Dec. 16, 1924. 1,519,581

M. A. GORDEN

WASHBENCH

Filed April 11, 1923 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

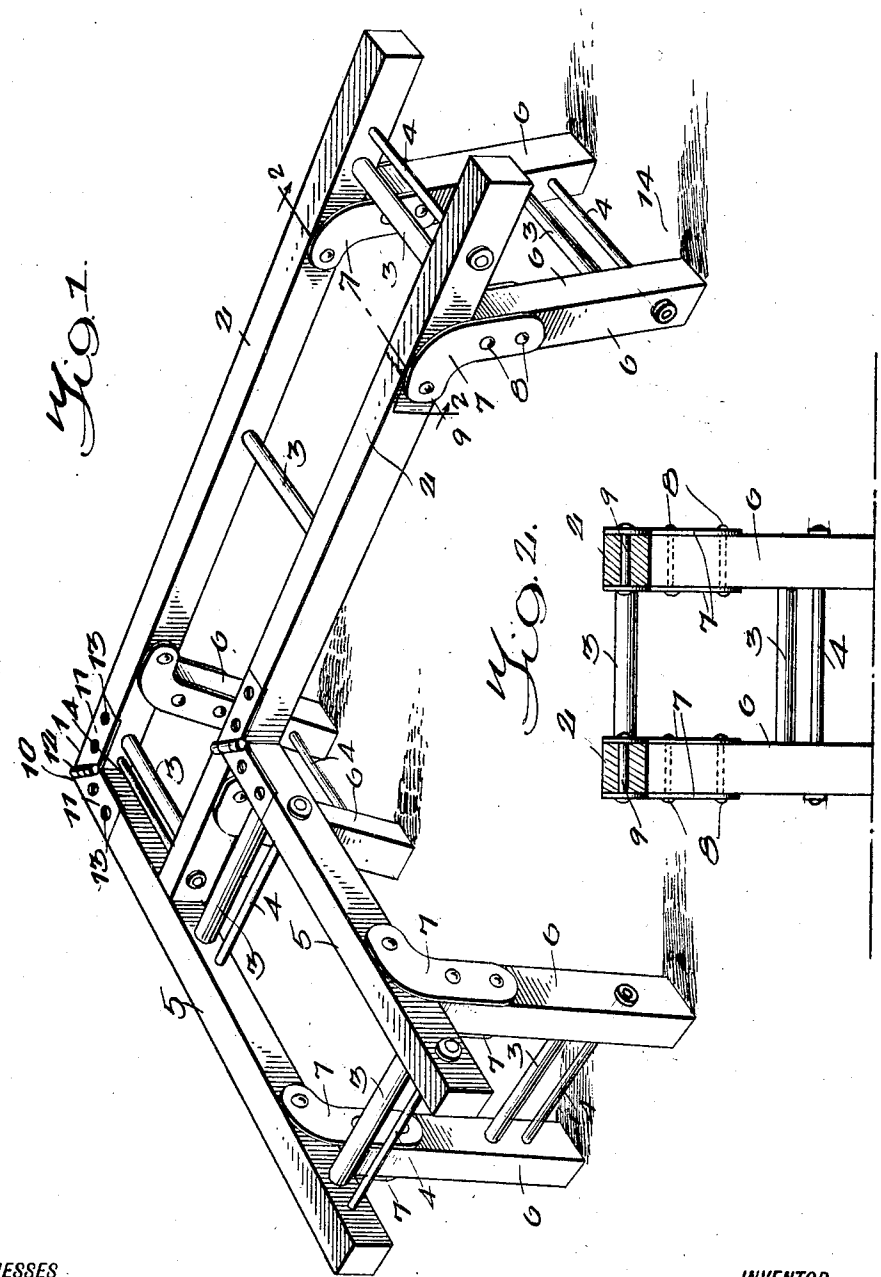


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

WITNESSES

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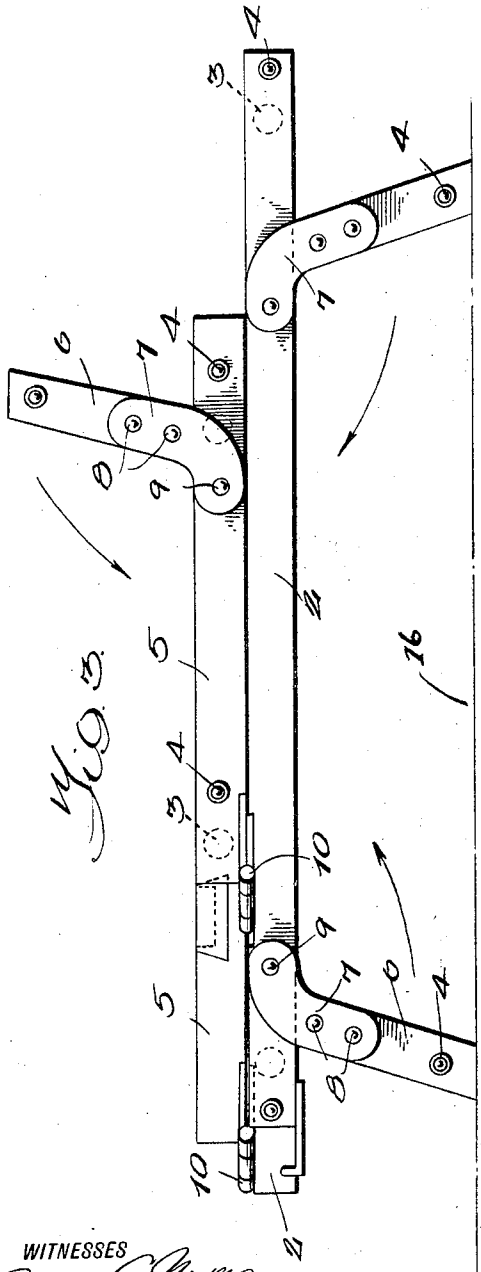


Fig. 3.

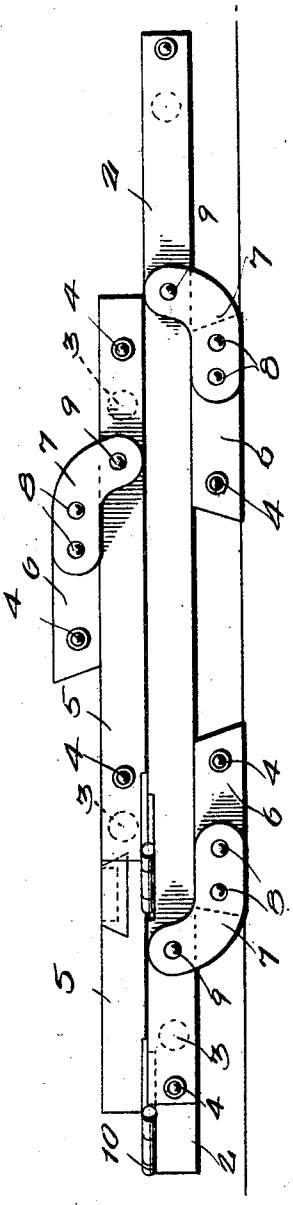


Fig. 4.

WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MELVIN A. GORDEN, OF BRAINERD, MINNESOTA.

WASHBENCH.

Application filed April 11, 1923. Serial No. 631,409.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MELVIN A. GORDEN, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Brainerd, in the county of Crow Wing and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Washbenches, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to benches and it consists, in the combinations, constructions and arrangements herein described and claimed.

An object of my invention is to provide a bench of simplified and novel construction which in its set up or fully operative position is adapted to support an article or articles, such as wash tubs, and which is adapted to be folded into small compass to occupy but little space when packed for shipment or stored away.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description, and the novel features of the invention will be particularly outlined in the appended claim.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this application, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing a practical embodiment of the invention in set up or fully operative position,

Figure 2 is a transverse section substantially along the line 2—2 of Figure 1 through a portion of the embodiment of the invention exhibited in Figure 1,

Figure 3 is an elevation showing the embodiment of the device in partially collapsed or folded position, and

