Sept. 1, 1931. E. B. BECK 1,820,904

CONVERTIBLE FURNITURE

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FIG. I

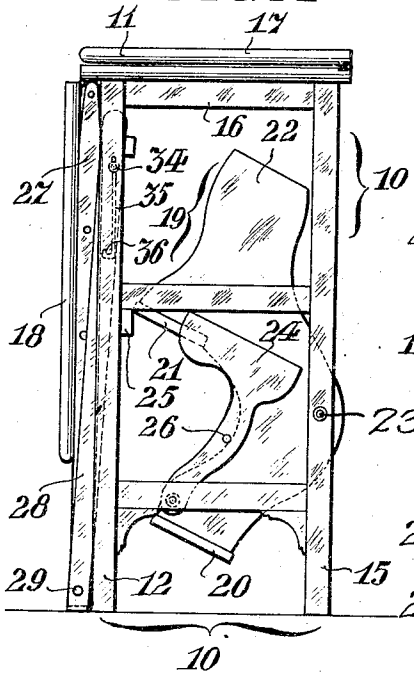


FIG. II

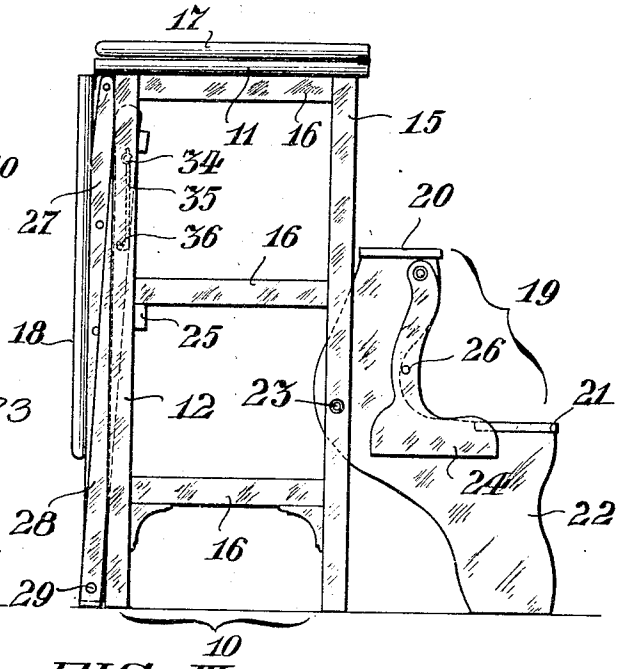
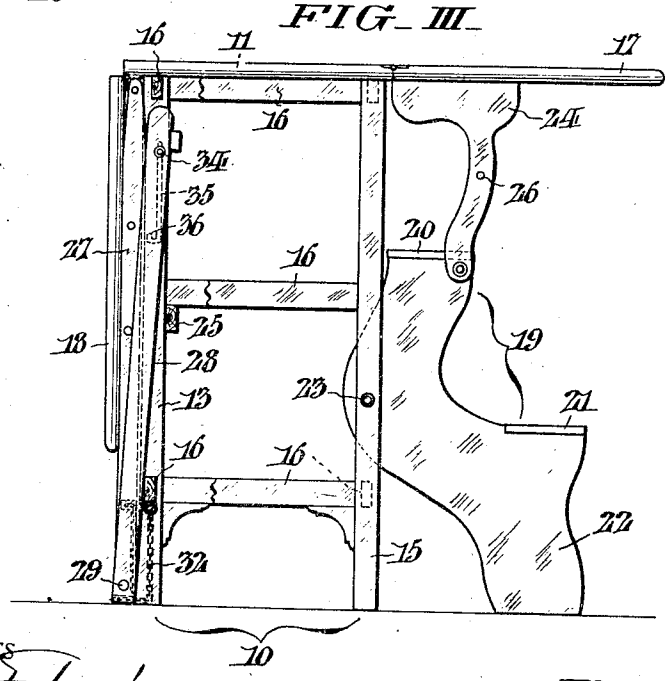


FIG. III



WITNESSES

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FIG. V.

