

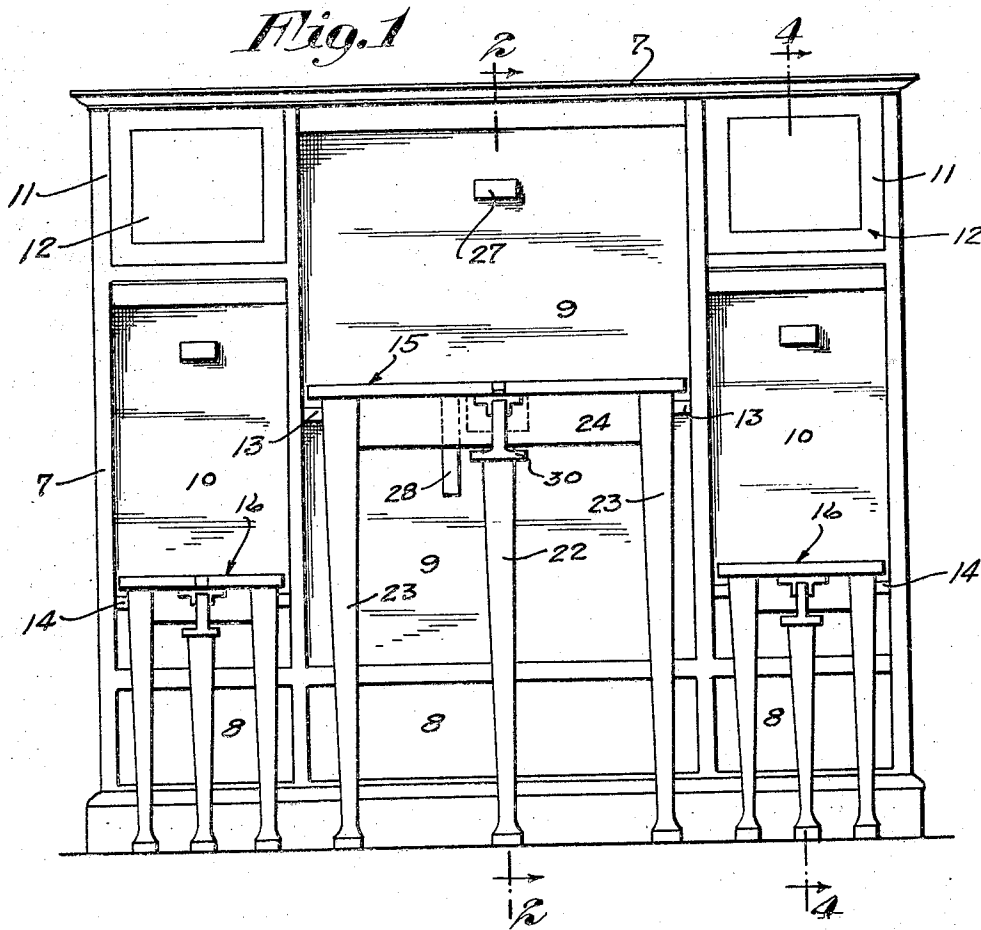
Sept. 6, 1932.

