

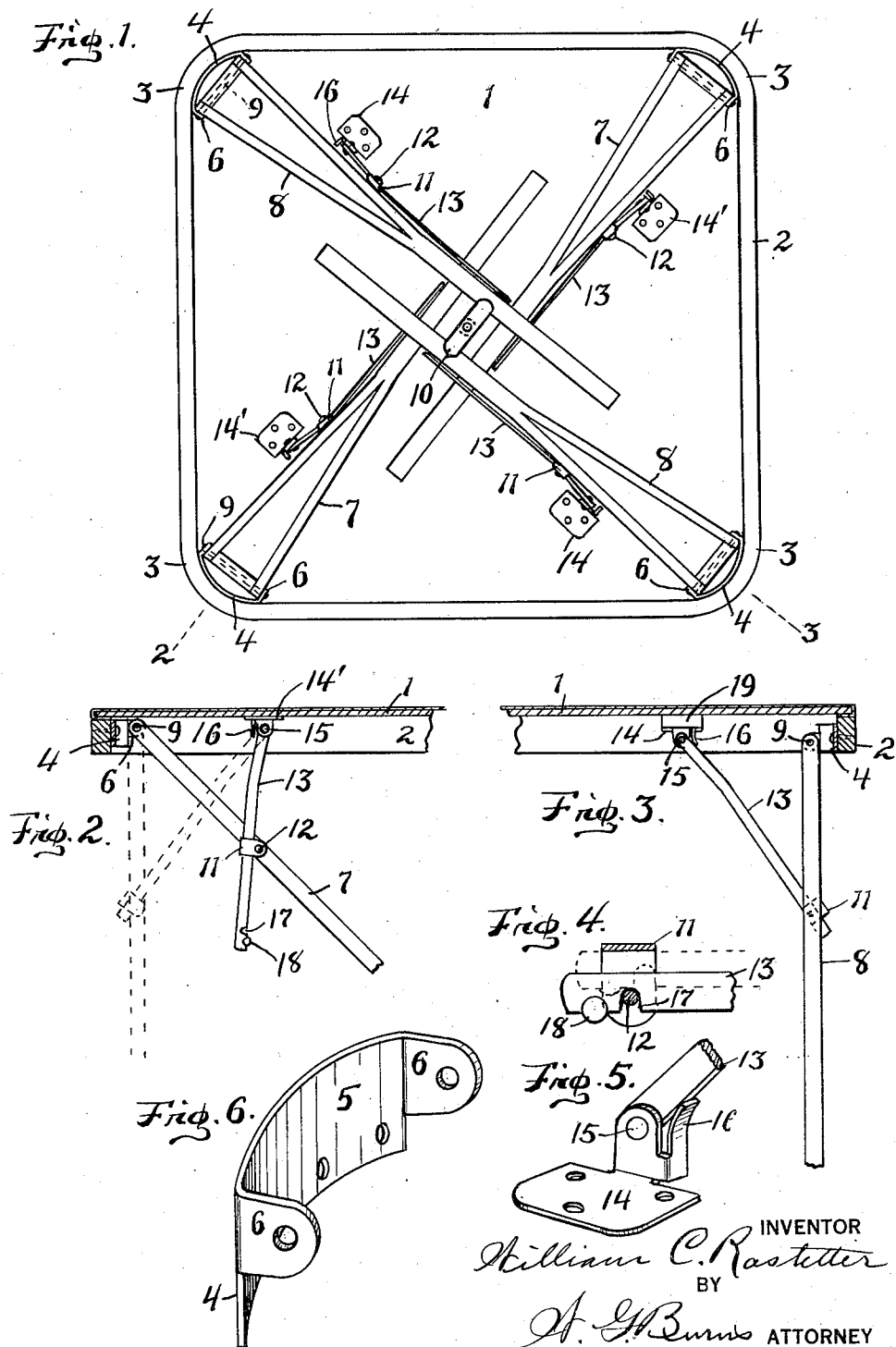
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FOLDING TABLE

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FOLDING TABLE

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This invention relates to improvements in folding tables of that type usually employed for card games, and especially where a large number of tables are required at a single gathering of participants, when it is desirable to place many tables in position for use and subsequently dispose of them expeditiously. The object of the improvement is to provide a table of its class so constructed as to be of light weight, of great strength and rigid when extended for use. This object is accomplished by the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a bottom plan view of a table in folded position and embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary section of Fig. 1 on the line 2—thereof;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary section of Fig. 1 on the line 3—thereof;

Fig. 4 is a detail view of the latch end of one of the leg braces and its guard;

Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view of a bracket for supporting the leg brace; and

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of one of the anchors by which the legs are secured to the table top.

