June 10, 1930. C. A. FORNEY 1,762,924

FOLDING IRONING TABLE

Filed May 6, 1927 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

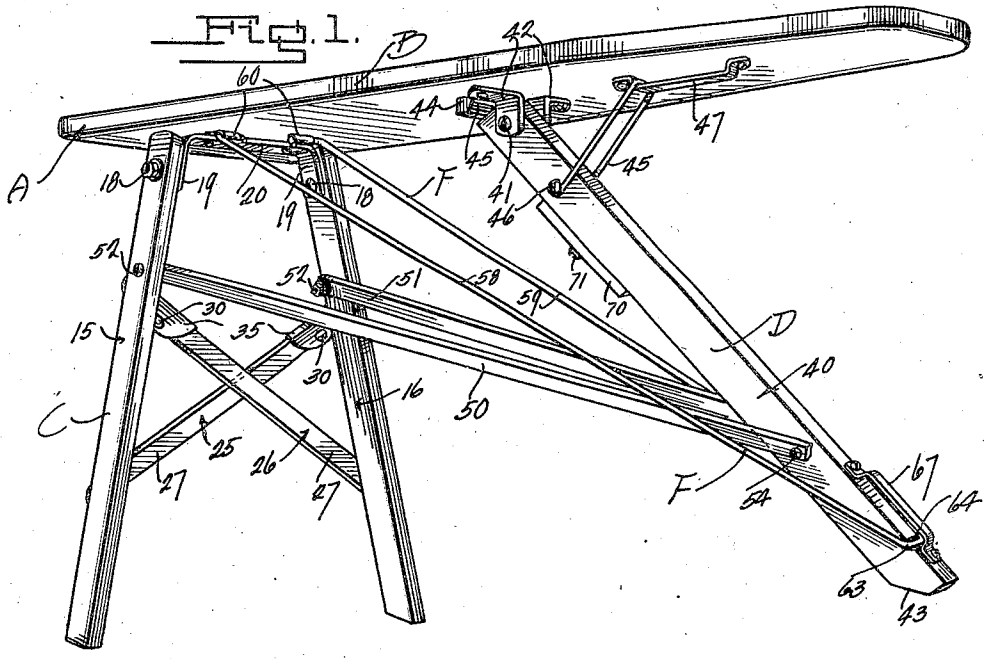


Fig. 2.

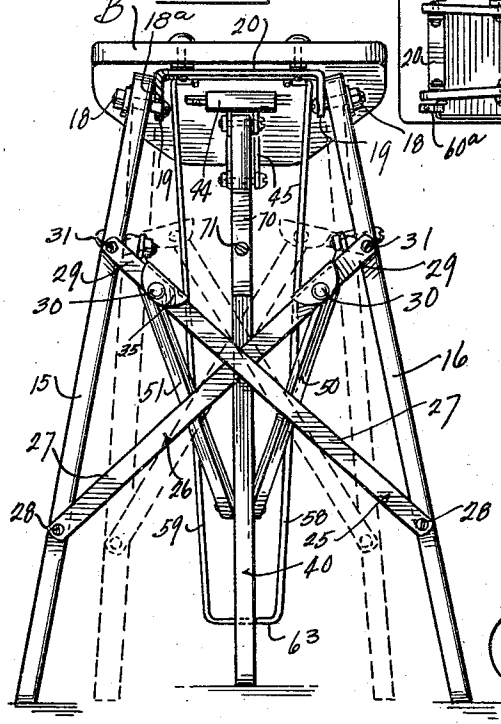


Fig. 9.

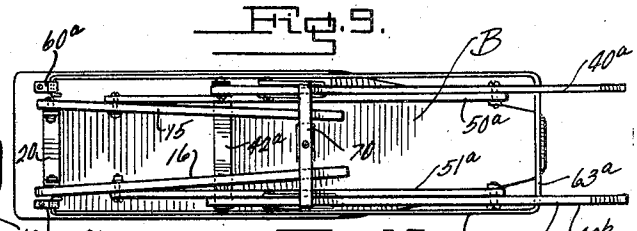
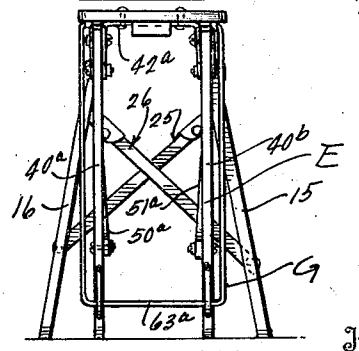


Fig. 10.



