Jan. 6, 1942. G. A. HAIBECK 2,269,370

FOLDING TABLE

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Fig. 1.

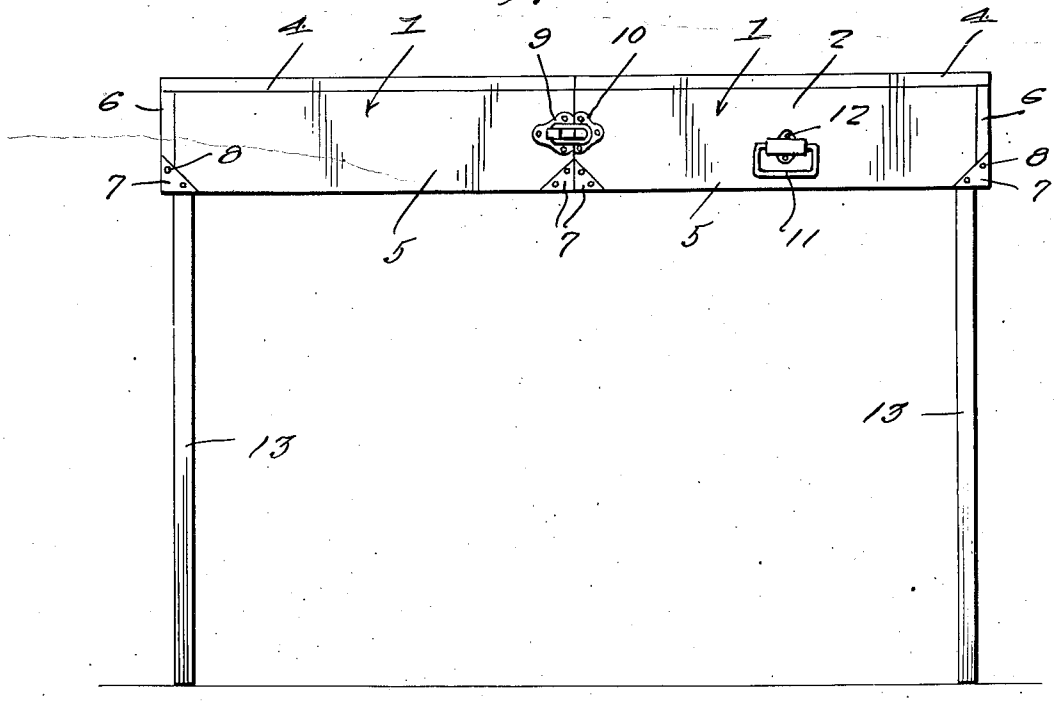


Fig. 4.

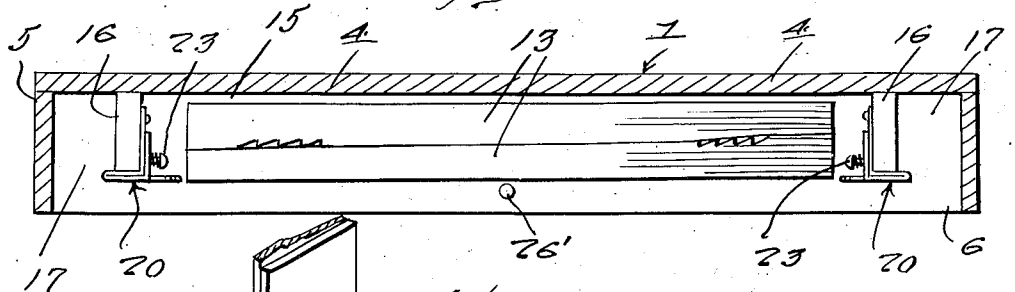
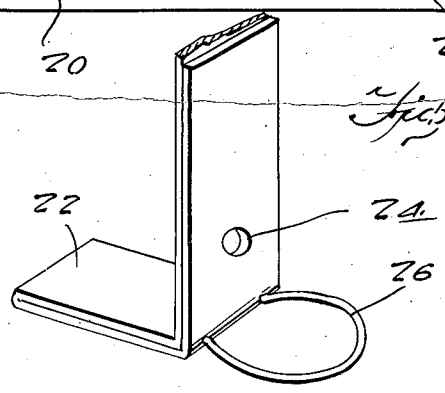


Fig. 8.



