April 22, 1924. 1,491,568

C. E. TEPPER

COMBINED TABLE AND RECEPTACLE

Filed May 18, 1923 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

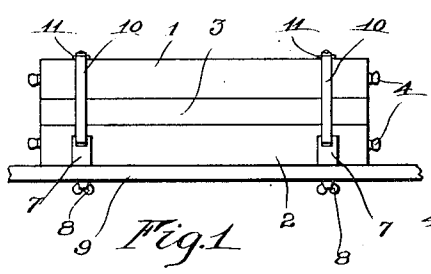


Fig. 1

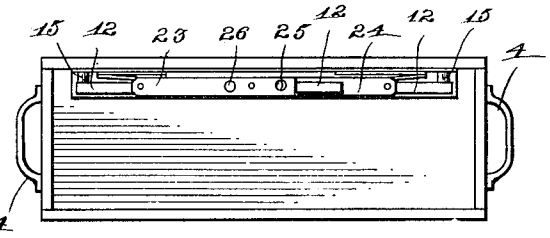


Fig. 2

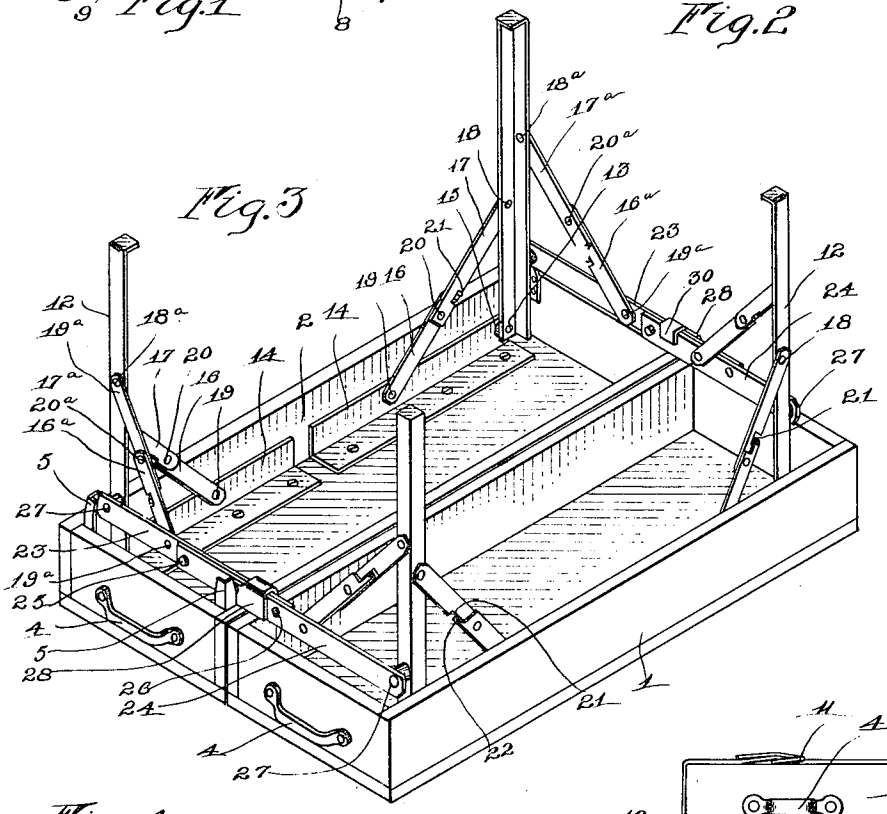


Fig. 3

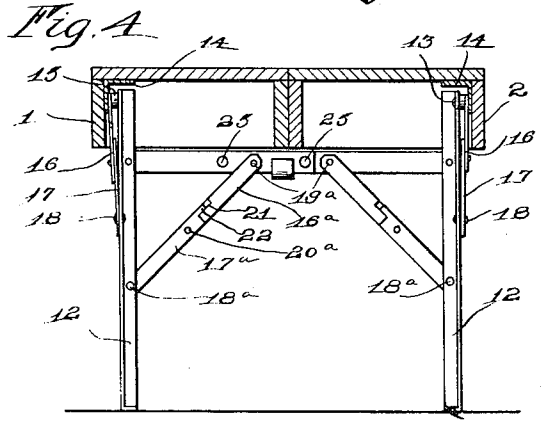


Fig. 4

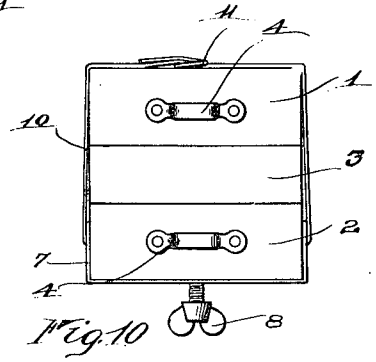


Fig. 10

INVENTOR.
Charles E. Tepper.
BY Davis & Simmons
his ATTORNEYS.

