

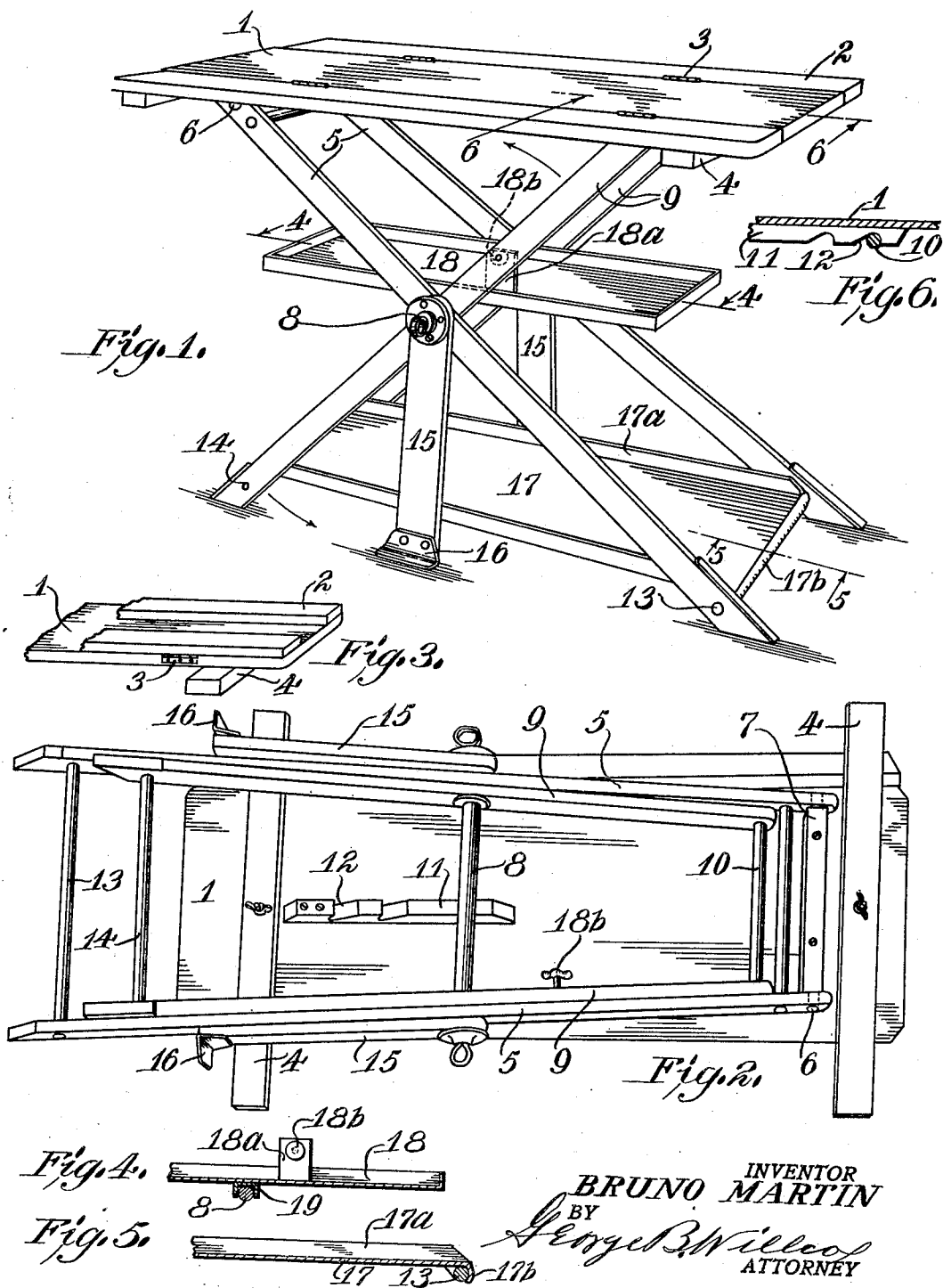
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FOLDING TABLE

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FOLDING TABLE

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This invention relates to folding tables of the kind employing a flat top member and crossed legs arranged to fold as is usual in camp tables and the like.