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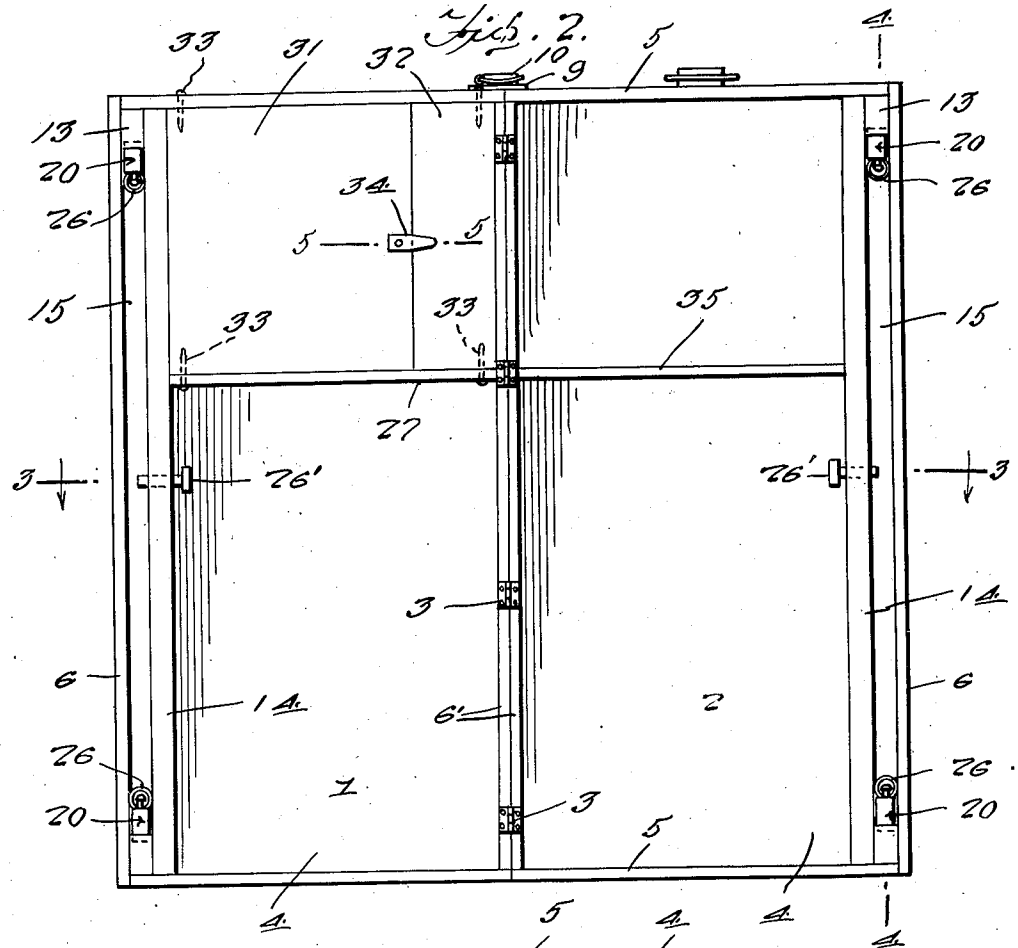
Attorney

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FOLDING TABLE

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Fig. 2.



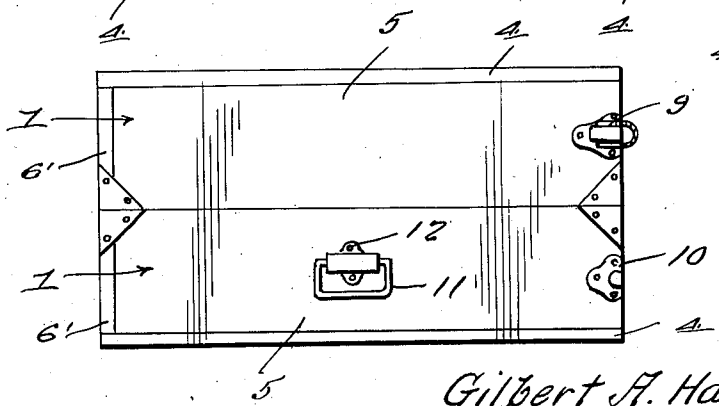


Fig. 7.

