Sept. 3, 1940. D. THOMAS 2,213,828

COLLAPSIBLE SERVING STAND

Filed Nov. 27, 1939

Fig. 1.

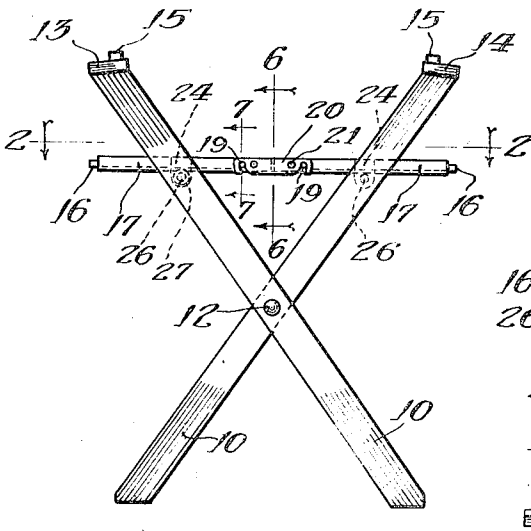


Fig. 2.

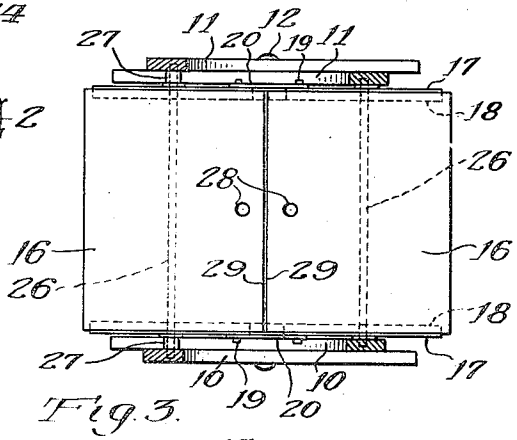


Fig. 3.

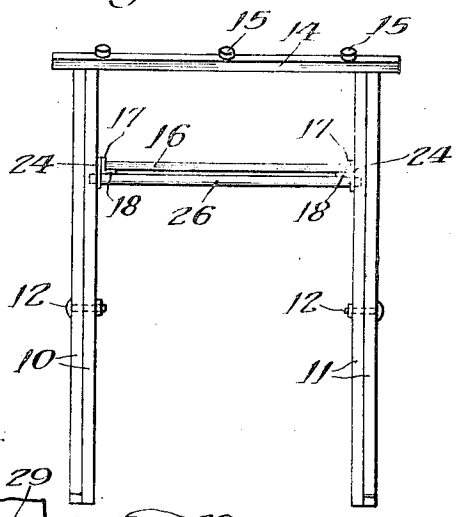


Fig. 4.

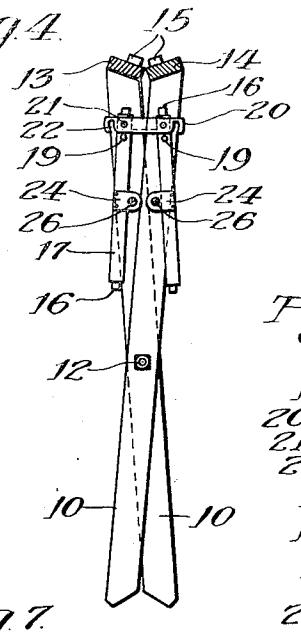


Fig. 5.

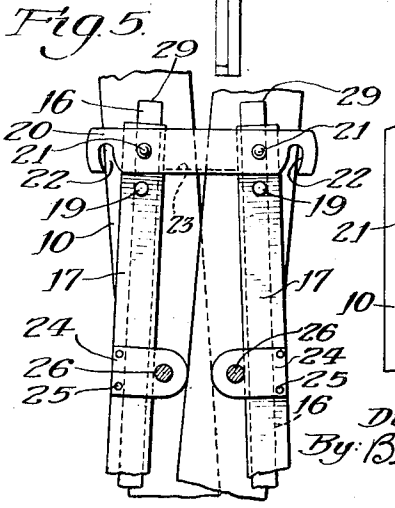


Fig. 6.

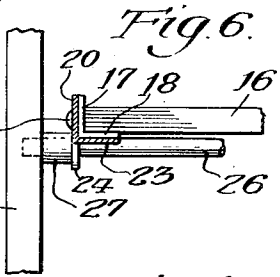
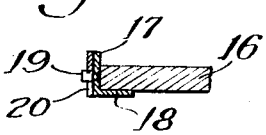


Fig. 7.



