Oct. 18, 1932. G. C. RICKSON 1,882,915

CARD TABLE

Filed Sept. 17, 1930 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

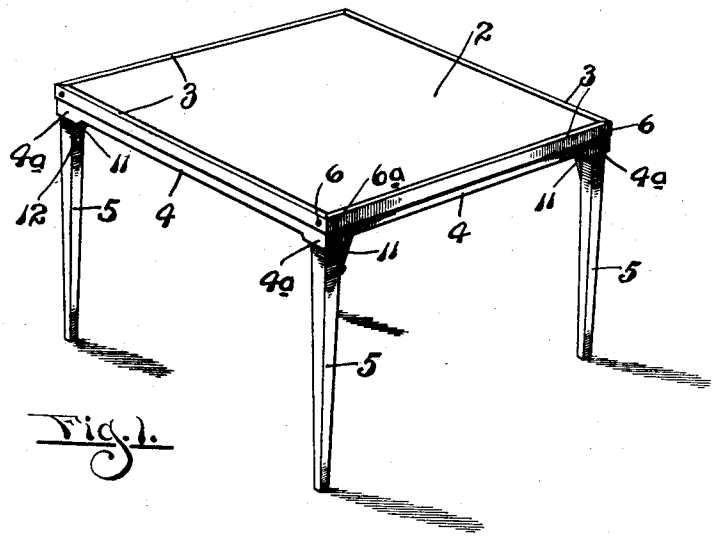


Fig. 1.

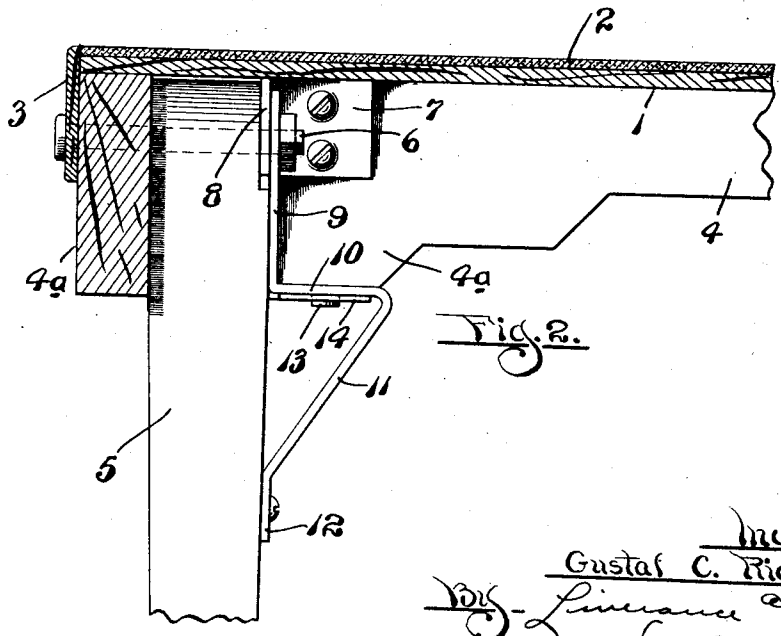


Fig. 2.

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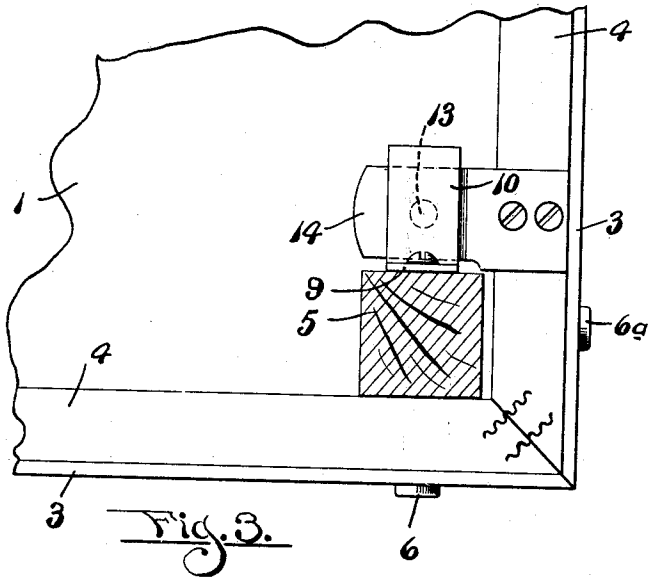


Fig. 3.

