Dec. 12, 1950 C. P. MOLLA 2,533,831

KNOCKDOWN TABLE

Filed June 7, 1946

Fig. 1.

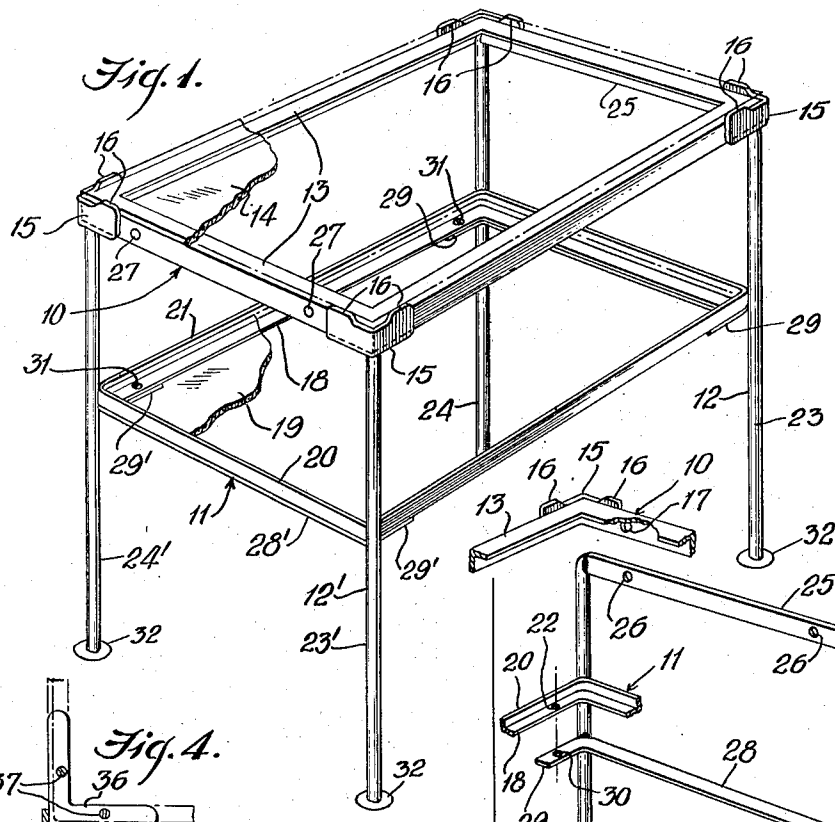


Fig. 4.

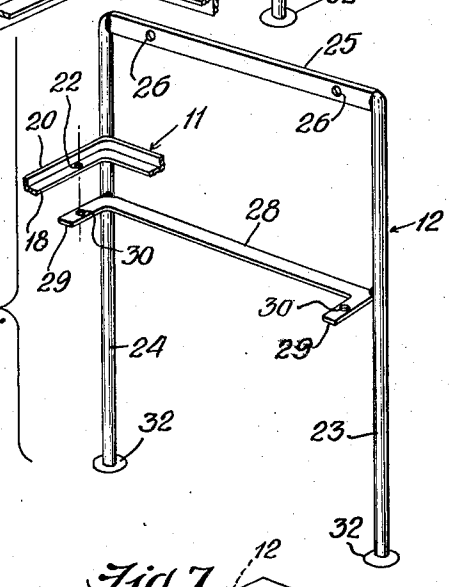


Fig. 2.

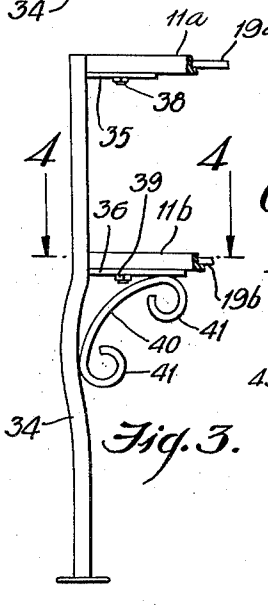


Fig. 3.

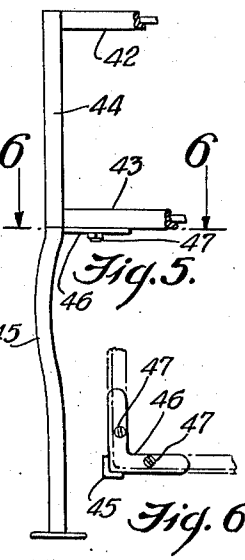


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

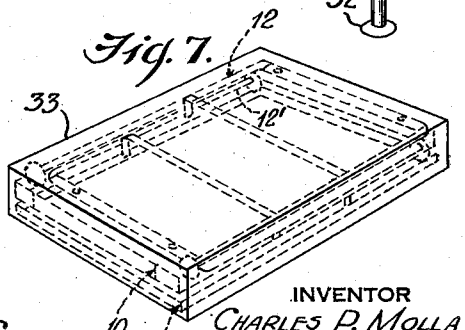


Fig. 7.

