Aug. 27, 1957 S. S. SPIELBERG 2,804,363

STIRRUP ARRANGEMENTS FOR PHYSICIANS' EXAMINING TABLES

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FIG.1.

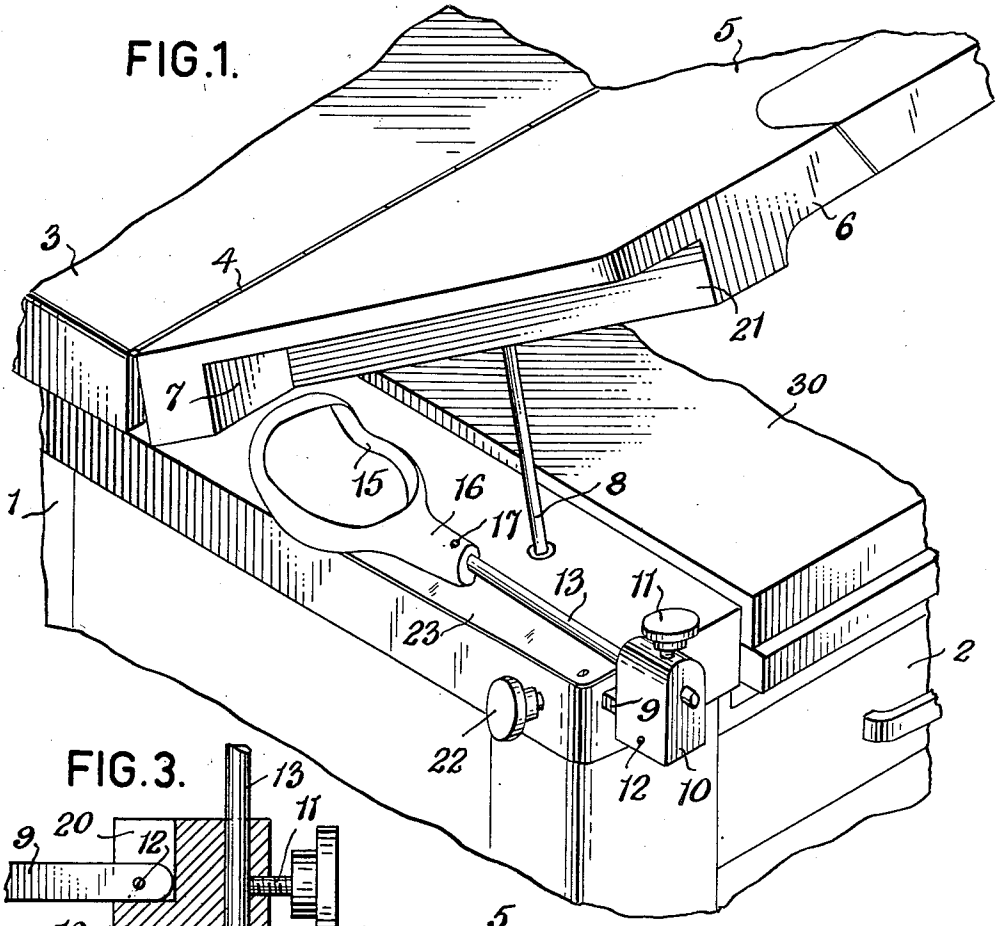


FIG.3.

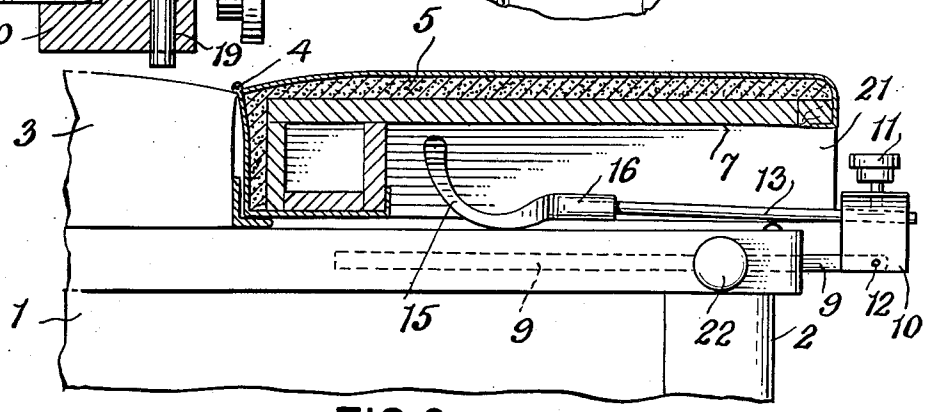


FIG.2.