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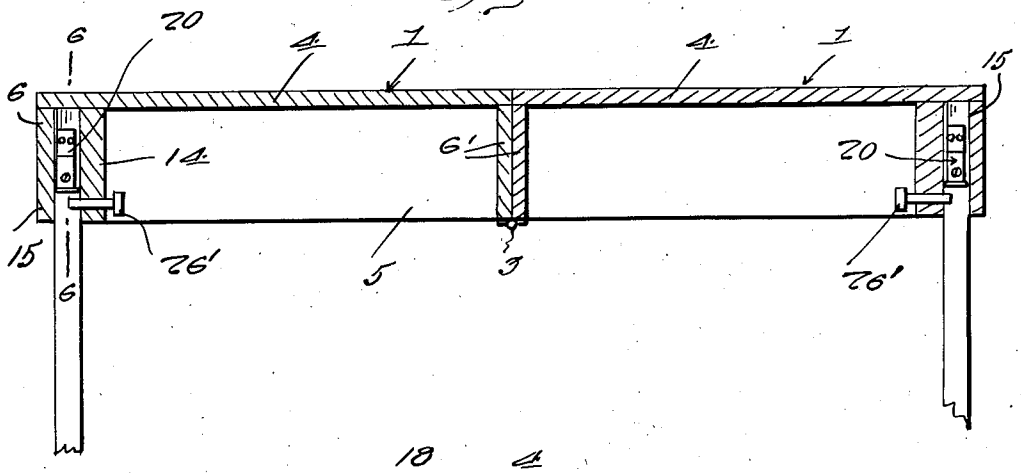
Attorney

Jan. 6, 1942. G. A. HAIBECK 2,269,370

FOLDING TABLE

Filed May 20, 1940 3 Sheets-Sheet 3

Fig. 1.



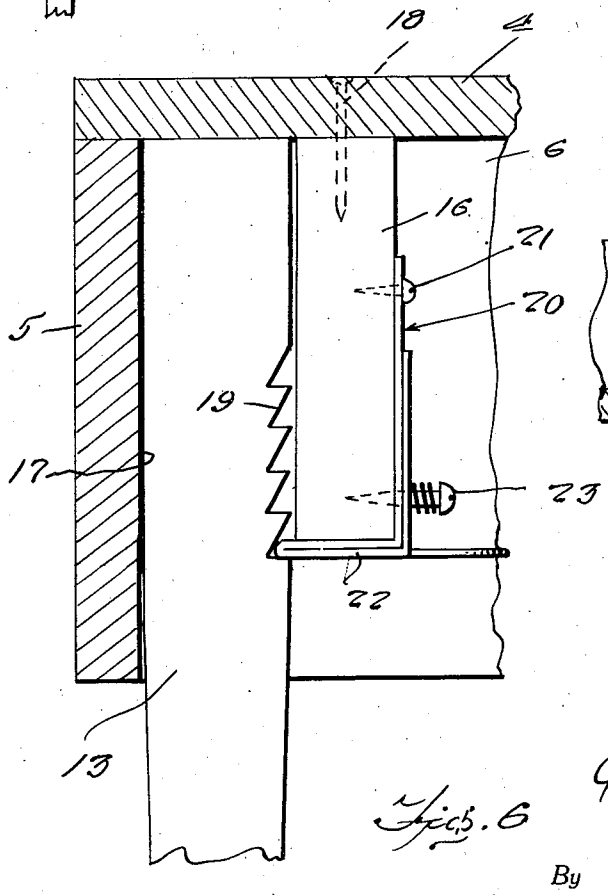
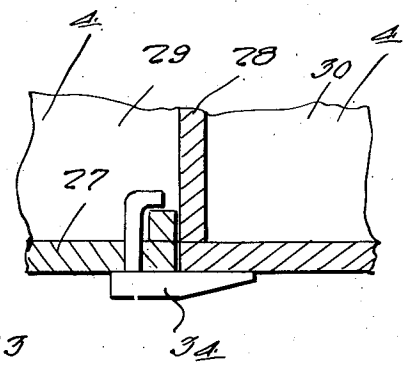


Fig. 6.

Fig. 5.