Inventor

Cal A. Forney

By Lancaster and Allwine

Attorneys

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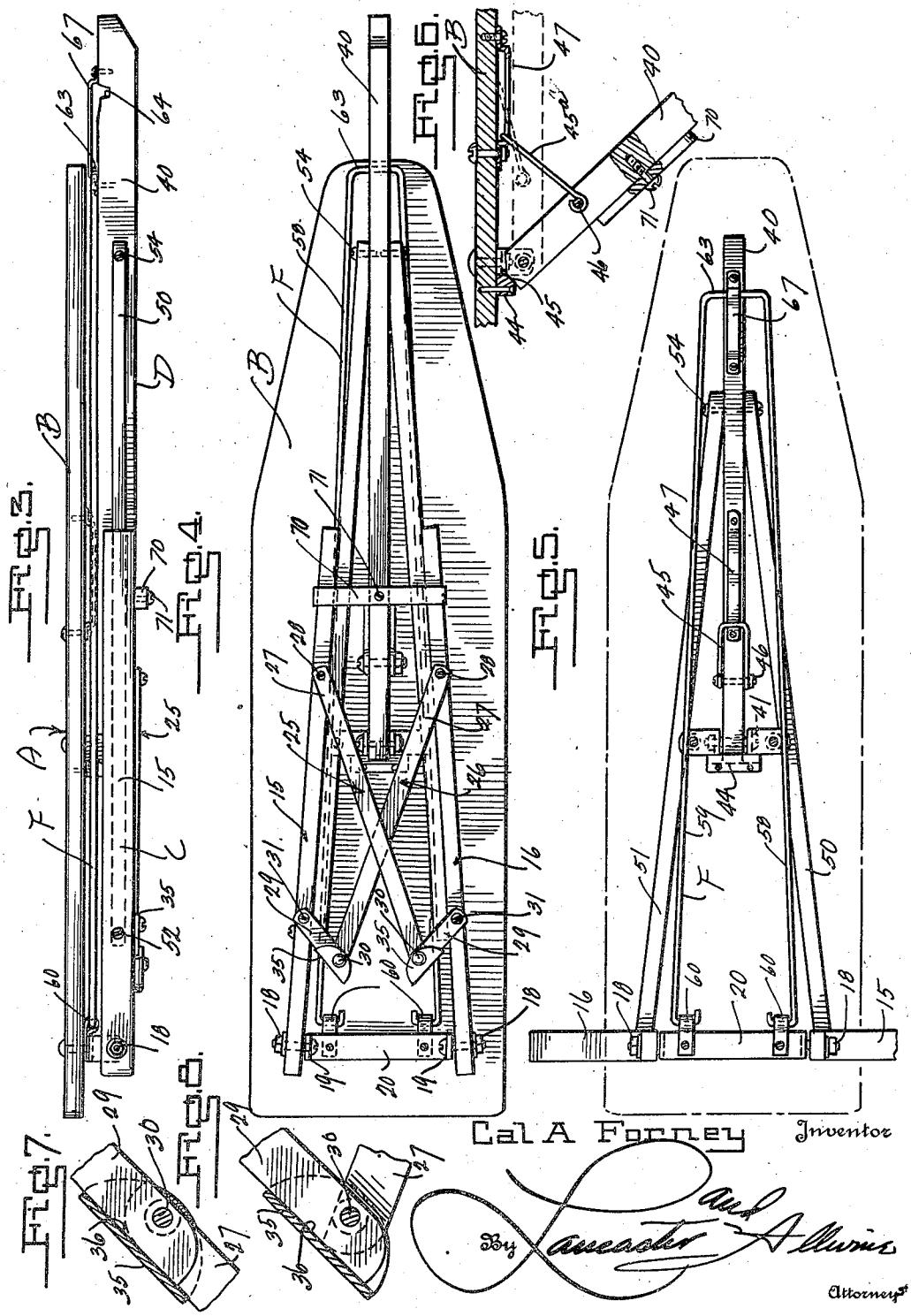


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

Fig. 7.

