

July 7, 1931.

E. VIDAL

1,813,330

FOLDING TABLE

Filed Dec. 3, 1927

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

*Fig. 1.*

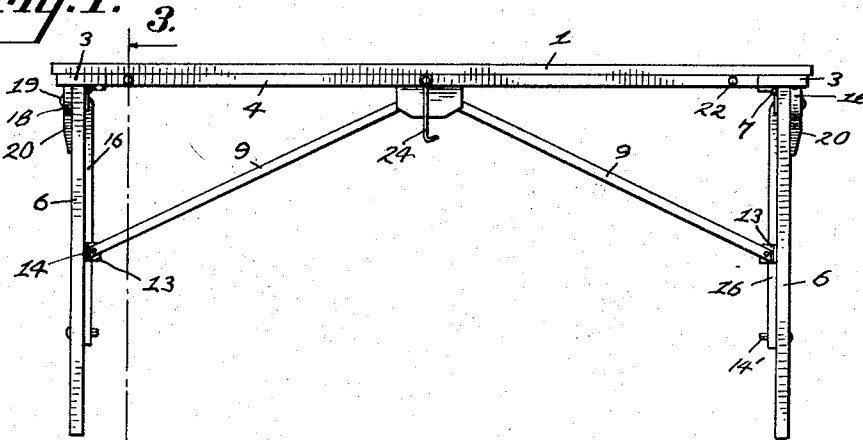


*Fig. 2.*

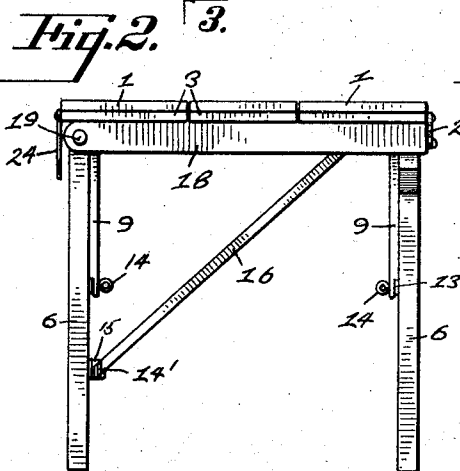


*Fig. 3.*

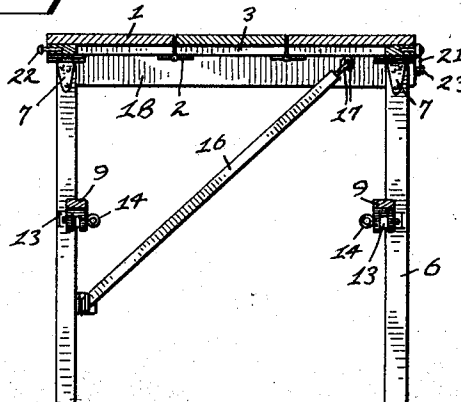


*Fig. 4.*

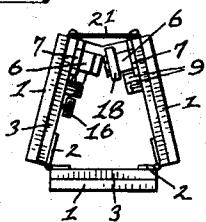
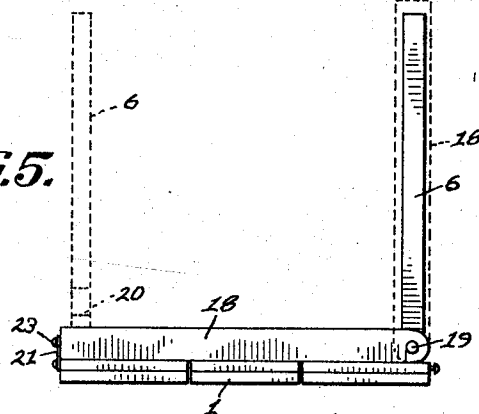


*Fig. 5.*



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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