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Patented Jan. 6, 1942 2,269,370

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,269,370

FOLDING TABLE

Gilbert A. Haibeck, Willmar, Minn.

Application May 20, 1940, Serial No. 336,277

2 Claims. (Cl. 311—90)

My invention relates to improvements in folding tables for use more particularly as camping equipment.

The principal object in view is to provide a simply constructed, light-weight, folding table which may be quickly set up for use, or knocked down and folded so as to form a portable chest for carrying articles, such as clothing, camping utensils or the like.

Another object is to provide a table having legs adjustable independently in a convenient and expeditious manner when the table is set up to level the same on uneven ground.

Still another object is to provide a table which when set up embodies a secret, or hidden, compartment for articles which it is desired to conceal from view.

Other and subordinate objects are comprehended by my invention, all of which, together with the precise nature of my improvements, will be readily understood when the succeeding description and claims are read with reference to the drawings accompanying and forming part of this specification.

In said drawings:

Figure 1 is a view in end elevation of a preferred embodiment of my invention,

Figure 2 is a view in bottom plan,

Figure 3 is a view in transverse section taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2,

Figure 4 is a similar view taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 2 but with the legs in stored position,

Figure 5 is a fragmentary view in transverse section taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 2 but with the table turned top side uppermost,

Figure 6 is a fragmentary view in vertical section taken on the line 6—6 of Figure 3 and drawn to an enlarged scale,

Figure 7 is a view showing the sections folded to form a chest, and

Figure 8 is a view in perspective of one of the leg latches.

Referring to the drawings by numerals, the illustrated embodiment of my improved table comprises as its basic elements a pair of elongated, rectangular, box-like open sections 1, 2, of the same size attached together at sides thereof by hinges, as at 3, for unfolding into side-by-side relation with bottoms uppermost to form the table top, as shown in Figures 1 and 3, and also for folding on said hinges 3 into edge-to-edge mating relation to form a chest, as shown in Figure 7. In the unfolded position of the sections 1, 2, the bottoms 4 thereof provide a substantially square flat top for the table, the ends 5 of said sections end flanges and the sides 6 thereof side flanges depending from and supporting said top. The hinges 3 are secured to the edges of the attached sides 6' so that said sides in the unfolded position of the sections 1, 2, abut and establish said unfolded position. The corners of the sections 1, 2, adjacent the open sides thereof may be reinforced exteriorly of the sections by triangular plates 7 secured thereto by nails or screws 8. Means for locking the sections 1, 2, in unfolded position are provided in the form of the usual trunk latches of the snap action type, the complemental parts 9 and 10 of which are secured to the ends 5 of the sections 1, 2, respectively, adjacent the hinged sides thereof. A pair of suitable handles 11 are secured, as at 12, to the ends 5 of one section 1, or 2, as the case may be, for use in carrying the chest formed by the folded sections.

Detachable corner legs 13 are provided for supporting the sections 1, 2, when unfolded and means for attaching said legs in position as follows.

Each section 1, 2, is provided therein with a partition bar 14 suitably fixed to the bottom 4 and ends 5 of the section to extend alongside the detached side 6 thereof parallel with said side and laterally offset therefrom to form with said side 6 and the ends 5 a narrow space 15 opening downwardly in the unfolded position of the section. A pair of short posts 16 are secured in each space 15 adjacent the ends 5 of the section to form a pair of transversely square corner sockets 17 in said section also opening downwardly in said unfolded position of the section and designed to slidably receive the upper ends of the legs 13, which legs are shaped to fit therein. The posts 16 may be secured in position by nails, as at 18.

The legs 13 are vertically adjustable in the sockets 17 into different set positions by means of the following. Each leg 13 on the side thereof opposed to the post 16 adjacent thereto is provided with ratchet teeth 19 adjacent the upper end thereof. Snap action latches 20 are provided on the posts 16 for engagement with the ratchet teeth 19 of the legs. Each latch 20 is of right-angled form and resilient metal and fixed at one end, as by a screw 21, to one side of the related post 16 with its other end 22 extending across the free end of the post 16 to ratchet over the teeth 19 of the related leg 13, the arrangement being such that said latch may be flexed away from the leg to disengage the end

22 thereof from the teeth 19 but reacts in the direction of the teeth to normally engage the same. A screw 23 loosely extended through an aperture 24 in each latch 20 and into the post 16 with a coil spring 25 thereon backing said latch additionally tensions the latch against disengagement. Preferably each latch 20 is formed of a single strip of metal bent upon itself to form the part thereof below the screw 21 of double thickness and to also form an eyelet-like finger grip 26 for use in disengaging the latch. The legs 13 are of a length and width to fit, when detached, in pairs, one on top of the other, in the spaces 15.

