P. L. BILLINGSLEY.

TABLE.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 16, 1914.

**1,148,070.**

**Patented July 27, 1915.**

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

FIG. 1.

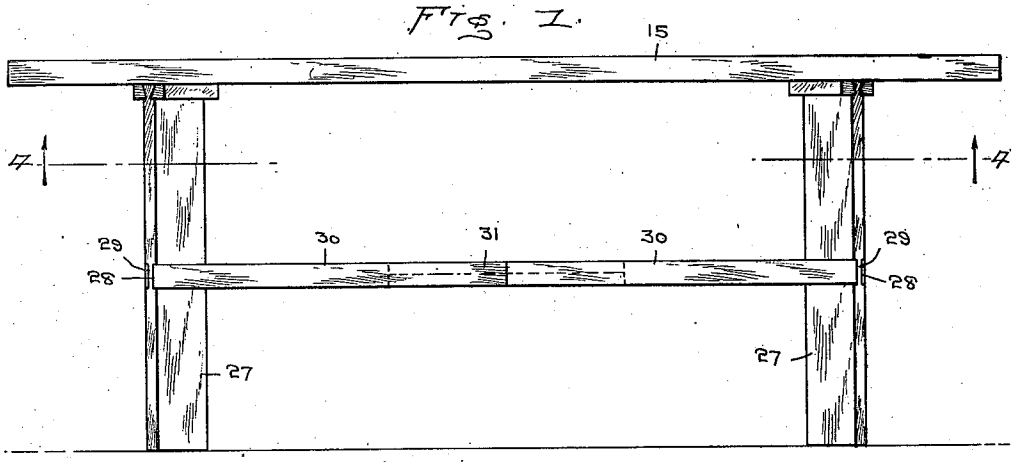



FIG. 2.

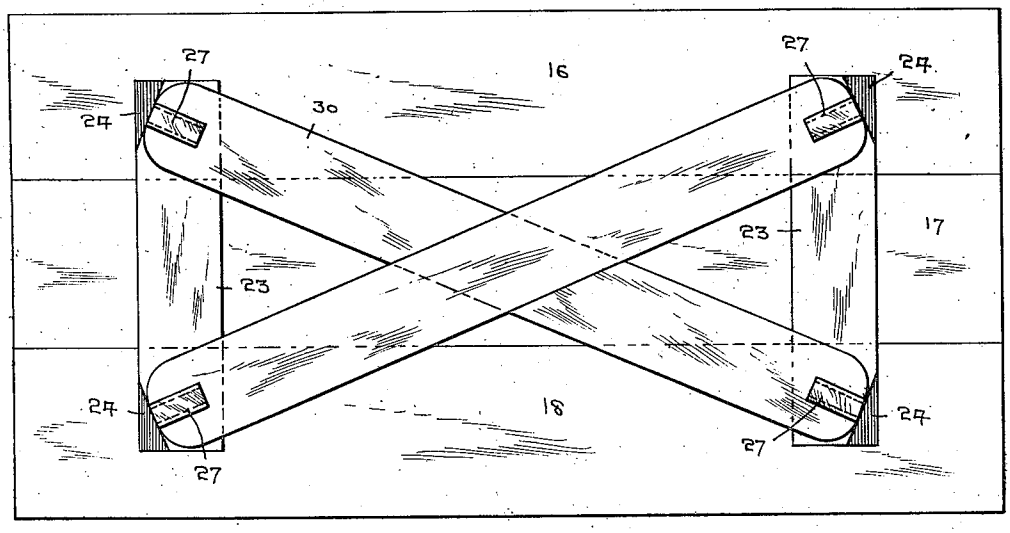
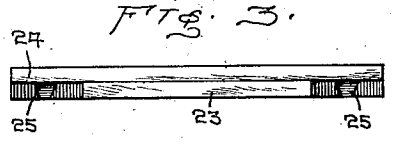



FIG. 3.




