March 19, 1957 E. S. BANKS 2,785,735

COLLAPSIBLE FURNITURE

Filed July 21, 1955

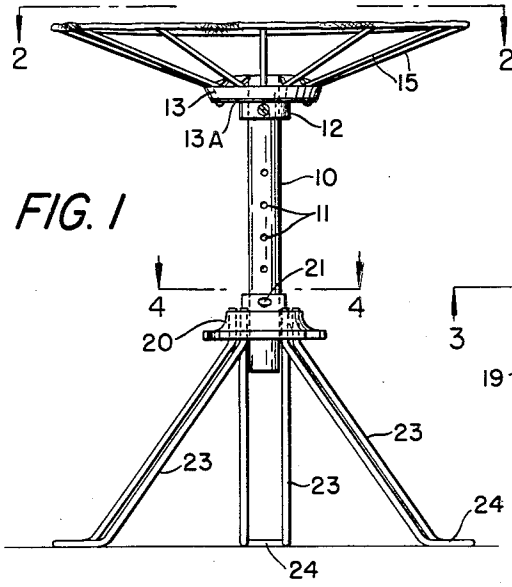


FIG. 1

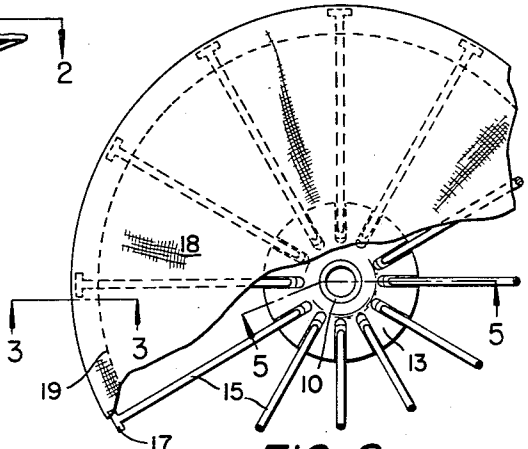


FIG. 2

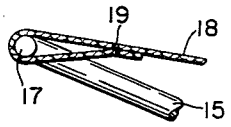


FIG. 3

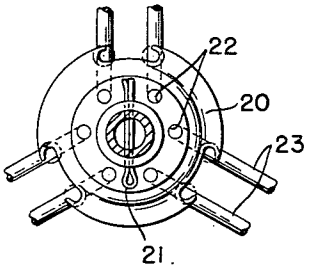


FIG. 4

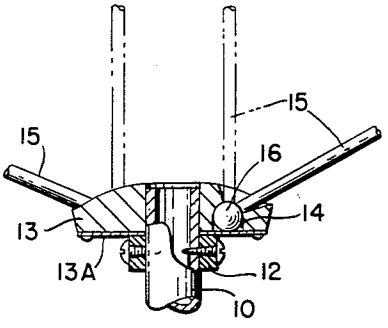


FIG. 5

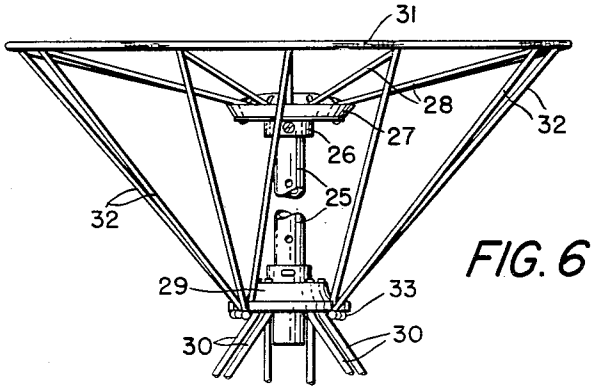


FIG. 6

INVENTOR.
EARL S. BANKS

BY
W. B. Hayman
ATTORNEY

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COLLAPSIBLE FURNITURE

Earl S. Banks, Youngstown, Ohio

Application July 21, 1955, Serial No. 523,416

1 Claim. (Cl. 155—149)

This invention relates to collapsible furniture and more particularly to a portable collapsible stool and table.

The principal object of the invention is the provision of a lightweight, compact, collapsible article of furniture.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a collapsible article of furniture which may, in its preferred form, be used as a stool and in a slightly modified form may be used as a table.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a collapsible article of furniture, the uppermost portion of which comprises a section of fabric material stretched tightly to form a seat or table top.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a simple and inexpensive form of collapsible furniture which may be readily assembled and used and quickly disassembled and transported.

The portable collapsible article of furniture disclosed herein is primarily intended to provide campers or picnickers or the like with suitable furniture which at the same time is light in weight and capable of being transported in a very small package.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being the intention to cover all changes and modifications of the example of the invention herein chosen for purposes of the disclosure, which do not constitute departures from the function and scope of the invention.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a stool.

Figure 2 is a top plan view with parts broken away taken on line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a horizontal cross section taken on line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a cross section taken on line 4—4 of Figure 1 with parts broken away.

Figure 5 is a section taken on line 5—5 of Figure 2 with parts broken away, dotted lines illustrating an alternate position of the parts.

