

Sept. 19, 1950

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2,522,774

PICNIC AND UTILITY TABLE

Filed Dec. 27, 1948

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

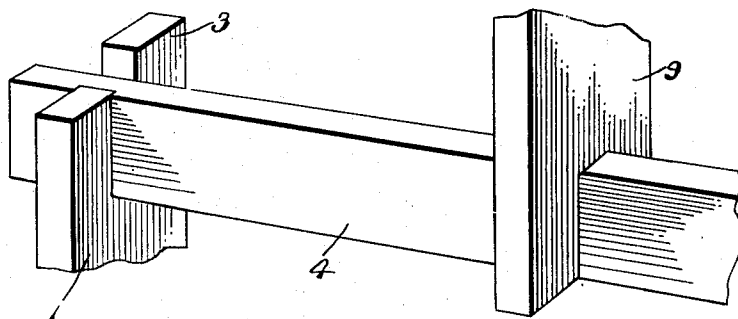
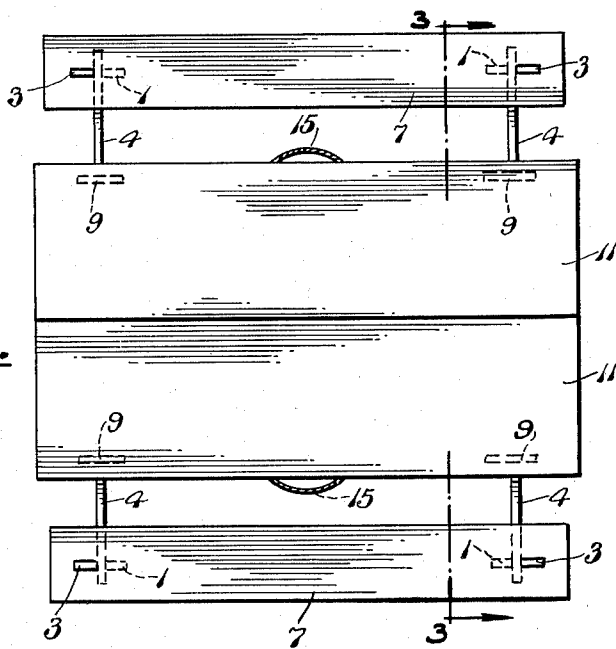


FIG. 2.

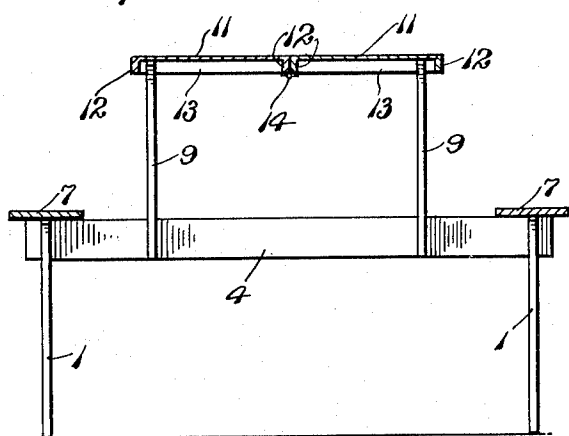


FIG. 3.

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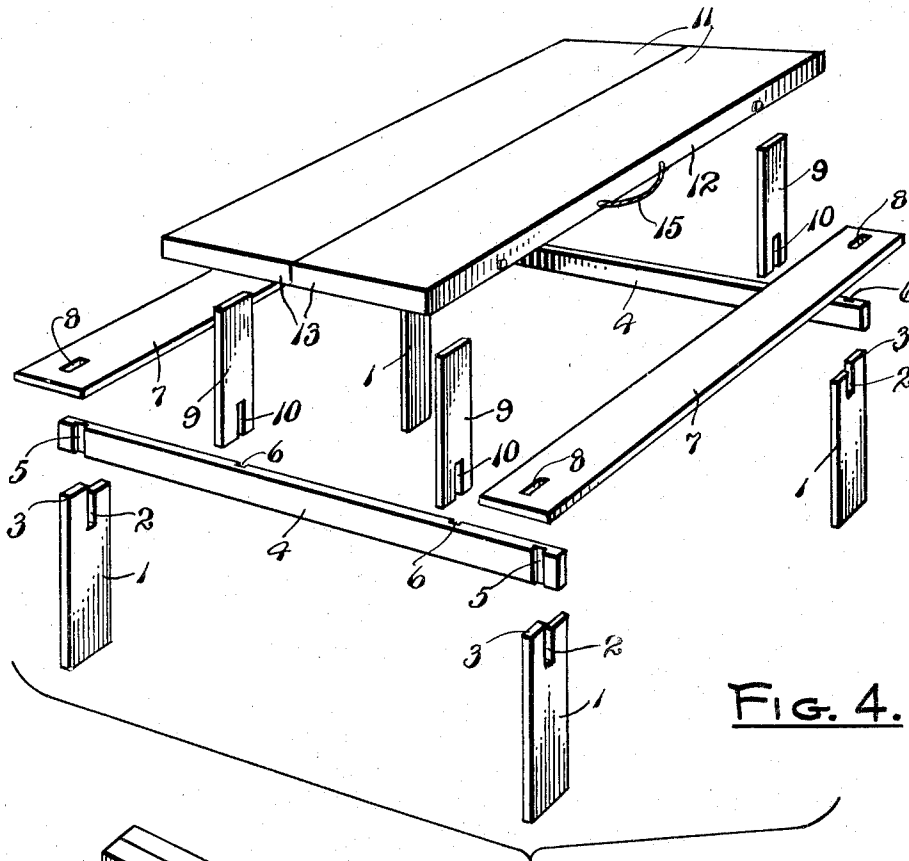


