Dec. 8, 1925. 1,564,189

J. R. ANDERSON

FOLDING TABLE

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Fig. 1

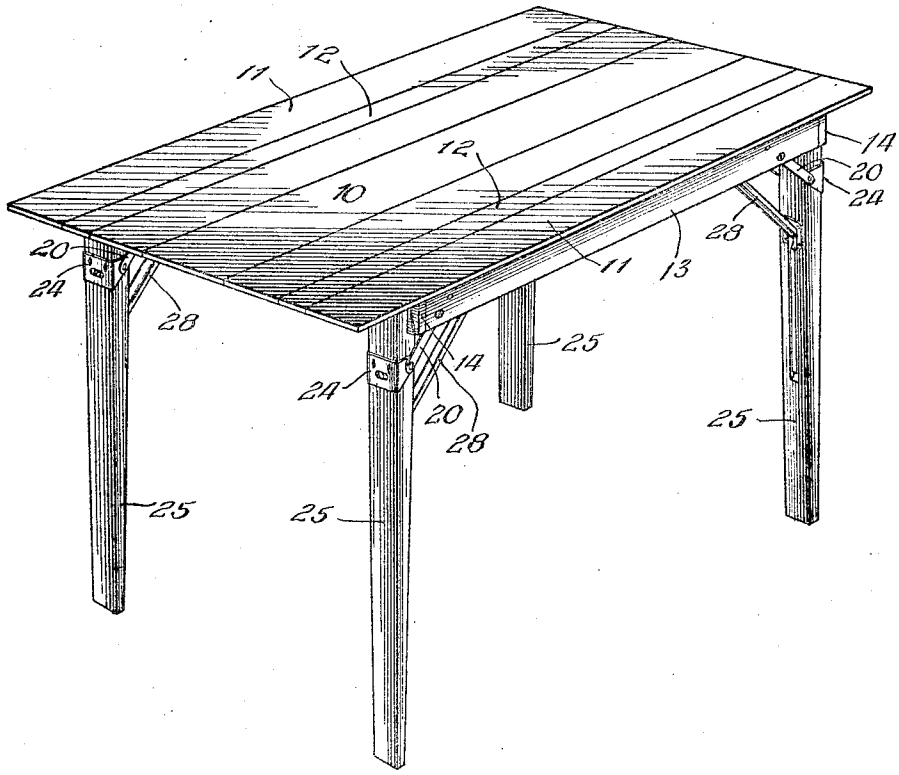
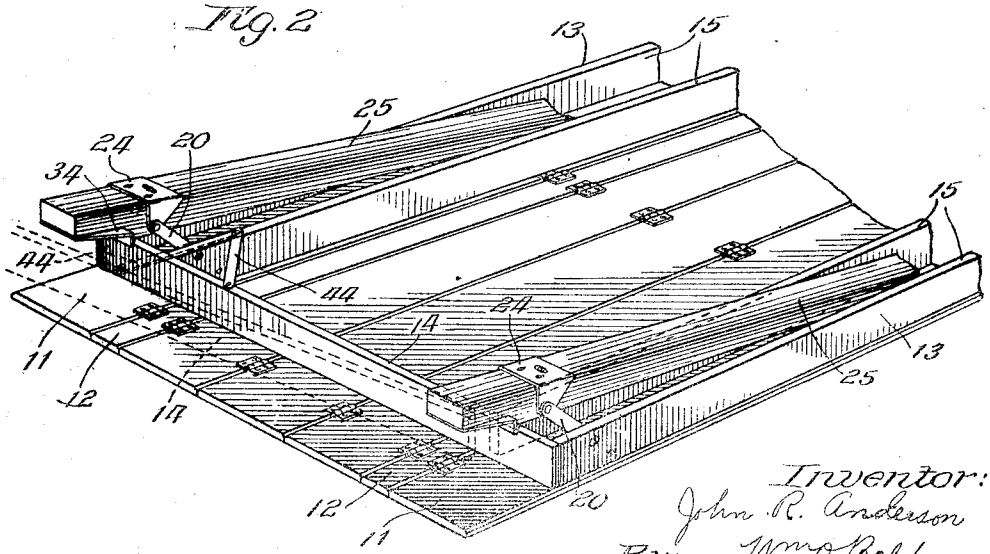


