Nov. 25, 1930. C. H. McCASLIN 1,782,623

FOLDING TABLE

Filed March 19, 1928

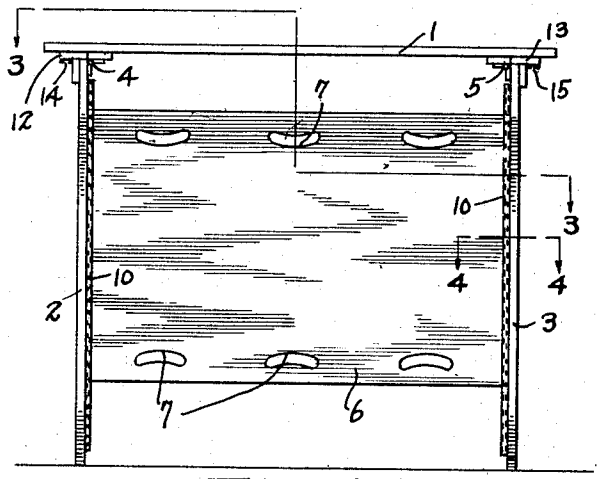


Fig. 1.

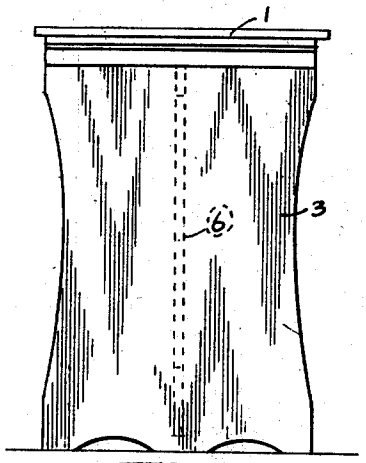


Fig. 2.

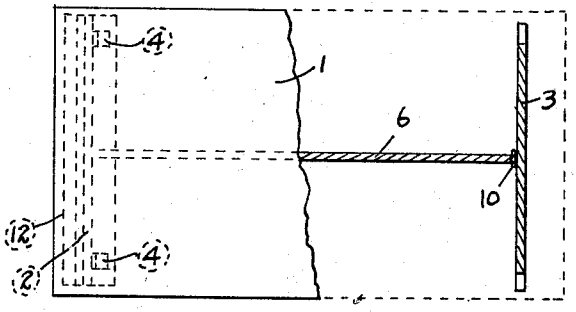


Fig. 3.

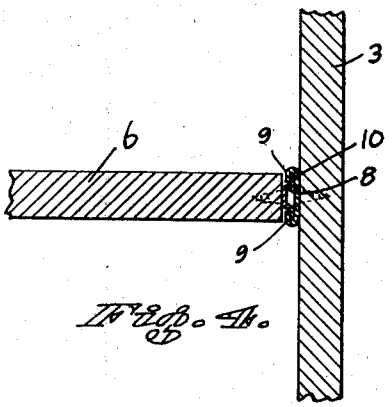


Fig. 4.

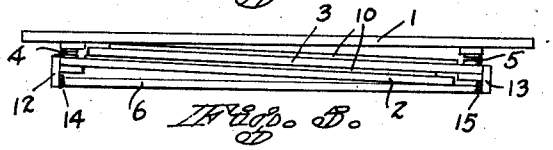


Fig. 5.

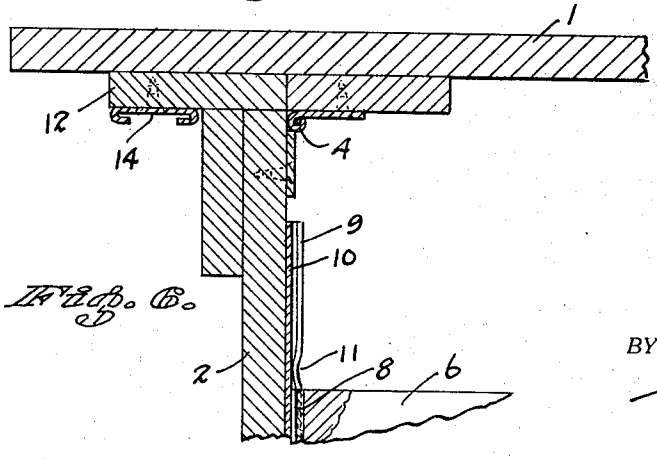


Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FOLDING TABLE

Application filed March 19, 1928. Serial No. 262,864.

My invention relates to improvements in folding tables, and it consists in the combinations, constructions, and arrangements hereinafter described and claimed.