FIG. 4.

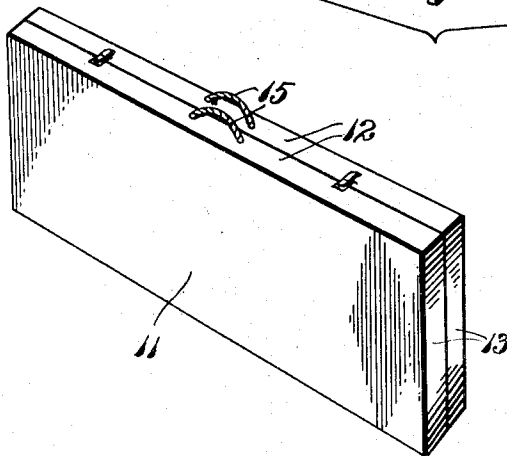


FIG. 5.

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2,522,774

PICNIC AND UTILITY TABLE

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Application December 27, 1948, Serial No. 67,314

4 Claims. (Cl. 155-124)

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This invention relates to a novel, practical, economical and especially useful picnic and utility table, made up of separable parts which are very quickly and readily connected together to provide a table when wanted, and are as easily separated and disassembled, the part which provides the top of the table being foldable into a case, within which the other parts of the table are enclosed and carried. Thus when not in use, the table in its knocked down and disassembled condition occupies little space and is as readily handled like a suitcase, and may be carried as such in a trunk of an automobile or otherwise for readiness for use whenever wanted.

It is an object and purpose of the present invention to provide a table structure of the type described which is sturdy, almost instantly assembled or disassembled without the use of tools, and which when connected together in its assembled form provides a table which may be used at picnics, for example, and also in many other ways, and which is produced and marketed at low cost.

An understanding of the invention may be had from the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which Fig. 1 is a plan view of the assembled table when it is set up for use.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary enlarged perspective view showing the method of attachment of the supporting legs to extend downwardly from one side of parallel horizontal end bars, and also the manner of support of the table top, the supporting means of which detachably connected to said end bars and extends upwardly therefrom.

Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical section through the assembled table.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing the several elements or parts of the table separated from each other, and located generally in the relative positions which they have when in assembled relation, and

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the table structure disassembled and in a suitcase form for carrying.

Like reference characters refer to like parts in the different figures of the drawings.

In a table structure as disclosed in the drawing, four legs 1 of flat wood material, preferably, are provided. All are of the same height and each at its upper end is vertically slotted midway between its side edges downwardly for a distance, with one of the parts which will be at the outer side of each slot in the assembled table extending upwardly a distance farther than the other part as indicated at 3.

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Such vertical legs are designed for detachable connection close to the ends of two spaced apart horizontal end bars 4. Each of the end bars at its outer side, and near each end, has a vertical groove 5 cut therein whereby the legs 1 are attached to the bars 4 at said grooves by inserting the bars 4 downwardly in the slots 2, which are of a width substantially the same as the thickness of the bars 4 at the bottoms of the grooves 5. In such an attachment the longer upwardly projecting parts 3 extend a short distance above the upper edges of the bars 4, while the shorter parts at the opposite sides of the slots 2 are substantially flush with the upper edges of the bars 4. Each of said bars 4 at its inner side has two similar vertical grooves 6 cut therein, spaced inwardly from the outer grooves 5 substantially equal distances.