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1,875,892

FOLDING TABLE LIKE STRUCTURE

Original Filed Jan. 28, 1929 3 Sheets-Sheet 1



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Fig. 2

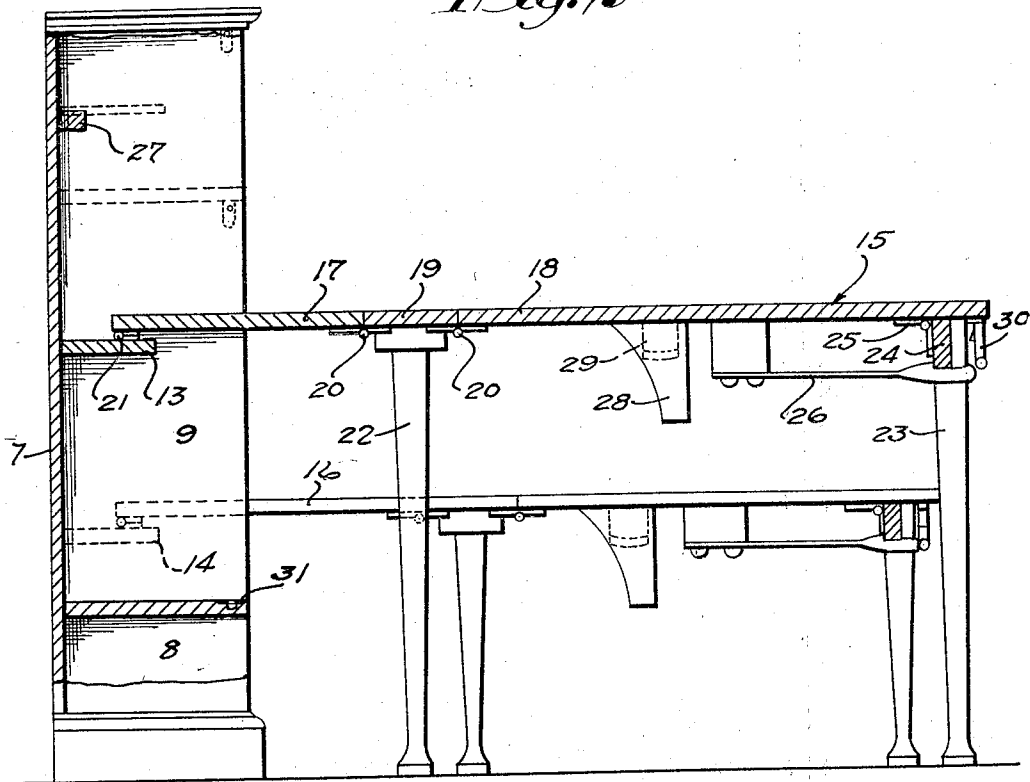
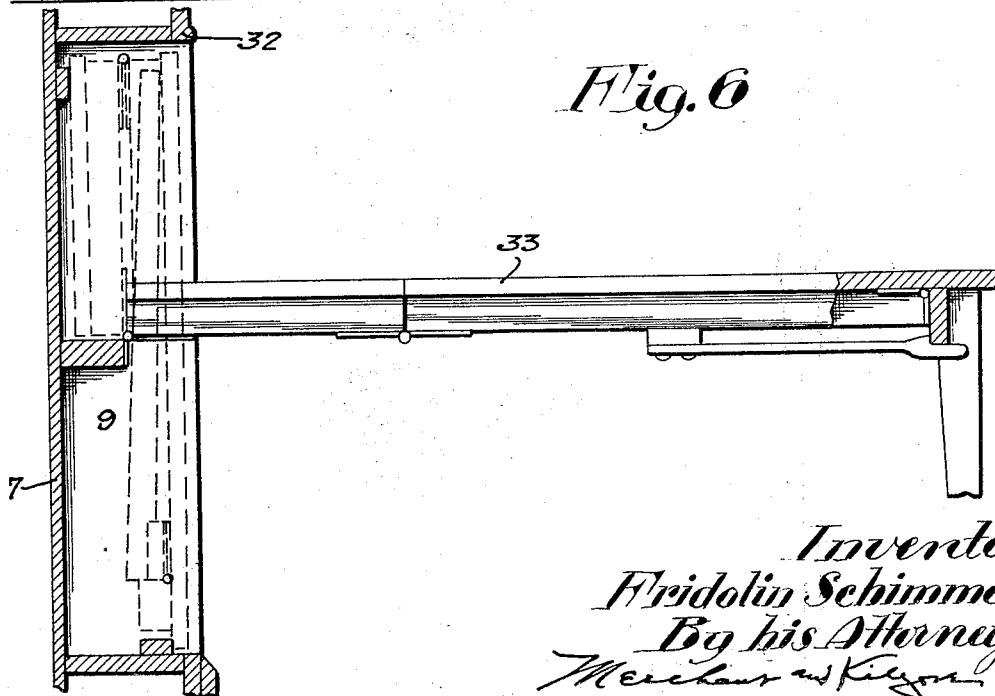