Fig. 8.

Cal A Forney Inventor

By Lancaster & Allwine

Attorneys

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

CAL A. FORNEY, OF GOSHEN, INDIANA

FOLDING IRONING TABLE

Application filed May 6, 1927. Serial No. 189,365.

This invention relates to improvements in ironing boards or tables.

The primary object of the invention is the provision of improved collapsing leg supporting means for ironing boards or tables.

A further object of the invention is the provision of collapsible leg supporting means for ironing boards or tables embodying a co-operatively connected and braced front and rear leg construction which may be collapsed compactly upon the under surface of the ironing board and retained in such position during storing.

Other objects and advantages of this invention will be apparent during the course of the following detailed description.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and wherein similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the preferred form of ironing board and leg construction, showing the leg construction extended and supporting the ironing board.

Figure 2 is a rear elevation of the ironing board with the preferred leg construction extended.

Figure 3 is a side elevation of the ironing board and leg construction collapsed or folded.

Figure 4 is a bottom plan view of the folded leg construction on the ironing board.

Figure 5 is a top plan view of the leg or supporting construction of the ironing board extended, with the ironing board removed, but showing the relation which the board bears to the leg construction in dot and dash lines.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary view, partly in section, showing the supporting and co-operating details of an outer leg construction for the ironing board.

Figures 7 and 8 are fragmentary sectional views showing cooperating positions of the brace used in connection with the inner legs of the ironing board.

Figure 9 is a bottom plan view of a modified form of folded ironing board.

Figure 10 is an outer end elevation of details of the modified ironing board of Figure 9, showing the leg construction extended.

In the drawings, wherein for the purpose of illustration are shown preferred and modified forms of the invention, the letter A may generally designate the ironing board construction which may include the ironing board B having leg constructions C and D foldably connected therewith. In lieu of the leg construction D a modified form of leg construction E illustrated in Figures 9 and 10 may be used.

The ironing board B is of course of any approved construction, the same being of the ordinary plane elongated formation, and preferably of wood.

As to the leg construction C, the same preferably comprises the leg members 15 and 16, of any approved material or formation, having bolts or pins 18 at the upper ends thereof, bearing for an oscillative movement in enlarged openings 18ª formed in depending ears 19 of a substantially U-shaped bracket 20, which is attached to the under surface of the board B at one end thereof, as illustrated in Figures 1 and 2 of the drawings. The facing ends of the bolts 18 are sufficiently long enough that they may have an oscillative bearing in the ears 19, which will permit a relative movement of the outer ends of the leg members 15 and 16 towards or away from each other, as illustrated in full and dotted positions in Figure 2 of the drawings, to admit of a properly divergent positioning of said legs when supporting the ironing board as illustrated in Figure 2, or which will permit of proper collapsing in a compact relationship when the legs are folded as illustrated in Figure 4 of the drawings.

In order that the leg members 15 and 16 may be properly braced in their downwardly divergent relationship for supporting the ironing board B, it is preferred to provide braces 25 and 26 for said legs, the braces 25 and 26 including a major portion 27 pivoted at the lower ends thereof at 28 on the legs 15 and 16; the major portions 27 of the braces 25 and 26 also including a minor

