Nov. 6, 1951 G. W. SPIKINGS, JR 2,573,740

CARPENTER'S HORSE OR TRESTLE

Filed Feb. 18, 1947 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1

Fig. 1.

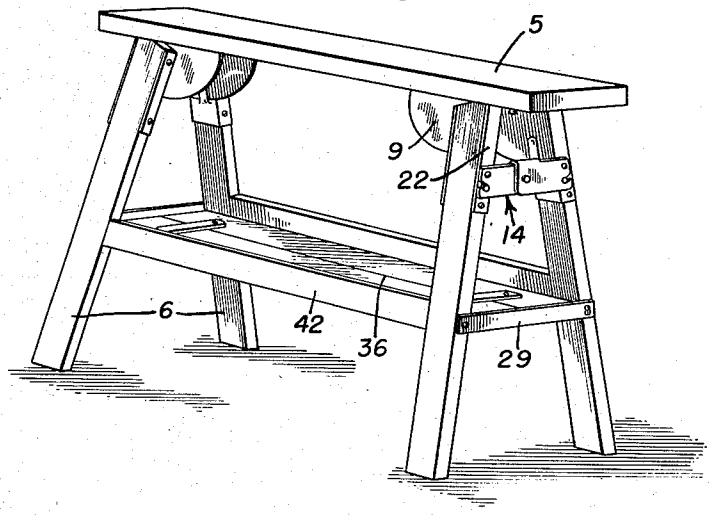


Fig. 2.

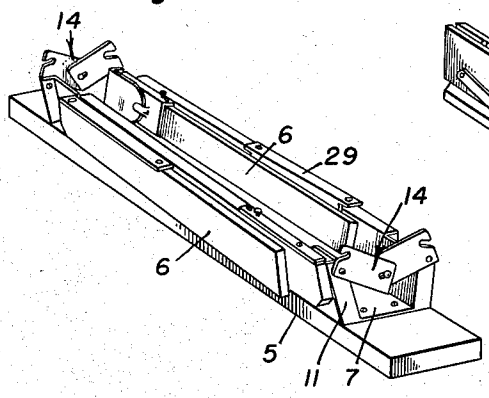
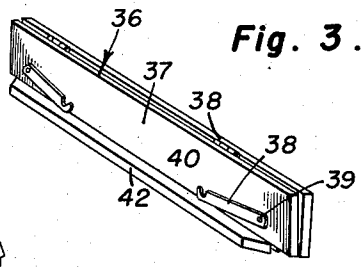


Fig. 3.



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Fig. 4.

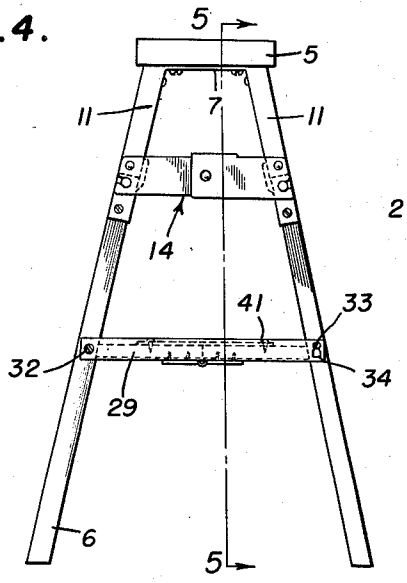
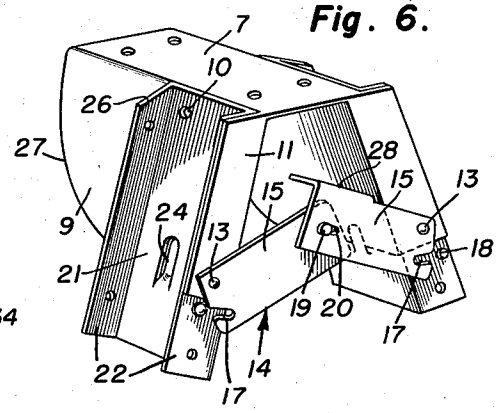


Fig. 6.



