

Dec. 3, 1940.

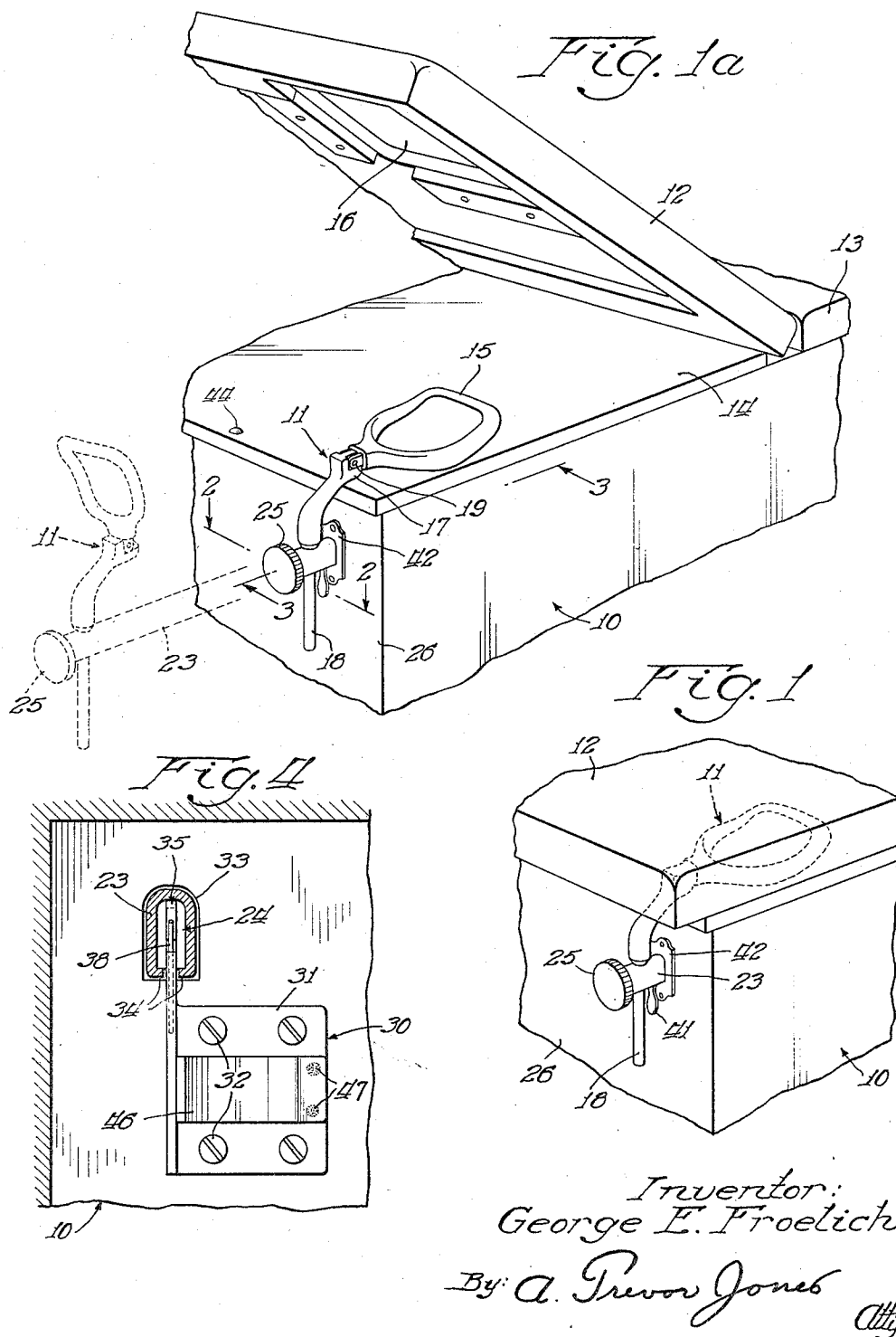
G. E. FROELICH

2,223,784

STIRRUP DEVICE FOR PHYSICIAN'S EXAMINING TABLE OR THE LIKE

Filed Oct. 3, 1938

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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Fig. 2