Fig. 2



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Fig. 3

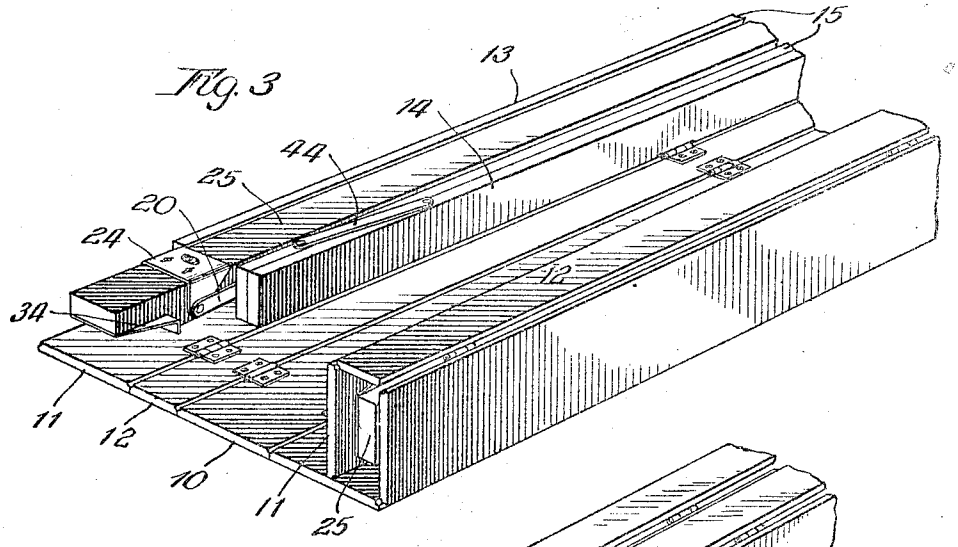


Fig. 4

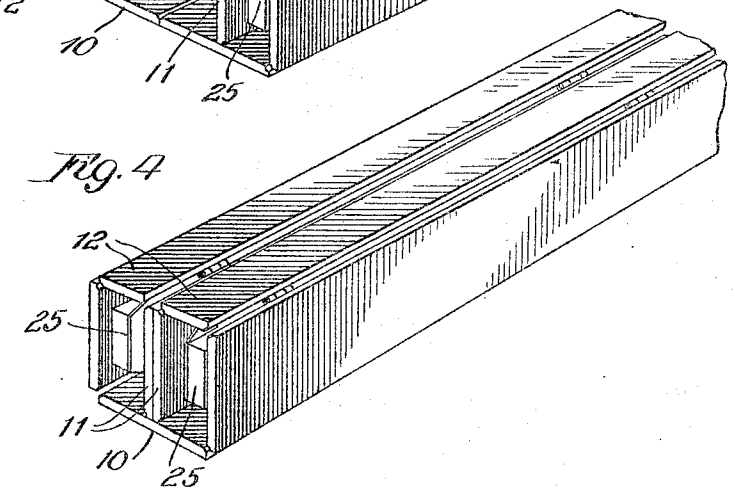
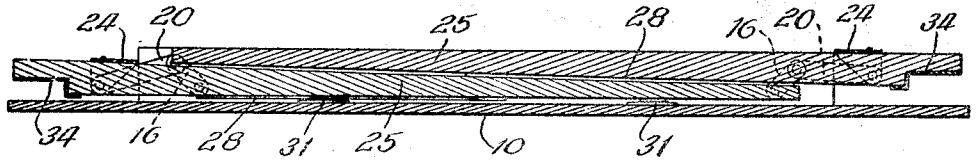