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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

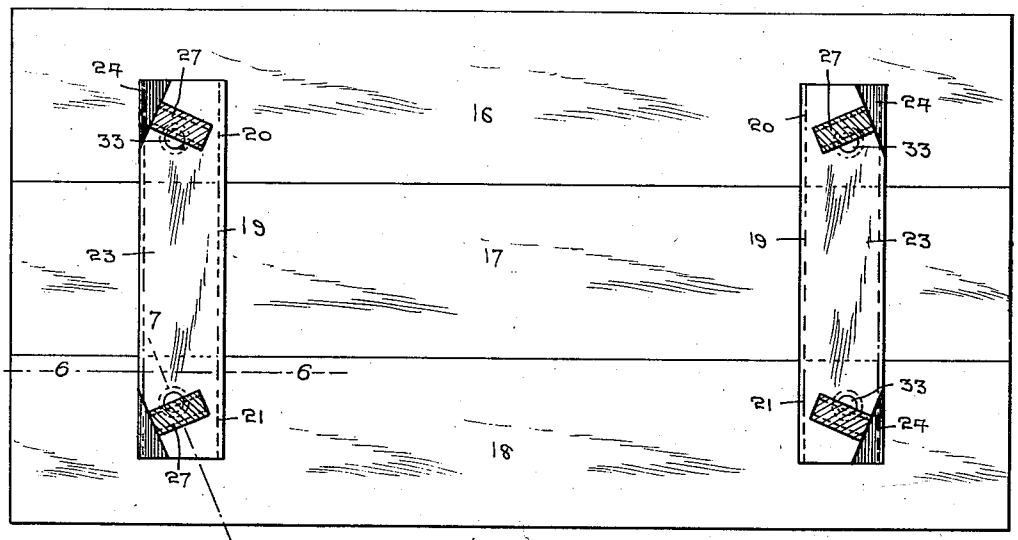



Fig. 5.

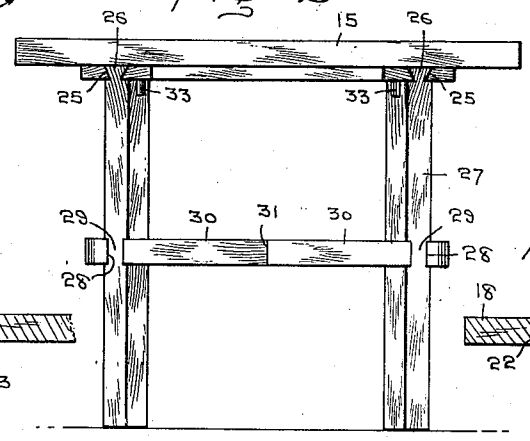



Fig. 6.

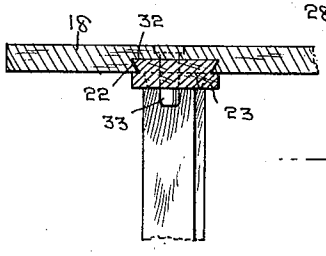
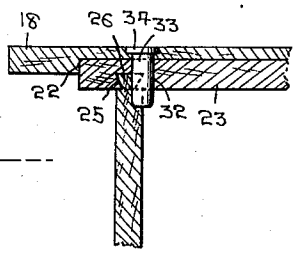



Fig. 7.




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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 8.