length 29, pivotally connected as at 30 to its respective major portion 27. The outer ends of the minor portions of parts 29 are pivotally connected as at 31 to the legs 15 and 16 above the pivot connections 28. In this relation of parts the braces 25 and 26 cross each other in an X-shaped relation, with the major portion or length 27 of each pivotally connected to one leg and the outer end of the minor portion thereof pivotally connected to the other leg. It is readily apparent that when the portions 27 and 29 of the braces 25 and 26 are extended in alignment, the legs 15 and 16 will be held in a diverging rigid relation, but when the portions 27 and 29 are moved at their pivots 30 so that the same are out of alignment, as illustrated in Figure 4 of the drawings, the outer or lower ends of the legs 15 and 16 may be moved together so that the legs 15 and 16 converge towards their free or lower ends in the relation illustrated in Figure 4, and which position is used when the legs are folded beneath the ironing board. In order to protect the operator from pinching the fingers at the joint 30 between the portions 27 and 29 of each of the braces 25 and 26, it is preferred to use a substantially U-shaped guard 35, which provides a pocket in which the pivotally connected ends of the portions 27 and 29 of said braces are received, as illustrated in Figures 7 and 8 of the drawings. The pivot pins or member 30 for the portions of the braces are located off center of the axis of the portions 27 and 29, so that when the portions 27 and 29 are in alignment their edges may abut against the inner surface 36 at the bottom of the pocket of the guard piece 35, to hold and retain the said portions 27 and 29 in spaced rigid alignment as illustrated in Figures 2 and 7.

Referring to the leg construction D the same contemplates the provision of a single supporting leg 40, pivotally connected on a pin or member 41 beneath the ironing board B; the pin or member 41 being supported by bracket clips 42 attached to the under surface of the ironing board B substantially midway between the ends of the said ironing board. The leg 40 is pivoted so that it may collapse parallel beneath the ironing board B, or be extended downwardly into a divergent relation at an acute angle with respect to the plane of the ironing board B, as illustrated in Figure 1 of the drawings. It has a bevel edge 43, the free end of which rests upon the floor surface. A block 44, best illustrated in Figure 6 of the drawings, is provided, with a bevel edge 45a against which the top edge of the leg 40 abuts to limit the opening movement of the leg 40 to the acute angled extended relation illustrated in Figures 1 and 6 of the drawings, and providing a brace for the leg 40. Furthermore to guide the movement and limit the extended movement, it is preferred to provide a substantially U-shaped link 45, pivoted as at 46 to the opposite sides of the leg 40, and providing a loop slidably retained in a guide strap 47 secured to the under surface of the ironing board B. The loop 45 slides in the guide means 47, and when the leg 40 is fully extended with respect to the ironing board B the loop 45 at its end engages against an end of the guide member 47 as illustrated in Figures 1 and 6 of the drawings, to prevent the legs opening beyond a certain position for the purpose of retaining a thrust rod construction F in the proper relation with respect to the legs as will be subsequently mentioned.

The legs 15 and 16 at the inner sides thereof are provided with connecting rods or members 50 and 51 respectively, which are pivotally connected as at 52 to said legs 15 and 16 intermediate the ends thereof, and preferably closer to the upper ends than the lower ends; said connecting members or rods 50 and 51 at their opposite ends being pivotally connected to a pin 54 on the leg 40 adjacent the lower end thereof. In this relationship the legs 15 and 16 are connected for synchronous movement with the leg 40, so that all of said legs of the ironing board may be simultaneously collapsed or extended with respect to the ironing board B.

The retaining member F preferably is of metal and of U-shaped formation, including the lengths 58 and 59, being inturned at their upper ends and pivoted in bearings 60 which are secured to or rigid with the bracket 20 above described. The member F is thus pivoted immediately beneath the ironing board B adjacent the bracket 20 and the portions 58 and 59 thereof are connected at their free ends by means of a cross piece 63 which is adapted to seat within a notch 64 formed in the outer edge at the lower free end of the leg 40; the notch 64 providing a shoulder against which the portion 63 seats. The retaining member F is divergent, upwardly, with respect to the leg 40 when the latter is extended and said retaining member F holds the leg 40 extended against collapsing and due to the connecting rods 50 and 51 the legs 15 and 16 are also held extended. A guide piece 67 is secured to the edge of the leg 40 to retain the retaining member F within sliding limits on the leg 40. In order to permit collapsing of the leg constructions C and D it is merely necessary to lift the retaining member F so that the connecting portion 63 is out of the notch 64 and the legs 15, 16 and 40 may then be collapsed to a position immediately beneath the ironing board, as illustrated in Figure 4 of the drawings.