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COLLAPSIBLE SERVING STAND

Dimitri Thomas, Chicago, Ill.

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6 Claims. (Cl. 311—83)

This invention relates to collapsible serving stands, and particularly to a stand suitable for dining room service.

The main object of the invention is to provide a stand adapted to support on its top a removable tray and having a collapsible shelf mounted beneath the top for carrying dishes, table silver and other articles.

Another object is to provide a collapsible stand which is balanced laterally in its collapsed as well as its non-collapsed position.

Another object is to produce a stand which may be collapsed by taking hold of its upper portion and merely lifting the stand off the floor. This construction is of special advantage because the users of these devices frequently are carrying trays and other objects and have only one hand free for collapsing and carrying a serving stand. Likewise, when the stand is set down on the floor, it readily assumes its non-collapsed position.

Another advantage of my construction lies in the fact that the top bars which support the removable tray also serves as a convenient means for carrying the stand, and the collapsible shelf members are mounted below the top bars so as to be collapsible below the horizontal plane of the top bars and be out of the way and protected against injury.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is an elevational view of one side of a collapsible serving stand embodying my invention, showing the stand in non-collapsed position.

Fig. 2 is a horizontal sectional view of the same, taken in the plane of the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is an elevational view showing one end of the stand shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is an end elevational view, partly in section, of the stand in collapsed position.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged view of a portion of Fig. 4.

Figs. 6 and 7 are vertical sectional views of details of construction, taken in the planes of the lines 6—6 and 7—7 of Fig. 1, respectively.

In that embodiment of the invention shown in the drawing, my collapsible serving stand comprises two pairs of legs, 10 and 11, the legs of each pair being pivotally connected together by bolts 12, 12, slightly below their centers. At their upper ends, the outer legs 10 and 11 are connected together by a cross bar 13 and the inner legs 10 and 11 are connected together by a cross bar 14. The cross bars are substantially horizontal and have a plurality, preferably three or more, of rubber pads 15 on their upper surfaces. The cross bars 13 and 14 are designed to support a removable tray (not shown) when the stand is in non-collapsed position.

Between the pivotal connection 12 and the upper ends of the legs 10 and 11, said legs support a collapsible shelf comprising two members 16, 16, made of any flat, suitable material. Each shelf member 16 has fixed to each side edge an angle bar having a vertical flange 17 and a horizontal flange 18 abutting the side and bottom surfaces, respectively, of the shelf members. The flange 17 protrudes above the upper surface of the shelf member 16, as shown in Figs. 6 and 7. A pin 19 projects horizontally from each flange 17 near its inner end in position to engage a link 20 pivotally connected to the shelf members 16 through the angle bars 17 by rivets 21. The rivets 21 are located between the inner ends of the shelf members 16 and the pins 19. The links 20 are notched near each end, at their lower edges, as indicated at 22, and the notches are adapted to receive the pins 19 when the shelf members 16, 16 are in the horizontal position shown in Figs. 1 to 3, inclusive. The link 20 has a vertically disposed face portion and a horizontally disposed flange 23 extending rearwardly from the link in its central portion, between the pivotal connections 21, 21.

The shelf members 16, 16 are connected to the legs 10, 11 by means of apertured plates 24 riveted to the shelf members through the angle bar flange 17 by rivets 25, and rods 26 which extend through the apertures in the plates 24, beneath the shelf members from side to side, and have their ends mounted in the legs 10 and 11. One of the rods 26 is longer than the other so as to span the space between the outer legs 10 and 11, as indicated at the left hand side of Fig. 2, and spacers 27, 27 are sleeved on the rod ends between the side edges of one of the shelf members 16 and said outer legs 10 and 11.

Each shelf member 16 has an aperture 28 midway between its side edges, near its inner edge. The inner edges 29 of the shelf members 16 constitute the upper edges of said members when the stand is collapsed, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5.

When the serving stand is in its operative position as shown in Fig. 1, the legs are spread and the shelf members 16, 16 are horizontally aligned, with the pins 19, 19 engaged in the notches 22 of the link 20. The shelf members are supported in this position by the rods 26 and are prevented from tilting downwardly toward their inner ends by reason of the link and pin connections. Various articles, such as dishes, table silver and the like, may rest on the shelf members while a tray is supported on the cross bars 13 and 14.