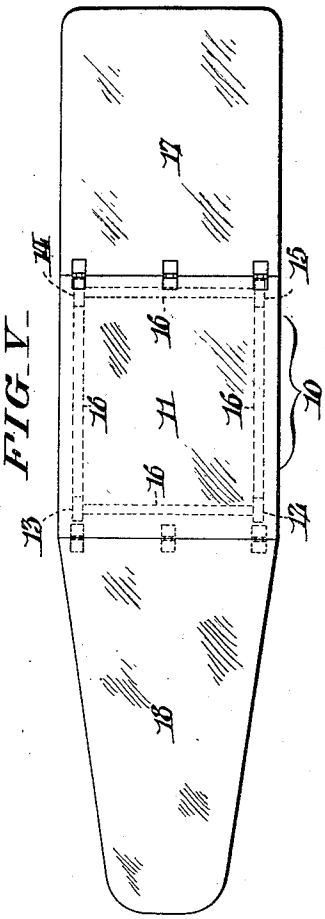


FIG. IV.

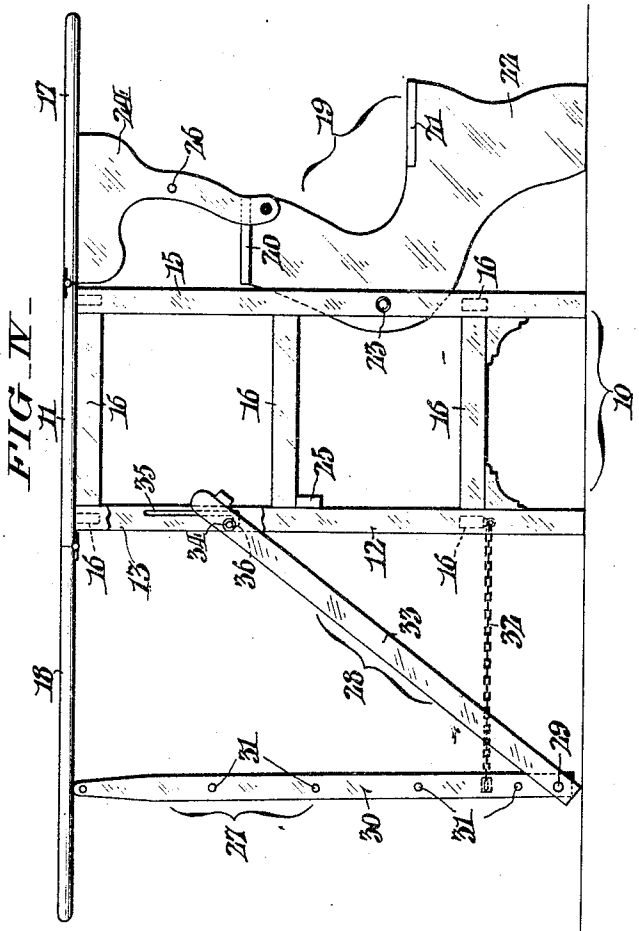
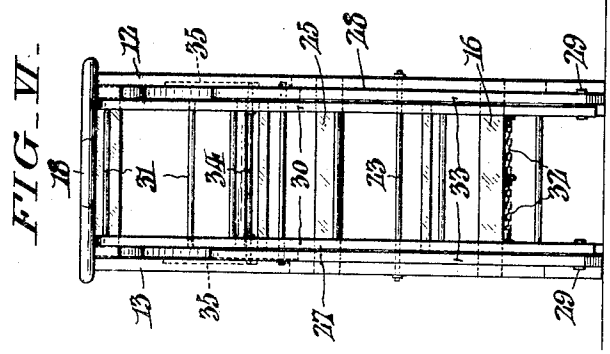


FIG. VI.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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CONVERTIBLE FURNITURE

Application filed May 1, 1930. Serial No. 448,868.

This invention relates to furniture adaptable to different uses, and has more particular reference to a convertible article of furniture intended especially for kitchens.