*Fig. 6.*

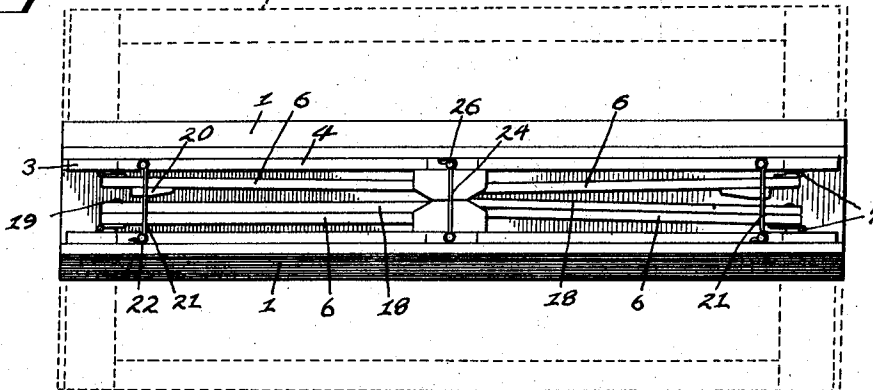


*Fig. 7.*

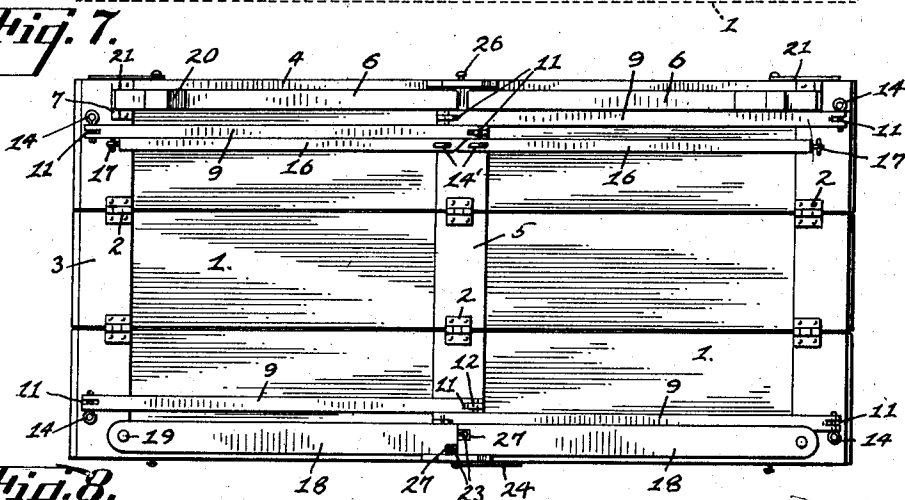
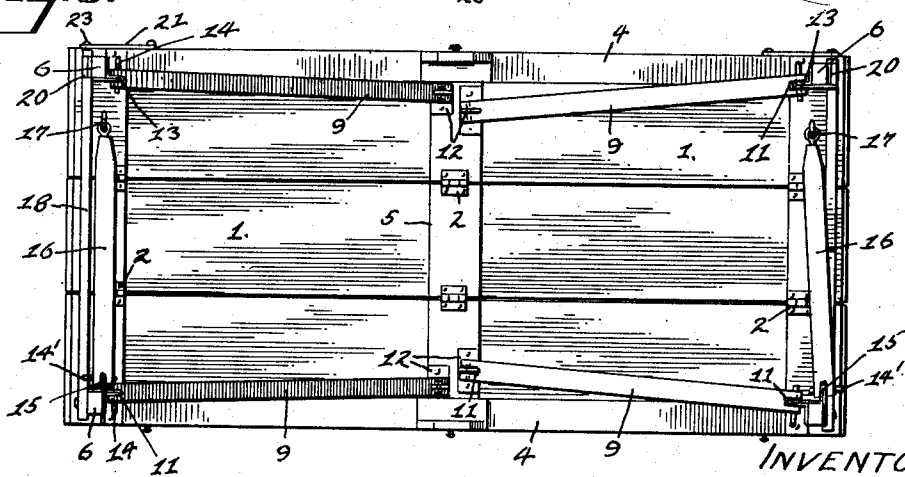


**Fig. 8.**  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## FOLDING TABLE

Application filed December 3, 1927. Serial No. 237,475.

My invention relates to improvements in folding tables wherein legs and braces are arranged to be folded in parallel relation against and between foldable top panels whereby the table may be collapsed to occupy a minimum space.

The primary object of my invention is to provide a folding table of improved construction.