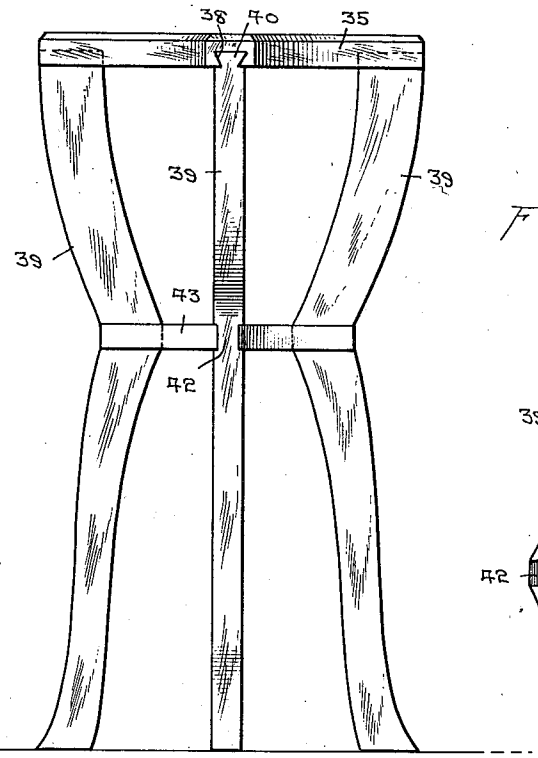



Fig. 10.

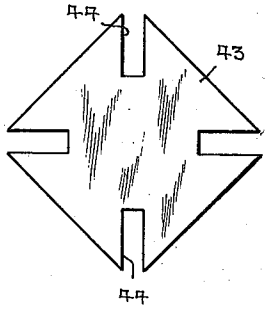



Fig. 11.

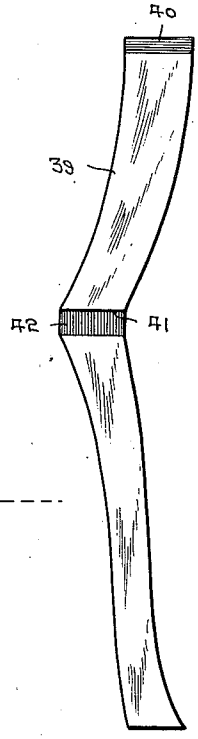
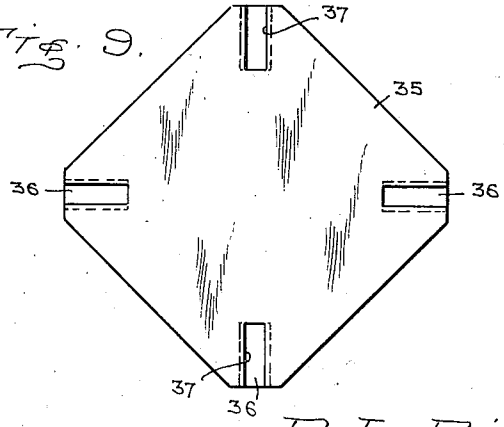



Fig. 9.




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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PERCY L. BILLINGSLEY, OF OCALA, FLORIDA.

## TABLE.

1,148,070. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 27, 1915.

Application filed May 16, 1914. Serial No. 839,153.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PERCY LEON BILLINGSLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ocala, in the county of Marion and State of Florida, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tables; 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 new and useful improvements in furniture of the so called, "take down," variety and has particular reference to tables which are adapted to have their component parts easily and quickly removed from their assembled relation.

As a principal object this invention contemplates the provision of a table of this character which shall be readily reduced to the most compact form possible for the purpose of shipping from the factory to the user or for the purpose of economizing space in storing such articles.

A further object of this invention is to attain a rigid and simple construction of a table when in its operative position and to provide simple and effective locking means for normally holding the table in such position.

A further object is to provide a table of the above described character of such standard construction that its various component elements shall readily interchange with other tables of a similar construction.

A still further object is to dispense with all such ordinary securing means between parts as glue, nails, bolts, screws or the like.

An object of equal importance with the foregoing is to provide a table of the type described which is constructed with such regard to proportion, number and arrangement of parts as would be cheaply manufactured will be durable and efficient in use and may be readily assembled by any person not a skilled mechanic with a minimum expenditure of time and labor and without requiring the use of tools.

The above and additional objects are accomplished by such means as are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, described in the following specification and then more particularly pointed out in the claims which are appended hereto and form a part of the application.

Before taking up the description of the drawings however, it is desired to emphasize the fact that while my invention has been designed with particular reference to tables of a, "take down," character, has been illustrated and will be hereinafter described in that connection, it may, never-the-less, be applied with equal efficiency to chairs or any other kind of furniture having a somewhat analogous construction.

