July 10, 1934. H. T. HALLOWELL ET AL 1,966,344

FOLDING TABLE

Filed July 7, 1932 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

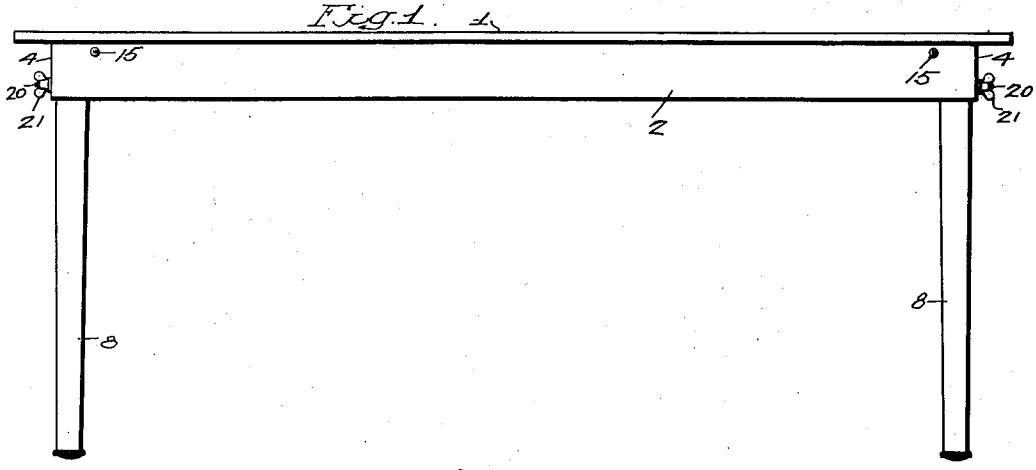


Fig. 2.

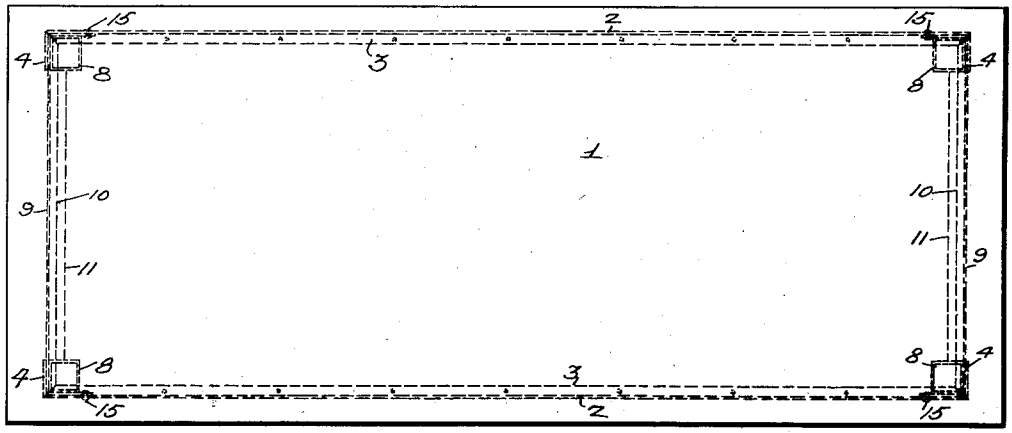


Fig. 4.

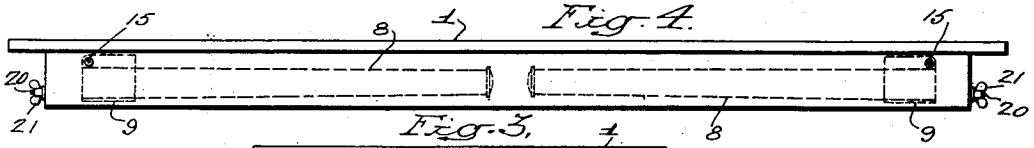


Fig. 5.