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C. E. TEPPER

COMBINED TABLE AND RECEPTACLE

Filed May 18, 1923 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

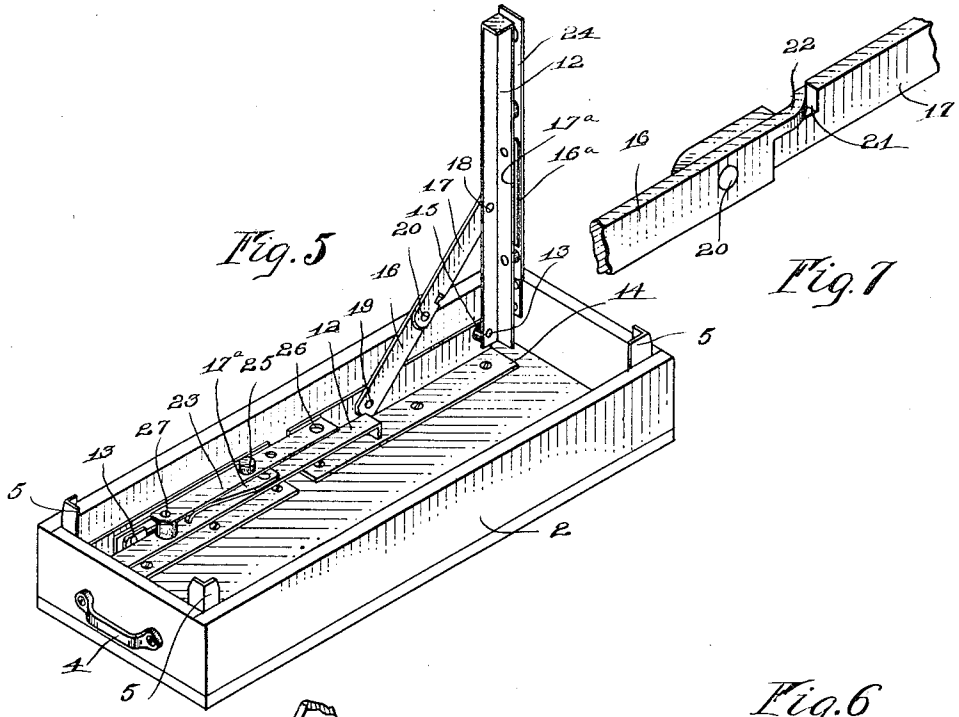


Fig. 5

Fig. 7

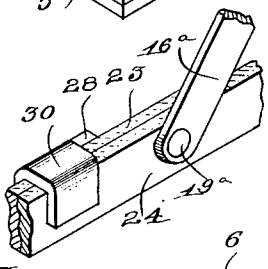


Fig. 8

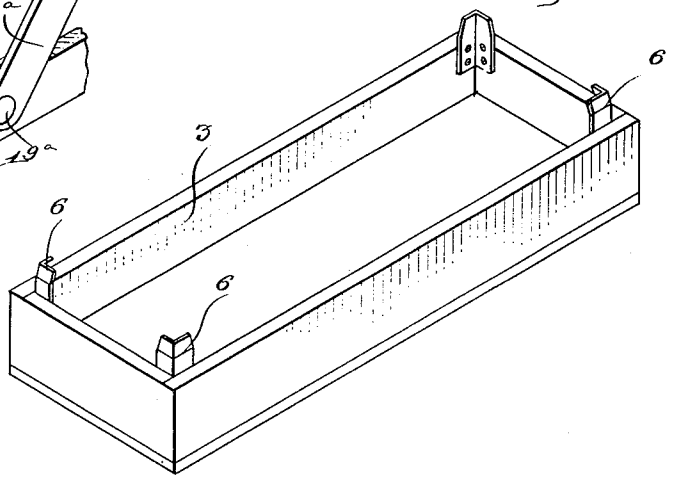


Fig. 6

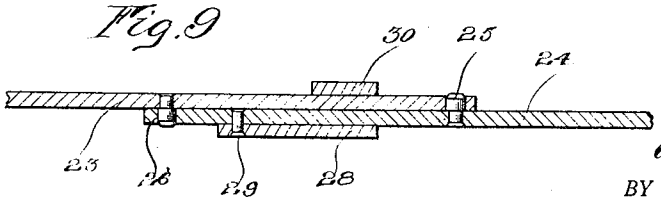


Fig. 9

INVENTOR.
Charles E. Tepper.
BY Lonis & Simmons
his ATTORNEYS.

Patented Apr. 22, 1924. 1,491,568

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES E. TEPPER, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

COMBINED TABLE AND RECEPTACLE.

Application filed May 18, 1923. Serial No. 639,793.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES E. TEPPER, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Tables and Receptacles, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to a combined table and receptacle and more particularly to the type in which the table top acts, when the table is collapsed, to form a receptacle for enclosing the legs and braces of the table and also for enclosing any other suitable articles. An object of this invention is to provide an improved construction especially designed for use by motorists and adapted to be compactly arranged upon the running board of an automobile. A further object of the invention is to provide a construction which will permit the utilization of an intermediate member between the two top members of the table to increase the capacity of the receptacle. Still another object of the invention is to provide a construction in which the top of the table is formed by two separable members, and a connection is provided between the legs of the table independently of said members so that this connection will serve as a support for the center of the table.

To these and other ends, the invention consists of certain parts, and combinations of parts, all of which will be hereinafter described: the novel features being pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a side view showing the combined table and receptacle secured to a step of an automobile;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of one of the top sections, showing two of the legs folded therein;

Fig. 3 is a bottom perspective view showing the invention set up as a table;

Fig. 4 is a transverse section through the invention set up as a table;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one of the top sections, showing one of the legs folded and the other in operative position, except that the connecting section which is pivoted thereto is shown in folded condition;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the intermediate section;

