US 20060021553A1

(19) **United States**

(12) **Patent Application Publication** (10) **Pub. No.: US 2006/0021553 A1**

Pleiman et al. (43) **Pub. Date: Feb. 2, 2006**

(54) **TABLE WITH FOLDING SUPPORT**

(76) Inventors: **Brian R. Pleiman**, Medina, OH (US); **David R. Sander**, Medina, OH (US); **Michael A. Gregory**, Wooster, OH (US)

Correspondence Address:
MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP
233 S. WACKER DRIVE, SUITE 6300
SEARS TOWER
CHICAGO, IL 60606 (US)

(21) Appl. No.: **10/903,287**

(22) Filed: **Jul. 30, 2004**

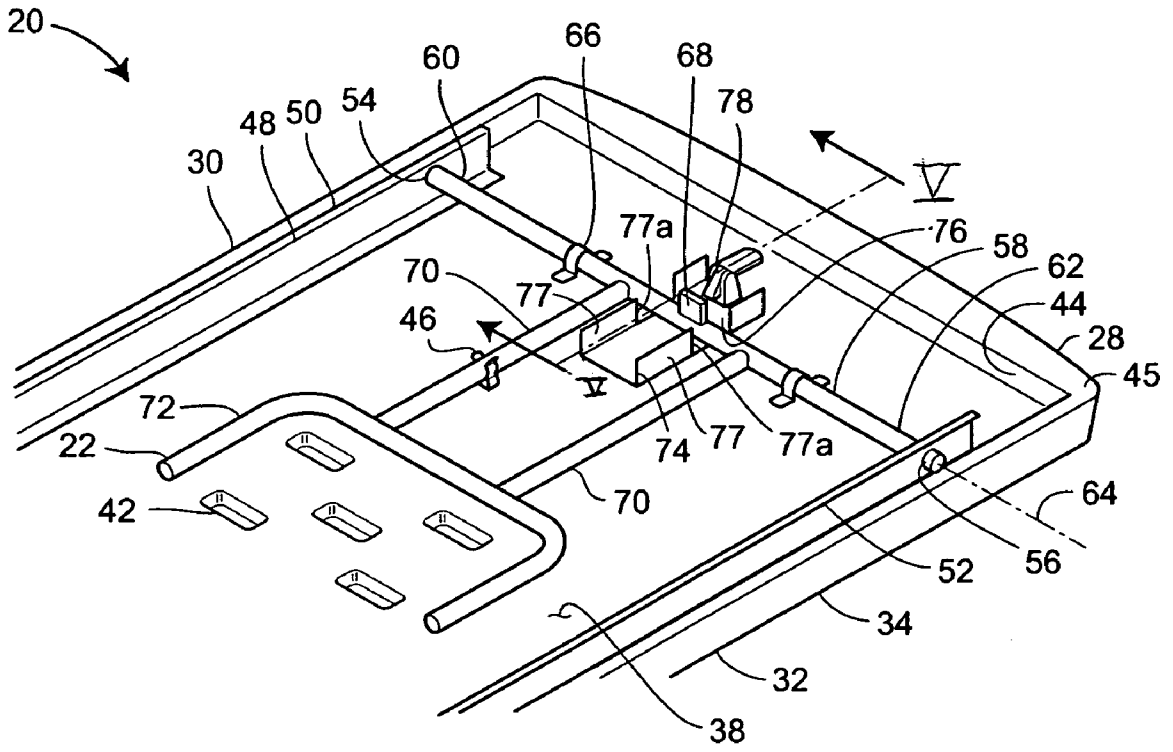
Publication Classification

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A47B 3/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **108/133**; 108/129

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A table includes a table top with an underside and a support attached to the underside of the table top. The support is rotatable between a stored position and an extended position and extends generally away from the table top when the support is in the extended position and substantially lays against the underside of the table top when the support is in the stored position. A tab is carried by the support. A latch is positioned on the underside of the table top and includes a catch shiftable between an obstructing position and a withdrawn position. The catch includes a locking surface adapted to releasably engage the tab to secure the support in the extended position.