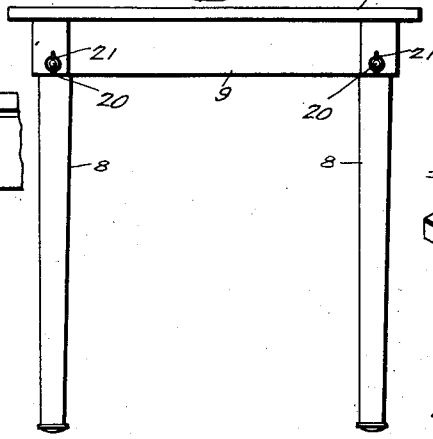


Fig. 13.

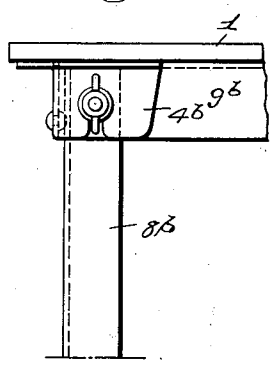
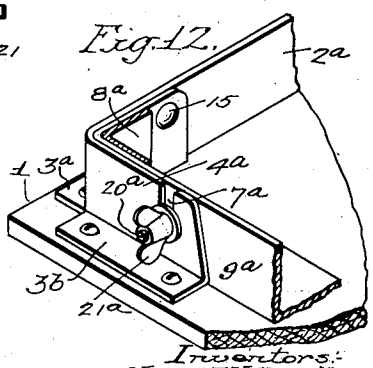


Fig. 12.



Inventors:
Howard T. Hallowell
Frank Bennett
By their Attorneys Howson & Howson

July 10, 1934. H. T. HALLOWELL ET AL 1,966,344

FOLDING TABLE

Filed July 7, 1932 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 8.

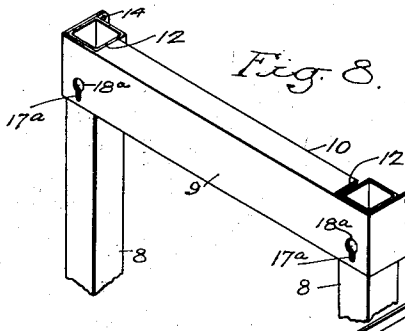


Fig. 5.

Fig. 14.

Fig. 6.

Fig. 9.

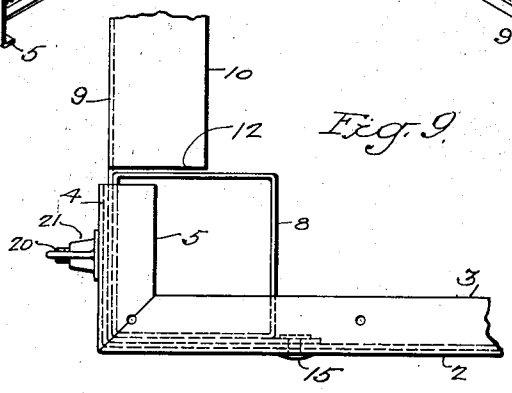


Fig. 7.

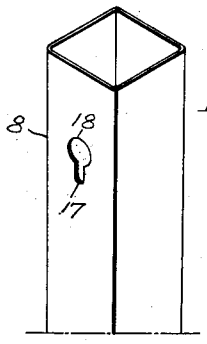


Fig. 10.

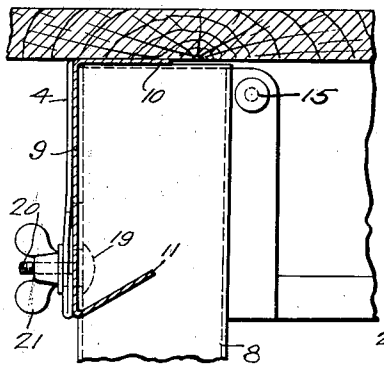
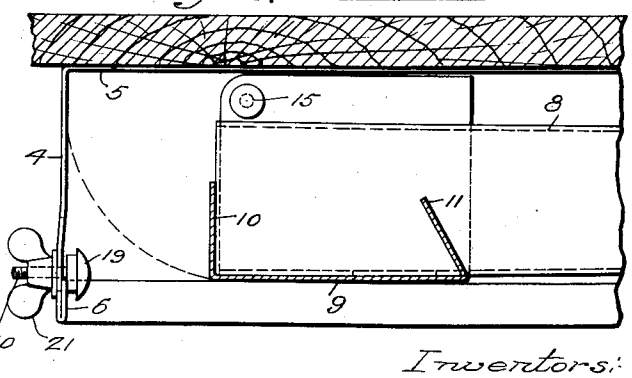


Fig. 11.



