

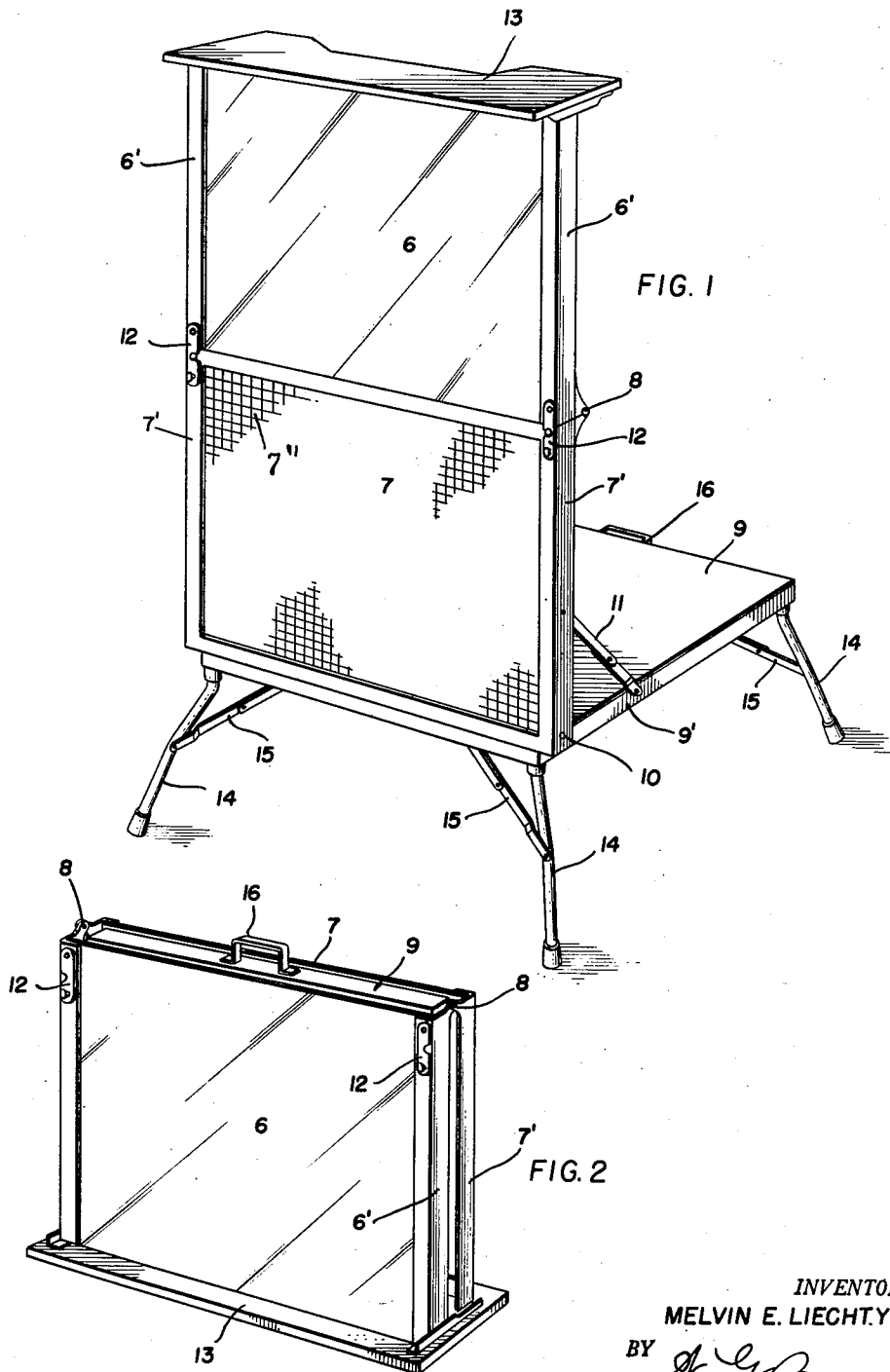
May 27, 1952

M. E. LIECHTY
SPEAKER'S FOLDING STAND

2,598,128

Filed Jan. 5, 1950

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2

FIG. 4

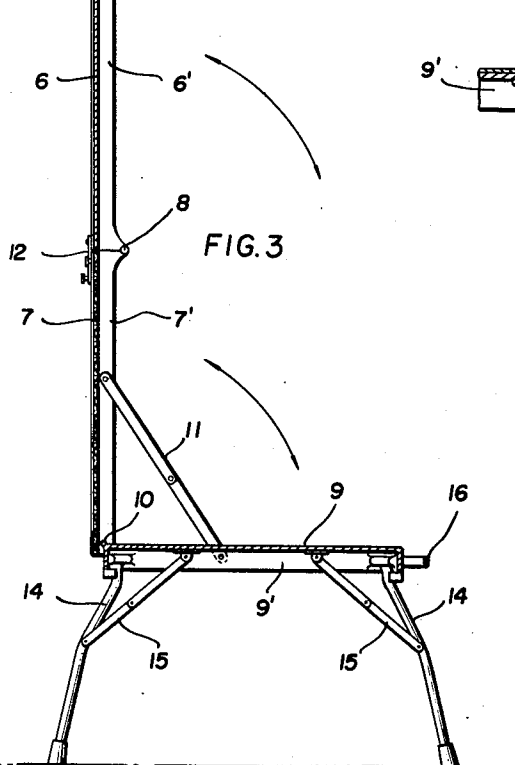
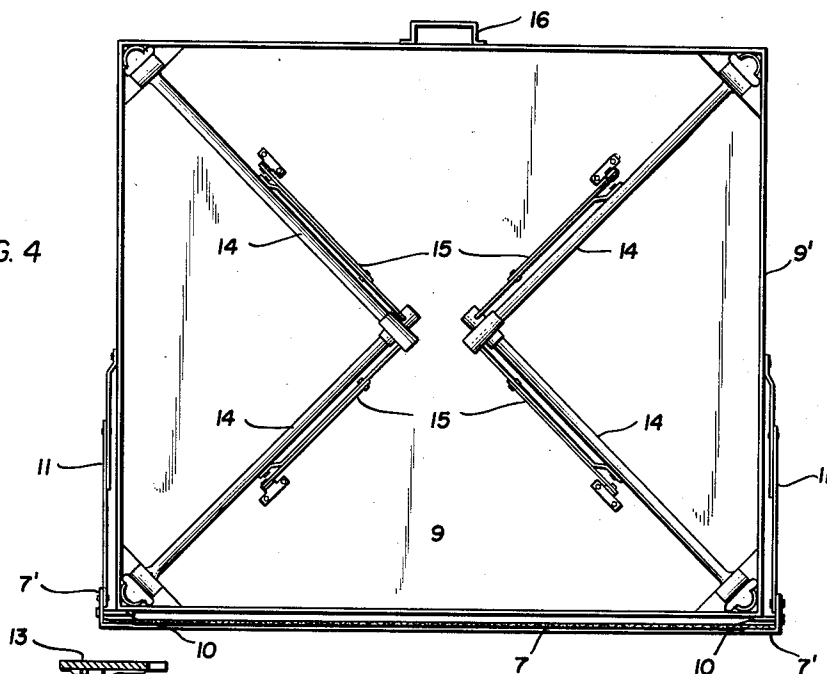


FIG. 3

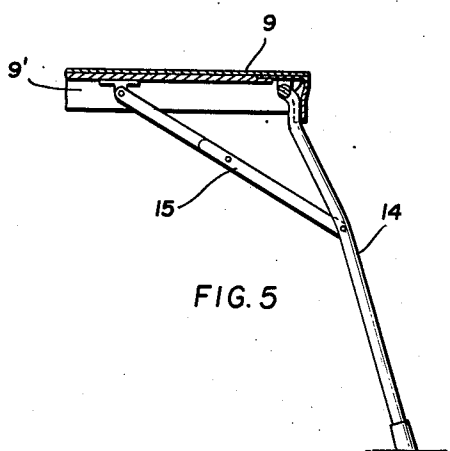


FIG. 5

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SPEAKER'S FOLDING STAND

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5 Claims. (Cl. 311—2)

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This invention relates to improvements in a speaker's folding stand adapted for use by auctioneers and others in addressing transient gatherings of population.

Ordinarily, it is desirable that a speaker, addressing an audience, to stand in an elevated position in order to be seen by the audience as well as to enable the speaker to observe those in the audience, and it is an object of the instant invention to provide a readily portable foldable stand to afford a platform upon which a speaker stands in an elevated position before his audience.

Another object of the invention is to provide in connection with a foldable structure a bench for use of a speaker for accommodation of paraphernalia such as script and tablets upon which to inscribe records of transactions that generally occur during an oration.

Other objects and advantages of the invention appear in the following description.

An illustrative embodiment of the invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective front elevational view of a structure in which the invention is incorporated as it appears when fully unfolded in position for use;

Fig. 2 is a reverse perspective view of the appliance when completely collapsed for transport or storage;

Fig. 3 is a side elevational view shown in mid-cross-section with the appliance in fully unfolded position for use;

Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of the platform and its supporting legs completely collapsed; and

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary cross-sectional view of the structure in midsection.

The illustrative embodiment of the invention consists of upper and lower front panels 6 and 7 respectively, hinged together as indicated by 8, the lower section 7 having a hinged connection at its bottom with a platform 9 as indicated by 10. The platform and the lower panel 7 are connected together by means of a foldable hinged brace 11 by which the platform and said lower section are held in definite arrangement at right angles to each other when the device is in unfolded position. Latches 12 are provided for securing the panels 6 and 7 in extended position when the device is unfolded.