To collapse the stand, the user may grasp one or both bars 13, 14, and draw them toward each other. This action causes the shelf members to move pivotally on the pivotal connections 21, and the pins 19 to slip out of the notches 22, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5. The flange 23 of the link serves as a spacer between the upper portions of the shelf members 16 in this position. The apertures 28 provide a finger-hold to assist in moving the shelf members to collapsed position in the event assistance is required. The stand can be collapsed or set up for service by the use of one hand, with a minimum amount of manipulation by the operator.

Changes may be made in details of construction without departing from the scope of my invention.

I claim:

1. A collapsible serving stand comprising two pairs of legs, the legs of each pair being pivotally connected together between their ends, cross bars connecting the upper ends of the legs of one pair with the upper ends of the legs of the other pair, a pair of shelf members, pivotal connections connecting the shelf members to the legs between the upper ends of the legs and the pivotal connections which connect the legs of a pair, a link pivotally connected to the aligned side edges of the pair of shelf members at each side, and cooperating means on the links and on said shelf members preventing downward tilting of said shelf members toward their proximate inner edges.

2. A collapsible serving stand comprising two pairs of legs, the legs of each pair being pivotally connected together between their ends, cross bars connecting the upper ends of the legs of one pair with the upper ends of the legs of the other pair and providing an open top support for a removable tray, a pair of shelf members, pivotal connections connecting the shelf members to the legs between the upper ends of the legs and the pivotal connections which connect the legs of a pair, a link pivotally connected to the aligned side edges of a pair of shelf members at each side, cooperating means on the links and on said shelf members preventing downward tilting of said shelf members toward their proximate inner edges, and means on said links retaining the shelf members in substantially vertical positions when the stand is in collapsed position.

3. A collapsible serving stand comprising two pairs of legs, the legs of each pair being pivotally connected together between their ends, cross bars connecting the upper ends of the legs of one pair with the upper ends of the legs of the other pair and providing an open top support for a removable tray, a pair of shelf members, pivotal connections connecting the shelf members to the legs between the upper ends of the legs and the pivotal connections which connect the legs of a pair, said shelf and leg connecting means comprising a plate secured to and projecting downwardly from each side edge of each shelf member and a rod extending through the plates beneath each shelf member into opposite legs, a link pivotally connected to the aligned side edges of the pair of shelf members at each side, and cooperating means on the links and on said shelf members preventing downward tilting of said shelf members toward their proximate inner edges.

4. A collapsible serving stand comprising two pairs of legs, the legs of each pair being pivotally connected together between their ends, cross bars connecting the upper ends of the legs of one pair with the upper ends of the legs of the other pair and providing an open top support for a removable tray, a pair of shelf members, pivotal connections connecting the shelf members to the legs between the upper ends of the legs and the pivotal connections which connect the legs of a pair, a link pivotally connected to the aligned side edges of the pair of shelf members at each side, and cooperating means on the links and on said shelf members preventing downward tilting of said shelf members toward their proximate inner edges, said cooperating means consisting of a pin projecting horizontally from opposite side edges of the shelf members adapted for engagement in notches in the lower edges of links.

5. A collapsible serving stand comprising two pairs of legs, the legs of each pair being pivotally connected together between their ends, cross bars connecting the upper ends of the legs of one pair with the upper ends of the legs of the other pair and providing an open top support for a removable tray, a pair of shelf members, pivotal connections connecting the shelf members to the legs between the upper ends of the legs and the pivotal connections which connect the legs of a pair, a link pivotally connected to the aligned side edges of the pair of shelf members at each side, and cooperating means on the links and on said shelf members preventing downward tilting of said shelf members toward their proximate inner edges, said cooperating means consisting of a pin projecting horizontally from opposite side edges of the shelf members adapted for engagement in notches in the lower edges of links, outwardly of the pivotal connections between the links and the shelf members at opposite ends of the links.

6. A collapsible serving stand comprising two pairs of legs, the legs of each pair being pivotally connected together between their ends, cross bars connecting the upper ends of the legs of one pair with the upper ends of the legs of the other pair and providing an open top support for a removable tray, a pair of shelf members, an angle bar secured to each side edge of each shelf member, pivotal connections connecting the shelf members to the legs between the upper ends of the legs and the pivotol connections which connect the legs of a pair, a link pivotally connected to the aligned side edges of the pair of shelf members at each side, and cooperating means on the links and on said shelf members preventing downward tilting of said shelf members toward their proximate inner edges.

DIMITRI THOMAS.