Inventors:
Howard T. Hallowell
Frank Bennett
by their Attorneys
Howson & Howson

Patented July 10, 1934 1,966,344

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,966,344

FOLDING TABLE

Howard T. Hallowell and Frank Bennett, Jenkintown, Pa., assignors to Standard Pressed Steel Co., Jenkintown, Pa., a corporation of Pennsylvania

Application July 7, 1932, Serial No. 621,276

4 Claims. (Cl. 45—11)

Our invention relates to certain improvements in folding tables of the type in which a pair of legs is pivoted at each side to the top and fold into a comparatively small space.

The object of our invention is to make a very substantial table which will withstand rough usage and which will be perfectly rigid and strong when in the open position, without the use of braces or connecting bars at the lower portion of the legs. This object we attain in the following manner, reference being had to the drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a longitudinal sectional view of our improved table, the legs being in the open position;

Fig. 2 is a plan view;

Fig. 3 is an end view;

Fig. 4 is a view showing the legs folded under the top of the table;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one of the angle beams extending from one end of the table to the other and forming the means for rigidly supporting the legs to the top of the table;

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary perspective view drawn to an enlarged scale, of one end of the cross bars;

Fig. 7 is a detached view of the upper portion of one of the legs;

Fig. 8 is a perspective view of the upper portion of a pair of legs and the connecting cross bar;

Fig. 9 is a plan view of one corner of the table showing the legs connected to the longitudinal beams;

Fig. 10 is a sectional view showing the means of attaching the legs to the angle beams, the legs being in the open position;

Fig. 11 is a view similar to Fig. 10, showing the legs in the folded position;

Fig. 12 is an inverted perspective view of one corner of the table, illustrating a modification of the invention; and

Figs. 13 and 14 are side views of one corner of the table, illustrating other modifications.

1 is the table top, which in the present instance is shown as made of wood but it can be made of metal if desired, depending upon the use for which the table is intended. Secured to the underside of the table top and at each side a short distance from the edge are two beams 2 of sheet metal, and each beam has a flange 3 in the present instance, which is readily secured to the table top by screws or other fastenings. The beams are bent at each end as shown at 4, and these ends have flanges 5 which are also secured to the table top. The beam is clearly shown in Fig. 5. The lower edge of the beam is turned down upon itself as at 6, so as to make a smooth edge, and this turned down portion also reinforces the beam. The ends 4 are slotted as at 7 for the bolts which secure the legs to the beams. 8 are the four legs of the table. In the present instance these legs are rectangular and made hollow and slightly tapered as shown in Fig. 1. The upper ends of the legs at each side are connected together by cross bars 9 and each bar has an upper flange 10 and a lower flange 11 in the present instance. The flange 11 is turned up slightly as shown so as to provide a smooth edge and to add strength to the structure. At each end of the cross bar 9 are pockets 12, made by bending the bars at each end as at 13, into which fit the upper ends of the legs 8. The legs are secured to the pockets by welding. At the outer end of each bent end of the beam is a perforation 14, through which extends a pivot rivet or bolt 15, and these rivets extend through the holes 16 in the beams, as clearly shown in Fig. 9, so that by this construction each pair of legs at the ends of the table can be turned from the open position shown in Fig. 1 to the closed position shown in Fig. 4. Bolts are used to secure the legs in their open position. Slots 17 extend through the upper ends of the legs shown in Fig. 7 and through the cross bar 9 near each end as at 17*a* and these slots are enlarged at 18—18*a* to allow for the passage of the heads 19 of the securing bolts 20, on which are thumb nuts 21. These bolts are held in the slots 7 of the beams 2 and when the legs are in the open position as shown in Figs. 1 and 10, the bolts 20 extend through the narrow portions of the slots 17—17*a* and the heads of the bolts being larger than the narrow portions of the slots 17—17*a* hold the legs rigidly in their open position. By backing off the thumb nuts 21, the bolts 20 can be raised so that the heads 19 will be opposite the enlarged portions 18—18*a* of the slots so that when the legs are turned on their pivots 15 the legs are free of the heads of the bolts. Then the legs can be turned to the position shown in Figs. 4 and 11. This makes a very simple construction and very rigid, as the two legs at each end are connected together by the cross bar 9 and the beams 2 connect the pair of legs at each end of the table together.