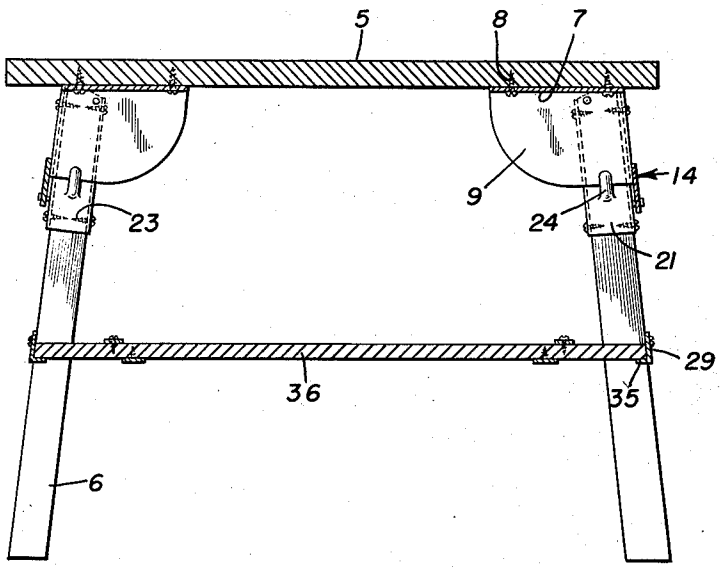


Fig. 5.

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CARPENTER'S HORSE OR TRESTLE

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Application February 18, 1947, Serial No. 729,246

2 Claims. (Cl. 304—5)

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The present invention relates to new and useful improvements in horses or trestles of the type commonly used by carpenters or other persons employed in building construction and the invention has for its primary object to provide means for collapsing the legs of the trestle into a compact form when the trestle is not in use.

A further object of the invention is to provide a shelf or tray removably supported on the legs of the trestle, the shelf or tray being adapted to hold tools or other articles when the trestle is in its open upright position and the shelf or tray being foldable into compact form when removed from the trestle.

Another object is to provide a device of this character of simple and practical construction, which is strong and durable, which is reliable in use, relatively inexpensive to manufacture and otherwise well adapted for the purposes for which the same is intended.

Other objects and advantages reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the trestle in its open position ready for use;

Figure 2 is a bottom perspective view of the trestle in folded position;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the shelf or tray in folded position;

Figure 4 is an end elevational view of the trestle in its open position;

Figure 5 is a longitudinal sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 4; and

Figure 6 is an enlarged perspective view of one of the brackets for pivotally attaching the legs to the underside of the trestle.

Referring now to the drawings in detail wherein for the purpose of illustration I have disclosed a preferred embodiment of the invention the numeral 5 designates the board or beam of the trestle supported at each end upon a pair of legs 6. The beam and legs may be constructed of wood or any other suitable material and the manner of connecting the legs at each end of the beam for collapsing the legs is identical and accordingly a detailed description of the construction of one pair of legs will suffice for both.

Secured to the underside of the beam 5 adjacent each end, is an inverted U-shaped plate member 7 secured in position by screws or the like 8. The plate includes downwardly extending wing portions 9 provided with a rivet or the

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like 10 for pivotally attaching the respective legs to said wings in a manner more fully hereinafter explained. The legs are positioned outwardly of the wings as shown to advantage in Figure 1 of the drawings.

The vertical edges of each of the wings in engagement with the outer ends of beam 5 is provided with a flange 11 against which the legs 6 are adapted to abut when the legs are in their open position. Adjacent the lower ends of the flanges 11 is a pin 13 for pivotally attaching a sectional latch 14.

The latch 14 is composed of a pair of duplicate sections, each of the sections comprising a plate member 15 at one corner of which is the opening 16 for pivotally mounting on the pin 13 and adjacent the end edge provided with the opening 16 is a slotted opening 17 adapted for longitudinal engagement with a headed pin 18 projecting outwardly from the legs 6.

The sections of the latch 14 extend inwardly toward each other from the opposed legs and the adjacent ends of the latch sections are disposed in overlapping relation and are pivotally connected to each other by means of a pin 19 working in a slotted opening 20 formed in the overlapping end of the section 15 of the latch.

Secured to the inner side portion at the upper end of each leg is a U-shaped plate 21 having flanges 22 at each end thereof disposed in abuting relation against the opposite edges of the legs and secured thereto by screws or the like 23. An upstanding tongue 24 is struck from the central portion of the plate 21, the tongue being adapted to receive one of the wings 8 in frictional engagement therewith when the legs are disposed in their upright or open position. One of the flanges 22 of the plate 21 is of reduced length and the adjacent upper corner of the plate is inclined as shown at 26 to permit the pivotal folding movement of the legs inwardly against the inside of the beam 5.