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the joint in the brace between the leg and a top section;

Fig. 8 is a fragmentary perspective view of the detachable connection between the two members forming the connection between the two legs;

Fig. 9 is a sectional view of said detachable connection; and

Fig. 10 is an end view of the invention in folded condition.

In the illustrated embodiment of the invention, there are provided three receptacle forming portions 1, 2 and 3, the portions 1 and 2 being duplicates of each other and being box-like structures with hand grips 4 at opposite ends, these two sections being arranged side by side to form the top of the table as illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4. The section 3 is an open frame and may be interposed between the sections 1 and 2, as illustrated in Fig. 1, to provide an enlarged receptacle. In order to hold these members together one of the sections has aligning corner pieces 5 and the frame section 3 has aligning corner pieces 6, the corner pieces 5 projecting into the frame 3 and the corner pieces 6 projecting into the frame 1. These three members are held together in any suitable manner as by a metal U shape strap 7 secured by bolts 8 to the foot board 9 of an automobile and having flexible straps 10 secured thereto and connected by buckles 11. It is apparent that the section 3 may, if desired, be removed and the section 1 held to the section 2 by the corner pieces 5. The section 3, however, gives greater capacity to the receptacle and enables it to receive camping or other appliances or utensils.

In order to provide the table, each section 1 and 2 is provided with two supports 12 preferably in the form of angle iron pieces pivoted at 13 preferably to angle iron pieces 14 which are secured in a top section, a spacing device 15 being interposed between the leg or support and the angle iron piece 14, so that the leg lies in spaced relation to the adjacent side of the section. A brace preferably comprising two sections 16 and 17 is pivotally connected at 18 to a leg and at 19 to an angle iron piece 14, the sections in turn being pivoted together at 20 and one of them being notched at 21 so that a laterally turned extension 22 on the other may operate in the notch to co-

operate with the wall thereof and limit the movement of the brace in one direction, the brace folding in the space between the side of the leg and adjacent side wall of the top section.