The characters appearing in the description refer to parts shown in the drawings and designated thereon by corresponding characters.

The invention comprises a table top 1 having a marginal frame 2 with rounded corners 3, in each of which corners is secured an anchor 4 consisting of an arched plate 5 shaped so as to have a pair of spaced lugs 6. In each anchor plate 4 is secured one of the table legs 7—8, the upper end of each leg being bifurcated and positioned between the lugs 6 of the corresponding anchor upon a pivot 9 therein. The anchors in which the legs 7 are hinged, are positioned so that the pivots 9 therein extend in a plane higher in the frame than that plane in which the pivots of the other anchors for the legs 8 lie. Thus, when the legs 7 are folded, they will fold against the bottom of the table top 1 in a common plane adjacent each other, while the legs 8 when folded will overlap the

folded legs 7 in a parallel plane adjacent thereto. A cleat 10 has pivoted relation with the table top at the center thereof at a point between each pair of legs and has securing engagement with the overlapping legs 8 whereby the legs are held in folded position beneath the table top.

Each leg has attached to one side thereof at a point spaced from its hinged end a guard 11 secured by a pivot 12 upon which the guard has turning movement, and a leg brace 13 has sliding movement in the corresponding guard 11. Each brace 13 has hinged connection at one of its ends on a corresponding bracket 14—14', there being a pivot 15 connecting the bracket and brace. Each bracket has a spring tongue 16 against which the corresponding brace 13 bears upon reaching its extended position so that outward movement of the brace is resisted thereby. Each brace 13 has a notch 17 made therein at a point adjacent the end thereof opposite its hinged end disposed so as to receive the corresponding pivot 12 whereby the brace has latched relation with said pivot. Also, the brace has a lug 18 that projects from its edge at a point between the notch and the adjacent end of the brace that has engagement with the pivot so as to prevent removal of the brace from the guard 11, there being sufficient play for the brace between the pivot and the guard to admit of unlatching the brace from the pivot, but insufficient play to admit the lug to pass the pivot.

The brackets 14' are secured directly upon the bottom face of the table top 1 so that their pivots 15 are positioned in a common plane with the pivots 9 for the legs 7, whereby the corresponding braces 13, when folded, lie in a common plane with the legs 7. A block 19 is interposed between each bracket 14 and the bottom of the table top 1 so that the pivots 15 in the brackets 14 are disposed in a plane common with that of the pivots 9 for the legs 8, whereby the corresponding braces 13, when folded, lie in a common plane with the legs 8.

The braces 13 are positioned uniformly relative to the respective legs so that in

unfolding and folding the legs, confusion in handling the folding parts is obviated.

In utilizing the invention the cleat 10 is turned out of engagement with the legs, and the legs 8 are turned upon their pivots 9 to their erect position so that their braces 13 have latched engagement with the corresponding pins 12; the legs 7 are then unfolded in like manner and sustained in erect position by the latched engagement with their braces. Each brace is sustained in latched engagement with the corresponding pivot 12 by pressure of the spring tongue 16 bearing thereupon. In folding the legs, the corresponding brace is raised by the operator out of engagement with the pin on the corresponding leg, permitting the leg to be folded as the brace slides in its guard into parallel relationship with said leg.

20 What I claim is:—

In a table structure having folding legs, a guard pivoted to each leg, brackets fixed to the underside of the top, a leg brace pivoted to each bracket and having a sliding connection with said pivoted guard, locking means carried by said guard, a spring tongue carried by each bracket and adapted to engage said brace and press said brace into engagement with said locking means when the leg is extended for use.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
WILLIAM C. RASTETTER.

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