The inner ends of the wings are curved as shown at 27 in an arc having the rivet 10 as an axis to maintain the wings in constant engagement with the tongue 24 during the swinging of the legs into and out of their open or upright position, the plate 21 having an opening 35 for pivotally mounting the plate and its attached leg on the rivet 10.

The upper edge of the outermost section 15 of the latch 14 is formed with an inwardly projecting finger-gripping flange 28 by means of which the connected ends of the sections of the latch may be lifted upwardly as shown in Figure

6 to break the latch from locking engagement with the pin 18.

The lower portion of each pair of legs at each end of the beam 5 are connected to each other by a brace 29 of angle iron, the brace being pivoted at one end as at 32 to one leg and is provided at its other end with a keyhole slot 33 adapted to receive a headed pin 34 on the outer of said pair of legs. The horizontal flange 35 of the brace is shortened at each end and are positioned between the legs to abut the inner surfaces thereof and to brace the legs against inward movement relative to each other.

The horizontal flanges 35 of the braces at each end of the trestle are also adapted to support a folding shelf or tray 36 having its end portions positioned between the legs at the ends of the trestle.

The shelf includes a pair of bottom sections 37 hingedly connected to each other along one longitudinal edge by conventional end members 38 for folding the sections 37 against each other as shown in Figure 3 of the drawings.

The sections 37 are secured in a flat open position by latch members 38 pivoted as at 39 at one end to one of the sections 37 of the shelf, the free end of the latch members having a notch 40 in one longitudinal edge and adapted for engaging a headed pin 41 carried by the other section of the shelf.

To the outer longitudinal edge of each of the sections 37 is secured a relatively low side wall 42 positioned between the legs at one side of the trestle when the shelf is in its open position, the side walls projecting upwardly above the bottom of the shelf to function as the sides of a tray for holding articles on the shelf.

By removing the shelf 36 from the braces 29 the shelf may be folded into the position as shown in Figure 3 for convenient handling or shipping thereof and by releasing the braces 29 from the legs at each end of the trestle and collapsing the latches 14 the legs may be swung inwardly against the underside of the beam 5 into a folded position as shown in Figure 2.

In view of the foregoing description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings it is believed that a clear understanding of the construction, operation and advantages of the device will be quite apparent to those skilled in this art. A more detailed description is accordingly deemed unnecessary.

It is to be understood, however, that even though there is herein shown and described a preferred embodiment of the invention the same is susceptible to certain changes fully comprehended by the spirit of the invention as herein described and the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim as new is:

1. A trestle comprising an undivided beam of table top character, plate members of inverted U-shape in cross section having the bight portions thereof rigidly secured to the underside of said beam adjacent the ends thereof and having

wing portions disposed longitudinally of said beam, legs having the upper ends thereof pivoted on said wing portions, outwardly turned flanges on the edges of the wings adjacent the ends of said beam, said flanges comprising stops against which the legs abut when in operative position, a shelf comprising complemental sections extending longitudinally of the trestle and hinged together at their adjacent longitudinal edges, strap latch members pivoted on both upper and lower surfaces of one of said sections and engageable with headed members on the other section to hold the sections against hinging action, a pair of upstanding side walls on the outer longitudinal edges of the sections positioned between the legs, and angle braces secured to and between the legs at each end of the trestle and having horizontal flanges supporting said shelf and holding apart said legs at each end, said braces extending across the ends of and above the shelf, said shelf with said walls and braces comprising a tray, the wing portions being angulated and the side walls being so dimensioned that the latter engage the corresponding legs, said legs having headed pins thereon immediately beneath the flanges on said winged portions when the legs are extended, and said flanges of the winged portions having latch plates pivoted thereon and engaging the heads of said pins when the legs are extended to hold the legs in extended position.

2. A trestle comprising a table top, a pair of downwardly diverging legs at each end of the table top and pivotally secured thereto, and a shelf comprising complemental sections extending longitudinally of the trestle and hinged together at their adjacent longitudinal edges, strap latch members pivoted on both upper and lower surfaces of one of said sections and engageable with headed members on the other section to hold the sections against hinging action, a pair of upstanding side walls on the outer longitudinal edges of the sections and positioned between the legs, and angle braces secured to and between the legs at each end of the trestle and having horizontal flanges supporting said shelf and holding apart said legs at each end, said braces having vertical flanges extending across the ends of and above the shelf, said shelf with said walls and braces comprising a tray.

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