Fig. 6



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Fig. 3

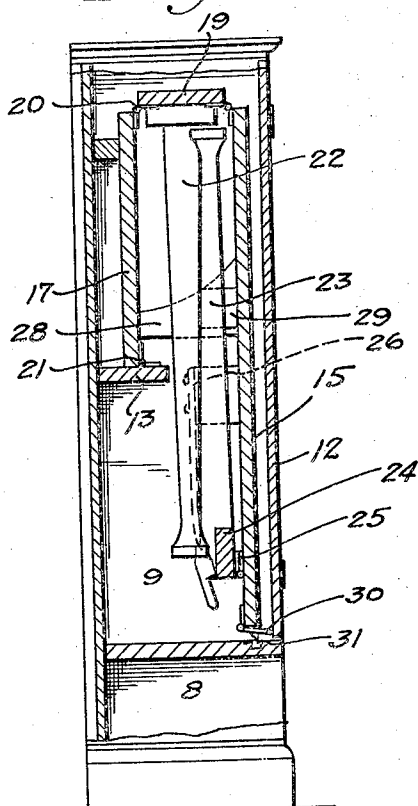


Fig. 4

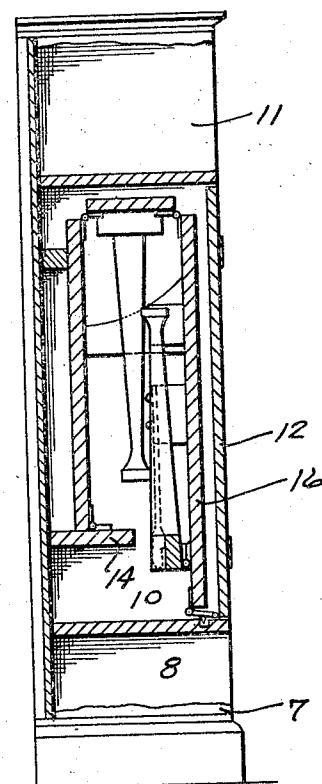
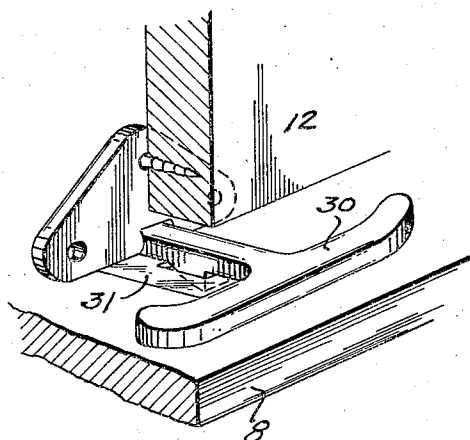


Fig. 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FOLDING TABLE LIKE STRUCTURE

Application filed January 28, 1929, Serial No. 335,418. Renewed January 16, 1932.

My present invention has for its object the provision of an extremely simple and highly efficient folding table-like structure, such as a table or bench, adapted to be folded into compact form against a wall or other support or into a cabinet.

To the above end, generally stated, the invention consists of the novel devices and combination of devices hereinafter described and defined in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, which illustrate the invention, there is shown a dining or breakfast set comprising a table and a bench at each side thereof, arranged to be folded into a cabinet and wherein like characters indicate like parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawings:

Fig. 1 is an end elevation of a folding table and a folding bench mounted at each side thereof, constructed in accordance with one form of the invention and supported in part from a cabinet into which they are arranged to be folded;

Fig. 2 is a view partly in side elevation and partly in vertical section taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a view corresponding to Fig. 2 with the exception that the table and bench are folded into a cabinet;

Fig. 4 is a view partly in elevation and partly in vertical section taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1 with the bench folded into the cabinet;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary detail view showing one of the catches for holding the table or benches folded; and

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary view corresponding to Fig. 2 but showing a slight modification in the table and bench construction.

The numeral 7 indicates a cabinet having in its base three horizontally spaced drawers 8, above said drawers a central compartment 9 and two side compartments 10 and above said side compartments, which terminate below the top of said central compartment, two small side compartments 11. Hinged doors 12 are provided for the compartments 9 and 10. The cabinet 7 may be built into a wall or simply placed thereagainst and may take va-

rious different forms. Rigidly secured in the compartment 9 at the back thereof is a relatively narrow shelf or ledge 13 and a shelf or ledge 14 is similarly secured in each compartment 10 but at a lower elevation than the shelf 13.

Referring first to the invention, as shown in Figs. 1 to 5, inclusive, the numeral 15 indicates a folding table and the numeral 16 indicates a folding bench at each side thereof. The construction of the table 15 and benches 16, are, as shown, identical the one with the other except as to proportions and they may be of any desired length depending on the seating capacity required.

The table 15 includes an inner section 17, an outer section 18, and an intermediate section 19 hingedly connected at 20. It will be noted that the hinges 20 are arranged to permit the table sections 17, 18 and 19 to fold upward into the cabinet 7 but will cause the adjacent edges of said sections to abut and act as stops to limit the unfolding of the sections 17, 18 and 19 in the same plane. The inner section 17, at its inner end, is hinged at 21 to the ledge 13 and when the table 15 is in an operative position rests on said ledge as a support, see Fig. 2.

A center supporting leg 22 is rigidly secured to the intermediate section 19 and an outer pair of supporting legs 23, rigidly connected by a cross-tie bar 24 is hingedly connected at 25 to the outer end portion of the outer section 18. The legs 23 are arranged to be folded inward on to the under side of the outer section 18 and releasably held by a spring latch 26 in either an operative position as shown in Fig. 2, or in an inoperative position as shown in Fig. 3.