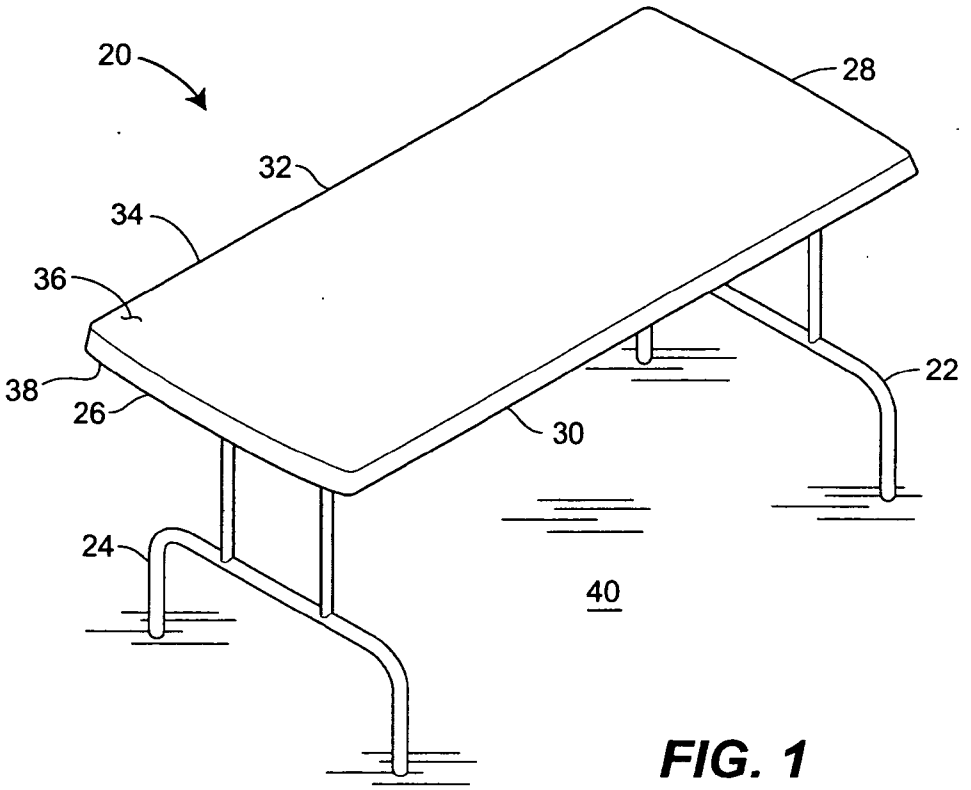


FIG. 1

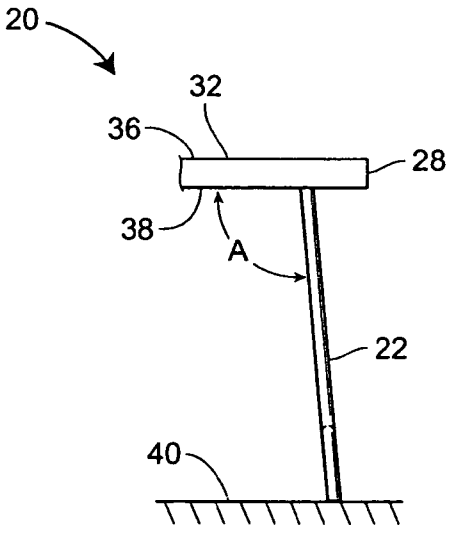


FIG. 2

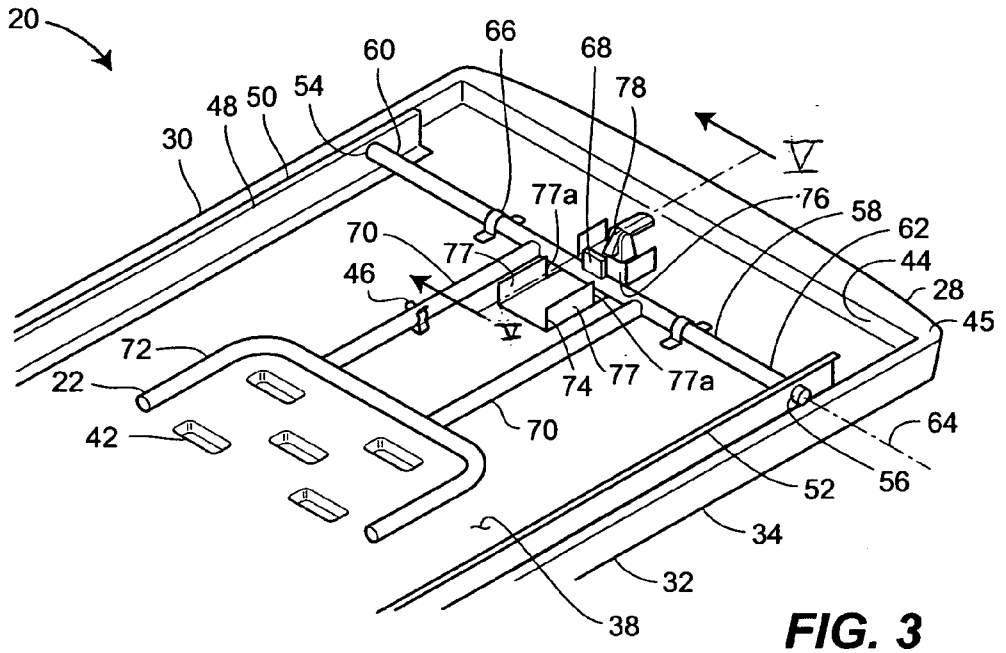

20
60
66
68
78
48
50
54
30
V
77a
76
58
62
70
77
44
46
28
45
V
72
74
77
77a
22
70
64
42
52
56
34
32
38