After the bars 4 have had the legs 1 connected thereto horizontal seat boards 7 are put in place. There are two of such boards and each near each end, midway between its side edges, has a rectangular opening 8 therethrough of the proper dimensions to receive the projecting upper ends of the parts 3 of the legs. This spaces the end bars 4 from each other and holds them in spaced relation with the legs 1, bars 4 and seat boards 7 securely but releasably held in place.

The bars 4 serve to support upwardly extending vertical legs 9, four in number, each of which at its lower end is vertically slotted as at 10, for connection with the bars 4 at the grooves 6, the lower ends of the vertical legs 9 preferably being substantially flush with the lower edges of the end bars 4. When connected in place the supports 9 interlocked with said end bars 4 are vertically located and substantially rigid.

Upon the upper ends of the vertical legs 9 the top of the table is placed. It includes two sections 11 which in use are in a horizontal plane each of which at each longitudinal edge has a flange 12 and at each end a flange 13. The two table sections are located side by side with two of the side flanges 12 in contact with each other, which adjacent flanges are hingedly connected together as shown at 14 in Fig. 3.

The table top may be folded, as shown in Fig. 5, to form an enclosed case which may be carried by handles 15 connected to the outer longitudinal side flanges 12, and which outer flanges may also have suitable fasteners of the type used with a suitcase mounted thereon (see Fig. 5).

The top in its unfolded condition (Figs. 1, 3 and 4) rests upon the upper ends of the legs 9 which at their outer vertical edges may come immediately within the downwardly extending

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end flanges 13 to maintain the top against substantial endwise displacement. Also the top (Fig. 3) is incapable of substantial lateral displacement when placed upon the vertical legs 9, with the upper ends of said legs bearing against the undersides of the horizontal sections 11 of the top, and located within the depending side and end flanges 12 and 13.

In the knocked-down or disassembled condition, the legs 1 and 9, the bars 4 and the seat boards 7 are placed within the case provided by the top of the table so that all of the parts necessary for the table are included in the structure shown in Fig. 5. Whenever the table is to be set up the case shown in Fig. 5 is opened and the parts assembled as described. The longitudinal edges of the top (Figs. 1, 3 and 4) are located inwardly of the inner edges of the seat board 7. Those using the table may sit upon the boards 7 at opposite sides of the top as is evident.

The structure is very practical and useful and readily manufactured at low cost. Its assembly and disassembly is performed without the use of tools. The invention is defined in the appended claims and is to be considered comprehensive of all forms of structure coming within their scope.

I claim:

1. In a structure of the class described, four corner supporting legs, each adapted to be vertically positioned and each being vertically slotted at its upper end portion, each leg at one side of the slot extending a short distance above the other side thereof, horizontal bars, two in number, vertically grooved in a side thereof near each end adapted to connect with the upper ends of said supporting legs by interlocking therewith at said grooved end portions, each bar connecting with two of said legs, horizontal seat boards each having an opening therein near each end thereof adapted to extend between and across the end portions of said horizontal bars, said openings receiving the projecting upper end portions of said supporting legs to interlock therewith, additional vertical supporting legs, four in number, having means for detachable connection with said horizontal bars, two on each bar at spaced positions thereon, and a horizontal table top for

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locating over and resting upon the upper ends of said additional vertical legs.

2. A structure as defined in claim 1, said horizontal bars each having two additional spaced apart vertical grooves in a side thereof and each of said additional legs being vertically slotted at its lower end portion for detachable connection with said horizontal bars at said additional vertical grooves therein.

3. A structure as defined in claim 1, said top comprising two rectangular horizontal sections, each at each side edge and at each end having a downwardly extending flange secured thereto, said top sections being located side by side with two of the side flanges thereof alongside each other, and means hingedly connecting said side by side flanges of the top sections for folding into a case, within which all of said vertical legs, horizontal bars and seat boards are adapted to be placed.

4. A table structure of the class described comprising, four vertical corner legs, horizontal bars, two in number, having slotted interlocking and interengaging means adjacent the ends of said horizontal bars and the upper ends of said supporting legs for detachably connecting two of said supporting legs to each of said horizontal bars, seat boards, two in number having means adjacent each end thereof for detachable connection with the upper ends of two of said supporting legs, a horizontal table top, and detachable vertical supports, four in number having slotted means for detachable connection thereof at their lower ends to said horizontal bars at spaced apart portions in the length thereof, upon and against the upper ends of which said horizontal top is adapted to be positioned.

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