Sept. 10, 1929. G. KRESS ET AL 1,727,833

FOLDING TABLE

Filed March 8, 1928

Fig. 1.

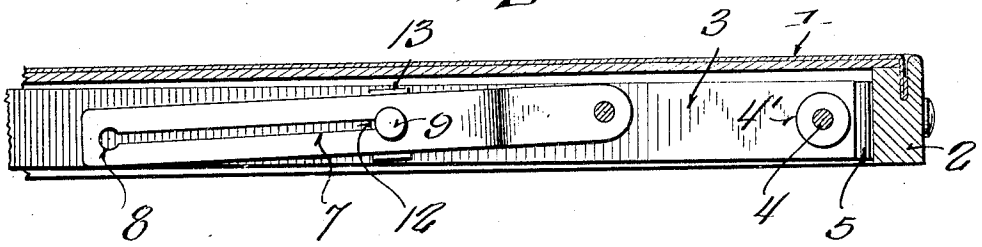


Fig. 2.

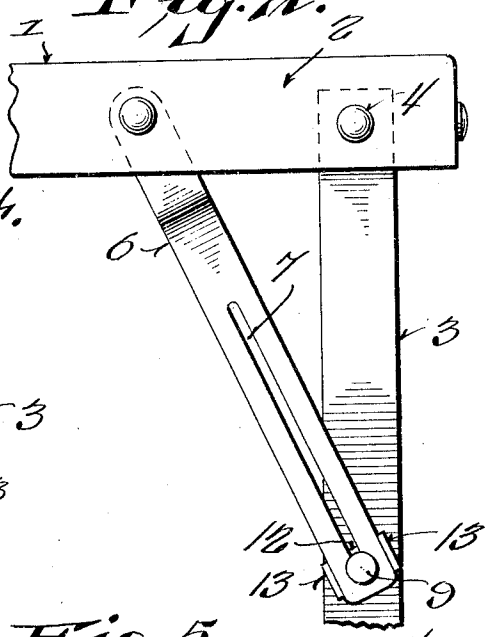


Fig. 3.

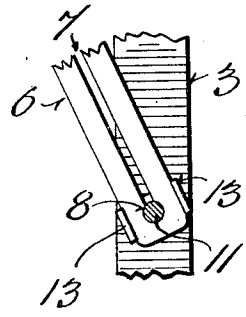


Fig. 4.

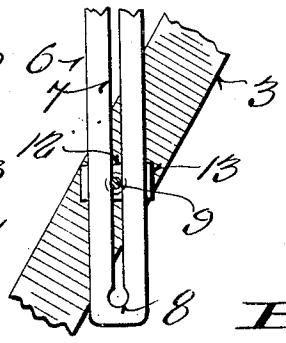


Fig. 5.

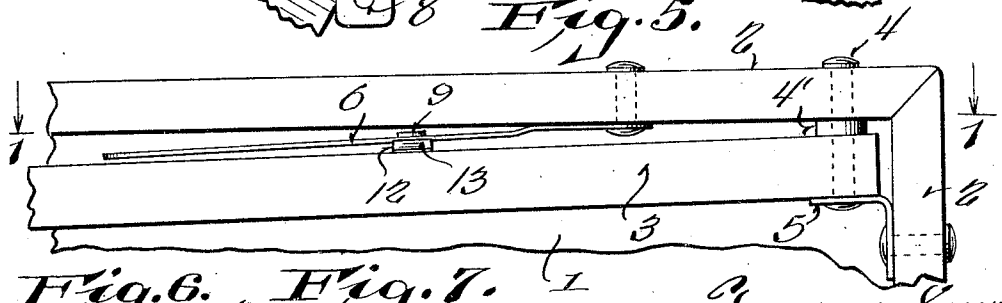


Fig. 6.

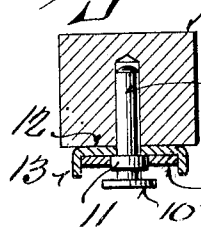
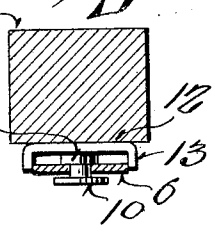


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE KRESS AND EMIL BUEHRER, OF GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN.

FOLDING TABLE.

Application filed March 8, 1928. Serial No. 260,166.

This invention pertains to improvements in folding tables and has primarily for its object to provide a simple, inexpensive, and efficient brace for rigidly locking the folding legs in operative position and frictionally holding the same in collapsed position.