Figure 4 is a view similar to Figure 3, showing the embodiment of the device in fully collapsed or folded position.

In carrying out my invention, I provide a frame 1 upon which articles to be supported may be disposed. The frame 1 comprises two sections extending at right angles when an embodiment of the invention is in set up position and being foldable to superposed relation, as will presently appear. One of the sections of the frame includes longitudinal frame members 2—2 spaced apart by transverse rods 3 and by tie rods 4, whereby the longitudinal frame members 2—2 are firmly held in spaced parallel relation with respect to each other. The second section of the frame likewise comprises two longitudinal frame members 5—5 which are connected together and maintained in spaced parallel relation by transverse rods and tie rods, such as previously referred to as being indicated at 3 and 4 respectively. The frame members 2—2 are supported in horizontal position by pairs of slightly inclined legs 6 arranged adjacent to opposite ends thereof the respective pairs of legs being oppositely inclined and being swingingly attached to the frame members 2—2 by means of pairs of attaching plates 7—7, there being a pair of the attaching plates for each leg and the attaching plates of each pair having the lower portions thereof fixedly secured to one of the legs 6 by means of bolts 8 or the like, whereby portions of each pair of the attaching plates extend above the upper end of the legs in spaced relation in respect to each other and in position to straddle one of the longitudinal frame members 2. Horizontal pivot pins 9 connect the upper end portions of each pair of attaching plates 7—7 to the frame member 2 with which associated. The legs 6 of each pair are connected together and held against lateral movement by rungs and tie rods which respectively are identical in essential respects with the rungs 3 and the tie rods 4 which have therefore been designated by the same reference numerals.