Another object is to provide an improved construction wherein legs and braces may be readily extended from a folded position and detachably connected in extended position to obtain a rigid and stable table.

A further object is to provide an improved construction wherein legs and substantial braces may be folded between the folding panels of a top to occupy a minimum space.

Another object is to provide an improved device provided with improved frame members and braces to obtain increased stability.

A still further object is to provide an improved device of the character described which is light and compact when folded and which will afford a relatively large and rigid table surface when extended.

I accomplish these and other objects by means of the improved device disclosed in the drawings forming a part of the present application wherein like characters of reference are used to designate similar parts throughout the specification and drawings, and in which—

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of my improved table in extended position;

Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the table;

Fig. 3 is a transverse section taken upon the line 3—3 of Fig. 1 in the direction indicated;

Fig. 4 is an end elevation of the table in folded position;

Fig. 5 is an end elevation with the top panels extended, and showing the manner in which the legs and end frame members are extended to operative position;

Fig. 6 is a plan view of the table in folded position as shown in Fig. 4, the extended positions of the top panels being shown in dotted lines;

Fig. 7 is a bottom plan view of the table with the top panels extended and the legs and braces in folded position; and

Fig. 8 is a bottom view of the table with the legs, braces, and frame members extended to operative positions.

Referring to the drawings the numeral 1 is used to designate in general a table top formed from a plurality of panels hingedly connected along adjacent longitudinal edges by means of suitable hinges 2. Cleats 3 are secured upon the under sides of the top panels adjacent the ends thereof, and cleats 4 are secured along the outer longitudinal edges of the top 1 to reinforce and strengthen the top. A center cleat 5 is secured transversely at the center of each panel.

Legs 6 are hingedly secured upon the top 1 adjacent the corners thereof by means of hinges 7, the legs being arranged to be folded against the under side of the top and parallel to the longitudinal edges thereof. Longitudinal braces 9 are pivotally mounted upon the under side of the center cleats 5 and arranged to be extended outwardly and downwardly into detachable engagement with the legs 6.

The braces 9 are preferably slotted at each end, as at 11, to engage angle plates 12 upon the cleat 5 and angle plates 13 secured upon the legs. The braces are pivotally movable upon suitable pins extending through the slotted end of the braces and the angle plates 12, said braces being permanently secured upon the top 1. Cotter pins 14, or other suitable detachable securing members, are inserted through openings formed in the free slotted ends of the braces and apertures formed in the angle plates 13 to detachably secure the braces to the legs when the table is extended. The braces are preferably secured upon the side of the cleat 5 adjacent to the leg to which the brace is secured, and the plates 12 are offset from each other to permit the braces to be folded into parallel relation extending toward the opposite end of the table when folded whereby the braces may be made of increased length.

Transverse braces 16 are pivotally mounted upon the under side of the top 1 adja-

cent the ends thereof, said braces being preferably secured to the top by means of interlinking eyelets 17 adapted to permit a substantially universal pivotal movement of the brace relative to the top 1. The free  
 5 end of each brace 16 is slotted and arranged to receive a cotter pin or other detachable securing element 14', said slotted end and securing member being arranged to engage  
 10 and detachably secure the brace to an angle plate 15 secured upon a leg 6.

End frame members 18 are pivotally mounted as at 19 upon the legs 6 upon one side of the table. The members 18 when  
 15 in folded position extend longitudinally along the legs 6 to which they are connected, and are movable with said legs into and out of folded relation to the table top 1. When extended, the members 18 extend across  
 20 the ends of the table top 1 and are engaged and detachably supported upon blocks 20 secured upon the opposite legs 6.

Hooks 21 are pivotally mounted upon a longitudinal edge of the top 1, said hooks  
 25 being arranged to engage pins 22 secured in the opposite longitudinal edge of the top 1 when folded as best shown in Fig. 6 of the drawings. When the table is extended, the hooks 21 are moved to engage pins 23 mounted  
 30 upon the free ends of the frame members 18 to hold the same in operative position across the ends of the tables as best shown in Figs. 2 and 8 of the drawings. A hook  
 35 24 mounted upon one edge of the top is arranged to engage a pin 26 upon the opposite edge when the top is folded.