Incidental to the foregoing, a more specific object is to provide novel and effective means for slidably attaching and guiding the brace on the table leg.

With the above and other objects in view, which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts substantially as hereinafter described and more particularly defined by the appended claim, it being understood that such changes in the precise embodiment of the herein disclosed invention may be made as come within the scope of the claim.

In the accompanying drawings is illustrated one complete example of the physical embodiment of the present invention constructed according to the best mode so far devised for the practical application of the principles thereof.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a fragmentary section through a portion of a table constructed in accordance with the present invention, showing the foldable leg in closed position;

Figure 2 is a detailed elevation illustrating the leg extended to operative position;

Figure 3 is a fragmentary detail with parts in section to more clearly illustrate the locking means;

Figure 4 is a similar view showing the relative position of the parts in an intermediate position;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary plan view showing one of the table legs collapsed;

Figure 6 is a section through the table leg in operative position; and

Figure 7 is a similar section illustrating the relative position of the parts in collapsed or intermediate position.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, wherein the invention is illustrated as applied to the conventional structure of card table, the numeral 1 designates a table top provided with depending side rails 2 secured thereto in any suitable manner.

Obviously, the table is provided with four folding legs 3, but for the purpose of illustration, only a portion of the table and one leg is shown.

The leg 3 is pivotally secured to the table by means of a pintle 4 carried by one of the side rails 2 and a cooperating bracket 5 secured to the adjacent side rail. To provide clearance for the bracing mechanism, the leg 3 is spaced from its adjacent side rail 2 by means of a spacing washer 4'. For the purpose of bracing the leg 3 in extended operative position, a brace 6 is pivoted to the side rail 2 adjacent the leg at a point slightly distant from the pintle 4. The brace 6 is formed from resilient material and provided with a key-hole slot 7 having an enlarged opening 8 in its lower end. The top portion of the brace snugly engages the inner side of the side rail, while the lower portion is offset for a purpose to be hereinafter described.

Secured to the leg 3 on its outer face adjacent the side rail 2 is a pin 9 provided with a head 10 and a shank of the same diameter as the width of the restricted part of the key-hole slot 7. Spaced inwardly from the head 10 is an enlarged collar 11 of a diameter equal to the enlarged opening 8 of the key-hole slot 7 in the brace 6. Pivotally mounted on the pin 9 between the enlarged collar 11 and the face of the leg, is a clip 12 provided with side flanges 13 for engaging the sides of the brace 6 to slidably guide the same in alignment with the pin 9, thus relieving a certain portion of the strain on the pin and preventing wear between the pin and sides of the key-hole slot through which the pin projects.

To open the table, the leg is merely swung downwardly, the shank of the pin 9 between the head and enlarged portion 11 travelling in the restricted portion of the key-hole slot 7. When the leg reaches its extended operative position, the tension provided by offsetting the lower portion of the brace, will force the enlarged opening 8 over the enlarged portion 11 provided on the shank, thus securely and rigidly locking the shank and brace in

operative extended position. To collapse the leg, it is merely necessary to exert a slight outward pressure upon the lower portion of the brace to release the enlarged portion 11 of the pin 9 from the opening 8, and then swing the leg upwardly.

From the foregoing, it will be obvious that a very simple and rigid structure has been provided, which is not subject to wear or disalignment, as is common in many tables of this type.

It will also be seen that the mode of operation materially facilitates collapsing or extending of the table legs, in that it avoids cumbersome and awkward operation. The latching of the leg may be termed automatic as the clip 12 guides the brace in alignment with the pin 9, thus causing the brace to snap into locking engagement with the enlarged portion of the pin when the opening 8 registers with the same.

It will also be appreciated that the method of slidably attaching the brace to the table leg is extremely simple, in that the latching pin 9, in addition to preventing detachment of the brace from the leg, also carries the clip which guides the brace and prevents wear on the sides of the key-hole slot or the pin.

We claim:

A table provided with foldable legs, each comprising a leg pivotally carried by the table, a brace pivoted to the table and provided with a key-hole slot, said brace having an offset lower portion resiliently urged toward said leg, a pin carried by said leg and projecting through said slot, an enlarged portion on said pin for engaging the enlarged portion in said key-hole slot to lock said brace and leg against relative movement when in operative position, and a clip pivotally carried on said pin and provided with side flanges for engaging the edges of said brace to guide the same in alignment with said pin.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing we have hereunto set our hands at Green Bay, in the county of Brown and State of Wisconsin.

GEORGE KRESS.
EMIL BUEHRER.