The section of the frame comprising the longitudinal members 5—5 is supported adjacent to its outer end by a pair of the legs 6—6 which are permanently attached to the longitudinal members 5—5 by means of pairs of the attaching plates 7—7 in the manner heretofore described. The pair of legs 6—6 at the outer end of the frame members 5—5 inclines slightly toward the proximate frame member 2 when the frame members 5—5 rest upon the upper end faces of the supporting legs. In other words, the upper faces or upper ends of the several pairs of legs 6—6 lie in the same horizontal plane when the pairs of legs at or adjacent to the opposite ends of the frame members 2—2 are oppositely inclined and the pair of legs at the outer end of the frame members 5—5 is inclined toward the other section of the frame.

It is to be observed at this point that the frame members 2—2 are of different lengths the difference in length being approximately the same as the width of one of the frame members 5. The frame mem-

bers 5—5 are likewise of different lengths, the difference in length being equal to the distance between the remote faces or sides of the frame members 2—2 when the latter are connected together in the manner described. The long frame members 5 and 2 are beveled at their meeting ends to abut each other at right angles when the shorter member 2 is in abutting relation to the inner side of the longer member 5 and the shorter member 5 is in abutting relation to the outer side of the shorter member 2. The abutting portions of the shorter frame members 5 and 2 and of the longer frame members 5 and 2 are connected together by means of hinges 10—10, each of which comprises a pair of cooperating flat leaves extending at right angles to each other and being pivotally secured together by means of a pintle 12 which extends at an angle of 45° to the respective longitudinal axis of the hinge leaves. The hinge leaves are secured by screws 13 or the like to the upper faces of the connected together frame members.

From the foregoing description of the various parts of the device, the operation thereof may be readily understood. The device is designed primarly for use in supporting a plurality of wash tubs in adjacent relation to a washing machine, the tubs and machine not being shown, so that articles can be transferred from the machine to the tubs successively or selectively and vice versa conveniently and expeditiously. Obviously, the use of the device is not restricted to that stated but can be used generally in connection with the supporting of various articles above the level of a horizontal surface, such as the floor indicated at 16. Since the members 2—2 and 5—5 lie in the same horizontal plane when the device described is in set up position, articles can be placed upon any portion of the frame including these frame members.

When it is desired to fold the device for any purpose, the section comprising the frame members 5—5 is folded to lie flatwise upon the section comprising the members 2—2, as illustrated in Figure 3. The pair of legs 6 attached to the frame members 5—5 is then swung downwardly into the position illustrated in Figure 4 and the pairs of legs attached to the frame members 2 are folded against the undersides of the frame members 2—2 in the position in which illustrated in Figure 4.

The device requires but little space for the storage thereof when in folded condition and therefore can be placed in an out of the way place or readily packed for transportation.

Obviously my invention is susceptible of embodiment in forms other than that illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and I therefore consider as my own all modifications of the forms of the device herein disclosed, which fairly fall within the scope of the appended claim.

I claim:—

A device of the character described comprising two elongated sections, each of which includes a pair of spaced apart parallel frame members of different lengths, the frame members of each section being relatively arranged to terminate at one end of the section out of transverse alignment with each other, a pair of hinges respectively adapted to hinge the shorter member of each section to the shorter member of the other section and the longer member of each section to the longer member of the other section so that said sections may be disposed in the same plane and at right angles to each other or swung to position in which one section is disposed flatwise upon the other section, respective members of the two sections being of such lengths that the respective members of one of the sections will be in abutting relation at their inner ends to the corresponding members of the second section and the shorter member of the second section will be in abutting relation at its inner end to the longer member of the first section when the sections are disposed in the same plane and at right angles to each other, and legs pivotally attached to the frame members for supporting said sections in the same horizontal plane when the legs are extended, said legs being foldable against said sections.

MELVIN A. GORDEN.