In operation, the table is folded by removing the detachable securing members 14 and 14' and folding the legs 6, and braces 9 and  
 40 16 into parallel relation extending longitudinally along the under side of the table top 1, as shown in Fig. 7, the end frame members 18 being swung into parallel relation with the legs to which they are connected.  
 45 The legs 6 and members are folded into axial alignment and substantially meet at the transverse center line of the table top the pins 23 mounted upon the ends of the members 18 being received in notches 27  
 50 formed upon the ends of the opposite members 18 as shown in Fig. 7. When the legs and braces have been thus folded, the panels of the top 1 are folded together along their hinged longitudinal edges and secured by  
 55 the hooks 21 and 24 thereby effectively holding the table in folded position.

To extend the table, the legs 6 are swung outwardly on their hinges 7, the members 18 being  
 60 carried with the legs 6 to which they are connected to the position indicated in dotted lines at the right in Fig. 5. The members 18 are then swung upon their pivot mountings 19 to the position indicated in full lines in Fig. 5, the free end of said members 18  
 65 being received between the table top 1 and

the block 20 whereby each end frame member forms a rigid support across the end of the table. The hooks 21 are then moved to engage the pins 22 to retain the members 18  
 in operative position. The braces 9 and 16  
 70 are then swung to engage the angle plates 13 and 15 respectively and the securing members 14 and 14' inserted to detachably secure the braces to the legs 6. The braces  
 75 are made sufficiently long to engage the legs 6 at points well spaced from the level of the table, thereby effectively bracing the extended structure and affording a rigid table.

When folded, the table occupies but very little space thereby permitting it to be easily  
 80 packed for transporting or storage. The space between the folded side panels of the top may be utilized for packing space if desired.

The specific details of construction may be  
 85 modified in numerous ways without departing from the spirit of my invention. I therefore do not wish to restrict myself to the specific details of construction disclosed, but  
 90 desire to avail myself of all modifications which may fall within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters  
 95 Patent is—

1. A folding table comprising a rectangular top formed from a plurality of foldable panels hingedly connected along adjacent longitudinal edges; legs hingedly connected  
 100 to the top; a pair of longitudinal braces mounted upon each side of the top, and pivotally connected at one end of each brace upon the under side of the top adjacent the center thereof and arranged to incline outwardly  
 105 and downwardly into detachable engagement with the legs, the braces of each pair being connected upon opposite sides of the transverse centerline of the table top and being foldable into inoperative folded positions extending across the centerline to the end of the  
 110 table top remote from the pivot mounting and overlapping the pivoted end of the adjacent brace; and transverse braces pivotally mounted upon the under side of the top adjacent the ends thereof and arranged to be  
 115 extended into detachable engagement with the legs, said longitudinal and transverse braces and legs being foldable into substantially parallel relation extending longitudinally against the under side of the top and  
 120 between the panels when folded.

2. A folding table comprising a rectangular top formed from a plurality of foldable panels hingedly connected along adjacent longitudinal edges; legs hingedly connected  
 125 to the top; a pair of longitudinal braces mounted upon each side of the top and pivotally connected at one end of each brace upon the under side of the top adjacent the center thereof and arranged to incline outwardly  
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into detachable engagement with the legs, the braces of each pair being connected upon opposite sides of the transverse centerline of the table top and being foldable into in-  
5 operative folded positions extending across the centerline to the end of the table top remote from the pivot mounting and overlapping the pivoted end of the adjacent brace; and transverse braces pivotally  
10 mounted upon the under side of the top adjacent the ends thereof and arranged to be extended into detachable engagement with the legs, said braces and legs being foldable into substantially parallel relation extending  
15 longitudinally against the under side of the top and between the panels when folded; and a rigid one-piece end frame member pivotally connected at one end thereof to one of the legs upon each end of the table and arranged  
20 to be extended across the ends of the table into detachable engagement with the opposite legs, said frame members forming continuous support for the ends of the top panels and being movable into parallel relation  
25 with the legs for folding therewith between the panels.

In witness whereof, I hereunto set my signature.

EMIL VIDAL.

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