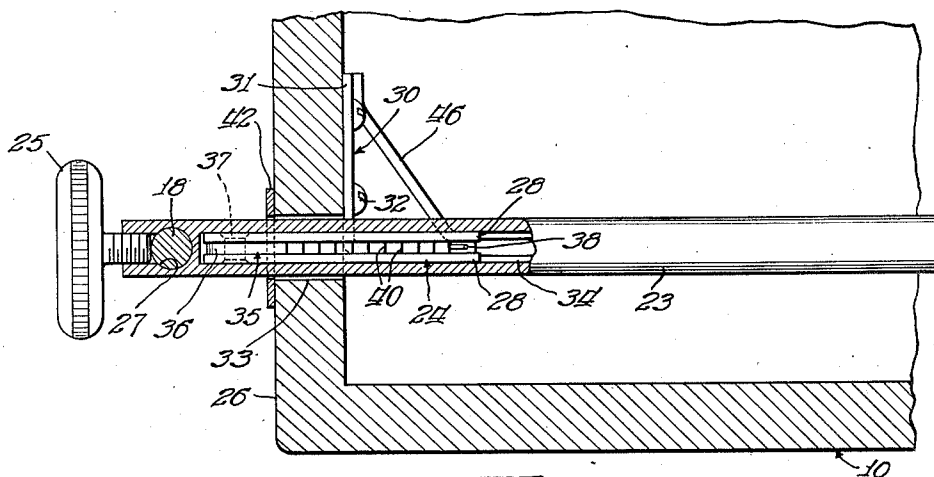
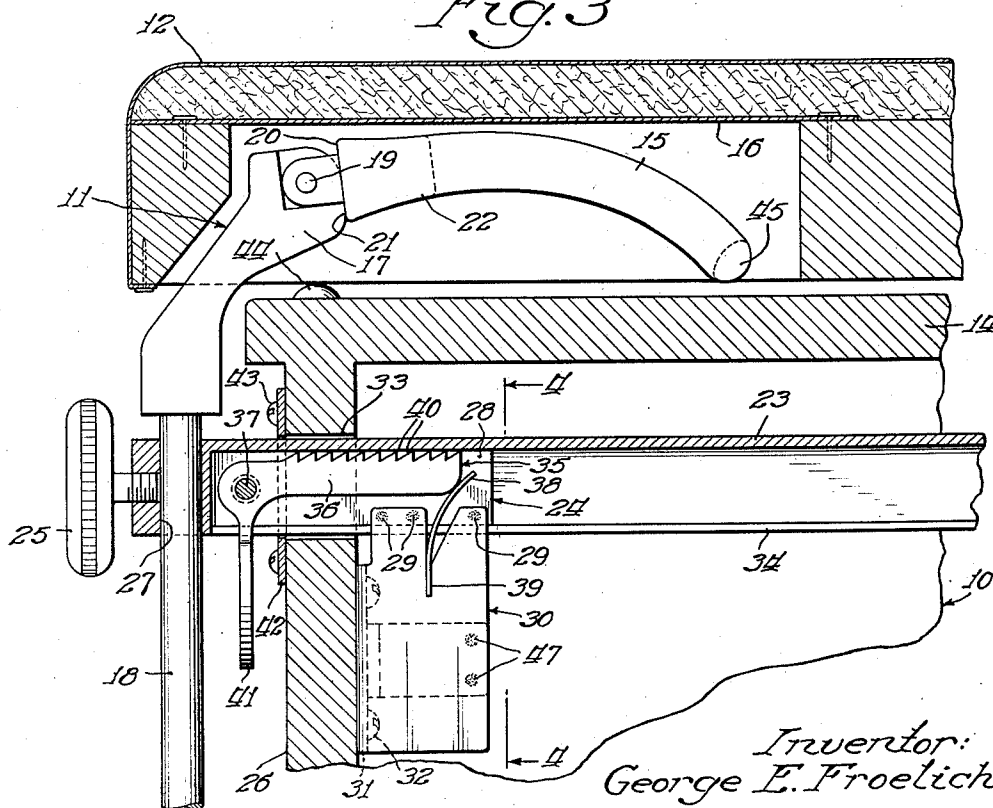