Preferably each pair of legs 13 is reversely tapered, as shown in Figure 4, to reduce the amount of space occupied by the same when stored in the spaces 15. Each bar 14 is provided with a push bolt 26' slidable therein, centrally thereof, to be moved over the pair of legs 13 stored in the adjacent space 15 and thereby retain the same in said space.

A cross partition 27 is provided in one section adjacent one end 5 thereof and between the bar 14 and the hinged, or attached, side of the section and a right-angled partition 28 between partition 27 and said end of the section to form adjoining small compartments 29, 30, adapted to be closed by cover flaps 31, 32, respectively, hinged, as at 33, to the partition 27 and said end 5. The suitable latch 34 is provided for latching the cover flaps 31, 32, closed. A partition similar to partition 27 may be provided in the other sections 1, 2, as indicated at 35, to form in the same an open-end compartment.

As will now be seen, by disengaging the latches 20, the legs 13 may be adjusted vertically to different set positions to level the table as occasion may require. Also, by disengaging the latches 20, said legs 13 may be removed from the sockets 17, stored in spaces 15 and locked therein by the bolts 26' so that the sections 1, 2, with the legs 13 therein may be folded into chest forming relation. As will also be apparent, the compartments 29, 30, when closed by the cover flaps 31, 32, form convenient storage spaces which, when the sections 1, 2, are unfolded, and the table set up, are concealed from view. Obviously, the compartments 29, 30, may be conveniently used in packing the chest for containing selected articles and separating the same from the remaining contents of the chest.

The foregoing will, it is believed, suffice to impart a clear understanding of my invention without further explanation.

Manifestly the invention, as described, is susceptible of modification without departing from the inventive concept, and right is herein reserved to such modifications as fall within the scope of the subjoined claims.

What I claim is:

1. In a folding table a pair of folding rectangular box-like sections having sides and ends, hinges connecting sides of said sections together for unfolding into side-by-side relation with contiguous sides abutting and said sections opening downwardly whereby the bottoms of said sections form a top for the table, said sections being foldable on said hinges into edge-to-edge mating relation to form a chest, a pair of partition bars fixed in said sections, respectively, alongside the detached sides thereof and laterally spaced therefrom, a pair of short posts fixed on each section between the detached side thereof and the partition bar thereof to form together with said detached sides and bars and the ends of the sections a pair of corner sockets in each section opening downwardly when said sections are unfolded, a pair of corner legs for each section having upper ends adapted for insertion in the sockets thereof and removable therefrom, and means to detachably secure said ends of said legs in said sockets for endwise adjustment into different set positions to level the table, said partition bars together with said posts and detached sides of the sections forming a pair of elongated side pockets in said sections, respectively, for the storage of said legs in pairs therein when detached.

2. In a folding table a pair of folding rectangular box-like sections having sides and ends, hinges connecting sides of said sections together for unfolding into side-by-side relation with contiguous sides abutting and said sections opening downwardly whereby the bottoms of said sections form a top for the table, said sections being foldable on said hinges into edge-to-edge mating relation to form a chest, a pair of partition bars fixed on said sections, respectively, alongside the detached sides thereof and laterally spaced therefrom, a pair of short posts fixed on each section between the detached side thereof and the partition bar thereof to form together with said detached sides and bars and the ends of the sections a pair of corner sockets in each section opening downwardly when said sections are unfolded, a pair of corner legs for each section having upper ends adapted for insertion in the sockets thereof and removable therefrom, and means to detachably secure said ends of said legs in said sockets for endwise adjustment into different set positions to level the table, said partition bars together with said posts and detached sides of the sections forming a pair of elongated side pockets in said sections, respectively, for the storage of said legs in pairs therein when detached, said partition bars being provided with pins slidable therein over the stored legs to retain the same in said pockets and detachable when not in use.

GILBERT A. HAIBECK.