FIG. 3

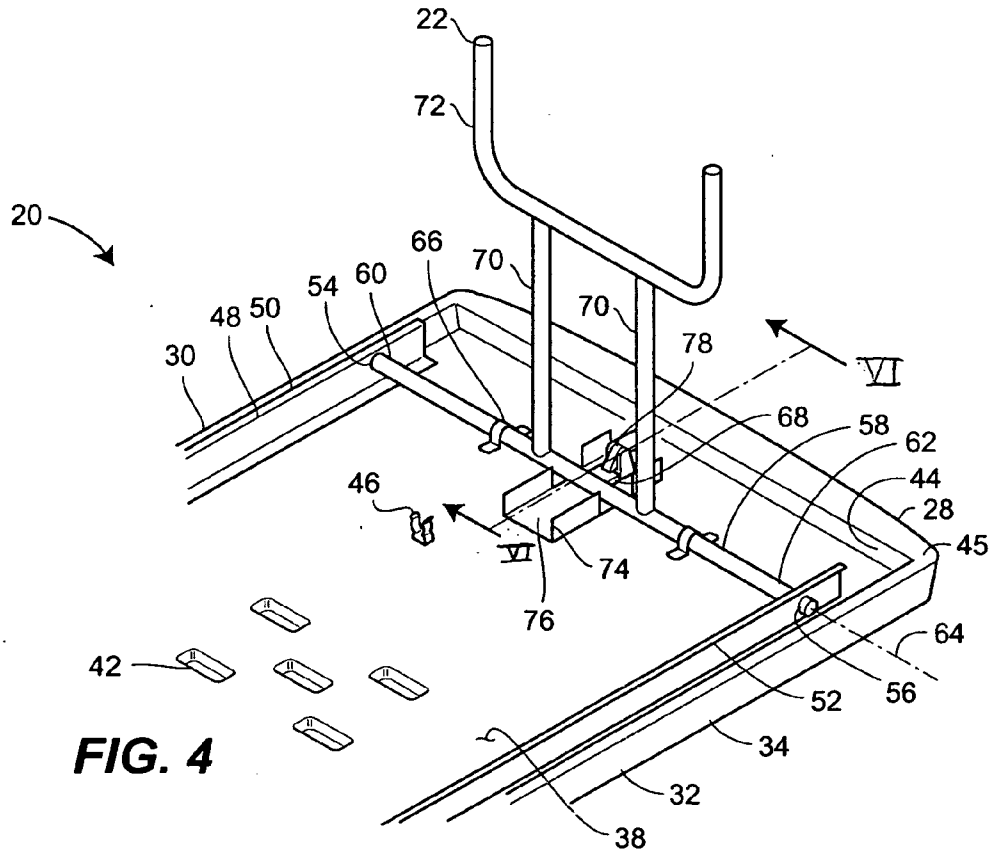

22
72
20
66
70
70
60
54
48
50
78
30
VI
68
58
62
46
44
28
45
VI
74
76
64
42
52
56
34
32
38

FIG. 4

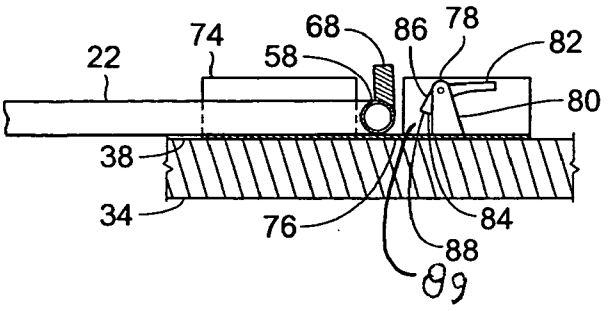


FIG. 5

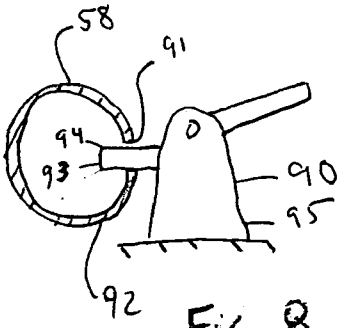


FIG. 8

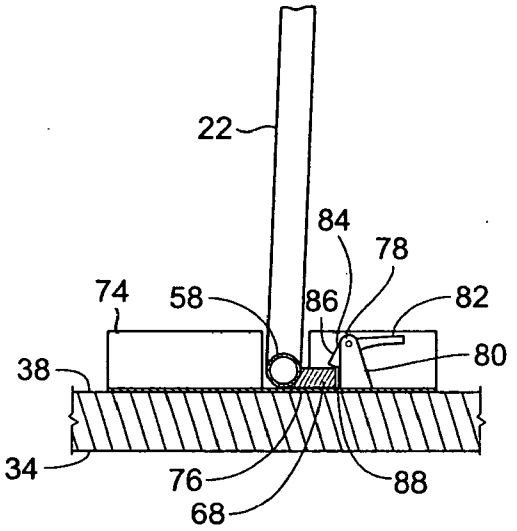


FIG. 6

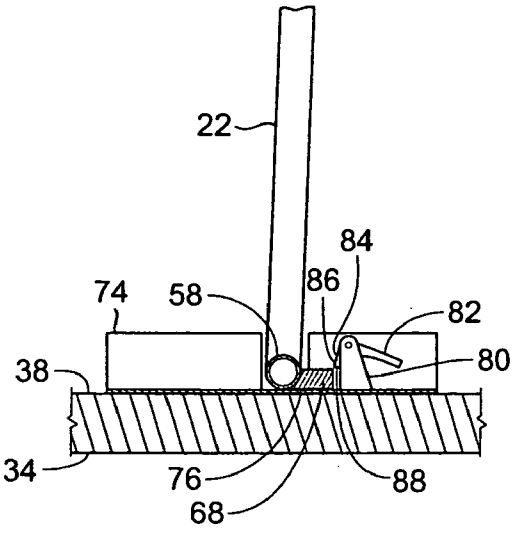


FIG. 7

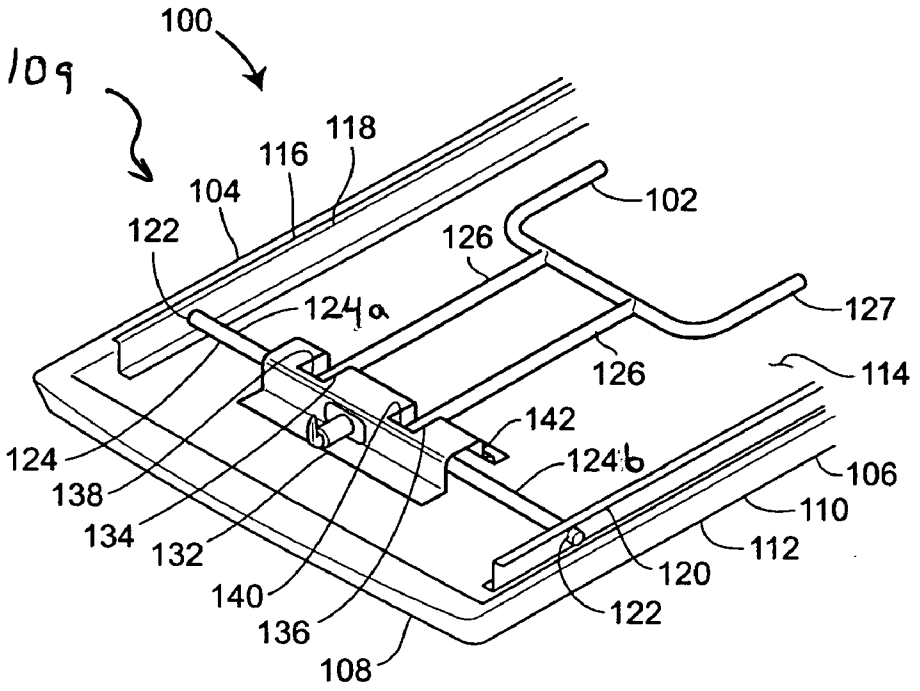

100
109
118
116
104
102
122
126
124a
127
126
114
142
124
124b
106
138
110
134
112
132
120
140
122
136
108