Fig. 5



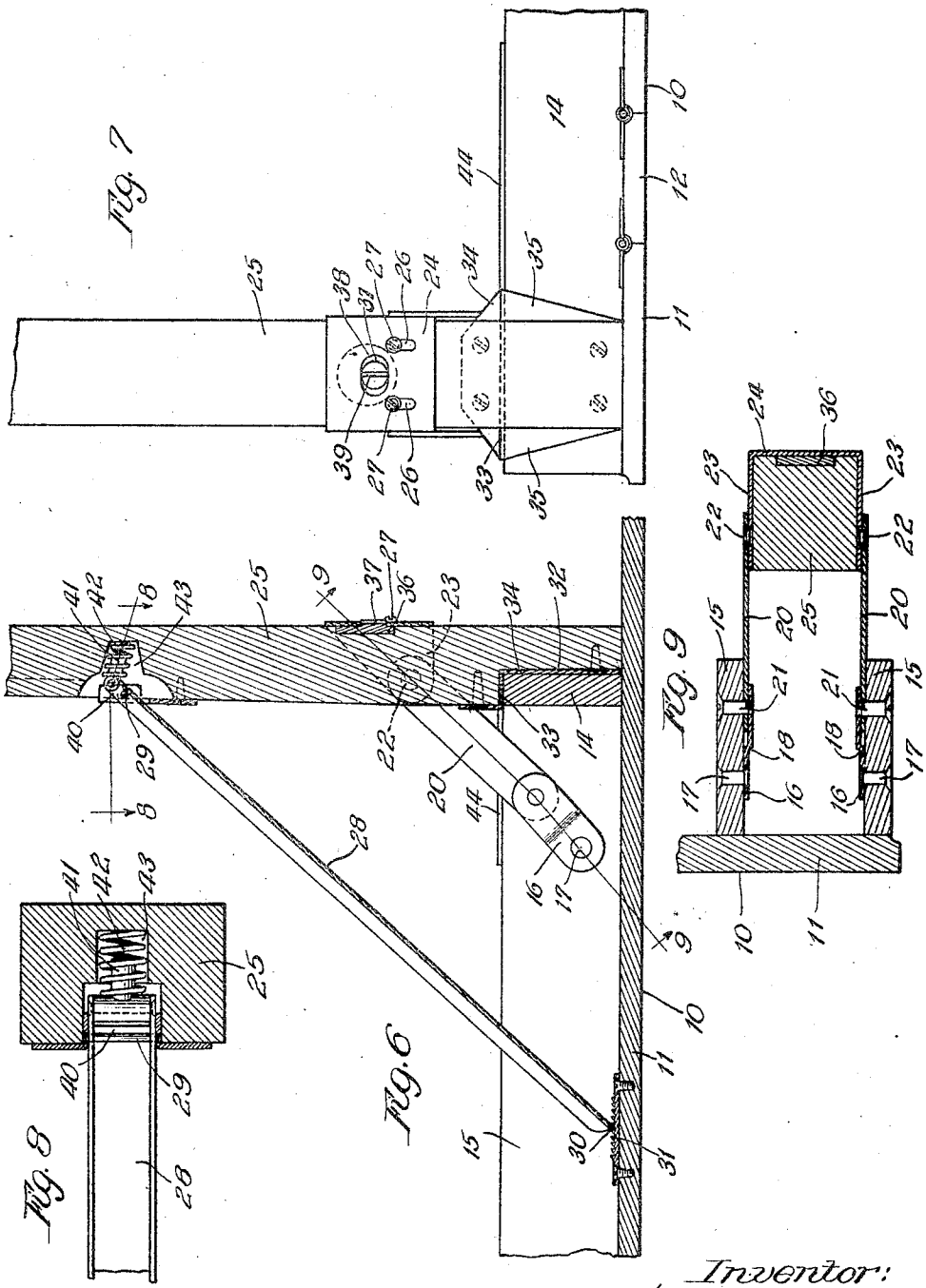
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FOLDING TABLE

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Patented Dec. 8, 1925. 1,564,189

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN R. ANDERSON, OF MOLINE, ILLINOIS.

FOLDING TABLE.

Application filed January 20, 1922. Serial No. 530,516.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN R. ANDERSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Moline, in the county of Rock Island and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Tables, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to folding tables of the type illustrated in my Patent No. 1,252,766 granted January 8, 1918 and has for its principal objects to increase the rigidity and durability of the structure, to improve the means for adjusting the legs, to provide a permanent connection between the transverse frame members and the table, and to provide means for securing the leg braces in position.

Further objects will become apparent as the description is read in connection with the accompanying drawing showing a selected embodiment of the invention, and in which—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the table in operative condition;

Figs. 2 and 3 are perspective views showing the table in different stages of being folded;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing the completely folded table;

Fig. 5 is a transverse section showing the manner of folding the legs;

Fig. 6 is an inverted section illustrating the details at each corner of the table;

Fig. 7 is an enlarged elevation of a corner of the table;

Figs. 8 and 9 are sections on the lines 8—8 and 9—9 of Fig. 6.

The top 10 of the table is composed of a plurality of longitudinally extending sections 11 and 12 hinged together substantially as in my prior patent above referred to. The frame of the table top is composed of channel side members 13 and end members 14 adapted to be secured in the positions indicated in the solid lines in Fig. 2. As here illustrated, the channel members are made up of a pair of strips 15 secured to the outer side sections of the table top in any suitable manner.