Figure 6 is a side elevation of a table with parts broken away.

By referring to the drawings and Figures 1 through 5 in particular wherein the preferred embodiment of the invention is illustrated, it will be seen that an article of furniture comprising a stool or portable seat is disclosed and which comprises a tubular body member **10** apertured as at **11** longitudinally thereof and provided with a collar **12** adjacent one end thereof. The upper end of the tubular body member **10** extends through and beyond the collar **12**, as best shown in Figure 5 of the drawings.

A centrally apertured supporting bracket **13** is removably positioned on the upper end of the tubular body member **10** and rests on the collar **12**. The bracket **13** is provided with a plurality of apertures **14—14** circumferentially spaced thereabout, each of the apertures **14—14** having an enlarged lower portion and a slot-like upper portion, the slot-like portions being disposed radially of the bracket **13**.

A plurality of arms **15—15** are provided with spheres **16** on each of their innermost ends, the spheres **16** being nested in the enlarged lower portions of the apertures **14** with the arms **15** extending through the slot-like portions of the apertures thereabove and thereby being movable from vertical to near-horizontal position as shown in Figure 5 of the drawings. In Figure 5 the arms **15** are shown in vertical position in dotted lines and in near-horizontal position in solid lines.

A retainer plate **13A** is fastened to the bottom of the bracket **13** to retain the sphere **16** and arms **15** in the bracket **13**.

Each of the arms **15** has a T-head **17** on its outermost end, and a circular section of fabric **18**, such as canvas, is hemmed about the peripheral edge as at **19** so as to enclose each of the T-heads **17** on the ends of the arms **15** in said hem, as best shown in Figure 3 of the drawings.

It will thus be seen that when the arms **15** are moved to near-horizontal position, as shown in the several figures of the drawings, the fabric **18** will be stretched to substantially horizontal position where it may be used as a seat.

In order that the tubular body member **10** may be held upright and in elevated relation to a supporting surface, a secondary apertured bracket **20** is engaged over the lower end of the tubular body member **10** and a cotter pin **21** positioned through transverse openings therein and through an opposed pair of apertures **11** in a tubular body member.

The height of the stool may thus be varied by re-positioning the secondary bracket **20** vertically on the tubular body member **10**. The secondary bracket **20** is provided with a plurality of circumferentially spaced, vertically positioned openings **22** through which the upper vertical ends of elongated U-shaped legs **23** are positioned when the article of furniture is assembled.

The elongated U-shaped legs **23** are generally angularly disposed with respect to their vertical end sections engaged in the openings **22** in the secondary bracket **20** with the exception of their lowermost ends **24** which are positioned at right angles to said upper ends and thereby disposed on a horizontal plane and capable of distributing the weight of the stool and the person seated thereon.

To disassemble the structure, the legs **23** are moved downwardly out of the openings **22**, the bracket **13** is lifted off of the upper end of the tubular body member **10** and the section of fabric **18** pushed downwardly in the center to move the plurality of arms **15** to vertical position thereabout. The three parts of the stool may then be conveniently secured to one another to form a small and lightweight package.

It will occur to those skilled in the art that the same construction may be used to form a table with but a slight modification and the same is illustrated in Figure 6 of the drawings wherein a tubular body member **25** has a collar **26** thereon which supports a bracket **27** from which a plurality of radially disposed arms **28** extend in the same manner as the construction hereinbefore disclosed in connection with Figures 1 through 5 of the drawings.

A secondary bracket **29** is adjustably positioned on the lower end of the tubular body member **25** and legs **30** are engaged therein in the same manner as in the construction disclosed in Figures 1 through 5 of the drawings.

The arms **28** in the modification of Figure 6 of the drawings are longer than the arms **15** heretofore described and they engage the peripheral edge of a larger

circular section of fabric 31. Wires or rods 32 are hinged to the ends of the arms 28 where they engage the edge of the fabric 31 and are pulled downwardly and engaged in slots 33 in the peripheral edge of the secondary bracket 29.

The circular section of canvas 31 is thus stretched tightly between the ends of the arms 28 and is usable as a table top.

A picnic or camping kit can be formed of several units of the article of furniture disclosed herein. For example, four pieces can be used as stools and one piece can be provided with the modified top portion thereby rendering is usable as a table.

It will thus be seen that the several objects of the invention have been met by the collapsible furniture disclosed herein.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

A collapsible article of furniture comprising a tubular body member having a collar inwardly of one end thereof, an apertured bracket having a plurality of radially spaced arms movably secured thereto, removably positioned on said collar, said bracket having a plurality of apertures spaced circumferentially thereof, the walls of

the bracket defining the apertures arranged so that the lower portions of the apertures are enlarged annularly and the apertures of the bracket are slotted radially of the bracket, and wherein said arms have spheres secured to their innermost ends and disposed in the enlarged areas of said apertures, a circular section of flexible material having its peripheral edges secured to the ends of said arms, a secondary bracket engageable on said tubular member and a plurality of angularly disposed legs removably positioned in said bracket and acting to support said tubular member in upright position.

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