J. V. HICKMAN.

FOLDING BED.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 18, 1918.

1,402,607. Patented Jan. 3, 1922.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

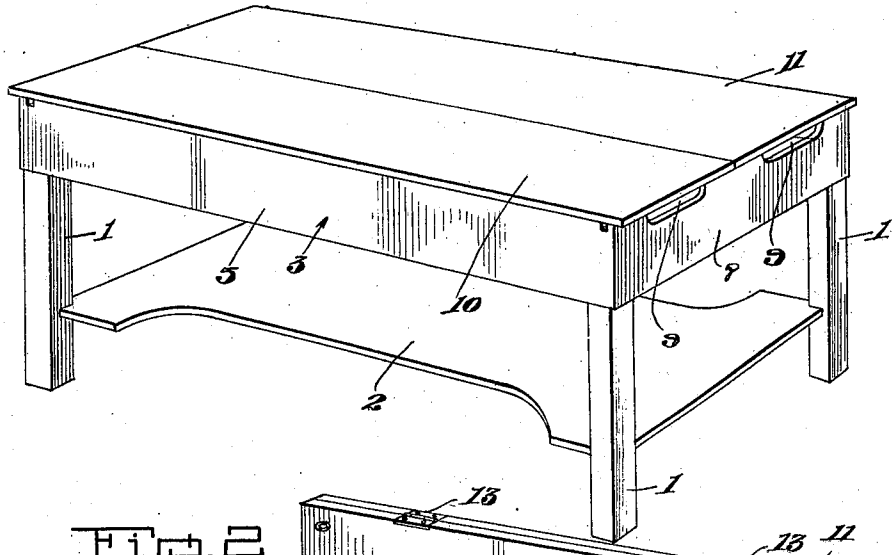
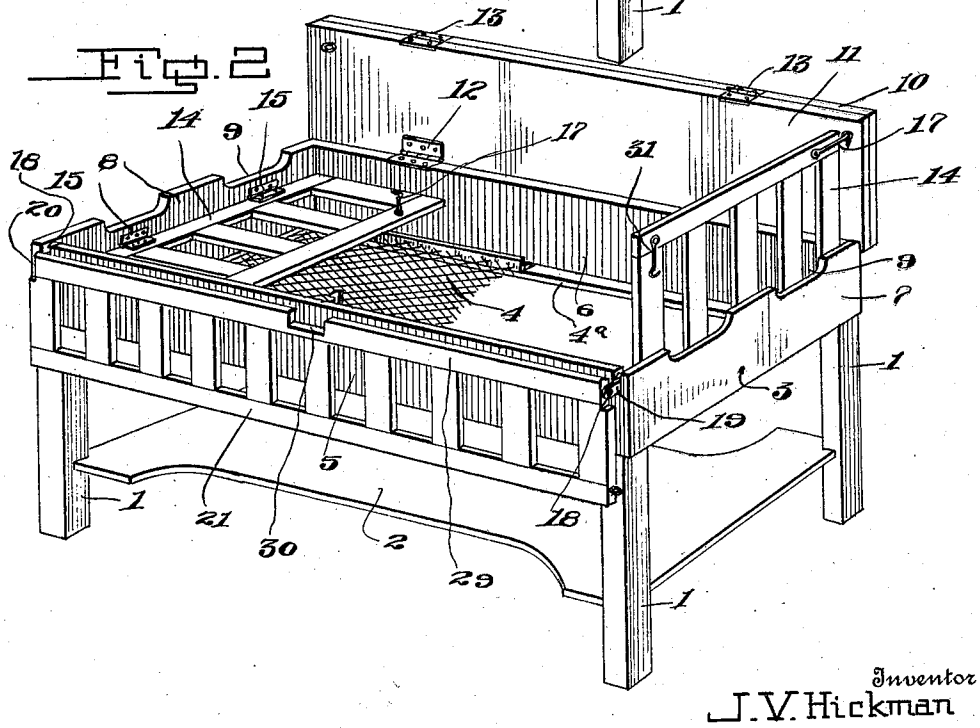


