H. A. FRANK.

FOLDING TABLE.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 8, 1916.

1,240,962. Patented Sept. 25, 1917.

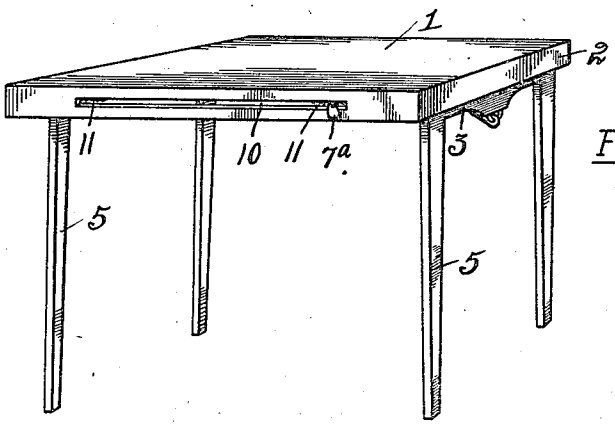
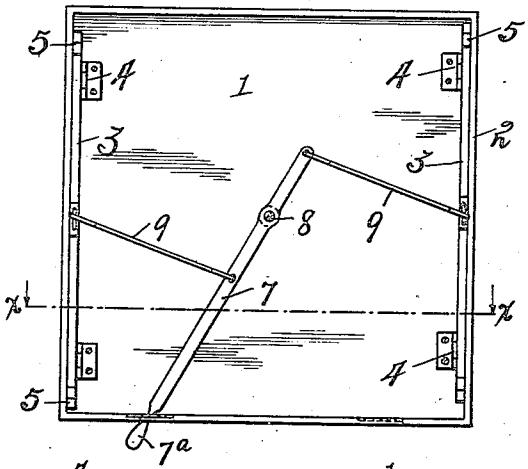
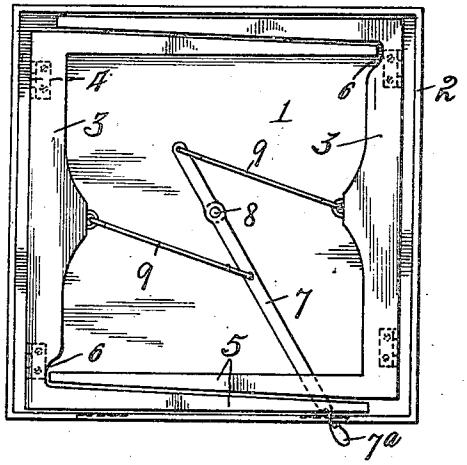


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.





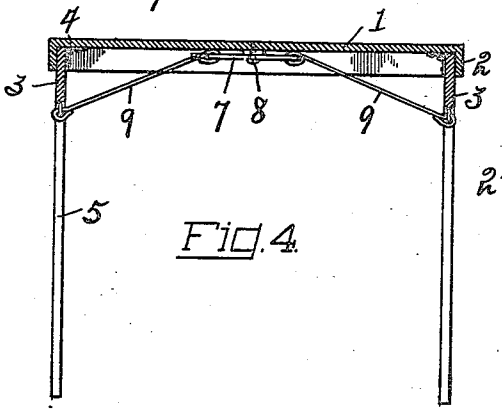


Fig. 4.

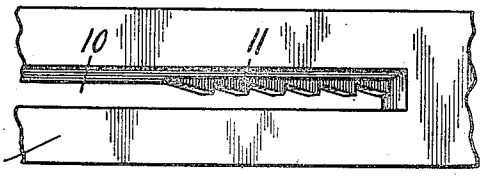


Fig. 5.

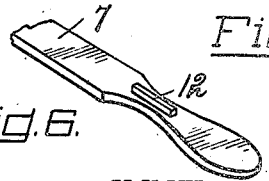


Fig. 6.

INVENTOR

Harry A. Frank,

By Bacon, Brown & Crampton

His attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY A. FRANK, OF TOLEDO, OHIO.