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FIG. 4.

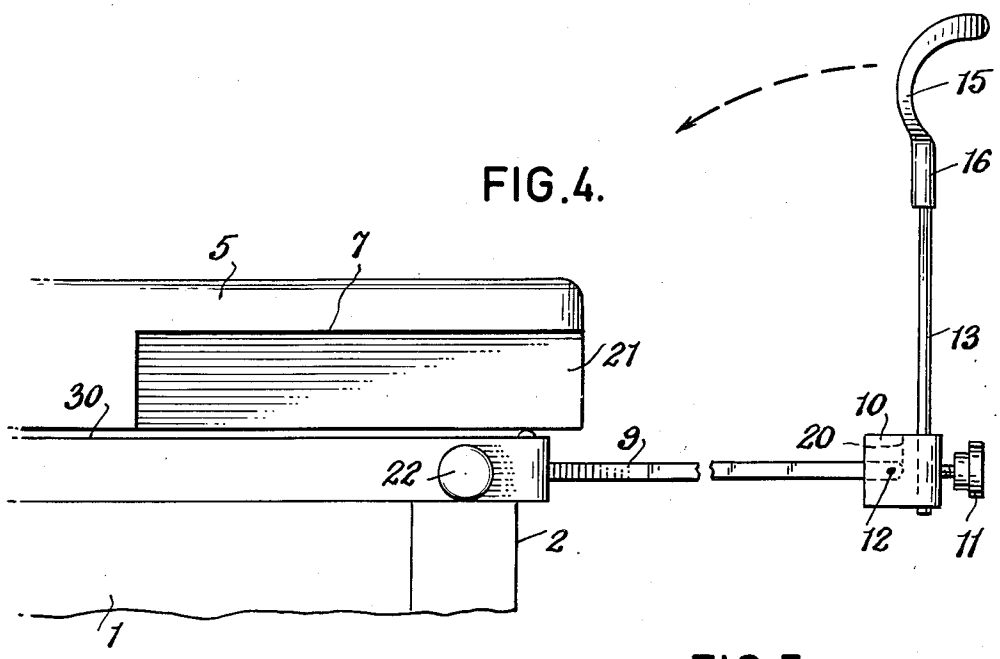


FIG. 6.

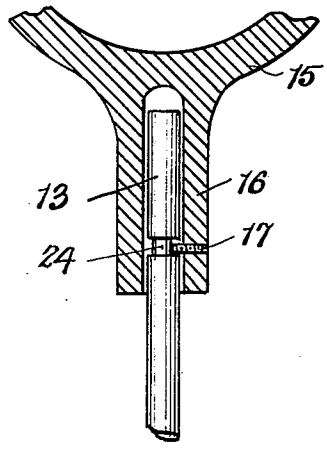
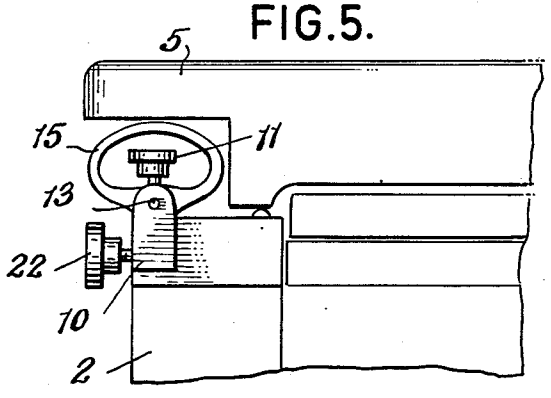


FIG. 5.



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STIRRUP ARRANGEMENTS FOR PHYSICIANS' EXAMINING TABLES

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Application January 6, 1956, Serial No. 557,791

1 Claim. (Cl. 311—11)

This invention relates to physicians' examining tables, and more particularly to a stirrup and a mounting therefor by means of which the stirrup can be moved to either an operative position or inoperative and concealed position relatively to the table, and particularly while a patient is on the table, without disturbing the patient.

