F. W. ANDERSON.

FOLDING TABLE.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 27, 1911.

1,165,382.

Patented Dec. 28, 1915.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

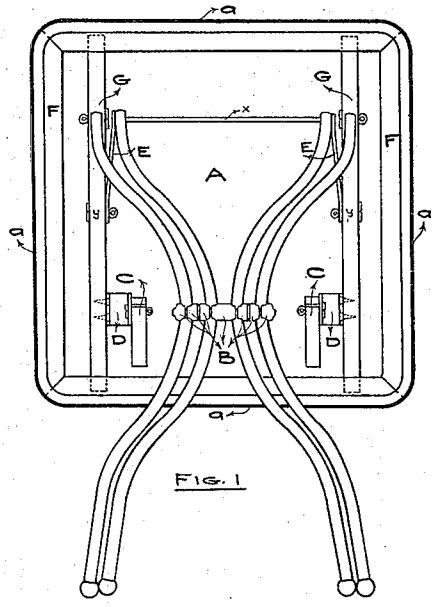


FIG. 1

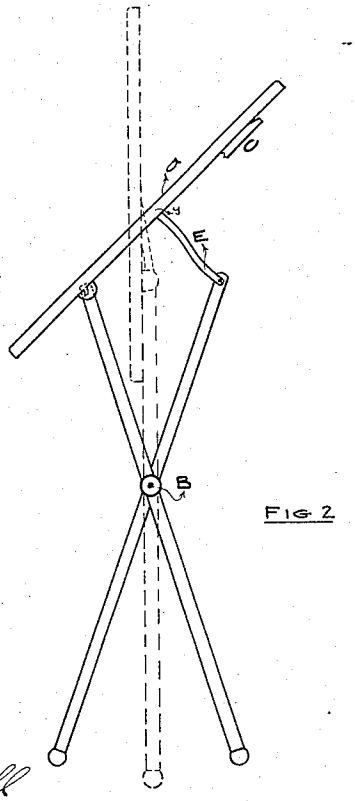


FIG. 2

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

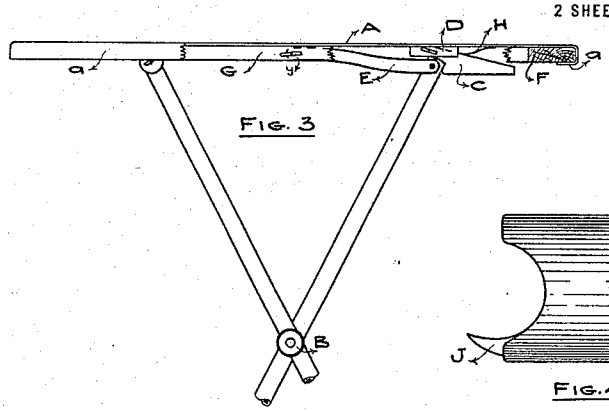


FIG. 3

FIG. 4

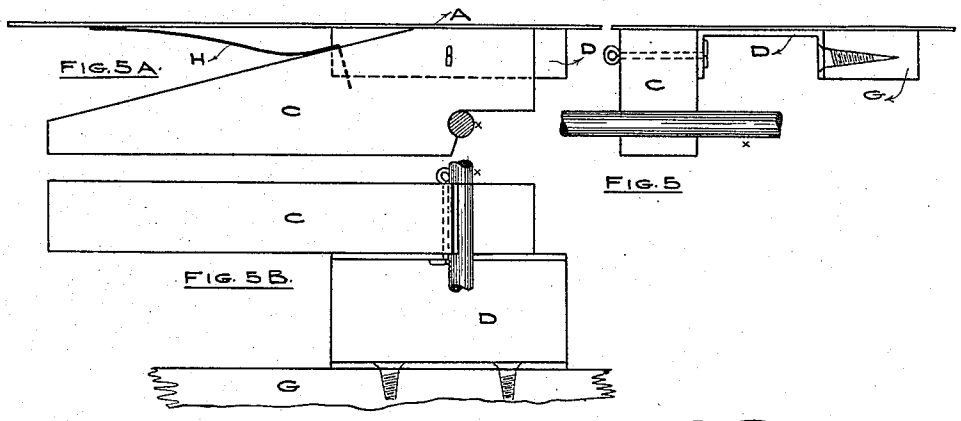


FIG. 5A.

FIG. 5

FIG. 5B.

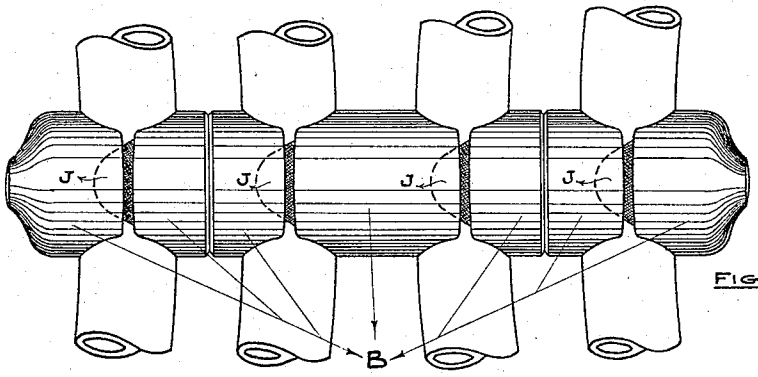


FIG. 6

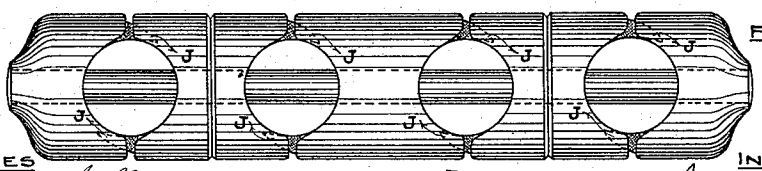


FIG. 7

WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FOLDING TABLE.