My invention is directed toward provision of an article of kitchen furniture which is arrangeable either as a step ladder, as a table, or as an ironing board, and whereof the component parts rendering such conversion possible, are compactly collapsible into a main section that normally serves the purposes of a pedestal which requires but a very small space for its accommodation in a corner or wall recess.

In the drawings hereunto attached, Fig. I is a side elevation of an article of furniture conveniently embodying my invention, and showing the same collapsed to serve ordinarily as a pedestal.

Fig. II is a view similar to Fig. I showing the device arranged as a step ladder.

Fig. III is likewise a view similar to Fig. I showing the device converted into a table.

Fig. IV is an illustration showing the device completely extended to form a full sized ironing board, a portion of the structure being broken out in this illustration to expose important details.

Fig. V is a plan view of the device when extended as shown in Fig. IV; and,

Fig. VI is an end elevation looking from the left of Fig. IV.

As herein delineated, my improved article of convertible furniture comprises a main component 10, which, when the device is collapsed as shown in Fig. I, may be used as a pedestal. This main component 10 has a rectangular top 11 supported at table height from the floor by an open substructure with corner legs 12, 13 and 14, 15 connected at intervals by horizontals 16. To one edge of the top 11 of the pedestal component 10 is hinged a folding leaf 17, which normally overlies said top as shown in Fig. I. To the opposite edge of the top 11 is in turn hinged a tapered folding leaf 18 which is substantially longer than the leaf 17, and when not in use, hangs vertically down along the corresponding side of the pedestal component 10.

Normally nested within the open substructure of the pedestal component 10 is a step component 19 with treads 20, 21 secured crosswise of angularly configured side pieces 22. This step component 19 is fulcrumed on a rod 23 that extends crosswise between the pedestal legs 14, 15 so that it may be swung outward to the position shown in Fig. II with attendant conversion of the device into a step ladder.

Pivoted to the side pieces 22 of the step member 19 are bracket arms 24 which are swingable upward, to the position shown in Fig. III, to support the leaf 17 when the latter is turned over and outward. Upon being arranged after the manner illustrated in Fig. III, the device may obviously be used as a kitchen table. When the step member 19 is swung into the pedestal member 10, it comes to rest with the tread 21 engaging a supplemental cross bar 25 that extends between the legs 12, 13, see Fig. I. The rest position of the bracket arms 24 is similarly predetermined through engagement of a transverse connecting rod 26 with the edges of the side pieces 22 of the step member 19, as shown in Figs. I and II.

The means provided for supporting the longer leaf 18 extended, as shown in Fig. IV and V with the device arranged as an ironing board, includes a strut 27 and a diagonal brace 28 which are pivotally coordinated at their lower ends by bolts or rivets 29. The side members 30 of the strut 27 are connected at intervals by cross rods or rungs 31; and a pair of chains 32 limit the outward swing of said strut about the pivotal junctures 29 and moreover predetermine a slightly outwardly pitched position for it, as will be observed from Fig. IV. The strut 27 is accordingly prevented from falling inward while supporting the extension leaf 18. The side members 33 of the diagonal brace 28 are connected near their tops by a transverse rod 34 whereof the ends engage vertical guide slots 35 at the in sides of the legs 12, 13 of the pedestal component 10, see Figs. IV and VI more particularly. From Fig. IV it will be further observed that at their bottoms, the slots 35 are extended horizontally and then upwardly for a short distance with forma-

tion of stop notches as at 36. When the ends of the rod 35 are lodged in the stop notches 36, the brace 28 is effectively locked against displacement in active position after a manner readily apparent from Fig. IV. In collapsing the device, the rod 34 is first eased out of the stop notches 36, whereupon said rod may be moved upward in the slots 35 with incidental transposal of the brace 28 to an upright position within the substructure of the pedestal component 10. The strut 27 is at the same time brought up against the contiguous side of the pedestal component 10 and the leaf 18 swung down to hold it in place, as shown in Figs. I, II and III.