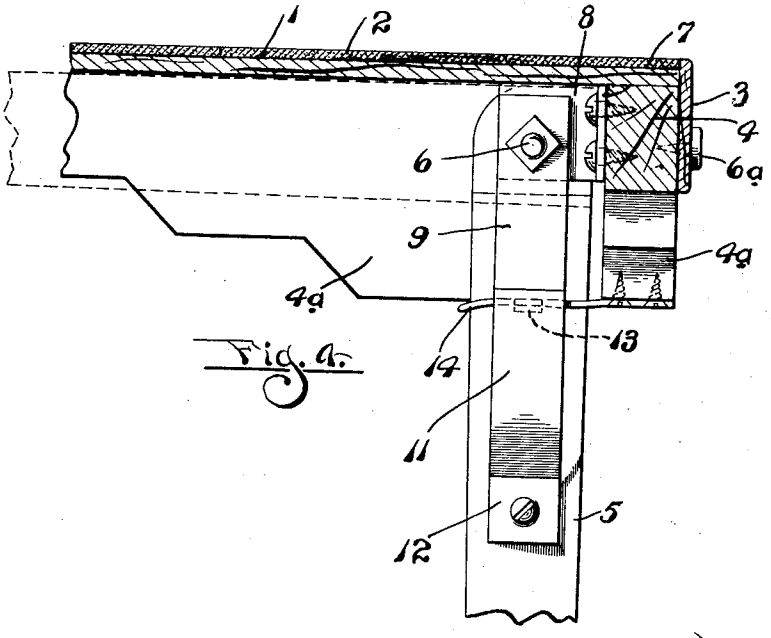


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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CARD TABLE

Application filed September 17, 1930. Serial No. 482,409.

This invention relates to tables, more particularly tables which are commonly known as card tables, in which the table top is of rectangular outline and at each corner has a leg pivotally mounted thereon and adapted to extend downwardly but which can be folded to lie against the underside of the table top whereby it may be, after it has been used, collapsed to occupy very small space and can be put away until time of further use, at which time the legs may be moved downwardly to vertical supporting position. In such tables, the legs, when moved to their operative vertical supporting positions, must be held against undesired pivotal movement by means of a releasable lock or latch which serves to hold the legs securely in operative position but can be readily released when they are to be folded.

In the present invention a particularly simple, practical, strong and durable construction of table of the character noted is produced and in which the legs are releasably latched and held in their extended operative position, the latching means being of a very simple character and one which can be very economically produced, and which is not liable to get out of order being exceptionally durable.

An understanding of the invention for the attainment of the ends stated may be had from the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the table having my invention of leg connection and releasable latch therefor applied thereto.

Fig. 2 is fragmentary vertical section adjacent one corner of the table showing the leg in operative position.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary enlarged under plan view of the table at one corner thereof the leg at said corner being shown in horizontal section, and

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary enlarged vertical section adjacent a corner of the table at right angles to the plane of Fig. 2.

Like reference characters refer to like parts in the different figures of the drawings.

The table top, as illustrated, has a horizontal bed 1 preferably of suitable several ply veneer, over which a covering 2 is secured and which at its edges is covered by thin border strips 3 which cover not only the edges of the covering 2 and of the bed 1 but also the outer sides of underframe members 4 to which the bed 1 is secured. The frame members 4 extend along and underneath the edge portion of the top and at their ends are widened preferably in a series of steps as shown in Figs. 2 and 4, being widest at the ends as indicated at 4*a*. While the bed 1 is preferably covered with a linoleum cover 2 and the border strips 3 are used to protect the edges of the linoleum, the present invention is not directed in any measure to the structure of the table top and any suitable table top may be used and secured on and above the frame members 4, so far as the present invention is concerned.

