

L. SMIEJKOWSKI.
FOLDABLE TABLE OR STOOL.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 8, 1909.

937,479.

Patented Oct. 19, 1909.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

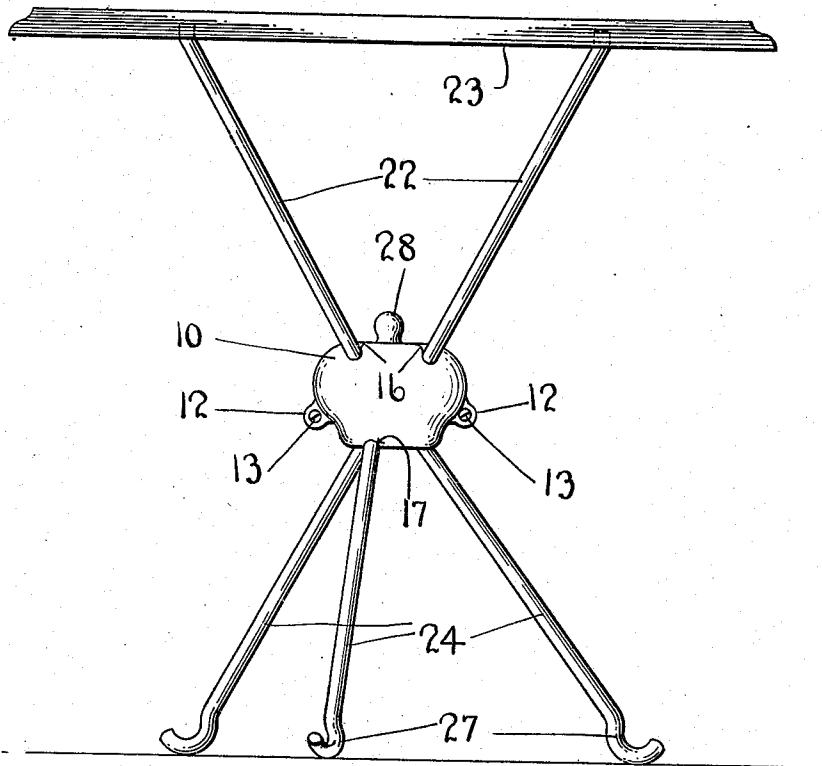


Fig. 5.

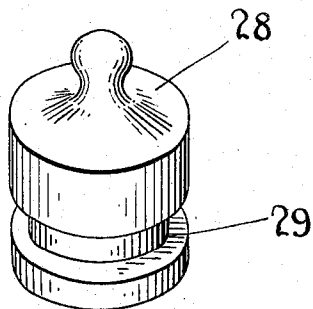
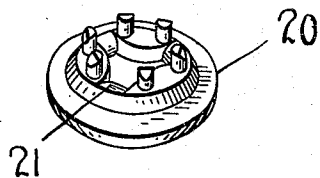