On the top of the upper panel 6 is provided a bench 13 that is disposed at right angles thereto so the bench is held in horizontal position thereon when the device is in operative position.

Beneath the platform 9 are hinged in the

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corners thereof foldable legs 14 sustained by hinge braces 15 to sustain them individually in leg-supporting position, the legs being adapted when their braces are folded to permit the legs to be collapsed under the platform 9.

There is provided on the rear end of the platform a handle 16 by which to manipulate the platform, which when the device is folded extends upwardly and affords means by which the device when folded is carried.

A feature of the invention is that the upper panel 6 has secured on its sides angle-irons 6', and the lower panel 7 has similarly secured to its sides angle-irons 7' alined with and hinged to the angle-irons on the upper panel. Likewise, the platform 9 has along its sides and its rear end a downwardly extending flange 9', the side portions of which are hinged to the corresponding angle-irons on the lower panel 7 as indicated by 10, so the platform is foldable against the lower panel between the rearwardly extending flanges of the angle-irons 7' thereon. The hinge connections 8 between the upper and lower panels are offset rearwardly a sufficient distance so after the platform 9 is folded, the upper panel then is folded downwardly against the bottom of the platform after the legs 14 shall have been folded against the bottom of the platform. When the panels, platform and the legs thereof have thus been folded, the bench 13 then extends beneath the folded members.

In utilizing the invention the panel 6 is swung upon its pivotal connections with the panel 7 into erect position and then secured by the latches 12. By this arrangement the platform is exposed, permitting the legs 14 to be unfolded, the braces 11 and 15 being also unfolded and adjusted in supporting position for the platform and the legs. The parts being thus adjusted are held in position to be mounted by a speaker. After use by the speaker, the device is collapsed by folding the legs against the bottom of the platform between the sides and back of the marginal flange 9' and then folding the platform up against the back of the lower panel 7 where it is accommodated between the side flanges 7' thereon. The top panel then, together with the bench supported thereon, is swung downwardly over the folded platform concealing the folded legs and so the bench then extends beneath the folded panels and platform, and serves as a base upon which the folded structure rests. The folded structure is then compact, suitably to be conveniently transported or stored.

A feature of the invention is that the upper

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panel is adapted for display of an announcement (not shown) to inform the audience as to the nature of the oration expected to be delivered, while the lower panel 7 preferably has a multiplicity of vent openings 7" for free passage of breeze therethrough by which is obviated the tendency of the structure to be blown out of operating position. This feature is of importance especially when the structure is erected out doors where it is subjected to various climatic conditions and is of further advantage because of the reduction in the weight of the structure when folded for transport.

Variations from the particular construction above disclosed may be resorted to by the exercise of skill in the art, without departure from the spirit or scope of the invention.

What I claim is:

1. A speaker's folding portable stand consisting of upper and lower hinged panels, said upper panel having secured on its top a bench, the lower panel having numerous vent openings therein, a platform hingedly connected to the bottom of said lower panel, foldable braces connecting the platform and said lower panel for holding said lower panel erect, and foldable legs supporting said platform in an elevated position provided with hinged braces connecting said legs with said platform, said platform being adapted to be folded against said lower panel, and said upper panel being foldable against the bottom of said platform to conceal said legs when folded therein, and said bench being disposed to underlie the platform and the lower end of said lower panel when the stand is completely collapsed.

2. A speaker's folding portable stand consisting of upper and lower front hinged panels and a platform hingedly connected to the bottom of said lower panel, said platform having foldable legs for supporting it in an elevated position, said upper panel having secured on its top a bench, and said lower panel having vent openings therein, said platform being foldable into the back of said lower panel, and said upper panel being foldable against the bottom of the platform, after the platform and its legs are in folded position, whereby said folded legs are concealed.

3. A speaker's portable stand consisting of up-

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per and lower panels hinged together so as to extend in spaced parallel planes when folded, a platform hingedly connected to the bottom of said lowermost panel and adapted to extend between said panels when folded, legs hinged on said platform adapted to be folded into the bottom of said platform and provided with supporting braces to hold said legs in operative position, said upper panel being adapted to fold upon the bottom of said platform and conceal therein the folded legs and their braces, and means for securing said panels in extended position for use.

4. A speaker's portable stand in which are included upper and lower panels hinged together, a platform hingedly connected to the lower end of said lower panel and adapted when in folded position to lie between said panels in a plane parallel therewith, legs hinged to the bottom of said platform adapted to be folded into the bottom thereof and concealed by said uppermost panel when the structure is completely folded, and means for securing the several foldable parts in extended position.

5. A speaker's portable stand in which are included upper and lower panels hinged together constituting, when in extended position, the front of the stand, a platform hingedly connected with the bottom of the lower panel, legs hinged on said platform adapted to be folded against the bottom thereof and concealed by said upper panel when the stand is collapsed, hinged braces in connection with said panels for sustaining said panels in extended position, and other hinged braces connecting the platform with the individual legs to sustain said legs when in operative position.

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