At the edge of the leg 40 opposite the guide link 45 is provided a retaining turn

member 70, pivoted midway between its ends 71 and adapted to lie in parallel alignment in the same plane with the leg 40 when the latter is extended, or which may be turned to a right angled position with respect to the leg 40, as illustrated in Figure 4 of the drawings, in order to engage the free ends of the legs 15 and 16 when the latter are collapsed, and prevent the extension of the legs, and thus holding the entire leg construction collapsed flat beneath the ironing board B.

Instead of the three point support afforded by the legs 15, 16 and 40 it may be desirable to provide the leg construction E instead of the leg construction D, the same consisting in the provision of two legs 40^a and 40^b in lieu of the single leg 40; the legs 40^a and 40^b being pivotally connected at their upper ends to a suitable bracket 42^a as illustrated in Figures 9 and 10 of the drawings. The legs 40^a and 40^b bear the same relation to the ironing board B as the leg 40 illustrated in Figure 1, and the said legs 40^a and 40^b are pivotally connected for synchronous movement with the legs 15 and 16 by means of connecting rods or members 50^a and 51^a, as illustrated in Figures 9 and 10 of the drawings. A special U-shaped truss or brace construction G is provided in lieu of the truss F of Figure 1, which bears the same relation to the ironing board as the truss F, and consists of a U-shaped body pivoted at its upper ends to the under surface of the ironing board B by brackets 60^a; the free moving end of the truss G comprising a cross piece 63^a which is adapted to slidably operate in notches provided at the lower ends of the legs 40^a and 40^b in the same relation and for the same purpose as above described for the preferred embodiment of the invention.

In other respects the form of invention illustrated in Figures 9 and 10 is the same and bears the same reference characters as the preferred form of invention.

From the foregoing description of this invention the operation and advantages of the improved folding ironing board will be obvious. The leg constructions afforded by the special features herein described enables a rigid and stable support with a compact collapsing for storage purposes.

The various parts of the ironing board and especially the legs thereof may be made of either wood or metal.

Various changes in the shape, size, and arrangement of parts may be made to the forms of invention herein shown and described, without departing from the spirit of the inventions or the scope of the claims.

I claim:

1. In an ironing table construction an ironing board, and means for operatively supporting the board including a pair of legs, means loosely pivoting the legs to the ironing board in such manner that they are movable towards or away from each other transversely of the ironing board, and cross braces connecting said legs together, each of said braces including a pair of pivoted together portions, one of which portions of each brace is connected to one leg in a pivoted relation and the other portion of each brace being pivotally connected to the other leg.

2. In an ironing table the combination of a board, a pair of legs, means pivoting said legs beneath the board at one end thereof for collapsible swinging into substantial parallelism on the bottom of the board, or for extended substantial vertical position beneath the board, said means permitting the swinging of the legs at their free ends transversely of the longitudinal axis of the board towards and away from each other, collapsible cross brace means connecting said legs, a second leg construction pivoted beneath the board intermediate the ends of the board, rigid rods pivotally connected on a non-movable axis to the second leg construction intermediate the ends thereof and at the opposite ends said rods being connected on non-movable pivot axes to the legs first mentioned so that the legs first mentioned and the second leg construction may be synchronously moved, said second leg construction when supporting the board diverging from the first mentioned legs, a retaining member pivoted to the board adjacent the pivot connections of the first mentioned legs having a movable gripping connection with the second mentioned leg construction adjacent the free end thereof to brace it in a stable extended position, and means connecting the board and the second mentioned leg construction for holding the latter in position counter to the retaining action of the first retaining member.

3. In an ironing table the combination of an ironing board, and means for supporting the ironing board including a leg pivotally connected with the ironing board and collapsible therebeneath and extensible to a diagonal position with respect to the plane of the ironing board, the leg when in the latter position having an upper end disposed in acute angled relation to the board immediately beneath the ironing board, a stop block on the ironing board secured therebeneath having a bevel surface thereon against which the acute angled end of the leg abuts in flush relation when the said leg is extended as above described, and a rigid retaining member pivotally connected upon the board at a location spaced from the pivot connection of the leg with the board, said retaining member having a sliding connection with the lower free end of said leg, said leg being formed with a

socket to receive said retaining member adjacent its sliding connection with the leg to releasably and immovably hold the retaining member connected upon the leg with the latter held in extended braced engagement with said stop block.

CAL A. FORNEY.