1,165,382. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 28, 1915.

Application filed February 27, 1911. Serial No. 611,204.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FORTESQUE W. ANDERSON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Middletown, county of Orange, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Folding Table, for which table Letters Patent numbered 939,963, dated November 16, 1909, were granted, and to which Letters reference is hereby made; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and accurate description of the same.

The purpose of my invention is to produce a table the top of which, being formed of reinforced sheet metal, shall be light and strong, and not easily affected by moisture, or atmospheric changes; a folding mechanism which shall be positive and strong, yet free and simple; a rigid axial joint for the legs, overcoming its structural defects as hitherto made; a table which automatically latches itself for use and is easily released in folding.

My way of securing these results is shown in the following specifications, of which the accompanying drawings form a part.

Like letters indicate similar parts.

Figure 1, Sheet 1, is a plane view of a folded table, and Fig. 2 is a side view of a table partly opened; Fig. 3 is a side view partly in section of a table top, and a portion of the legs; Fig. 4 shows the central section of the axial joint; Figs. 5, 5^A, and 5^B are different views of the latch which holds the table in a distended position; Fig. 6 is a view of the axial joint embracing the legs; and Fig. 7 is another view of the same without the legs.

In Fig. 1, A represents the sheet metal of the top, while *a*, *a*, *a*, *a*, shows the said metal pressed over and partly inclosing the border strips, F, F, F, F, and retaining the same; G, G, are the ribs to which are attached the legs, arms, E, E, and the latches CD, CD. By this arrangement the sheet metal, A, is not punctured, leaving it whole and smooth throughout. The ribs, G, are retained in place by notching the ends under the border strip, F, F, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 1. The arms E, E, Fig. 1, being riveted at one end to the cross rod, *x*, and by being attached at the other end with cotter pins at a point midway between the ends of said ribs, G, G, control the inner pair of legs and swing them into line with the outer pair in folding, and to an engagement with the latches when opened.

In putting the table into use from the position of Fig. 1, the lower edge of the top is swung upward until it describes a quarter circle and assumes, with the legs, the vertical position shown in the dotted lines of Fig. 2. The inner pair of legs is then brought forward by means of the cross rod, *x*, simultaneously with the lowering of the top to a horizontal position, as in Fig. 3, Sheet 2, and it is automatically locked by engagement of the cross rod, *x*, with the latches CD, CD. In folding the table, pressure is applied to the outer ends of the said latches, thus releasing them and permitting a reversal of the movements used in opening.

In Fig. 5, Sheet 2, C is a larger end view of the latch proper, and shows its connection to the rib, G, by means of the flanged block, D.

Fig. 5^A is a side view of the same and shows its engagement with the cross rod, *x*, and shows also the spring, H, which serves to maintain the said engagement.

Fig. 5^B is a face view of the sectional axial joint, B, being substantially the same in outward appearance as that shown in the aforementioned patent, but having, in addition, each section provided with a wedge-shape lip or lips, J, J, to enter a corresponding cavity in its adjacent section, with which cavity it being itself provided. By this means—the sections being malleable—I am able to secure a firm bearing between each section and the leg which it embraces and also against its adjacent section, thus overcoming the structural weakness before mentioned.

Fig. 7 is another view of the axial center, without the legs, and shows the long pin or rivet by which the parts are, and have hitherto been, held together.

Fig. 4 is a view of the central section of the axial joint and shows the lips, J, J, curved in the shape they would assume when assembled with their associate parts.

I claim:—

1. In a folding table of the character set forth, means for retaining the legs of said table in connected relation, said means comprising a sectional bearing block adapted to encircle one of the table legs, and a lip or projection carried by one of the bearing

block sections and adapted for coöperation with the other section, whereby the said bearing block sections are adapted to adjust themselves to the diameter of the table leg for firmly clamping and retaining it in proper position and at the same time firmly engage or coöperate one with the other for forming a rigid connection.

2. In a folding table of the character set forth, means for retaining the legs of said table in connected relation, said means comprising a plurality of sectional bearing blocks adapted to encircle the legs, each section having a wedge-shaped lip adapted for coöperation with a cavity formed within an adjacent section, whereby the sections of each bearing block are adapted to adjust themselves to the diameter of the table legs for firmly clamping and retaining them in proper position and at the same time firmly engage or coöperate one with the other for forming a rigid connection.

3. In a folding table of the character set forth, means for retaining the legs of said table in connected relation, said means comprising a sectional bearing block adapted to encircle one of the table legs, and a wedge-shaped lip carried by one of the bearing block sections and adapted for coöperation with a cavity formed within the other section, whereby the sections of each bearing block are adapted to adjust themselves to the diameter of the table leg for firmly clamping and retaining it in proper position and at the same time firmly engage or coöperate one with the other for forming a rigid connection.

In testimony that I claim the invention above set forth I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

FORTESQUE W. ANDERSON.

Witnesses:

ARTHUR M. PAYNE,

G. W. HAYES.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."