Fig. 6.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

FIG. 2—

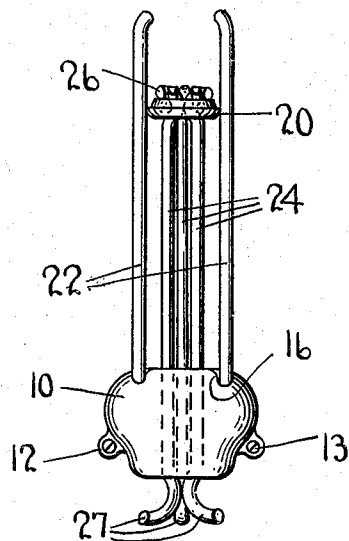


FIG. 3—

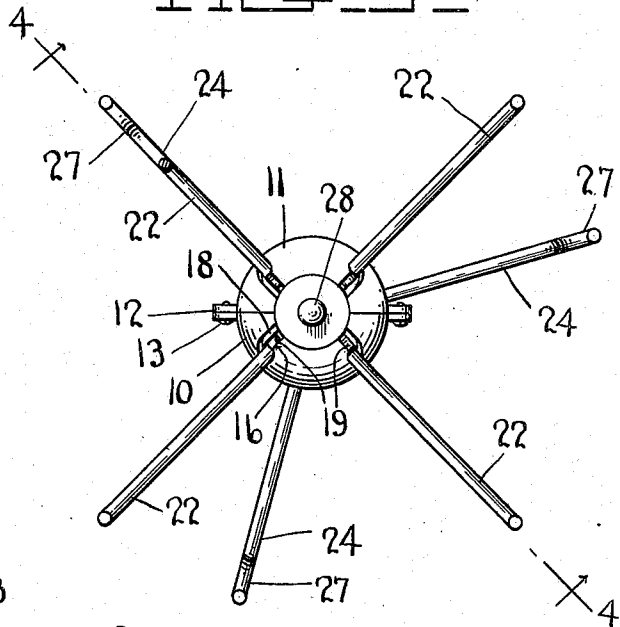


FIG. 7—

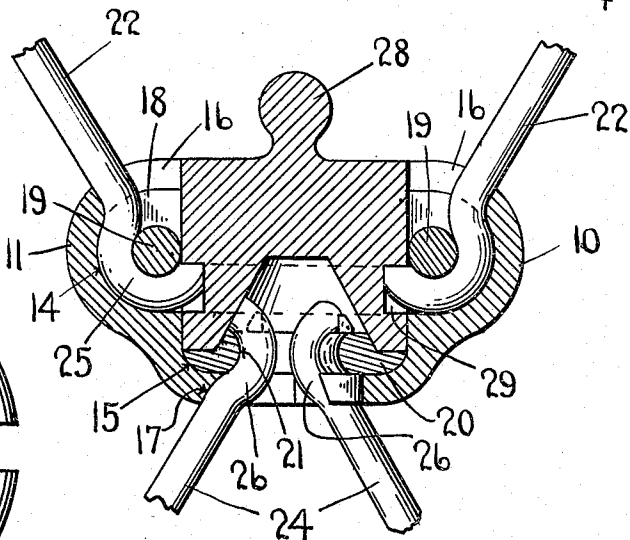
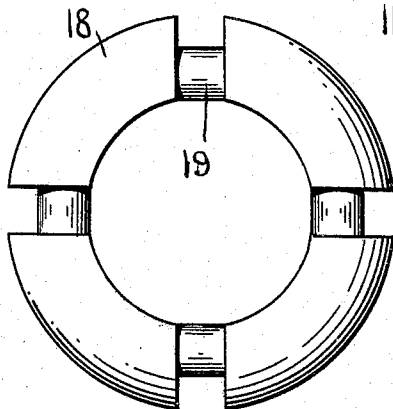


FIG. 4—

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS SMIEJKOWSKI, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

FOLDABLE TABLE OR STOOL.

937,479.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 19, 1909.

Application filed May 8, 1909. Serial No. 494,735.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS SMIEJKOWSKI, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook, State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Foldable Tables or Stools; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in foldable stools, tables, and like structures, and has for one of its objects to improve the construction and increase the efficiency and utility of devices of this character.

The improved device comprises in general a hollow head member having two internal annular cavities and with laterally extending recesses in the upper and lower portions to receive the inner terminals of a plurality of supporting arms, one set of the arms extending upwardly to support the table top or seat portion of the structure and the other series of arms extending downwardly to form supports for the structure, and with locking members within the cavities of the head and with which the inner terminals of the arms engage when in distended positions.

The invention consists in certain novel features of construction as hereafter shown and described and then specifically pointed out in the claims.

The improved device may be employed by making slight immaterial modifications therein for supporting a table top, a stool or chair seat, or like structure, but for the purpose of illustration the device is shown in the drawings arranged to support a table top, and in the drawings illustrative of the preferred embodiment of the invention.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the improved device in its distended or open position. Fig. 2 is a similar view with the device in closed position and the table or stand top removed. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the improved device with the table top detached. Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the upper locking member detached. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the lower locking member detached. Fig. 7 is a plan view, enlarged of the annular coupling member, detached.