In many types of examining tables, the stirrups used thereon are removable and often become misplaced so that when needed the stirrups are not always at hand. In other instances efforts have been made to provide so-called "disappearing stirrups" which are adapted to be swung under the rest members above the table top when not in use, and thus concealed from view. One of the primary objections found in the latter construction is that the stirrup cannot be moved to operative position from its position under the table top, without elevating the pivoted rest member located at the foot end of the table. Thus, when a patient is resting on the table and the stirrups are required, it is necessary for the patient to be moved while the end rest is elevated to permit the stirrups to be brought into operative position.

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a table construction in which the stirrups are of the so-called "disappearing" type, and a feature of the present invention resides in the provision of means by which the stirrups can be slidably moved to concealed position under the rest member without requiring elevation or lifting of the foot end or other part of the rest member. Hence, with the use of a construction of this character it is possible to move the stirrups to either operative or inoperative position without requiring movement of a patient then resting on the table.

More particularly, the invention contemplates the provision of a rest member provided with a recess in its under face member at its foot end, which recess is of such a size and is open at the front end of the rest member to enable the stirrup to be slidably moved into the recess and positioned below the rest member and thus concealed from view without requiring the pivotal or other movement of the rest member. The invention further contemplates a novel stirrup construction by means of which the stirrup is rotatively mounted on its supporting rod, by which the rod is longitudinally adjustable through a supporting block, and means by which the block is pivotally mounted on a slidable supporting bar, which bar is longitudinally adjustable in the table to enable the stirrup to be moved either toward or away from the foot end of the table.

With these and other objects to be hereinafter set forth in view, I have devised the arrangement of parts to be described and more particularly pointed out in the claim appended hereto.

In the accompanying drawing, wherein an illustrative embodiment of the invention is disclosed:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view, showing a corner portion of an examining table provided with the improved stirrup mounting and showing the stirrup in its lowered and concealed position, the rest member of the table being elevated to disclose the position of the stirrup;

Fig. 2 is a side elevatiton of the structure of Fig. 1, including a vertical sectional view through the rest member showing the recess formed therein to accommodate the stirrup;

Fig. 3 is a detail view, consisting of a sectional view through the stirrup-supporting block;

Fig. 4 is a side elevational view of a corner portion of the table, showing the stirrup-bar extended and the stirrup in an operative position;

Fig. 5 is an end view of the structure shown in Fig. 4, but with the stirrup folded down and in concealed position in the recess in the rest member, and

Fig. 6 is a longitudinal sectional view through the sleeve portion of the stirrup showing how the same is rotatively mounted on its supporting stem.

Referring to the drawing, and particularly to Fig. 1 thereof, wherein one corner of a physician's examining table is disclosed. This corner is at the foot end of the table, and the opposite corner at said end is similarly constructed and is provided with the stirrup mounting to be presently described. The body of the table is generally indicated at **1** and the same is provided with the conventional top **30** on which are supported in the known manner, the conventionally padded rest members indicated respectively at **3** and **5**. In many such tables the lower rest member, or that designated at **5**, is pivotal by means of the hinge **4**, and supported in raised position by the prop-rod **8**, but such a movable rest member is not essential to the present invention, since the improved stirrup mounting does not require elevation or pivotal movement of the lower rest member **5** to enable the stirrups to be brought to either the operative or to the inoperative, concealed position.

The rest member **5**, pivotal or stationary, is provided at each of its lower corners with an undercut recess **7**, which is open at its forward end as indicated at **21**, and can also be open at its side edge, and such recess is of a depth sufficient to enable the stirrup **15** to be accommodated in it and positioned between the rest member **5** and the top **30** of the table, as shown in Figs. 1 and 5, when the stirrup is in its lowered position of Figs. 1, 2 and 5.

Each of the stirrups **15** is formed with an integral sleeve or socket portion **16** which rotatively fits on the end of a rod **13**. The mounting for the stirrup **15** on the rod **13** is disclosed in Fig. 6, wherein it will be noted that the rod **13** is formed near one end with an annular groove **24**, and a set screw **17**, threaded through the wall of the sleeve **16**, engages in the groove, thus coupling the stirrup to the rod **13** and preventing its displacement therefrom while permitting free rotative movement of the stirrup on the rod.