FIG. 9

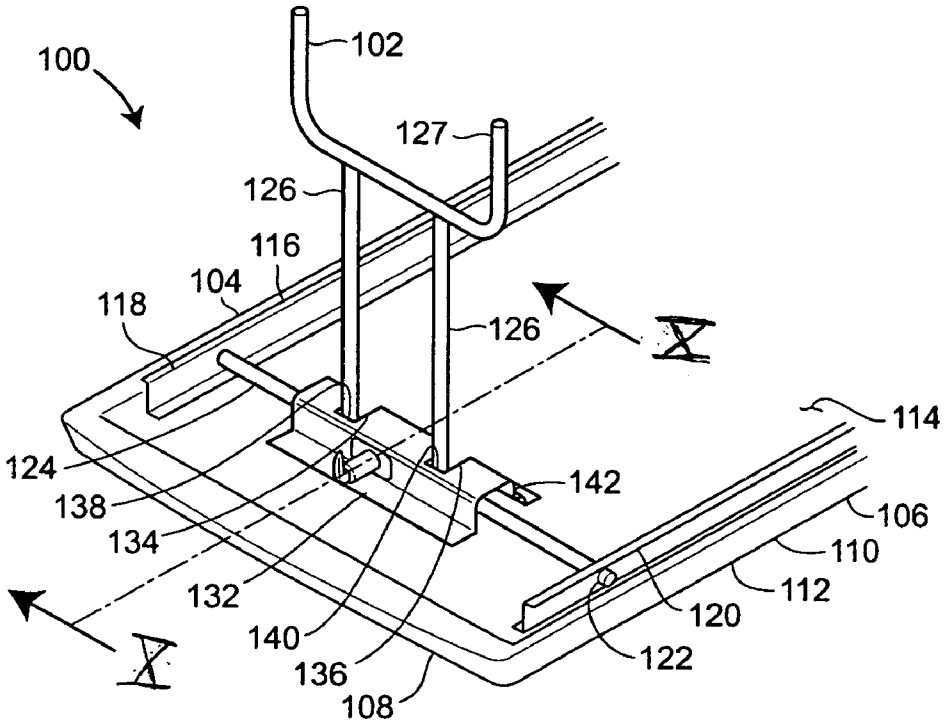

100
102
127
126
116
104
118
126
X
114
124
142
138
106
134
110
112
132
120
X
140
122
136
108

FIG. 10

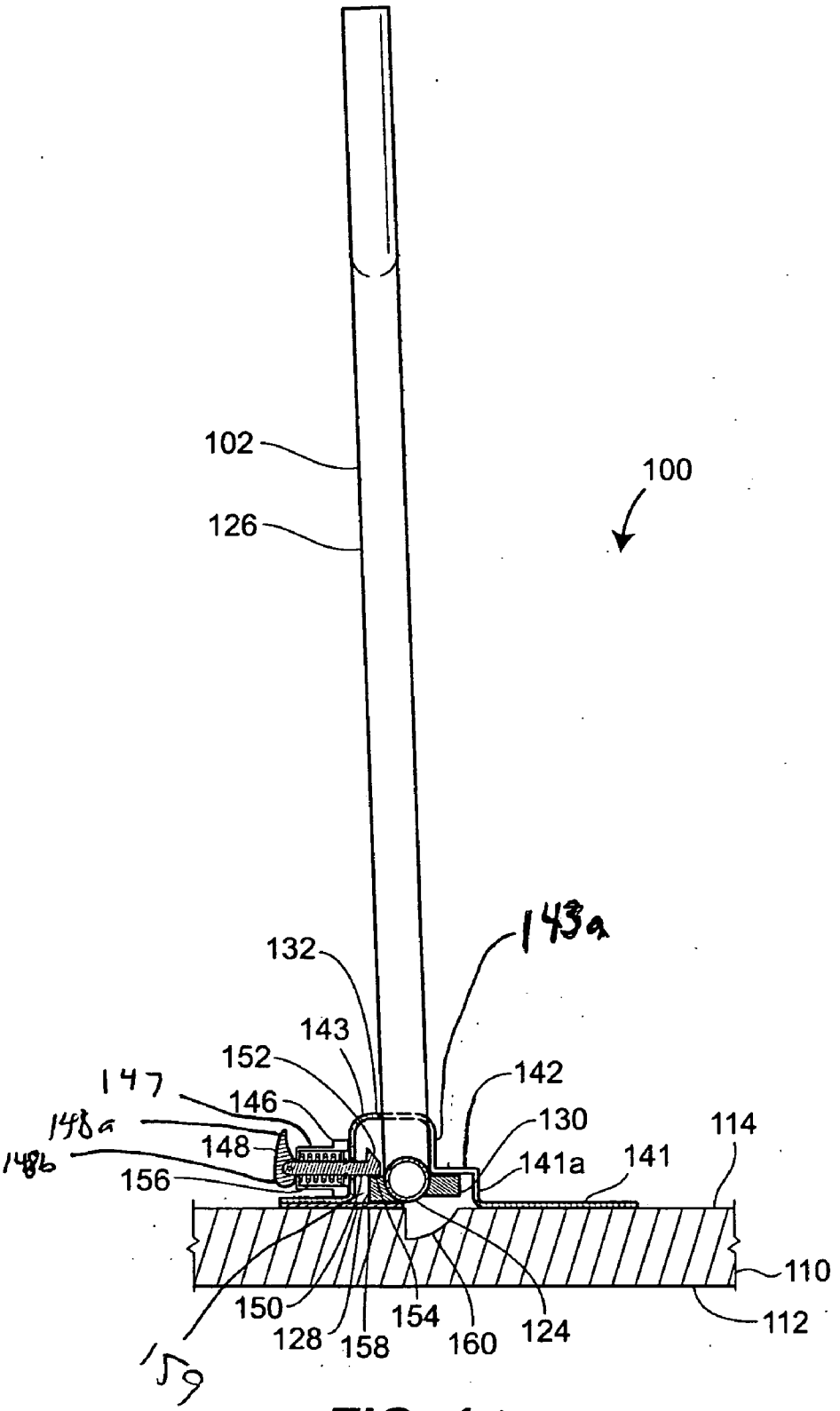

102
100
126
143a
132
143
152
142
147
146
130
148a
114
148
141a
141
148b
156
110
150
154
112
128
158
160
124
159

FIG. 11

TABLE WITH FOLDING SUPPORT

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The invention relates to tables, and more particularly to tables with support legs that fold for easy storage.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] Folding tables such as banquet tables have a table top and a support on each end attached to the underside of the table top. Each support can include a pair of legs and can be collapsible or can fold between an extended position and a stored position. In the extended position, the supports are approximately perpendicular to the table top, while in the stored position, the supports are folded against the table top. By placing the supports in the stored position, the table can be stored in a comparatively small space.