Fig. 3



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Att.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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STIRRUP DEVICE FOR PHYSICIAN'S
EXAMINING TABLE OR THE LIKE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 311—11)

This invention relates to a stirrup device for physician's examining table or the like, and particularly aims to provide a so-called disappearing stirrup in which the stirrup is normally concealed within the table when not in use.

The modern trend of furnishings for physicians' offices and the like aim to subordinate the mechanical devices of the furniture and other equipment so as to render them as inconspicuous as possible, and give the examining room as far as feasible the appearance of a consulting office.

The present invention deals with a structure of the class described with the aim just referred to in view, and contemplates simple and economical means for accomplishing the desired result, while affording ready accessibility and ease of operation of the device.

The invention will be readily understood by reference to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing a corner of the table with the device mounted thereon with the latter in inoperative position;

Figure 1a is a view on somewhat larger scale similar to Fig. 1, but showing the rest member of the table, raised exposing the stirrup to view, and, by dotted lines, the movement of the stirrup to operative position;

Figure 2 is a still further enlarged fragmentary plan section taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1a;

Figure 3 is a vertical section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1a, but with the rest member shown in lowermost position concealing the stirrup; and

Figure 4 is a fragmentary vertical section taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3 and looking outwardly of the device.

Referring in detail to the illustrative construction shown in the drawings, 10 is one corner of a physician's examining table or the like, it being understood that this is the corner adjacent the lower or foot end of the table, a similar corner at the opposite side of said foot end being similarly constructed and each side carrying one of the stirrup devices indicated generally by the numeral 11, one for each foot of the patient being examined, it being necessary here to describe only one of these devices.

The table 10, in accordance with conventional construction, has two rest members 12 and 13 hinged thereon to move angularly toward and from the table top 14, these rest members being covered with the usual padded upholstery of leather or the like.

In accordance with the present invention, the stirrup 15 of the stirrup device 11 disappears or

is concealed under the rest member 12 when the stirrup device is not in use and the rest member is moved to lowermost position parallel with the table top 14, which would normally be the case when the examining table is not in use. For this purpose the rest member 12 has a recess 16 on its under side which receives the stirrup together with the upper or pivot end 17 of the stirrup rod 18. As clearly shown in the drawings, stirrup rod 18 is enlarged at its upper end and is bent into somewhat goose-neck form terminating in the pivot portion 17 to which the stirrup proper 15 is hinged as at 19 to have limited movement on the pivot portion, toward and from the table 10, as by reason of the shoulders 20 and 21 respectively of the stirrup shank 22 abutting the pivot portion 17 when the stirrup is swung to extreme outward and inner positions respectively, that is, either to dotted line position as shown in Fig. 1a to receive and brace the foot of the patient, or to full line position as shown in Fig. 1a to be concealed within the table top. As best shown in Fig. 3, the rest member 12 also desirably somewhat overhangs the foot end 26 of the table.

The stirrup rod 18 is carried by a pair of relatively telescoping members 23 and 24, one of which, in this instance the member 24, is fixed within the table and the other 23, to which the stirrup is attached, being movable inwardly and outwardly of the table on the member 24 from full line position as shown in Fig. 1a to dotted line position as shown in Fig. 1a and intermediate positions. By clamping hand-screw 25 the stirrup rod 18 may be adjusted vertically in its bore 27 in the member 23 to suit different heights to which it is desired to have the stirrup, in addition to the adjustability of the stirrup toward and from the table by movement of the member 23.