The rod **13**, carrying the stirrup in the manner just described, is adjustably mounted in a block **10**, having a bore **19** (Fig. 3) extending through it and through which the rod **13** can be slidably adjusted to thereby position the stirrup at the required height for the individual patient. The knobbed set screw **11**, threadable in the block **10**, holds the rod **13** at any desired position of adjustment.

The block **10** is formed with a square notch **20** and a lengthy square, slidable bar **19** has one end pivoted at **12** between the walls of the notch, thereby pivotally coupling the end of the square bar to the block **10**. The shape of the notch **20** and the pivotal mounting of the end of the bar **9** therein is such as to enable the block to be either positioned as shown in Fig. 1, at which time the stirrup is horizontally disposed, or else positioned at right angles as shown in Fig. 4, at which time the stirrup is disposed in its vertical or operative position. The

movement of the stirrup from its lowered, or horizontal, position to its vertical or operative position is thus merely a matter of swinging the block about its pivot **12**.

The guide bar **9** is slidably movable through the table top, or through suitable guiding elements provided within the top, in a manner to extend the bar to any extent required, such as shown in Fig. 4, or to retract it within the table top substantially as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The bar **9**, and hence the position of the stirrup which it carries, can be maintained in any selected position of extension out of the table top by means of the hand screw shown at **22**.

From the foregoing, the operation of the improved stirrup device will be readily understood. In its inoperative or concealed position, the stirrup **15** is positioned as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 5, wherein it is disposed horizontally and is resting on the table top **30** below the recess **7** in the rest member **5**. When it is desired to bring the stirrup to an erect and operative position, the hand screw **22** is loosened sufficiently to enable the bar **9** to be slid freely out of the table top to the extent desired to locate the stirrup at the required distance from the end of the rest member **5**. This outward sliding movement of the stirrup will move it out through the forward open end **21** of the recess **7** without requiring elevating movement of the rest member **5** and thus without disturbing a patient who might at this time be occupying the table. After the stirrup has been slid outwardly to the required position, the block **10** is rotated on its pivot **12** to bring the rod **13** and attached stirrup **15** to vertical position, substantially as shown in Fig. 4. The height of the stirrup is easily regulated by sliding rod **13** through the block **10** to the required extent and then tightening the set screw **11** to maintain the adjustment. The return of the stirrup to its concealed position is merely a matter of swinging the stirrup down as indicated by the arrow in Fig. 4, to bring it to its lowered position, and then sliding bar **9** inwardly until the block **10** contacts the foot end of the table. This telescopic movement of the rod **9** within the table top will bring in the stirrup under the recess **7** and through the forward open end **21** of the same and again without requiring elevating or other movement of the rest member **5**. A friction plate **23** may be attached to the table top below the recess **7** to receive the stirrup and protect the table top.

From the foregoing, it will be apparent that a disappearing stirrup construction is provided which enables the stirrup to be moved to either its concealed or its operative position without requirement of displacement of parts of the table and particularly without requiring movement of the rest members on which the patient might be lying; without requiring movement of a patient occupying the table, and without requiring detachment of the stirrup or its mounting. At the same time, full adjustment for the stirrup is possible with a minimum of effort on the part of the physician or nurse.

Having described a single embodiment of the invention, it is obvious that the same is not to be restricted thereto, but is broad enough to cover all structures coming within the scope of the annexed claim.

What I claim is:

In a physician's examining table, a rest member located adjacent to the foot end of the table, said rest member having a free end and being pivoted at a point remote from said end, the rest member having a stirrup-receiving recess in its bottom, said recess being open along the side of the rest member and being also open at the free end of the rest member to permit a stirrup to be moved through said open end of the recess and to be housed within the recess without requiring lifting movement of the rest member, a bar slidable into and out from the table, a stirrup-carrying post pivotally mounted on the bar and capable of being positioned either horizontally or vertically, a stirrup on the post, the movements of the bar bringing the stirrup-carrying post either toward or away from the foot end of the table, the stirrup while being positioned horizontally being capable of movement through the open end of the recess to thereby house the stirrup within the recess without requiring raising movement of the rest member.

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