To fold the table 15 into the compartment 9, the latch 26 is first operated to release the legs 23 and permit the same to be folded inward on to the under side of the outer section 18 and be thus held by the spring pressure of the latch 26. With the legs 23 thus folded an inward and upward pressure on the outer section 18 will buckle the sections 17, 18 and 19 at their hinge connections 20 and cause the section 17 and 18 to move into vertical positions with the intermediate sec-

tion 19 extending horizontally therebetween. During the folding of the table 15 into the compartment 9, the inner section 17 engages a stop 27 on the back of the cabinet 7, and is positioned thereby parallel to the back of said cabinet entirely above the ledge 13 on which it is supported. A stop 28 on the under side of the outer section 18 engages the inner section 17 and limits the movement of said outer section into the compartment 9 and positions the same parallel to said inner section in front of the ledge 13 below which it extends. The leg 22, when the table 15 is folded into the compartment 9, is held suspended from the intermediate section 19 between the inner and outer sections 17 and 18, respectively.

To limit the swinging movement of the leg 22 as the table 15 is folded into the cabinet 7, and thereby cause the intermediate section 19 to move substantially horizontally into said compartment, said leg first engages the section 17 as a stop during the initial folding movement of the table 15 and thereafter moves in a reverse or outward direction and engages a stop 29 on the under side of the outer section 18 which causes said leg to move with said outer section into the compartment 9.

To hold the table 15 folded into the compartment 9 there is mounted on the free end of the outer section 18 a gravity actuated catch 30, the detent of which is arranged to engage a lock plate 31 on the bottom of said compartment. When unfolding the table 15, it is only necessary to lift the catch 30 to release its detent from the lock plate 31 and thereafter use said catch as a handle and pull outward thereon to cause the table sections 17, 18 and 19 to unfold and assume a horizontal position. During the unfolding of the table section 15, the leg 22 remains in a depending position and is automatically positioned on the floor to support the intermediate section 19. As the table 15 is being unfolded, the operator draws the folded legs 23 downward and outward against the tension of the spring latch 26, and when said legs are in an operative position said latch automatically interlocks with the cross bar 24 to prevent the folding of said legs.

As the construction and operation of the folding benches 16 is substantially identical with that of the table 15, it is not necessary to further describe the same or indicate the several parts thereof by reference characters except to state that the inner sections of said benches are hingedly attached to the ledges 14 for folding movements into the compartments 10.

Referring now to the invention illustrated in Fig. 6, the construction is the same as that shown in Figs. 1 to 5, inclusive, with the exception that the intermediate section and center leg are dispensed with and the cabinet

and table are indicated as entireties by the numerals 32 and 33.

What I claim is:

1. The combination with a relatively fixed support, of a folding table-like structure comprising inner, outer and intermediate sections hingedly connected, said inner section being hingedly attached to the support, a center leg for the intermediate section, and an outer leg for the outer section.

2. The structure defined in claim 1 in which the inner and outer sections are arranged to be folded into substantially parallel arrangement with the intermediate section extending transversely therebetween.

3. The structure defined in claim 1 in which the inner and outer sections are arranged to be folded into substantially parallel arrangement with the intermediate section extending transversely therebetween, and in further combination with a stop for limiting the folding movement of the outer section in respect to the inner section.

4. The structure defined in claim 1 in which the center leg is rigidly secured to the intermediate section.

5. The combination with a relatively fixed support, of a folding table-like structure comprising inner, outer and intermediate sections hingedly connected, said inner section being hingedly attached to the support, a center leg rigidly secured to the intermediate section, and an outer leg hingedly attached to the outer section, said inner and outer sections when the structure is folded being in substantially upright parallel positions with the intermediate section extending transversely therebetween.

6. The combination with a cabinet, of a folding table-like structure comprising hingedly connected inner, outer and intermediate sections, the former of which is hingedly attached to a relatively fixed support in the cabinet, a center leg rigidly secured to the intermediate section, an outer leg hingedly attached to the outer section for inward folding movement onto the under side thereof, a latch for holding the outer leg either in an operative or inoperative position, said structure being arranged to be folded into the cabinet with the inner section extending upright above the support and with the outer section extending substantially parallel thereto outward of the support and with the intermediate section extending transversely between the inner and outer sections.

7. The structure defined in claim 6 in further combination with a stop arranged to limit the folding movement of the inner section into the cabinet and a second stop arranged to limit the folding movement of the outer section toward the inner section.

8. The combination with a relatively fixed support, of a folding table-like structure comprising hingedly connected inner, outer and

intermediate sections, said inner section being hingedly attached to the support, and supporting members for the intermediate and outer sections that are foldable therewith.

9. In a device of the class described, a table top hinged for downward swinging movement into a depending position, means for supporting the table top in an operative position, a gravity-held latch on the outer end of the table top, and a lock member cooperating with the latch, said latch being arranged to engage the lock member during the downward swinging movement of the table top, to be lifted thereby to move over said lock member for automatic interlocking engagement therewith.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
FRIDOLIN SCHIMMEL.