In this instance the member 24, which is the fixed members of the relatively telescoping members 23 and 24, is conveniently made up of a pair of elongated plates 28 spot-welded as at 29 to opposite faces of a bracket 30 which has an angular tail portion 31 fixedly secured as by screws 32 to the inner face of the table foot end 26. The plates 28 forming the member 24 are thus spaced apart in parallel and are held stationary, projecting both inwardly and outwardly of an aperture 33 in the table end 26, a space being left therearound sufficient so that the channel-shape member 23 fits snugly over the member 24 while being slidable thereon through the aperture 33. The channel-shape member 23 desirably has lips 34 which lap the lower edges of the plates 28 so as to

prevent relative angular movement of the telescoping members 23 and 24 while permitting the relative sliding movement referred to.

When the stirrup is withdrawn to dotted line position as shown in Fig. 1a, it is desirable to provide releasable means resisting accidental movement of the stirrup or movement under pressure of the foot of the patient, and the present invention contemplates a spring urged friction device 35 for this purpose.

As here shown, the friction device 35 includes an elongated plate 36 somewhat similarly shaped to the plates 28 and pivotally held therebetween on a pivot pin 37. A leaf spring 38 anchored as at 39 on the bracket 30 urges the serrated upper edge of the plate 36 into frictional engagement with the inner upper surface of the channel member 23, the teeth 40 of this serrated edge being formed as shown with their sharper surface pointing inwardly so as to offer the greater resistance to outward movement of the channel member 23, it being understood that the latter is the direction in which pressure of the foot of the patient would tend to urge the stirrup and movement in which direction is therefore here normally resisted when the stirrup is in use.

To permit outward movement of the channel member 23 however, for adjustment of the stirrup outwardly, the plate 36 has a depending integral finger-piece 41 which passes through the slot between the lips 34 of the channel member 23 and is accessible at the exterior of the table. By pulling outwardly on the finger-piece 41 the teeth 40 of the friction device are moved away from contact with the member 23 against the force of the leaf spring 38 which, when the finger-piece is released, returns the teeth 40 to friction producing position.

To prevent wear on the outer margins of the aperture 33, these margins may be protected by a face plate 42 secured to the table end as by screws 43.

To avoid jar when the rest member 12 is moved to lowermost position and to provide a clearance in this position with the table top, the rest mem-

ber desirably contacts rubber buttons 44 on the table top, and the normal concealed position of the stirrup, as best shown in Fig. 3, is such that the free end 45 of the stirrup is spaced from actual contact with the table top, thus avoiding wear on the latter.

The bracket 30 may be reinforced by fillet plate 46 spot-welded as at 47 to the respective angular portions of the bracket 30.

Such changes may be made as fall within the scope of the following claims without departing from the invention.

Having described my invention, I claim:

1. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a table having a rest member 15 pivoted thereon intermedially of the table top to have its free end movable toward and away from the foot end of the table, of a stirrup disposed on said table top beneath but free of said rest member, and means independent of the rest member for mounting the stirrup on the table slidably toward and from said foot end, said stirrup being pivoted on said means to swing from a position parallel to said table top to a position perpendicular thereto, whereby the stirrup may be concealed under said rest member when the latter is parallel with the table top but may be moved upwardly and outwardly from the table top when the rest member is elevated.

2. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a table having a rest member 30 horizontally pivoted thereon to have its free end movable toward and away from the foot end of the table and slightly overhanging said foot end when parallel to the table top, of a recess in the underside of said rest member at said free end, a vertical stirrup rod having an upper end of goose-neck formation received in said recess, a stirrup pivoted on said stirrup rod to lie in a horizontal plane within the recess, and means on the table top independent of the rest member for moving the stirrup and stirrup rod bodily outwardly when the rest member is elevated.

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