An object of my invention is to provide a folding table that consists of two legs hingedly secured to a table top and foldable into planes parallel with the top and a bracing member which performs the double function of locking the legs in collapsed position. The bracing member further acts as a cover for the legs when folded.

A further object of my invention is to provide a device of the type described which is extremely simple in construction, and which provides a substantialy article when in operative position that is as strong as a rigid non-foldable table.

Other objects and advantages will appear in the following specification, and the novel features of my invention will be particularly pointed out in what I hereinafter claim.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing forming a part of this application, in which:

Figure 1 shows a side elevation of the device;

Figure 2 is an end elevation;

Figure 3 is a section along the line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a section along the line 4—4 of Figure 1;

Figure 5 shows the table in folded position; and

Figure 6 is an enlarged sectional view of a portion of the device.

In carrying out my invention I provide a table which consists of a top 1 and legs 2 and 3 hingedly secured to the top at 4 and 5. Figure 2 shows how the legs extend substantially across the entire width of the table. This makes it possible to have only two legs for the table. The legs may be designed in order to add to the beauty of the device.

A bracing member 6 is used for holding the legs in open and also in closed position. This member is in the shape of a large board that is provided with hand-holes 7 for permitting it to be moved readily. Reference to Figure 4 shows that the member 6 has a guide strip 8 that is provided with outwardly projecting flanges 9. These flanges are slidably received in a channel guide 10.

The legs 2 and 3 are each provided with a channel guide 10. Figure 3 shows how these guides are disposed on the inner surfaces of the legs and midway between the sides. The legs are swingable into open position and then the member 6 is moved between the legs and toward the top, the guide strips 8 of the member entering the channel guides 10 and thus securing the member to the legs. I have found that if the legs 2 and 3 have a greater distance between them than the length of the member 6, the member 6 when connected to the legs will have a binding effect upon the legs, and thus support the member in the position shown in Figure 1 without there being any chance of the member dropping by gravity. The guide channels 10 should not be spaced further away from the guide strips 8 than approximately one-eighth of an inch prior to the connecting of the member 6 to the legs. If now the legs are swung toward each other, this slight distance, in order to permit the guide strips 8 to enter the channel guides 10, it will be seen that as the member 6 is moved into place there will be a wedging action between the strips and channels.

In Figure 6 I show the guide channels 10 as being provided with a depressed portion 11 that limits the movement of the member 6.

The same member 6 is used in securing the legs in closed position. The member is first removed from the guide channels 10 and then the legs are swung about their hinges 4 and 5 into the position shown in Figure 5. The legs carry stop members 12 and 13 that bear against the top 1, and provide a broad supporting surface for the top. These stop members are swung into a position approximately at right angles to the plane of the top 1 when the legs are folded. The stop members 12 and 13 carry guide channels 14 and 15, similar to the channels 10. These channels are spaced a sufficient distance apart to permit the member 6 to be moved therebetween, and to be secured to the channels by means of the guide strips 8 in exactly the same manner as it was formerly secured to the

channels 10. Figure 5 shows that the guide channels 14 and 15 do not extend exactly at right angles to the top 1. There will, therefore, be a slight binding action between the guide strips 8 and the channels 14 and 15. This will be sufficient to prevent the accidental removal of the member 6. The member acts as a cover for the legs when in this position.

Although I have shown and described one embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood that the same is susceptible of various changes and I reserve the right to employ such changes as may come within the scope of the invention as claimed.

I claim:

1. A folding table comprising a top, a pair of legs hinged thereto, guide channels carried by the inner surfaces of said legs, a bracing member and guide strips carried by said member and receivable in said guide channels, an auxiliary guide channel carried by said legs for receiving said guide strips when said legs are swung into closed position.

2. A folding table comprising a top, legs hingedly secured thereto, a bracing member for said legs, and co-operating means carried by said member and said legs for removably securing said member to said legs when the latter are swung into open position, said member being secured to said legs through substantially the entire length thereof.

3. A folding table comprising a top, legs hingedly secured thereto, a bracing member for said legs of substantially the same width as the legs, and co-operating means carried by said member and said legs for securing the legs in closed position, said member concealing said legs when they are secured in closed position.

4. A folding table comprising a top, legs hingedly secured thereto, a bracing member of substantially the same width as the legs, and co-operating means carried by said member and said legs for securing the legs in either open or closed position, said member concealing said legs when the latter are in closed position.

5. A folding table comprising a top, legs hinged thereto and having a width substantially the same as the top, a bracing member having a width substantially the same as the legs, locking guides and channels carried by said legs and bracing member for holding said legs in open or closed position, said bracing member covering said legs when the latter are held in closed position.

CLIFFORD HARROD McCASLIN.