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KNOCKDOWN TABLE

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3 Claims. (Cl. 211—148)

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This invention relates to what are generally referred to as end tables or serving tables. More particularly, the invention deals with an article of manufacture of this type and kind constructed of metal frame parts in such manner that the respective parts can be packed for shipment and storage in a relatively small package and quickly and readily set up for use. Still more particularly, the invention comprises a table of the class described comprising table and leg parts which, when assembled, will form a strong and durable construction, the table part having upper and lower frames with means for retaining a top or facing sheet against accidental displacement therefrom. The novel features of the invention will be best understood from the following description, when taken together with the accompanying drawing, in which, certain embodiments of the invention are disclosed and, in which, the separate parts are designated by suitable reference characters in each of the views and, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a table made according to my invention showing the table tops or facing sheets broken away and partly in section.

Fig. 2 is an exploded view illustrating the manner of assembling the table frames with the end leg frames.

Fig. 3 is a side view of one end portion of a modified form of table which I employ.

Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3 indicating one table frame in dot and dash lines.

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 3 showing another form of construction.

Fig. 6 is a section on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5; and

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a container diagrammatically illustrating the arrangement of the table parts therein for storage and shipment.

In Fig. 1 of the drawing, I have shown a table comprising a top rectangular table frame 10, a lower rectangular table frame 11 and two similar substantially A-shaped leg frames 12, 12' supporting and spacing the ends of the frames 10 and 11. Both frames 10 and 11 are of angle-iron or L-shaped in cross-sectional form throughout the sides end ends thereof. The frame 10 is arranged inverted with respect to the frame 11 so as to provide a flat upper surface, as at 13, for supporting a glass, plastic or other facing panel 14, the latter being held against displacement by L-shaped reinforcing corner strips 15 secured to the frame 10 and each having a pair of upstanding keepers 16 which engage the peripheral edges of the panel 14, as is clearly apparent from a consideration of Fig. 1 of the drawing.

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The depending portions of the end walls of the frame 10 have adjacent the corner portions thereof apertures for receiving bolts and similar fasteners and one of these apertures is shown at 17 in Fig. 2 of the drawing.

The frame 11 is upright instead of being inverted like the frame 10, thus the bottom member or wall 18 of the frame forms a seat and support for the panel 19, similar to the panel 14. The raised peripheral edge 20 retains the panel 19 against displacement and, at the same time, forms a raised ridge, as indicated at 21, at the left of Fig. 1 to retain articles against displacement from the panel or top 19.

Considering Fig. 2 of the drawing, it will appear that the horizontal portion 18 of the frame 11 has adjacent the corner portions thereof apertures 22 for receiving fastener devices for attaching the frame 11 to the leg frames 12, 12'.

Each leg frame comprises a pair of legs 23 and 24 on the frame 12, 23', 24' on the frame 12'. As both of these frames are of the same construction, the brief description of one will apply to both.

The legs 23 and 24 are joined by a top crosshead 25 having adjacent the ends thereof apertures 26 registering with the apertures 17 to receive the bolts or other fasteners, as for example, at 27 in Fig. 1 of the drawing for securing the top frame 10 in position. The legs 23, 24 are also joined and braced by flat U-shaped rods 29 welded to the legs. The rods 28 having protruding ends 29, apertured, as seen at 30, to register with the apertures 22 in the frame 11 and to receive bolts, screws or similar fasteners 31, as indicated in Fig. 1 of the drawing, in securing the frame 11 to the leg frames 12, 12'. All of the legs of the frames 12, 12' have large feet to adapt the metal furniture for mounting on soft surfaces without injury or penetrating the surfaces. In Fig. 2 of the drawing, these feet are designated by the reference character 32.