At each corner of the top a supporting leg 5 is located and is pivotally mounted at its upper end on a pivot bolt 6 which extends through a widened portion 4*a* of a frame member at said corner and then through the upper end of the leg 5. The upper end of each leg is disposed between the adjacent widened end 4*a* of a frame member 4 and a bracket of angle form, said bracket having two arms 7 and 8 disposed at right angles to each other, the arm 7 being permanently secured by suitable fastening means to the inner side of the other frame member 4 at said corner, while the arm 8 of the bracket lies alongside the inner side of the leg 5 parallel to the frame member 4 through which the pivot bolt 6 extends.

The bolt 6 extends through the bracket arm 8 and also through an upper vertical section 9 of a member made of flat metal which is secured at the inner side and near the upper end of each leg. The vertical section 9 extends alongside the inner side of the leg 5 for a distance and is then bent at right angles to extend away from the leg, making a horizontal ledge 10 which, after extending from the leg for a short distance is bent downwardly and toward the leg to provide an inclined section 11 which terminates in a short vertical foot 12 bearing against the

inner side of the leg and to which it is secured by suitable fastening means.

The ledge 10 has a latching pin or stud 13 extending downwardly at its underside. A latching, yielding spring plate 14 is secured at one end to the under edge of the widened portion 4*a* of the adjacent frame member 4 so as to extend inwardly under said ledge 10 when the leg is in a vertical position. Said spring plate 14 has an opening to receive the stud 13 and is curved downwardly at its free end whereby, when the leg is moved from folded to operative vertical position, the stud will ride against the upper side of the spring latching plate 14 until it reaches the opening therein whereupon it will snap into said opening and hold the leg securely in vertical position against folding until the plate is pressed downwardly at its free end to release the latching stud 13.

With a folding leg 5 at each corner of the table it is evident that when in unfolded positions and latched therein the table top may be supported a distance above the floor as shown in Fig. 1. But when it is desired to collapse the table structure to small space the latching spring plates 14 are manually operated to release the studs 13 and all of the legs may be folded to lie underneath the table and inside of the frame members 4. When the table is to be used it is necessary merely to turn the legs to positions at right angles to the plane of the table top and they will be automatically latched and held in such positions through the studs 13 riding over the latching plates 14 until the openings in said plates for reception of the studs receive the same.

The construction is one of a very sturdy character and is particularly practical. The heads of the bolts 6 show at the outer sides of the frame members 4 and for symmetry and sake of appearance tacks 6*a* having similar heads are disposed at the outer sides of the table in simulation of the heads of the bolts 6 near the corners of the table, at the sides where such bolt heads do not appear, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3.

The invention has proved one of practical merit. It is defined in the appended claims and is to be considered comprehensive of all forms of structure coming within their scope.

I claim:

1. A table top of rectangular form having frame members secured to and depending therefrom at its edges, a leg at each corner of the table pivotally mounted on a frame member and movable to a position underneath the top within the frame members or to another position at right angles to the plane of the top, a metal member secured to each leg having a ledge portion disposed at right angles to said leg, a stud extending from said ledge portion and a spring plate secured at one end to a frame member adjacent each corner of the table and having a yieldable free end portion in which an opening is made over which the stud carried by the adjacent leg rides until received in said opening, thereby latching the leg against pivotal movement.

2. A table top, frame members secured at the underside of and along the edges of said top below the same, a leg pivotally mounted at the inner side of a frame member adjacent each corner of the top, a metal latching member secured at the inner side of each leg comprising an upper section lying alongside of the leg, a ledge turned at right angles upon said upper section and an inclined section turned from said ledge to and secured to said leg, a stud projecting at right angles from the ledge and a spring latching plate secured to an adjacent frame member and having a free end portion with an opening therethrough located in the path of movement of said stud and over which the stud rides until received in said opening on turning the leg to position at right angles to the table top.

3. A table top of rectangular form having frame members secured to and depending therefrom at its edges, a leg at each corner of the table pivotally mounted on a frame member and movable to a position underneath the top within the frame members or to another position at right angles to the plane of the top, a metal member secured to each leg having a ledge portion disposed at substantially right angles to said leg, a spring plate secured to a frame member adjacent each corner of the table and having a yieldable portion which contacts with said ledge portion to hold the leg against pivotal movement.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

GUSTAF C. RICKSON.