[0003] In a particular known table, each support is rotatably attached to the underside of the table top. A two bar linkage has a first end connected to the underside of the table top and a second end connected to the support at a position approximately midway down the support. As the support is rotated from the stored position to the extended position, the linkage is extended and locks the support in the extended position.

[0004] At least some known tables are cumbersome to use. For example, some two bar linkage systems may be difficult to move into the locking position. Some systems may also present undesirable pinch points.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0005] **FIG. 1** is a perspective view of a table constructed in accordance with the teachings of this disclosure.

[0006] **FIG. 2** is a side view of the right side of the table of **FIG. 1** with a support in the extended position.

[0007] **FIG. 3** is a perspective view of the underside of the table of **FIG. 2** with the support in a stored position.

[0008] **FIG. 4** is a perspective view of the underside of the table of **FIG. 2** with the support in an extended position.

[0009] **FIG. 5** is a fragmentary cross sectional view of the table taken along line V-V in **FIG. 3**, and showing a latch for support.

[0010] **FIG. 6** is a fragmentary cross sectional view of the table taken along line VI-VI in **FIG. 4**, with the latch in the extended position.

[0011] **FIG. 7** is a fragmentary cross sectional view of the table taken along line VI-VI in **FIG. 4**, with the latch in the retracted position.

[0012] **FIG. 8** is a fragmentary cross sectional view of an alternate example of a cross member and a latch.

[0013] **FIG. 9** is a perspective view of the underside of a second example of a left side of a table constructed in accordance with the teachings of this disclosure, and with the support in a stored position.

[0014] **FIG. 10** is a perspective view of the underside of the table of **FIG. 9** with the support in an extended position.

[0015] **FIG. 11** is a cross-sectional view of the table of **FIG. 8**, taken along line X-X in **FIG. 10**.

[0016] While the disclosure is susceptible to various modifications and alternative constructions, certain illustrative embodiments thereof have been shown in the drawings and will be described below in detail. It should be understood, however, that there is no intention to limit the disclosure to the specific forms disclosed, but on the contrary, the intention is to cover all modifications, alternative constructions, and the equivalents falling within the spirit and scope of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0017] Referring now to the drawings, **FIGS. 1 and 2** depict a first example of a table **20** with a foldable first support **22**. In this example, the table **20** also includes a foldable second support **24**. The table **20** defines a left side **26**, a right side **28**, a front side **30** and a back side **32**. The table **20** further includes a left half **33** and a right half **35**. The first support **22** is located near the right side **28** on the right half **35**, and the second support **24** is located near the left side **26** on the left half **33**. The table **20** includes a table top **34** with a top side **36** and an underside **38**. The first support **22** and the second support **24** maintain the table top **34** in an elevated position above a substrate **40** when in a set-up condition. In this example, only the structure of the right half **35** of the table **20** will be described, as it will be understood that the structure of the left half **33** of the table **20** can be a mirror image of the right half **35**. The labels of the sides of the table **20** used herein are for reference only, and no limitation should be read therein. For example, a circular table as understood herein can include left, right, front and back sides.

[0018] The first support **22** is rotatably attached to the underside **38** of the table top **34** and is rotatable through at least an extended position with the table in its set-up condition, as is depicted in **FIGS. 1, 2** and **4**, and a stored position, as depicted in **FIG. 3**. In the extended position, if first and second supports **22, 24** are used, the first support **22** can normally be at an angle A of approximately 92° from the table top **34**. In this position, the first and second supports **22** and **24** can resist forces in the directions of the left and right sides **26, 28**, such as a bump on the left side **26** of the table towards the right side **28**, to prevent rocking of the table top **20** or an unintentional inward folding of the supports **22, 24**. However it is possible that the first support **22** in the extended position could encompass a wide range of angles from the table top **34** in which the table top **34** is supported away from the substrate **40** on which the first support **22** rests. In the stored position, the first support **22** is substantially laying flat against and generally parallel to the underside **38** of the table top **34**.

[0019] Referring now to **FIGS. 3 and 4**, the underside **38** of the table top **34** is shown. The table top **34** is plate-like and in this example is constructed of molded plastic. The table top **34** can include a series of depressions **42** on its underside to provide rigidity and strength. Other materials can be used to manufacture the table top **34** such as wood, fiber board, metal, combinations thereof, or other suitable materials. The table top **34** can also include a skirt **44** extending downward to help obscure the hardware on the underside **38** of the table top **34** from sight when in the set-up condition, as well as to provide increased strength to the table top **34**. The skirt **44** can also allow the supports **22**,

24 when folded to rest between a plane defined by a bottom edge 45 of the skirt 44 and the surface of the underside 38 of the table top 34.

[0020] The table top 34 can further include at least one receiver 46. In this example, the receiver 46 is a separate piece of hardware fastened to the underside 38 of the table top 34. The receiver 46 is adapted to receive a portion of the first support 22 and removably secure the first support 22 in the stored position. In another example, the receiver 46 can be integral with the table top 34 itself, adapted to receive therein a portion of the first support 22. In this example, the receiver 46 is in the form of a clamp into which a part of the support snaps and is retained.

[0021] The table top 34 can include an optional frame 48 on its underside 38. The frame 48 in this example is constructed to provide support to the table top 34 without adding a substantial amount of weight. The frame 48 in this example includes a first rail 50 and a second rail 52 extending along the front side 30 and the back side 32, respectively, on the underside 38, and in this example within the skirt 44. The rails 50, 52 in this example are fabricated from steel and have a Z-shaped cross section. Other constructions of the frame 48 are known to those of skill in the art depending on a particular table application. For example, if the table 20 must support a great amount of weight, the frame 48 can include a number of cross members connecting and extending between the rails 50, 52. The rails 50, 52 can also have increased size in wall thickness and cross-section, or have a different configuration in cross section, such as tubular, or the like. The frame material can also vary as needed.