In the improved device is comprised a

"head" member, preferably formed in two parts 10—11 having ears 12 at the sides through which clamp bolts 13 are passed. The members 10—11 are hollow and formed with an upper relatively large internal annular recess 14 and a relatively small internal annular recess 15, and for the purpose of this description the relatively large recess 14 will be referred to as the upper recess and the smaller recess will be referred to as the lower recess. The members 10—11 are annular in their general construction and with the upper portion overhanging the recess 14 and thereby forming an inwardly curved flange, and formed in this flange portion are a plurality of recesses 16 having offsets at their outer ends. The lower portion of the members 10—11 overhang the lower recess 15 whereby an annular flange is formed around the central lower opening, and formed in this latter flange portion are a plurality of radial recesses 17.

Mounted for rotation within the larger upper recess 14 is an annular member 18 with reduced portions or sockets at intervals corresponding to the lateral recesses 16 whereby a plurality of bearings 19 are formed, as shown.

Mounted for rotation within the smaller lower recess 15 is an annular member 20 having a plurality of recesses whereby bearings 21 are formed, the bearings corresponding to the recesses 17. Any required number of the recesses 15 or 17 may be employed, but generally four of the recesses 16 and three of the recesses 17 will be used as shown.

The recesses 16 and the bearings 19 are utilized to support a plurality of supporting arms 22 for the table top 23, while the recesses 17 and the bearings 21 will be utilized to support a plurality of supporting leg members 24, as shown.

The lower terminals of the arms 22 are curved as shown at 25, and adapted to be passed through the recesses 16 and partly embracing the bearings 19 from the outside as shown in Fig. 4, while the upper terminals of the leg members 24 are correspondingly curved as at 26 and passed through the recesses 17 and partly embrace the bearings 21. By this arrangement the arms 22 when extended outwardly at their upper ends firmly support the table top, and when the leg members 24 are distended their lower ends they serve as legs to support the structure as shown in Fig. 1.

The lower terminals of the leg members 24 are also curved as shown at 27, so that they present a curved surface to the floor upon which they rest.

- 5 Slidably disposed within the head member 10—11 is a locking plug 28 having annular groove 29 and adapted to pass through the annular member 18 and to bear against the inner ends of the curved portions 25 of the members 22 and to bear upon the upper terminals of the curved portions 26 of the members 24 with the inner terminals of the curved portions 25 of the members 22 within the channel 29 and thus hold them locked in their distended positions. By this arrangement so long as the plug is in position within the members 10—11 the supporting members 22—24 will be maintained rigidly in their distended position, but by elevating the plug 28 the members 22 may be moved inwardly and the members 24 moved inwardly and likewise elevated into the position as shown in Fig. 2, and thus dispose the stool in its folded position. The lower face of the plug 28 is concaved as shown, and bears by the concaved surface upon the inner ends of the curved portions 26 of the members 24, and thus assist in holding them in distended position.
- 30 The improved device is simple in construction, can be inexpensively manufactured and wholly of metal, and adapted without material structural changes for tables, stools, stands, or the like. The improved device will be found especially convenient for use where folding tables or stools are required.
- 40 The members 22—24 will be formed from metal rods preferably steel, but may be of brass or other metal, and may be highly polished, plated, or japanned, or otherwise coated as required, while the head member

10—11 may be of any suitable material and may be polished, plated, japanned or otherwise coated or treated as required.

What is claimed is:—

1. A device of the class described comprising a head member formed with upper and lower internal annular sockets and with radially arranged recesses communicating with the sockets an annular member mounted for rotation in each of said sockets a plurality of supporting arms operating through one series of said recesses and engaging one of said annular members, a plurality of supporting arms operating through the other series of said recesses and engaging the other annular member, and a locking plug operating through said head.
2. A device of the class described comprising a head member formed with upper and lower internal annular sockets and with radially arranged recesses communicating with the sockets, an annular member mounted for rotation in each of said sockets, a plurality of supporting arms operating through one series of said recesses and engaging one of said annular members, a plurality of supporting arms operating through the other series of said recesses and engaging the other annular member, and a locking plug operating through said head and provided with an annular channel to receive the inner terminals of one set of said supporting arms and to bear at one end upon the other set of supporting arms.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

LOUIS SMIEJKOWSKI.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH M. ROSINSKI,
FRANK P. STAWICKI.