FOLDING TABLE.

1,240,962. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 25, 1917.

Application filed April 8, 1916. Serial No. 89,973.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRY A. FRANK, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Toledo, in the county of Lucas and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Folding Table; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the characters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to furniture, and particularly to a table of the folding or collapsing type.

The object of my invention is the provision, in combination with a table of the character described having folding legs, of simple, efficient and improved means which is operable from an edge of the table to simultaneously fold or unfold the several legs thereof and to lock such legs in set-up or collapsed relation to the table top.

The invention is fully described in the following specification, and while, in its broader aspect, it is capable of embodiment in numerous forms, a preferred embodiment thereof is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a table in set-up position embodying my invention. Figs. 2 and 3 are bottom views thereof, with the legs in unfolded and folded positions, respectively. Fig. 4 is a section on the line x, x in Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is an enlarged view of an edge portion of the table, and Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a portion of the handle portion of the leg controlling lever.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates a table top which is preferably provided around the entire edge thereof with a depending flange 2. A pair of cross-bars 3, 3 are hinged at one edge thereof to the under side of the top 1, one bar being adjacent to each of opposite portions of each flange 2 and in position to adapt it, when in upright or set-up position with respect to the table top, to be braced against outward movements by said flange, as shown in Figs. 2 and 4. Each bar 3 is connected to the top by hinges 4.

Legs 5, 5 project transversely from each bar 3 at the ends thereof and in opposition to its hinged edge so that each pair of legs and the connecting bar thereof coöperate to form a U-shaped member. When the legs of the two pairs are in folded or reclining position the legs of one part alternate with those of the other, as shown in Fig. 3. If the table top is of small area a lengthening of the legs may be permitted by providing each cross-bar 3 with a notch 6 in position for each of the legs 5, which is disposed between the other pair of legs, to project into when the legs are in folded position, as shown in Fig. 3.

A lever 7 is pivoted to the under side of the table top 1 centrally thereof, as at 8, and is connected at opposite sides of its pivot with the free edges of the cross-bars 3 by links or rods 9, whereby a rocking of the lever in one direction will impart an unfolding movement to the legs 5, and vice versa. One arm of the lever 7 is lengthened to form a handle 7^a, which is projected outward through an elongated opening or slot 10 in the side flange 2 of the top. One wall of the slot 10, the upper in the present instance, is provided at each end thereof with a set of ratchet-teeth 11 with which a tooth 12 on the lever handle may engage to lock the legs in either set-up or collapsed position, as is apparent. When the legs are in set-up position the rods 9, in coöperation with the lever 7, exert an outward pressure on the bars 3 and force them firmly against the respective side portions of the flange 2, thus making the legs firm and preventing lateral wabbling movements of the table.

It is evident that I have provided a table, the legs of which are hinged thereto and connected to a control lever which is operable from an edge of the table to effect a simultaneous unfolding or folding of the legs with respect to the table, and which is also capable of being locked in an easy and simple manner to retain the legs in either of said positions. It is also evident that when the legs are in unfolded position the cross-bars 3 thereof are braced against outward movements by the portions of the flange 2 disposed at the respective edges of the table therewith.

I wish it understood that my invention is not limited to any specific construction, arrangement or form of the parts, except in so far as such limitations are specified in the claim.

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

In a table, a top having a flange depending from and extending around its edge, said flange having an elongated opening in a part thereof, a pair of cross-bars hinged to the top, one adjacent to each of opposite edges thereof, each of said bars having legs projecting therefrom, a lever pivoted to the under side of the table and having one end thereof prolonged and extended through said elongated opening, rods projecting in opposite directions from the lever at opposite sides of its pivot and connected at their outer ends to respective cross-bars, whereby rocking movements of the lever will communicate simultaneous movements to the cross-bars and legs, ratchet-teeth provided at opposite end portions of said opening in one wall thereof, and means on said lever for engaging with said teeth to releasably retain the lever at either limit of its movement with respect to said opening.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my name to this specification.

HARRY A. FRANK.