[0022] The first support 22 can be rotatably connected to the frame 48. In this example, the rail 50 includes a front receiving hole 54 and the rail 52 has a back receiving hole 56 on the right side 28 generally opposite the front receiving hole 54. The first support 22 includes a cross member 58 with a front end 60 and a back end 62 rotatably disposed in the front and back receiving holes 54, 56, respectively. The front end 60 and the back end 62 are disposed in the respective receiving holes 54, 56 to provide a connection between the support 22 and the frame 48 such that the first support 22 can be rotated relative to the table top 34 between at least the stored position and the extended position. As such, the cross member 58 defines an axis of rotation 64. Other methods of connection are possible, including bearings, bushings, or a cross member fixed to the frame 48 with the remainder of the first support 22 being rotatably connected to the fixed cross member. The cross member 58 can further be rotatably secured to the table top 34 by one or more U-brackets 66 as an alternative, or as a supplemental support as shown.

[0023] In the alternative, where no receiving holes 54, 56 are provided in the frame 48 or no frame is provided at all, receiving holes or depressions can be formed in the skirt 44 or other structure of the underside 38. Further, brackets or other structure could be added to or be integral with the underside 38 of the table top 34. These alternate structures can provide holes or a suitable receptacle to rotatably couple the first support 22 to the table top 34.

[0024] The cross member 58 in this example includes a tab 68 extending outwardly from the cross member 58 and positioned approximately midway between two ends 60, 62. As can be seen in FIGS. 3 and 4, when the first support 22 is in the stored position, the tab 68 extends away from the table top 34. When the first support 22 is in the extended position, the tab 68 can be adjacent the underside 38 of the table top 34. While in the example, a tab 68 extending outwardly is shown, in another example the tab 68 can be a slot cut into the cross member 58, and the table 20 will function similarly.

[0025] The first support 22 further includes a pair of legs 70 extending radially away from the cross member 58. In this example, the legs 70 terminate at a connection to a crescent-shaped, downwardly depending foot section 72. The legs 70 and the foot section 72 can be fabricated from tube steel. However, any configuration and cross section of the legs 70 is possible, with or without a foot section 72, in which the table top 34 is supported in an elevated position away from the substrate 40. In this example, the two legs 70 are provided spaced apart from each other along the cross member 58. Further, more or fewer legs 70 can be included in the first support 22. Even a single leg with an appropriate foot can be used if it can provide stability for the table top 34. As is known, the legs 70 support the table top 34 in an elevated position above the substrate 40.

[0026] An optional mounting bracket or channel 74 is fastened to the underside 38 of the table top 34 and in this example creates an area in which the tab 68 can rotate. The bracket 74 includes a plate section 76 mounted against the underside 38 with a pair of wings 77 extending generally perpendicularly away from the plate section 76. The wings 77 include notches 77*a* to allow for the cross member 58 to pass laterally across the bracket 74. The bracket 74 in this example is made of steel, but can be made of any suitable material. The bracket 74 in this example provides a durable surface for the tab 68 to bear against when the support 22 is in the extended position and provides a mounting surface for a latch 78.

[0027] The latch 78 is spring loaded in this example and is mounted to the table top 34, and can be mounted to the plate section 76 in the bracket 74, as in this example. The latch 78, best seen in FIGS. 5-7, maintains the first support 22 in the extended position. The disclosed latch 78 includes a housing 80 fastened or otherwise mounted to the bracket 74 and is spaced laterally from the axis of rotation 64 toward the right side 28. An actuator lever 82 is pivotably connected to the housing 80. Further, a spring-loaded catch 84 is pivotably connected to the housing 80 and interengaged with the actuator lever 82 such that rotational movement of the actuator lever 82 causes rotational movement of the catch 84. The catch 84 has a cam surface 86 facing away from the housing 80 and has a locking surface 88 facing the plate section 76. The catch 84 is biased by a spring (not seen) into an obstructing position, as shown in FIGS. 5, 6. In the obstructing position, the catch 84 is biased outward away from the housing 80. A gap 89 is defined between the plate section 76 and the locking surface 88 and is further defined between the axis of rotation 64 and the housing 80. By pressing the actuator lever 82, the catch 84 is pivoted and retracts into the housing 80 into a withdrawn position, as shown in FIG. 7. The catch 84 can also be pushed into the housing 80 by simply applying pressure to the cam surface 86 to overcome the spring force of the biased catch.

[0028] To move the first support 22 from the stored position to the extended position, the user can simply grasp

the first support **22** and rotate the first support **22** out of the receiver **46** and toward the position in which the legs **70** are approximately perpendicular to the table top **34**. As the first support **22** rotates and nears the extended position, the tab **68** rotates into contact with the cam surface **86** of the catch **84**. The cam surface **86** is angled such that as the first support **22** rotates, the tab **68** forces the catch **84** into the housing **80** to the withdrawn position until the tab **68** passes by the catch **84** and into the gap **89**. The catch **84** then springs back to the obstructing position.

[**0029**] At this point, the tab **68** is maintained in the gap **89** between the locking surface **88** of the catch **84** and the plate section **76** of the channel **74**, as is shown in **FIG. 6**. The plate section **76** prevents continued rotation of the first support **22** past the extended position and the locking surface **88** prevents rotation of the first support **22** back toward the stored position. The first support **22** is thereby securely maintained in the extended position.

[**0030**] To return the first support **22** back to the stored position, the user engages and pushes the lever **82** of the latch **78** which thereby pivots the catch **84** into the housing **80** and into the withdrawn position, as is shown in **FIG. 7**. In this position, the path of the tab **68** is not impeded by the catch **84**. The user then simply rotates the first support **22** from the extended position to the stored position. The user can then use the receiver **46** to secure the first support **22** in the stored position by snapping a portion of one of the legs into the receiver **46**.

[**0031**] An alternate example of a latch **90** is depicted in **FIG. 8**. The cross member **58** includes a slot **91** and has an outer surface **92**. The latch **90** includes a catch **93** with a cam area **94**. The catch **93** is biased by known means to the obstructing position shown in **FIG. 8**. In this example, the slot **91** and the outer surface **92** have the same functionality as the tab **68** in the previous example. When the first support **22** is in the stored position, the outer surface **92** bears against the cam area **94** of the catch **93** to maintain the catch **93** in a withdrawn position in which the cam is generally maintained within a housing **95** of the latch **90**. As the first support is shift to the extended position, the cross member **58** is rotated and the slot **91** comes into a confronting relationship with the catch **93**. The catch **93** is biased into the slot **91** and locks the first support **22** in the extended position.