Fig. 2.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

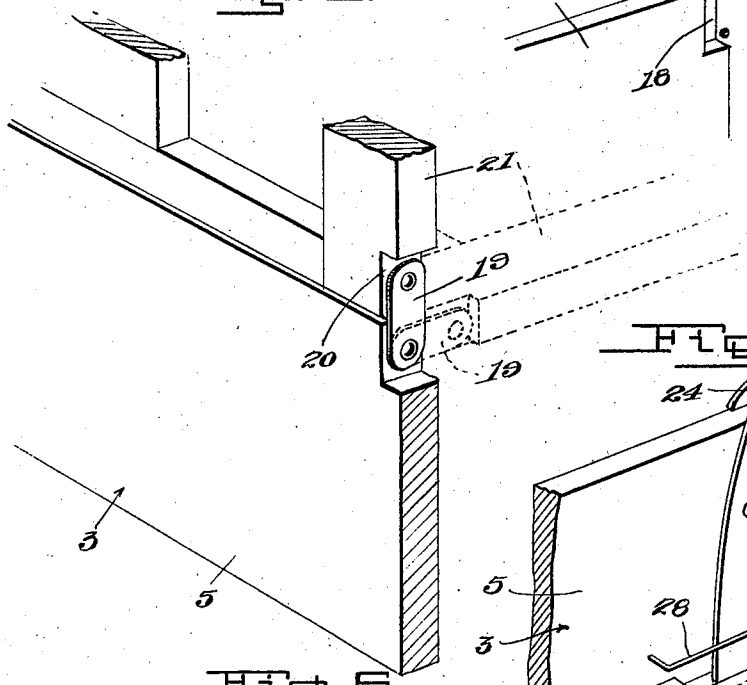


Fig. 4.

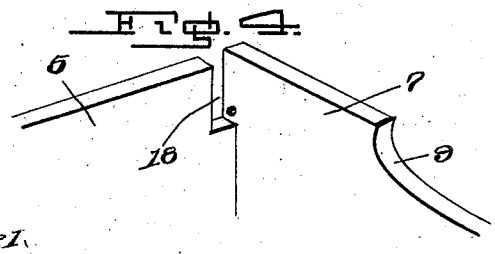


Fig. 5.

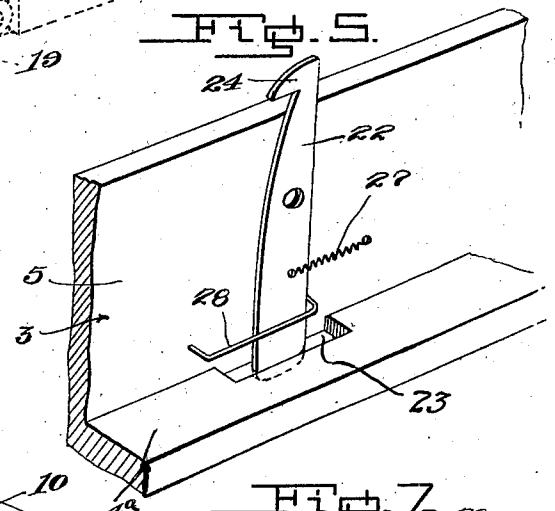


Fig. 6.

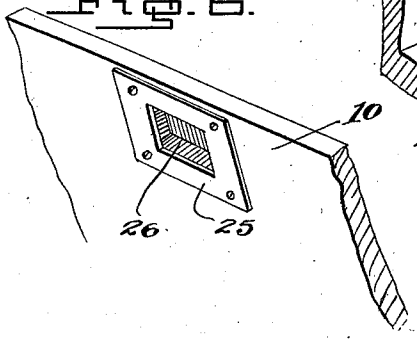
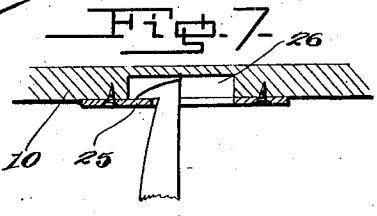


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

J. VANCE HICKMAN, OF MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.

FOLDING BED.

