supported in either a horizontal or vertical position, and means for supporting the opposite ends of the drawer in a horizontal position.

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