[**0032**] Referring now to **FIGS. 9-11**, a second example of a table **100** with a first support **102** is depicted. In this example, a second support (not shown) is also included. The table **100** defines a front side **104**, a back side **106**, a left side **108**, and a right side (not shown). The table **100** further includes a left half **109** and a right half (not shown). In this example, the first support **102** is near the left side **108** on the left half **109**, and the second support is near the right side on the right half. Again, the right half can be a mirror of the left half **109**, and as such, only the structure of the left half **109** will be described. The table **100** includes a table top **110**, similar in structure to the table top of the first example, with a top side **112** and an underside **114**.

[**0033**] The table **100** further includes a frame **116** on the underside **114** of the table top **110**. The frame **116** includes a first rail **118** extending along the front side **104** of the table top **110** and a second rail **120** extending along the back side **106** of the table top **110**. The first rail **118** and the second rail **120** both include a receiving hole **122** on the left side **108**. The rails **118**, **120** of the frame **116** can have a similar configuration and be fabricated of similar materials as in the first example.

[**0034**] The first support **102** includes a cross member **124** which in this example is in the shape of a tube with a front end **124***a* and a rear end **124***b*. The first support **102** includes a pair of legs **126** spaced laterally from each other and extending radially out from the cross member **124**. Although two legs **126** are shown herein, again, more or fewer legs can be used. The two legs **126** terminate at a U-shaped footer **127**. In this example, the footer **127** has a wider base than the legs **126** to provide greater stability of the table.

[**0035**] The front end **124***a* and rear end **124***b* of the cross member **124** are each contained within a respective receiving hole **122** of the first rail **118** and the second rail **120**. The receiving holes **122** thereby receive the cross member **124** of the first support **102** and rotatably secure the first support **102** to the table top **110**. Again, other structures may be used to rotatably secure the cross member **124** and therefore the first support **102** to the table top **110**, such as brackets, depressions or holes in the lip, or the like.

[**0036**] Seen best in **FIG. 11**, extending radially out from and positioned centrally along the cross member **124** is a first tab **128**. Also extending out from the cross member **124** is a second tab **130** that is generally opposite the first tab **128**.

[**0037**] A casing **132** is fastened to the underside **114** of the table top **110** and generally envelops the cross member **124** along a portion of its length. The casing **132** includes a first slot **134** and a second slot **136** through which the legs **126** can travel when the first support **102** is rotated between the stored and the extended position. The slots **134**, **136** have a width and a length and both terminate in a stop surface **138**, **140**. The width of each of the slots **134**, **136** is slightly wider than the width or diameter of the legs **126**, while the length can be such that when the first support **102** is in the extended position, the legs **126** bear against the slot stop surfaces **138**, **140**.

[**0038**] The casing **132** includes a bottom surface **141** fastened to the underside **114** of the table top **110** and a top surface **143** distal from the bottom surface **141**. In between the top surface **143** and the bottom surface **141** is a step surface **142** substantially parallel to the underside **114** of the table top **110**. The step surface **142** is connected to the top surface **143** and the bottom surface **141** by a pair of risers **143***a*, **141***a*. The step surface **142** is adapted to engage the second tab **130** when the first support **102** is in the extended position and prevent the first support **102** from rotating past the extended position.

[**0039**] Fastened to the casing **132** is a spring loaded latch **146**. The latch **146** includes a housing **147** and is positioned such that it is opposite the first tab **128** attached to the cross member **124**. The latch **146** includes a handle **148** and a catch **150** connected at a pivot point **149**. The handle **148** includes a lip **148***a* and a cam **148***b*. The catch **150** includes an angled cam surface **152** and a locking surface **154**. The catch **150** is shiftable toward and away from cross member **124** between an obstructing position, shown in **FIG. 10**, to a withdrawn position (not shown) in which the catch **150** is displaced laterally away from the cross member **124**. The

catch **150** is biased by a spring **156** to the obstructing position and can be moved to the withdrawn position by pulling the handle **148** longitudinally against the force of the spring **156**. Also, the lip **148***a* can be pulled outward such that the cam **148***b* rotates against the housing **147** to essentially be a fulcrum. Thus, by rotating the lip **148***a* about the cam **148***b*, the catch **150** is pulled longitudinally outward. The catch **150** can also be moved to the withdrawn position by applying force against the cam surface **152** to push the catch **150** longitudinally against the force of the spring **156**.

[**0040**] A plate **158** can be fastened to the underside **114** of the table top **110** opposite the latch **146** and the first tab **128**. The plate **158** provides a surface against which the first tab **128** bears when the first support **102** is in the extended position. A depression **160** can be disposed in the underside **114** of the table top **110** positioned adjacent the second tab **130**. The depression **160** is constructed such that as the first support **102** is rotated from the extended position to the stored position, the second tab **130** rotates within and is fully contained within the depression **160**.

[**0041**] To move the first support **102** from the stored position shown in **FIG. 9** to the extended position shown in **FIGS. 10 and 11**, the user simply rotates the first support **102** away from the table top **110**. The first tab **128** interacts with the catch **150** as in the first example, such that as the first support **102** is rotated, the first tab **128** engages the cam surface **152** and pushes the catch **150** from the obstructing position to the withdrawn position until the first tab **128** has moved past the catch **150**. The catch **150** can then snap back into the obstructing position when the first support **102** is rotated to the fully extended position. The first tab **128** is thereby trapped between the locking surface **154** of the catch **150** and the plate **158**. This maintains the first support **102** in the extended position.

[**0042**] In this example, the second tab **130** is also rotated into contact with the stop surface **144** of the casing **132** when the first support **102** is in the extended position, thereby further preventing rotation of the first support **102** past the extended position. Finally, the legs **126** of the first support **102** travel through the slots **134**, **136** in the casing **132**. When the first support **102** is rotated into the extended position, the legs **126** are brought into contact with or near to the stop surfaces **138**, **140** in the slots **134**, **136**. This further buttresses the legs **126** when the first support **102** is in the extended position and inhibits them from collapsing.