1,402,607. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 3, 1922.

Application filed April 18, 1918. Serial No. 229,399.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, J. VANCE HICKMAN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Memphis, in the county of Shelby and State of Tennessee, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in a Folding Bed, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to folding beds and more particularly to a folding bed which is combined with a library table.

The primary object of this invention is to provide a combined baby-bed and library table which is durable, ornamental, and sanitary and one which presents a pleasing appearance when in table formation.

Another object of this invention is to provide a folding table bed as specified in which the table top is composed of a pair of hingedly connected sections which when the device is used as a baby-bed, are folded to have their upper or outer surfaces in facial abutment and so that they will extend vertically from one side wall of the containing portion of the device to form one side of the bed; and further to provide hinged end sections which are preferably paneled to add to the artistic appearance of the device and to permit the passage of air current over a child which might be lying in the bed and which are also connected to the top sections of the table by suitable attaching devices whereby the top sections of the table and the hinged end sections will co-act for supporting each other when in vertical position.

A further object of the invention is to provide a front side for the bed structure which is hingedly connected to the containing body of the device so that it may be swung into the containing body when the folding bed is used as a table or it may be swung outwardly and downwardly to permit the placing of an ordinary spring, and a mattress in the containing body and also to permit the convenient placing of a child in the bed after which it may be moved upwardly into a vertical position and connected to the upstanding ends.

Another object of this invention is to provide a spring actuated locking pawl which engages in a keeper formed in the under surface of one of the table top sections for automatically locking the table top sections in their horizontal top forming positions.

Other objects of the invention will appear in the following detailed description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification and in which drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved folding bed and table in a table forming position.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the device showing it in a partially unfolded position.

Figure 3 is a detail perspective illustrating the manner of connecting the swinging front hinged side of the bed to the rigid front side of the containing body.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary perspective looking outwardly from the interior of the containing body towards one of the front corners thereof.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary perspective view illustrating the spring actuated locking pawl.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary perspective view of the underside of one of the sections of the table top illustrating the keeper which receives the locking end of the locking pawl.

Figure 7 is a detail section illustrating the connection between the locking pawl and one of the sections of the table top.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, 1 indicates the four supporting legs of the combined folding bed and library table which are braced intermediate their ends by a suitable shelving board 2 which may be cut as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings to provide an artistic appearance.

The supporting legs 1 have the containing body 3 of the combined folding bed and table attached to their upper ends. The containing bed or body 3 comprises a bottom, and rigid front sides 5, rear sides 6 and ends 7 and 8. The bottom of the body comprises an annular ledge 4^a which extends about the lower edges of the sides of the same and which carries an ordinary spring 4. The ends 7 and 8 are provided with cut-out portions 9 formed in their upper edges, permitting the sections 10 and 11 forming the table top to be easily grasped. The section 11 is hingedly connected by hinges 12 to the upper portion of the rigid rear side 6 of the body 3 and it is connected to the section 10 by hinges 13, the leaves of which are countersunk in the edges of the section to hide them from view when the device is used as a library table.

The rigid ends 7 and 8 of the body have hinged end pieces 14 connected to them as shown at 15. These hinged end members are folded in the containing body 3 in horizontal position as shown at the left-hand end of Fig. 2 of the drawing, when the device is used as a library table. However when the device is used as a bed they extend upwardly as shown at the right hand end of Fig. 2, and are connected to the section 11 of the table top by means of an ordinary hook and eye construction 17.

The rigid front side 5 of the body 3 is provided with cut-out portions 18 formed at the upper corners thereof and links 19 are pivoted to the vertical walls of the cut-out portions and to the vertical walls of cut-out portions 20 which are formed in the swinging front side 21, thus enabling this latter member to be swung to lie in a horizontal plane within the body, to extend downwardly in parallelism with the front side 5 or to rest upon and extend upwardly from the upper edge of the front side 5 depending upon the use to which the device is put.