In the accompanying drawings which are made a part of this application, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a table constructed in accordance with my invention, Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view of the matter shown in Fig. 1, Fig. 3 is a detail elevation of one of the spline bars as used in this invention, Fig. 4 is a sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1, Fig. 5 is an end elevation of my assembled table, Fig. 6 is a detail sectional view taken on the plane indicated by line 6—6 of Fig. 4, Fig. 7 is a similar view taken on the line 7—7 of Fig. 4, Fig. 8 is an elevational view of a modified form of table embodying the principle of my invention, Fig. 9 is a bottom plan view of the table top shown in Fig. 8, Fig. 10 is a plan view of the center brace as used in Fig. 8 and, Fig. 11 is a detail elevational view of one of the legs of the modified form of table showing peculiarities of the construction thereof.

Referring now to the drawings and more particularly to Figs. 1 and 2, it will be seen that my table is provided with a top 15 which is composed of the longitudinal panels 16, 17, and 18 which are laid with the long edges in contiguous relation, as shown in Fig. 2. The center panel 17 is provided with a pair of transverse grooves 19, adjacent its extremities and extending completely across its width. Grooves 20 and 21 are similarly provided in the panels 16 and 18 respectively and adapted to register with the groove 19, when all the panels or leaves of the table top 15 are properly assembled. These latterly mentioned grooves do not extend across the entire width of their respective panels but terminate at a point slightly beyond half the width of the same as is also shown in Fig. 4. All of these registering grooves have their sides downwardly and inwardly inclined as shown at 22 in the sectional detail of Fig. 6. Adapted to be seated in these registering grooves are splines or connecting braces 23 which are formed on their upper surfaces with the extensions 24

provided with upwardly and outwardly inclined edges so as to dovetail with the previously mentioned transverse grooves. The splines 23 have their outer corners cut at an angle to the longitudinal trend of the splines and extending inwardly and at right-angles to the wall formed by removing these corners, are dovetail grooves 25 each of which is adapted to receive a correspondingly shaped extension 26 formed at the upper extremity of each of the legs 27. These legs 27, are positioned as customary in the ordinary type of table and are each further provided with the gains or horizontal notches 28, forming a tongue 29, which is adapted to be received in suitable slots formed in the extremities of the cross braces 30. These cross braces are situated in the same horizontal plane and suitably lapped, as at 31, at their intersection.

The securing means for preventing the accidental withdrawal of the legs 27, from the splines and also to prevent the spreading apart of the table leaves, consist of the following novel arrangement. A cylindrical aperture 32, is formed in each of the panels 16 and 18, in such manner as to pass vertically through the panel, the spline, and the upper extremity of the leg, received by the spline. This aperture 32, is also further positioned so that it is bisected by the plane formed by the meeting surfaces of the extension 26 of the leg, and the side of the groove in juxtaposition, as is clearly shown in Figs. 4 and 7. A pin 33, provided with the flanged head 34, is adapted to seat in this aperture 32 in such manner that the enlarged top 34, shall be flush with the top of the table. It will be apparent that this locking means positively prevents the withdrawal of the leg 27, from its notch 25, so long as the pin 33, is positioned in the aperture 32, and further the separate panels of the table top 15, will be held firmly in their assembled relation and prevented from spreading.

It will be obvious that in assembling a table of this construction from the loose parts comprising the three panels of the top, the two splines, the two cross braces, the four legs, and the four locking pins, it is only necessary to proceed as follows. First, the splines 23, are inserted in the transverse grooves 19, so that they project equally beyond the opposite sides of the panel. The panels 16 and 18, are then slid upon the splines 23, in the obvious manner that will allow their grooves 20 and 21, to receive the extension 24, of the spline. The legs 27 are then inserted in their respective aperture 25, in the spline so that the semi-cylindrical cutout portion which has been formed in each upper extremity will be in proper position to form the remaining portion of the cylindrical aperture 32. The cross braces 30, having their lapped portions properly assembled are next so positioned in respect to the legs 27, that the slots formed in their extremities will properly engage the tongue 28, formed by the horizontal notches 29. These braces 30, prevent any swaying of the table by holding the legs securely in an upright position and the one remaining operation necessary to the complete assemblage of the table is to insert the locking pins 33 into their respective aperture thus locking the whole and providing a rigid and strong device.