From the foregoing it will be seen that I have provided a convertible article of furniture which is neat in appearance, in any of its diverse arrangements, as well as compact when collapsed, and that is conducive to economic manufacture at small cost either from wood or pressed sheet metal.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. An article of convertible furniture comprising a main component in the form of a pedestal with an open substructure; a step component normally nested within the pedestal component with capacity for being projected to convert the device into a step ladder; and a supplemental leaf associated with the top of the pedestal component and capable of being extended over the step component for support by means combined with the latter when the device is adapted as a table.

2. An article of convertible furniture comprising a main component in the form of a pedestal with an open substructure; a step component nested within the pedestal component and pivoted thereto with capacity for being swung outward to convert the device into a step ladder; and a supplemental leaf associated with the top of the pedestal component and capable of being extended over the step component for support by bearer means combined with the latter when the device is adapted as a table.

3. An article of convertible furniture comprising a main component in the form of a pedestal with an open substructure; a step component nested within the pedestal component and pivoted thereto with capacity for being swung outward to convert the device into a step ladder; a supplemental leaf associated with the top of the pedestal component capable of being extended over the step component for adaptation of the device as a table; and means connected to the step component, and foldable therewith into the open substructure of the pedestal component, to support the leaf when extended as aforesaid.

4. An article of convertible furniture comprising a main component in the form of a pedestal with an open substructure; a step component nested within the pedestal component and pivoted thereto with capacity for being swung outward to convert the device into a step ladder; a supplemental leaf associated with the top of the pedestal component capable of being extended over the step component for adaptation of the device as a table; and a bracket member pivotally connected to the step component, so as to be foldable with it into the open substructure of the pedestal component, to support the leaf when extended as aforesaid.

5. An article of convertible furniture comprising a main component in the form of a pedestal with an open substructure; a step component normally nested within the pedestal component with capacity for being projected to convert the device into a step ladder; and a supplemental leaf hinged to one edge of the pedestal top so as to be swingable outward from above the latter to extended position over the step component for support by spaced arms pivotally connected to the latter when the device is adapted as a table.

6. An article of convertible furniture comprising a main component in the form of a pedestal provided with a flat top and an open substructure; a step component normally nested within the pedestal component with capacity for being projected to enable use of the article as a step ladder; supplemental leaves extendable at opposite sides of the pedestal top to adapt the device as an ironing board, one of said leaves being supported when extended, by a bearer pivoted to, the step component; and projectable means normally collapsed within the confines of the pedestal top to support the other supplemental leaf when extended.

7. An article of convertible furniture comprising a main component in the form of a pedestal provided with a flat top and an open substructure; a supplemental drop leaf pivoted to one edge of the pedestal top; and projectable means for supporting the leaf extended, said means being normally collapsed within the confines of the pedestal top and retained by the drop leaf.

8. An article of convertible furniture comprising a main component in the form of a pedestal provided with a flat top and an open substructure; a supplemental leaf pivoted to one edge of the pedestal top; means normally folded within the confines of the pedestal top and projectable to support the leaf when extended, said means including a vertical strut, a diagonal brace pivotally connected at one end to the bottom of the strut and having lateral projections at its other end in engagement with vertical guide grooves in the pedestal component, and means for limiting the outward swing of the strut about its bottom pivotal connection with the brace and for predetermining a

slight outward angular pitch thereof to prevent it from falling inward from under the leaf.

9. An article of convertible furniture comprising a main component in the form of a pedestal provided with a flat top and open substructure, a supplemental leaf pivoted to one edge of the pedestal top; and means normally folded within the confines of the pedestal top and projectable to support the leaf when extended, said means including a vertical strut, a diagonal brace pivotally connected at one end to the bottom of the strut and having lateral projections at its other end in engagement with vertical guide grooves in the pedestal component, the aforesaid grooves being laterally and upwardly extended at their lower ends with provision of rest notches for the lateral projections on the brace whereby the supporting means is releasably locked against collapse when in use.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my name at Lititz, Pennsylvania, this 28th day of April, 1930.

ELMER B. BECK.