A locking pawl 22 is pivotally connected to the rigid front side 5 and its lower end extends through an opening 23 formed in the bottom 4 of the body 3. The pawl 22 is provided with a latching head 24 which engages a keeper plate 25 carried by the under or inner surface of the section 10 of the table top, which section is provided with a recess 26 to receive the head. A spring 27 is connected to the pawl for holding it in a locking position and the head 24 of the pawl has its upper surface curved to allow the keeper plate to ride thereover during the downward movement of the section 10 while the spring 27 will cause the pawl to automatically seat itself in the recess 26 and engage the keeper 25 to prevent accidental upward movement of the section 10 of the top. A suitable guide 28 is provided for guiding the pivotal movement of the lower end of the pawl. The pawl is moved into an unlocked position by manual operation of its lower end projecting through the opening 23 of the bottom 4.

The normally lower rail 29 of the swinging front side 21 is provided with a cut-out portion 30 to permit of the unimpeded operation of the pawl 22.

When it is desired to transform the library table as illustrated in Fig. 1 of the drawing into a baby-bed, the locking pawl 22 is operated to permit the raising of the section 10 of the table top and this section is folded over so that its normally upper surface will lie in facial abutment with the upper surface of the section 11 after which the two sections are swung upon the hinges 12 to assume vertical position as illustrated in Fig. 2 where they are held until the hinged ends 14 are connected thereto. After the sections 10 and 11 have been vertically positioned, the swinging front side 21 is swung outwardly and downwardly to extend along the outer surface of the rigid front side 5. The ends 14 are then moved into their vertical positions and connected to the sections 10 and 11 by the attaching means 17. The bed is then in convenient position to receive the ordinary springs and mattress and during the time that the bed is being made up, the swinging front side 21 is positioned in its outward and downward position. After the child has been placed in the bed, the front side 21 is swung upwardly so that its normally lower edge 29 will engage the upper edge of the rigid front side 5 and it is connected to the end sections 14 by any suitable type of attaching means indicated at 31 thereby providing relatively high sides for the bed which would prevent a child from falling out of the same.

The ends 14 and the swinging front side 21 are preferably paneled or provided with a plurality of openings to permit air circulation therethrough.

If it is so desired, the body 3 may be utilized as a container for holding the springs and mattresses, when the device is used as a library table or it may be used for holding any suitable type of material now usually placed in the drawers of library tables.

Having thus fully described the invention what is claimed is:

1. A combined table and bed comprising a retaining body having rigid sides and ends, one of said sides being provided with cut out portions at its upper corners, a swinging side member having cut out portions adjacent the first named cut out portions, links within the cut out portions pivotally connecting the rigid side and the swinging side members that the latter may fold outwardly and upwardly or outwardly and downwardly in parallelism with the rigid side, end members hingedly connected to the inner side of the rigid ends of the body below their upper edges whereby the lower portions of said end portions will abut and be braced by the rigid ends when extended, and means for connecting said hinged end portions and said swinging side in their vertical position.

2. A combined table and bed comprising a retaining body having rigid sides and ends, one of said sides being provided with cut out portions at its upper corners, a swinging side member having cut out portions adjacent the first named cut out portions, links within said cut out portions pivotally connecting the rigid side and the swinging side member that the latter may fold outwardly and upwardly, outwardly and downwardly in parallelism with the rigid side, or horizontally within the retaining body, a top hingedly connected at one edge of the opposite side member, said top com-

posed of a pair of hingedly connected sections adapted to be in facial abutment one with another when in vertical position to form an extended side, a catch member hingedly carried by the opposite rigid side of the body, a keeper plate carried at the free end of said hinged top and adapted to be engaged by said catch to maintain said top in a flat position, said body provided with an opening in the bottom thereof, the lower end of said catch projecting through said opening to permit operation thereof from the exterior of the body, end members hingedly connected to the inner sides of the rigid ends of the body below their upper edges, and means for connecting the hinged side and end portions in vertical position.

J. VANCE HICKMAN.