[**0043**] To move the first support **102** back to the stored position, the user can grasp the handle **148** and pull the catch **150** away from the cross member **124** from the obstructing position to the withdrawn position. The catch **150** is no longer blocking travel of the first support **102**, and the first support **102** can simply be rotated back to the stored position.

[**0044**] The foregoing description is not intended to limit the scope of the invention to the precise form disclosed. It is contemplated that various changes and modifications may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

We claim:

1. A table comprising:

a table top with an underside;

a support attached to the underside of the table top and rotatable between a stored position and an extended position, the support extending generally away from the table top when the support is in the extended position and substantially laying against the underside of the table top when the support is in the stored position;

a tab carried by the support; and

a latch positioned on the underside of the table top and including a catch shiftable between an obstructing position and a withdrawn position, the catch including a locking surface releasably engageable with the tab when the support is in the extended position and the catch is in the obstructing position to releasably secure the support in the extended position.

2. The table of claim 1, the catch being biased to the obstructing position, the catch further comprising a cam surface, wherein the tab is adapted to cam against the cam surface as the support is rotated from the stored position to the extended position to shift the catch from the obstructing position to the withdrawn position.

3. The table of claim 1, the support including a cross member, wherein the tab is attached to the cross member and is engageable with the catch during rotation of the support.

4. The table of claim 1, further comprising a mounting bracket disposed on the underside of the table top, the mounting bracket including a stop surface, wherein the tab is confined between the stop surface of the mounting bracket and the locking surface of the latch when the support is in the extended position.

5. The table of claim 1, the latch further comprising a pivot lever, the lever adapted to shift the catch between the obstructing position and the withdrawn position upon pivoting of the lever.

6. The table of claim 1, the latch further comprising a shift lever moveable longitudinally, the shift lever adapted to shift the catch between the obstructing position and the withdrawn position upon longitudinal movement of the shift lever.

7. The table of claim 1, further comprising a plate disposed on the underside of the table top opposite from the locking surface of the latch, a gap being defined between the plate and the locking surface, wherein the tab is confined in the gap when the support is in the extended position.

8. The table of claim 1, further comprising a casing about at least a portion of the support.

9. The table of claim 8, the casing further comprising at least one slot, the support moveable through the slot as the support is moved between the extended position and the stored position.

10. The table of claim 9, the slot further comprising a slot stop, wherein when the support is in the extended position, the leg is adjacent the slot stop such that the support cannot rotate past the extended position.

11. The table of claim 8, the casing further comprising a stop surface, the support including a second tab extending outward, wherein when the support is in the extended position, the second tab bears against the stop surface such that the support cannot rotate past the extended position.

12. The table of claim 1, further comprising U-brackets to rotatably secure the cross member to the table top.

13. The table of claim 1, further comprising a frame extending along the front side and the back side of the table

and adapted to provide strength to the table top, the frame comprising a first rail and a second rail.

14. The table of claim 13, the first rail and the second rail each comprising an opening, the support comprising end portions rotatably disposed inside the openings such that the support is rotatable within the frame.

15. The table of claim 1, the table further comprising a receiver located on the underside of the table top, the receiver configured to secure the support in the stored position.

16. The table of claim 1, the latch further comprising a handle pivotably connected to the catch, the handle including a lip and a cam, the catch moveable longitudinally by rotation of the lip about the cam.

17. The table of claim 1, wherein an angle of the support relative to the table top is greater than 90° when the support is in the extended position.

18. A table comprising:

a table top having an underside;

a support attached to the underside of the table top and shiftable between a stored position and an extended position;

a tab carried by the support; and

a releasable latch positioned on the underside of the table top and adapted to engage the tab to secure the support in the extended position.

19. The table of claim 18, wherein the latch is automatically shiftable between an obstructing position and a withdrawn position in response to movement of the support toward the extended position.

20. The table of claim 19, the latch including a cam surface, wherein the tab is adapted to cam against the cam surface of the latch to shift it to the retracted position as the support is rotated to the extended position.

21. The table of claim 18, the support further including an axle, wherein the support is rotatable about the axle having a pivot axis.

22. The table of claim 21, wherein the tab is carried by the axle.

23. The table of claim 21, wherein the tab comprises a recess formed in the axle.

24. The table of claim 18, wherein the latch is biased toward the obstructing position.

25. The table of claim 18, wherein the latch includes a handle disposed in a housing.

26. The table of claim 25, wherein the handle is pivotable about an axis.

27. The table of claim 25, wherein the handle retracts linearly.

28. A table comprising:

a table top having an underside;

a support attached to the underside of the table top and rotatable between a stored position and an extended position;

a first tab carried by the support;

a second tab carried by the support; and

a latch secured to the table top and including a catch having a locking surface, the catch shiftable between an obstructing position and a withdrawn position;

wherein in the extended position, the first tab is secured between the table top and the locking surface of the catch, and the second tab bears against a stop surface.

29. The table of claim 28, further comprising a casing mounted to the underside of the table top and including the stop surface against which the second tab bears while in the extended position, the first tab and the second tab rotatable within the casing.

30. The table of claim 29, the casing further including at least one slot, wherein the support is moveable through the slot between the extended position and the stored position.

31. The table of claim 30, the slot including a slot stop, wherein the support bears against the slot stop when the support is in the extended position.

32. The table of claim 28, further comprising a spring that biases the catch to the obstructing position.

33. The table of claim 28, the table top further comprising a recess, wherein the second tab is moveable within the recess between the extended position and the stored position.

34. A table comprising:

a table top having an underside;

a support attached to the underside of the table top and shiftable between a stored position and an extended position;

a shiftable latch positioned on the underside of the table top and engageable with the support to releasably secure the support in the extended position.

35. The table of claim 34, the support further comprising a slot, the shiftable latch engageable with the slot to releasably secure the support in the extended position.

36. The table of claim 34, the support further comprising a tab, the shiftable latch engageable with the tab to releasably secure the support in the extended position.

* * * * *