In Fig. 12 we have illustrated a modification in which the flange 3*a* of the beam 2*a* is on the outside instead of on the inside and the beam is cut near each end and is turned down to form

the end sections 4*a*. This end section is also flanged as at 3*b*. The flanges are secured to the table in the manner described above. The legs 8*a* in this instance are made of angle bars and are secured to the ends of the cross bar 9*a*, the bolts 20*a* in this instance being attached only to the cross bars 9*a* and extending through slots 7*a* in the end portions 4*a* of the beams 2*a*. This construction can be used on light tables.

In Fig. 13 we have illustrated another modification in which the legs are made of angle bars, the bolts extending through the cross bar 9*b*, legs 8*b*, and into slots in the ends 4*b*. When a metallic top 1 is used the longitudinal beams may be welded to the underside of the top.

In some instances the cross bar may be made as shown in Fig. 14. The angle bar 9*c* may extend the full length and the legs 8*c* welded thereto, the top member of the angle bar extending across the tops of the legs, and strips of metal 13*c* may be welded to the legs to form a hinge.

We claim:

1. The combination in a table, of a top; two longitudinal beams extending from one end of the table to the other, said beams being flanged, the flange of each beam being secured to the table top, each beam being turned at right angles at the ends; a pair of legs at each end of the table; a cross bar connecting the legs, each cross bar having its ends turned at right angles to form sockets for the legs, said legs being welded to the cross bars, the bars being pivotally attached to the beam so that the legs can be turned under the top of the table; and bolts securing each pair of legs to the bent ends of the longitudinal beams.

2. The combination of a table top; two longitudinal beams extending from one end of the table top to the other, each beam having a flange, the flanges being secured to the table top, the end of each beam being turned at right angles; a pair of legs at each end of the table, and a cross bar connecting the legs at each end, said cross bar being flanged at the lower and upper end, the flanges being cut away at the ends and the ends bent at right angles to form sockets for the legs; and bolts securing each pair of legs to the end portions of the longitudinal beams, each pair of legs being pivoted to the body portion of the beam some distance from the bolts so that the legs can be turned on their pivots either to the open or the closed position.

3. The combination of a table top; two longitudinally flanged beams extending from one end of the table top to the other, the ends of said beams being turned at right angles, the ends being also flanged and secured to the table top; a pair of legs at each end of the table; a cross bar flanged at the lower edge, the flanges stopping short of the ends of the bars, the ends of the bars being bent at right angles to form sockets for the legs which are secured thereto by welding, the end portions of the bars having pivot pin openings aligning with openings in the longitudinal beam; pivot rivets extending through the openings and forming the pivots for the legs; a slot in each end portion of the beam and slots in the legs, and cross bars, the slots in the legs and cross bars being enlarged at one end; and bolts extending through the slots for attaching the legs and their cross bars to the beams, and when the bolts are loosened the bolts can be raised so that the heads will be opposite the enlarged portions of the slots so that the legs can be turned from the open position to the closed position.

4. The combination in a table, of a top; two substantially parallel longitudinally flanged beams secured to the under side of said top; two pairs of legs; a cross bar welded to and connecting the legs of each pair, said bar having flanges constituting bearings for said legs; means for pivotally securing each of the leg structures to the said beams so that the legs can be turned under the table top; and means for releasably securing each of the leg structures to the beams for maintaining the legs in the extended positions.

HOWARD T. HALLOWELL.
FRANK BENNETT.