On the inner side of the strips 15 at each end are secured straps 16 by means of rivets 17. These straps are off-set as indicated at 18 in Fig. 9, and are secured to links 20 by screws 21 passing through the strips 15, the links 20 and the straps 16, as also illustrated in Fig. 9. The opposite ends of the links 20 are pivoted by rivets 22 to the side wings 23 of U-shaped clips 24 formed to fit the legs 25 as clearly shown in Figs. 6, 7 and 9. The clips 24 are provided with a plurality of slots 26 through which screws 27 pass and enter the legs 25 for securing the clips 24 in position. Each leg 25 is equipped with a brace 28 pivoted thereto at 29 and having a sharpened free end 30 adapted to engage with the teeth of a rack 31 carried by the top sections 11 between the strips 15 as shown in Fig. 6. From this figure it will be clear that the transverse frame members 14 lie against the ends of the channel shaped side members 13 and are held in place by the legs 25 when moved to operative position and secured by braces 28. In order to provide a proper engagement between the parts, the legs 25 are cut away as indicated at 32 to provide shoulders 33 to seat against the lower edges of the transverse members 14. This provides a very satisfactory construction, but greater rigidity and durability may be secured by fitting a cut away portion of the legs with the angular re-inforcements 34 having lateral extensions 35 which prolong the shoulders 33 on each side of the legs and provide a greater bearing on the bottom of the strips 14. The presence of the metal on the shoulders 13 eliminates a great deal of wear that would otherwise be caused by the ends of the grains in the legs working against the side of the grains in the members 14.

In my prior construction I have provided means for adjusting the relative positions of the clips 24 and the legs 25. The present invention includes an improved means for accomplishing this result which consists of a disc 36 seated in a round cavity in each leg beneath the body portion of the clips 24 and provided with an eccentric 37 passing through a transverse slot 38 in the body of the clip. This slot should have a width substantially the same as the diameter of the eccentric 37 and should be long enough to accommodate the full throw of the eccentric. As illustrated, the exposed end of the eccentric is provided with a kerf 39 adapted to receive the point of a screw driver by which the eccentric and disc may be rotated to adjust the legs. Before operating the eccentrics, the screws 27 are, of course, loosened and after the legs have been adjusted, the screws are again set up

to retain the parts in the desired position. This construction is very much simpler and cheaper than that in my prior patent. The disc and eccentrics can be made by automatic machinery, and the seats in the legs are easily provided by boring so that no special work is required either in the construction or the assembly of parts.

By referring to Fig. 1 it will be clear that the braces 28 extend diagonally upward from the pivots 29 to racks 31 and are retained in that position against the action of gravity by the engagement between the parts 30 and the racks 31. Consequently, if in use of the table, one of the legs was pressed outwardly a sufficient amount to release the point 30 from the rack 31, the brace 28 would be likely to fall to its operative position against the leg. To prevent this I have extended the end of the brace beyond the pivot 29 at 40 and pivoted thereto a guide 41 for a spring 42 which is compressed between the end of the brace and the bottom of the recess 43 in the leg. With this construction it will be clear that the spring 42 will resist the movement of the brace from either its folded or its operative position, so that there will be no liability of a brace becoming released from its rack 31 accidentally in the use of the table.

The transverse frame members 14 are pivoted to links 44 which are in turn pivoted to the inner strips 15 of the longitudinal frame members. The length of these links is such that the transverse members 14 can be easily placed in the positions indicated in Figs. 2 and 6 in solid lines, or folded to lie against the corresponding strip 15 when it is desired to fold the table. This is a very convenient arrangement, as it leaves no part of the table free to fall from the bundle into which the table is folded, and holds each of the transverse members in convenient reach when the table is being set up.

I am aware that changes may be made in the form, construction and arrangement of the invention, as set forth in the selected embodiment herein, without departing from the scope or sacrificing any of its material advantages, and I therefore reserve the right to make all such changes as fairly fall within the scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. In a folding table, the combination of a top comprising a plurality of longitudinally extending, hingedly connected sections, and a longitudinally extending member secured to the under side of each of the outermost sections of said top, supporting legs hingedly connected to said outermost sections, means for securing said legs in supporting position, transversely extending members adapted to be engaged and clamped by said legs against the ends of said longitudinally extending members in engagement with the intermediate sections of said top, and a link pivotally connecting each transversely extending member with one of said longitudinal members.

2. In a table, a top, longitudinal frame members including a pair of spaced strips secured to said top, transverse frame members engaging the ends of said strips, offset straps secured to said strips, links pivoted to said straps, clips pivoted to said links, and legs secured to said clips and having means to secure them against said transversely extending frame member.

3. In a folding table, a top comprising a plurality of longitudinally extending hingedly connected sections, legs, hinges connected to said legs at points spaced from their upper ends and to said top, transverse members adapted to be held in supporting relation to the intermediate sections of said top by said legs, means for securing said legs in supporting position to clamp said members, shoulders on said legs to bear on said transverse members, and angular reinforcements secured to said legs at the shoulders and extending laterally along said transverse members, to prolong the shoulders and increase the bearing on said transverse members.

JOHN R. ANDERSON.