Nov. 17, 1931. C. H. JOHNSON 1,832,486

FOLDING LEG STOOL

Filed May 16, 1930

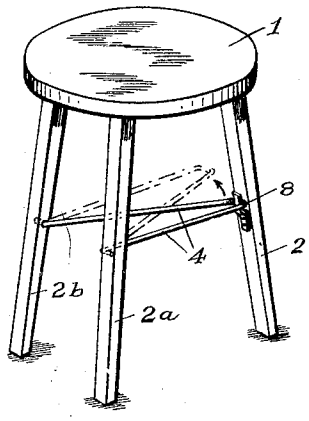


Fig. 1

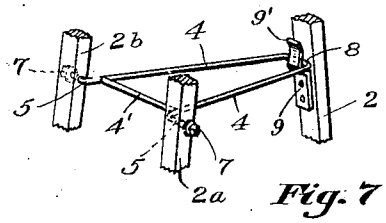


Fig. 7

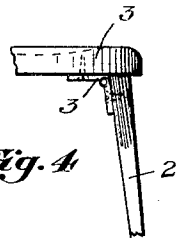


Fig. 4

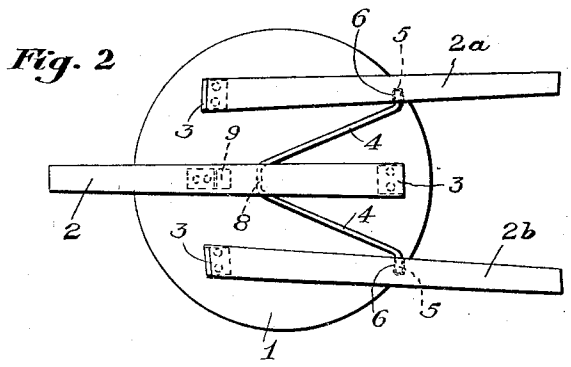


Fig. 2

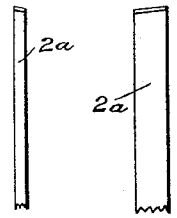


Fig. 5 Fig. 6

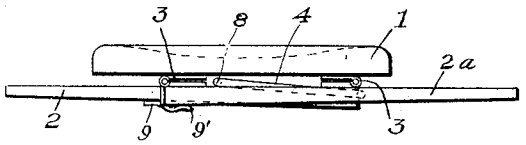


Fig. 3

INVENTOR.
Carl H. Johnson.
BY Henry L. Chenery.
ATTORNEY.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

CARL H. JOHNSON, OF PORTLAND, MAINE

FOLDING LEG STOOL

Application filed May 16, 1930. Serial No. 452,941.

The invention hereinafter to be described relates, in general terms, to furniture but more particularly deals with chairs and stools equipped with legs which may on certain occasions be folded beneath and into compact relation with the seat.

I am aware of the fact that numerous types and styles of folding stools have, from time to time, been devised, but in my present invention I have sought and I believe attained certain objects which invest it with advantages not heretofore incorporated in articles of this general class.

Furniture, like various other manufactured commodities, is susceptible of a wide range in production costs, and if he is engaged in the low-price, highly competitive field the success of the inventor largely depends upon his ability to meet the public demand for not only a low priced but at the same time a substantially constructed article.

In the present instance I have aimed, as a general proposition, to provide a serviceable and useful piece of furniture and have planned it with the object in view of simplifying its structure in order to procure low production cost; to design it so that its conversion from a standing to a folded stool may be easily and quickly accomplished; and that, when folded, a comparatively small space is required to store a large number of them.

In order to obtain a clearer understanding of the character of my invention reference should be had to the description found in the following specification which, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, discloses an embodiment which, at the present time, I consider preferable to other possible forms in which the invention might be carried out.

In the drawings—

Fig. 1 is a view of the stool, in perspective;

Fig. 2 is an inverted plan of the same;

Fig. 3 is a side view, showing the parts folded;

Fig. 4 is a detail showing the method of attaching the legs to the seat;

Figs. 5 and 6 show, respectively, the edge and face views of the upper portions of two of the legs, and

Fig. 7 is a modified form of the tie member.

Similar reference characters identify like parts in all views.

Referring to the drawings, 1 represents the seat of the stool, to the under side of which the legs 2, 2*a* and 2*b* are pivotally attached by means of the hinges 3.

The top ends of the legs 2*a* and 2*b* are obliquely cut in two ways or directions (see Figs. 5 and 6) so that a slight flare or incline of the legs may be had and at the same time a fair and true contact of the top ends of the legs with the bottom side of the seat be procured.

Located intermediate the ends of the three legs and serving to hold them against spreading is a tie member 4, the ends of pintles 5 of which engage sockets 6 made in the adjacent sides of the respective legs 2*a* and 2*b*. Before mounting this member on the legs an outward set is given the two arms—spreading them, and this provides sufficient spring tension so that they are normally held against displacement from the legs, once they are properly located in the sockets.

This construction answers for ordinary requirements, but if a more severe service is demanded of the stool, the design of tie member illustrated in Fig. 7 may be employed. In this instance a cross tie element 4′ connects the two main ties 4, accomplished preferably by spot welding, and the pintles 5 are extended through and outwardly of the legs 2*a* and 2*b* with nuts 7 provided on their ends. Thus a positive tie between the two legs 2*a* and 2*b* is obtained.

The apex end 8 of the tie member latches over a cleat 9, the extreme upper end 9′ of which is bent inwardly so as to more conveniently receive the portion 8. The offset portion of the cleat is preferably sprung toward the leg in order that the tie member may engage the cleat with slight frictional effort tending to prevent accidental disengagement of one from the other of the two members.

When folding the parts, the end 8 of the tie member is first disengaged from the cleat 9 and swung downwardly and outwardly; the legs are then folded (see Fig. 2) to bring them in substantial parallelism with the seat.

The leg 2 is now disposed between the legs 2*a* and 2*b*, with the portion 8 of the tie member lying interjacent the seat and the leg 2. The folding leg stool constructed according to my invention finds ready and convenient application in numerous situations, as for instance, in the kitchen, around banquet tables, as a workman's bench stool and for other like purposes. It is particularly desirable in instances where a large number of the stools are required to be moved from the place in which they were used to outside storage quarters, as they can be reduced in bulk and much more easily handled.

This characteristic, or capacity of being brought into condensed form applies equally well when the stools are in transit, as more of them can be loaded on to a truck than would be possible with the fixed leg stool.

The stool may be constructed of either wood or metal, and of whichever material made, its low cost and simple design are features which commend themselves to the prospective purchases.

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

A foldable-leg stool comprising in combination a seat, a leg inclining in one direction from perpendicular disposed beneath said seat, the top end of said leg being obliquely cut one way, a hinge pivotally securing said leg to said seat, two other legs likewise hingedly connected to said seat, the upper ends thereof being cut obliquely two ways, so that they incline two ways from perpendicular—the tops of all of said legs making fair and full contact with the under side of said seat when they are extended, sockets in said two last mentioned legs, a cleat secured on said first mentioned leg, the upper portion thereof being spaced from said leg, a tie member of generally V shape in outward contour interconnecting all of said legs, pintles projecting outwardly from the base portion of said V shape member and extending through said sockets, nuts on said pintles, and a transverse portion at the apex of said V shape member adapted to engage said cleat and hold said legs from outwardly spreading.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

CARL H. JOHNSON.