It is obvious that in separating my table into its component parts, the operation involved consists of a reversal of the foregoing processes and that such an operation can be quickly and easily accomplished. The projection of the pin 33, as shown in Fig. 7, on the inner face of the leg 27, provides a means whereby the said pin can be removed with ease.

Turning to the modified form shown in Figs. 8, 9, 10, and 11, it will be noticed that substantially similar means are employed in the manufacture of a table of this construction. In this form of my invention I provide a top formed of the single piece 35 which is substantially square in shape but provided with the flattened corner 36. The grooves 37 are formed in the underportion of the top 35 and at right-angles to the flattened portions 36, these grooves being formed similar to the grooves 19, 20, and 21 of the other form of my table in that they are provided with downwardly and inwardly bent walls 39. The legs of my table are shaped as shown in Fig. 11, in order to give an artistic effect when assembled and are provided with the extensions 40 at their upper extremities which are adapted to seat within the grooves 37 and to be held therein. Intermediate their ends these legs 39 are also formed with the transverse gains 41 on opposite faces so that the tongue 42 is thereby provided.

A center brace 43, as shown in Fig. 10, has formed upon its corners the diagonal slots 44 which are adapted to receive the tongue 42 previously described upon the legs 39.

It will be apparent from a perusal of Fig. 8 that owing to the shape and structure of this modified small, "take down," table that it is unnecessary to provide any locking means for securely holding the legs of the table in their proper position for the reason that any weight applied to the table top 35 will tend to seat the tongues 42 even more firmly in their respective slots 44. However, it is of course understood that should I desire to provide locking means with this form of table that this right is reserved for me alone.

While in the foregoing I have illustrated in the drawings and described in the specification such combination and arrangement of

elements as constitute the preferred embodiment of my invention I desire to emphasize the fact that I may show minor changes in the matter of proportion and degree of the device here disclosed or later adaptations of my invention to other varieties of furniture as will not alter the spirit of said invention as defined in the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. In a table construction, a top formed of a plurality of leaves having transversely extending beveled grooves therein, splines having beveled edges to engage with said grooves, said splines also having dove-tailed grooves in their lower faces, supporting legs having dove-tailed extensions adapted to enter said latter grooves and locking pins extending downwardly through said top, splines and the upper ends of the legs to lock said parts in assembled position.

2. In a table construction, a top for the table, said top having dove-tailed grooves in its under face, splines having dove-tailed projections adapted to coöperate with the grooves in the top, said splines having dove-tailed grooves in their under faces, legs having dove-tailed projections adapted to coöperate with the grooves in the splines, pins adapted to extend downwardly through the top, splines and the upper ends of the legs, the opening through which said pins project intersecting one edge of the grooves in the spline, the dove-tailed projections on the legs and one face of the legs, whereby portions of the pins will be exposed.

3. In a table, a top, leaves forming said top, and having beveled grooves formed in their undersurfaces, splines adapted to be received by said beveled grooves and likewise provided with beveled grooves upon their undersurface, removable legs adapted to slidably seat in said second mentioned set of grooves, gains formed in said legs, tongues formed by said gains, cross braces having elongated slots formed in their extremities, said slots being adapted to receive said tongues and locking pins adapted to be received by suitable vertical apertures passing through said top, said splines and the upper portion of said legs in such manner that a lower portion of the pin is exposed for removal purposes.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

PERCY L. BILLINGSLEY.

Witnesses:
R. M. BENNETT,
CARL JANSEN.