With the construction shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the knockdown table will comprise two relatively thin table frames 10 and 11 and two relatively thin leg frames 12, 12'. These four parts, when disassembled, can be conveniently packed in a rectangular thin package, as for example, the container 33 shown in Fig. 7 of the drawing. The panels or table tops 14 and 19 may or may not be employed as part of the complete package depending upon the shipping requirements. I have found from practice that, where these tops are of different colors and ornamentations, it is desirable to package them separately to simplify filling of orders in satisfying the desires of a cus-

tomer. In this way, the metal frame structure of the table can be sold in one of a number of base colors or color combinations with different types and kinds of ornamental tops, particularly when other than plain glass tops are employed.

It will be apparent that, by providing the knockdown structure and forming the same in the rigid manner herein disclosed a relatively large number of tables can be packed for storage and shipment and more conveniently handled than would be possible in complete articles of furniture built in a permanent assemblage. Furthermore, the question of breaking or damage is substantially dispensed with.

In Figs. 3 and 4 of the drawing, I have shown a modified adaptation of my invention, wherein I employ two table frames 11*a* and 11*b*, similar to the frames 10 and 11 and, instead of employing the end leg frames, as at 12, 12', I employ four corner leg members or frames as at 34, each having at upper and central portions thereof angularly extending integral brackets 35 and 36 welded thereto, one of these brackets, the bracket 36, being shown in Fig. 4 of the drawing and these brackets are apertured, as seen at 37, to receive screws or bolt fastenings, for example 38, for the top brackets and 39 for the lower brackets. The lower brackets 36 may also be further reinforced, as well as characterized by corner brace strips 40 having inturned rounded ends 41, as clearly seen in Fig. 3 of the drawing. With this construction, the two similar table frames 11*a*, 11*b* are supported in spaced relationship to each other and upon these may be arranged table or panel members, as at 19*a*, 19*b*.

In Figs. 5 and 6 of the drawing, I have shown a further modification which differs from the structure shown in Figs. 3 and 4, primarily in uniting the table frames as a complete unit. In this figure, 42 and 43 represent two similar table frames in all respects like the frames 11*a* and 11*b* and these frames are integrally joined and spaced by L-shaped or angle-iron corner posts 44 by being welded or otherwise permanently secured thereto. With this construction, corner leg members or frames 45 are employed having welded to their upper ends brackets 46, upon which the lower table frame 43 seats and to which the frame is secured by screws or bolts 47. In other words, the structure of Fig. 5 is the same as Fig. 3, except that, instead of extending the legs 34 to form supports for two independent table frames 11*a*, 11*b* in Fig. 5, the two frames 42 and 43 are united in the corner posts 44 and the legs 45 extend below this united frame. With the structure of Figs. 5 and 6, the resulting package will be governed in thickness largely by the depth of the complete top frame comprising the two table frames 42, 43 whereas in Figs. 3 and 4, the thickness of the package will be largely governed by the dimensions of the corner legs. In all instances, the contour of the table frames will govern the length and width of the resulting package.

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

1. In knockdown tables of the class described, two table frames comprising peripheral frame strips of L-shaped cross-sectional form forming horizontal and vertical wall portions, A-shaped leg frames detachable with respect to said table frames for supporting the same in producing a table having vertically spaced table frames at the upper portion thereof, a horizontal wall portion of the upper frame being arranged uppermost and of the lower frame lowermost, the horizontal wall of the lower frame forming means for supporting a table panel against displacement thereon, and means on the upper frame extending above the upper surface of the horizontal wall thereof for retaining the table panel against displacement therefrom.

2. In knockdown tables of the class described, two table frames comprising peripheral frame strips of L-shaped cross-sectional form forming horizontal and vertical wall portions, means comprising leg members detachable with respect to said frames for supporting the same in producing a table having vertically spaced table frame, a horizontal wall portion, of the upper frame, being arranged uppermost and, of the lower frame, lowermost, the vertical wall of the lower frame forming means for supporting a table panel against displacement thereon, means on the upper frame extending above the upper surface of the horizontal wall thereof for retaining the table panel against displacement therefrom, and said last named means comprising reinforcing members secured to vertical walls of said frame.

3. In knockdown tables of the class described, the combination with a pair of rectangular table frames, each comprising a strip of angular cross-sectional form, of substantially A-shaped leg frames, the leg frames comprising leg members joined by a top cross-bar and a lower U-shaped cross bracket, means directly coupling one top table frame with the top cross-bar of said leg frames, means detachably coupling the other lower table frame with the U-shaped cross-brackets of said leg frames, table panels for detachable mounting on each of said table frames, and the top table frame having raised means at corner portions thereof retaining the table panel against shifting displacement therefrom.

CHARLES P. MOLLA.

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