In order to connect the two top forming sections together a connecting means is employed embodying two links 23 and 24, each of which is provided with a lug 25 and an opening 26, the lug of one link projecting into the opening of the other link as shown in Fig. 9. Each link is pivotally connected at 27 to a leg and the two links are held together preferably by a latch 28 which is pivoted at 29 to the link 24 and has a portion 30 which straddles both links to hold them side by side with the projection of one in the opening of the other. The two links 23 and 24 are horizontally aligned and engage the edges of the two abutting members 1 and 2, so as to support the edges at the center, in order to sustain this connecting means between the legs of the two top members. Braces may connect each link of the connecting means with the leg to which the link is pivoted.

These braces, in this instance, embody links 16^a and 17^a pivotally connected at 20^a to each other and at 18^a and 19^a to the leg and the link respectively. Each link 23 and 24 is preferably spaced from the side of the leg to which it is pivoted so that the foldable brace 17^a may be received between the link and a leg, when the brace and link are folded, as illustrated in Fig. 5.

In collapsing the device from the position shown in Figs. 3 and 4, the latches 28 are first shifted to disconnect the two links 23 and 24, thus permitting the projection on each link to pass from the opening of the other. This separates the table into two parts. The foldable braces 16^a and 17^a are then bent inwardly to swing the links 23 and 24 into parallel relation with the legs, as shown in Fig. 5. Thereafter the braces 16 and 17 are folded so that a leg with the connecting link thereon may swing downwardly into the top member, as illustrated at the forward end of Fig. 5. After all of the legs have been collapsed in this manner, the receptacle is assembled by fitting the frame 3 to the frame 2 and thereafter fitting the frame 1 to the frame 3, and, if desired, placing in the receptacle any article before the last mentioned member 1 is fitted in place. The straps 10 are then buckled together. The setting up of the table is accomplished by reversing the above operations.

From the foregoing it will be seen that there has been provided a combination table and receptacle in which the receptacle is in the form of separate members. Two members of the receptacle form the top of the table and are connected together by a connecting means between the two members, this connecting means acting to support the two members at the center of the table. The connecting means preferably embodies two links connecting a leg on one table with a leg on the other table, these links having in turn braces connecting them with the legs.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. The combination with two top sections, legs mounted on each top section, and means independently of the top sections connecting the legs of one section with the legs of the other section, said means having provision for permitting the separation of the two sections.

2. The combination with two top sections, legs connected to each top section, and means connecting the legs of one top section with the legs of the other top section embodying two links, one pivoted to a leg on one section and the other pivoted to a leg on the other top section and means for detachably connecting said links together.

3. The combination with two top sections and legs mounted on the two top sections, of connecting means between the legs on one section and the legs on the other section embodying a link pivoted to each leg and means detachably connecting a link on one section with a link on the other section.

4. The combination with two top sections and legs mounted on each top section, of connecting means between the legs of the two top sections embodying a link pivoted to each leg, each link having a projection and an opening, the projection on one link on one top section fitting in an opening in a link of the other top section, a pivoted latch mounted on one link and cooperating with the other link to hold the two links together.

5. The combination with two top sections and legs mounted on both top sections, of means connecting the legs of the two sections independently of the top sections and acting to support the top sections at the joint between them.

6. The combination with two separate box like top sections arranged side by side, legs mounted to fold in the under side of said top sections, and means connecting the legs of the two sections arranged to be engaged by the abutting walls of the two sections.

7. The combination with two separate box like top sections arranged side by side, legs mounted to fold in the under side of said top sections, and means connecting the legs of the two sections arranged to be engaged by the abutting walls of the two sections, said connecting means embodying two members detachably connected together and pivotally connected to the legs.

8. The combination with two box like top sections arranged side by side in abutting relation, legs pivotally mounted in the under side of said box like top sections, and means

connecting the legs of the two sections embodying two members detachably connected together and pivotally connected to the legs.

9. The combination with two box like top sections arranged side by side in abutting relation, legs pivotally mounted in the under side of said box like top sections, and means connecting the legs of the two sections embodying two members detachably connected together and pivotally connected to the legs, and foldable braces connecting said members with the legs.

10. The combination with two inverted box like top sections arranged side by side in abutting relation, two legs pivotally connected to each top section to fold in the under side thereof, a folding brace connecting each leg with its top section, a link pivotally connected to each leg, means detachably connecting a link on one top section with a link on the other top section so as to support said links in engagement with the abutting sides of the two top sections, and a foldable brace connecting each link with a leg to which the link is pivoted.

CHARLES E. TEPPER.