5 The object of the invention is to provide a folding table of this kind having means for imparting additional strength to the leg structure, improving the stability of the table, to prevent the legs from spreading when the table is heavily loaded and to provide convenient means for adding to the table one or more trays that may be loaded with articles. For example, the table as used in the ordinary way may have installed below it, on the spindle at the crossing of the legs, a tray for holding dishes. Another lowermost tray, mounted on the rails at the lower ends of the legs, may serve for storing pots and pans.

20 A still further object is to provide a general utility table of this kind that is inexpensive to manufacture and is unusually strong and rigid in construction.

25 In the drawings Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the table assembled.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the legs folded.

Fig. 3 is a detail of the top showing the leaves folded.

30 Fig. 4 is a part sectional view on the line 4-4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a part sectional view on the line 5-5 of Fig. 1.

35 Fig. 6 is a part sectional view on the line 6-6 of Fig. 1.

As is clearly shown in the drawings the invention consists in the usual top member 1, to which folding leaves 2 may be secured by hinges 3 to form side extension members for the table top. Cleats 4 secured to the sides of the top member 1 and projecting therefrom support the leaves 2 in their extended position.

45 A pair of legs 5, 5 are secured at their upper ends to the table top 1 near an end thereof by means of pintles 6 projecting from the ends of a cleat 7 secured to the table top 1. Midway the length of the legs 5, 5 they are connected by a spindle 8. A second pair of legs 9 is also pivoted about

the middle of their length to the spindle 8 and are connected at their upper ends by a rail 10. A cleat 11 is secured to the under side of the table top and is provided with a slot 12 to receive the rail 10 when the table is in use, in known manner.

Rails 13, 14 connect the pairs of legs 5 and 9 respectively at their lower ends.

My invention applies to a table of the construction above described a strengthening and steadying structure which consists of a pair of depending legs 15 pivoted at their upper ends to spindle 8 and provided at their lower ends with outwardly projecting feet 16 that rest upon the floor or ground when the table is in use and prevent it from racking or shaking sidewise.

A further steadying and stabilizing device is provided by a tray 17 preferably of metal and formed with flanges 17a along its side edges, its ends provided with downward projections 17b that hook over the bottom rails 13 and 14. The tray 17 thus provides a tie member for preventing the legs 5 and 9 from spreading when the table is loaded and also affords stiffness and rigidity in a horizontal plane to hold the legs from slipping sidewise or departing from their correct rectangular alinement. This construction is especially useful when the table is to be set up on a surface that is smooth or slippery.

Another tray 18 rests on the spindle 8 and is provided with an upwardly projecting lug 18a, the upper end of which is secured by means of a clamping screw 18b to one of the legs 9 to prevent the tray from tilting. Tray 18 is preferably provided with downward projections 19 on its under side to receive the spindle 8 between them, as shown in Fig. 4.

By the means above described I have provided a table that can be made of light material and has exceptionally great tray storage capacity, yet by reason of its construction is strong and will carry heavy loads without racking or shaking.

To fold the table for transportation the leaves 2 are folded upon the top, as shown in Fig. 3, the screw 18b is unfastened and the tray 18 lifted out. Then tray 17 is also

lifted out and the legs 5, 9, 15 are folded against top 1, as illustrated in Fig. 2.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

- 5 1. In combination, a folding table including a top, pairs of crossed legs, a spindle connecting said pairs of legs at their intersection, a pair of depending legs pivotally secured at their upper ends to said spindle,
10 transverse rails connecting the adjacent lower ends of said legs, a tray comprising a single piece of sheet metal removably supported at its ends upon said crossed rails,
15 the ends of which are downwardly flanged for engagement with said rails whereby the tray and flanges together act as a stiffening member to hold the lower ends of said legs in normal rectangular alinement, and a
20 second tray having on its bottom a U-shaped downward projection arranged to engage said spindle, an upwardly projecting lug on said tray and means releasably securing said
lug to one of the legs of said second pair.

- 25 2. A structure as set forth in claim 1 wherein an outwardly projecting foot is fixed to the lower end of each depending leg to provide a stable base therefor.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature.

BRUNO MARTIN.