Feb. 17, 1931. J. C. DE PENNING 1,792,969

IRONING TABLE

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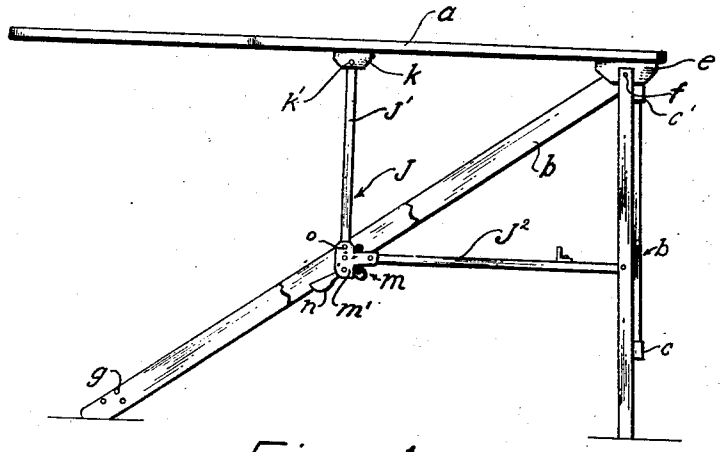


Fig. 1.

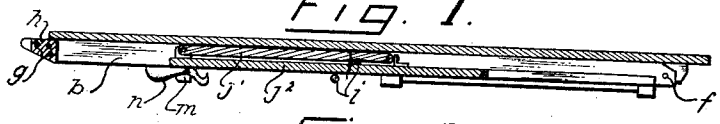


Fig. 2.

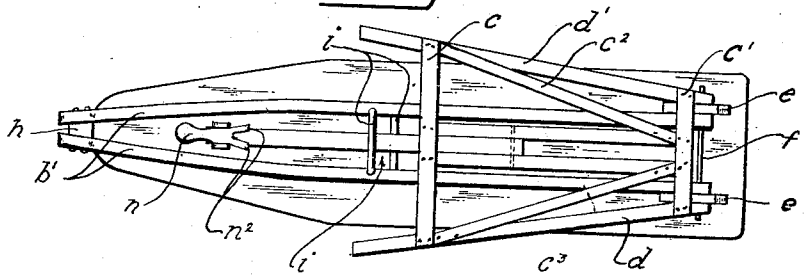


Fig. 3.

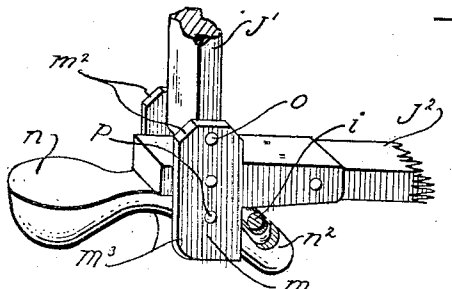


Fig. 5.

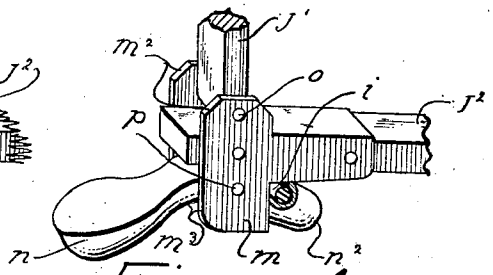


Fig. 4

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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IRONING TABLE

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The object of my invention is to provide an ironing table, mounted upon a collapsible support, with a gravity lock arranged rigidly to fasten the elements of such support in extended position by the mere act of spacing the ironing board portion of such table from the floor when the collapsible support is arranged beneath the board. Such gravity lock is further proportioned and arranged to release such elements when the table is arranged with the support above the board.

The details of construction and mode of operation of an ironing board embodying my invention are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of such table with portions broken away to show the gravity locking device for holding the supporting elements rigidly extended;

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section thru such table with the support shown collapsed;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of such table looking from underneath with the supports collapsed against the under side of the ironing board;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary perspective detail of the gravity locking device in engaging position; and

Fig. 5 is a similar fragmentary detail with the gravity lock shown disengaged.

My improved ironing table comprises a board *a* mounted upon a collapsible support. Such support comprises a rear leg structure *b* composed of two spaced members *b'* connected by two horizontal slats *c* and *c'* and reinforced by slats *c2* and *c3* extending longitudinally of such leg structure *b*. A diagonal crutch *d*, comprising two converging members *d'* is fastened to the under surface of the ironing board *a* upon a shaft or pivot pin *f*, upon which the leg *b* is also pivotally connected to the board. Such pivot or shaft pin *f* is held by cleats *e* depending from the under surface of the board *a*, and such pivot pin *f* extends transversely of such board.

The converging members *d'* of the diagonal crutch *d* are connected at their point of convergence by screws or bolts *g* and are spaced apart at such point by a spacer *h*. Intermediate the ends of such crutch two spaced guide rods *i* are located spaced apart to define a groove *i'* between them, extending laterally of the members *d'*.

A jointed brace member *j* is pivotally fastened at one end to the board *a* and pivotally fastened at the other to the leg *b*, the pivotal connection to the board being made thru a pivot pin *k'* carried by pendent cleats *k*, and the pivotal connection to the leg *b* is made thru a pivot pin *l*.

When the collapsible support is extended, one element *j'* of such brace member *j* extends substantially horizontally and the other element *j2* extends vertically. Such elements are connected together by a fitting *m*, which straddles the element *j'*, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5, the webs *m'* extending downwardly along the sides of the latter. Extensions of *m2* and *m3* of such webs *m'* extend above and below such element *j'*, a pivot pin *o* extends thru the ears *m2* and the end of the element *j2*, which is thus connected to the element *j'*.

The ears *m3*, which extend below such element *j'*, serve as stops for engaging one of such transverse members *i* when the support is arranged in extended position, which engagement locates the parts of such support. A gravity latch *n* is pivotally carried between such ears *m3* upon a pivot pin *p*, such pivot pin passing thru such gravity lock intermediate the ends of the latter, but at one side of the center of gravity thereof. The heavier end *n'* is weighted sufficiently to hold up the opposite hooked end *n2* against the under surface of the element *j'* and in engagement with the transverse member *i* when the support is arranged in extended position.

As is shown in Figs. 4 and 5, the hooked end *n2* of such gravity latch *n* is of substantial thickness and the head *n3* of such end is tapered inwardly toward such hook. Such taper thus tends to guide the gravity latch of the member *i* when the parts are extended and also provides a convenient grip for releasing such gravity lock. That is, if the ironing table is to be collapsed without turning it upside down relative to the position shown in

Fig. 1, such latch can be disengaged and the parts moved into collapsed position merely by gripping such tapered end *n*3 and drawing it toward the pointed end *a'* of the ironing board, the table during the operation being supported by the squared end *a*2 of such board.

The operation of setting up such collapsible support consists merely of spacing the board *a* from the floor and arranging the support beneath the board. This permits the leg *b* and the crutch *d* to swing downwardly counter clockwise about the pivot *f*, as the parts are shown in Fig. 1, and to arrange the jointed member *j* in the position shown in the latter. When the leg *b* hangs pendent, the gravity lock engages the transverse member *i*, as shown in Fig. 4, and the whole is rigidly set up. The setting up of such support may also be accomplished by resting the board *a* upon its squared end *a*2, in which position the parts will swing into extended position. The board can be collapsed, as has previously been explained, either by turning the table upside down, that is, with the support above the board, in which position the gravity lock is arranged to release the member *i*, or else by supporting the table upon the squared end *a*2 of the board and gripping the tapered head *n*3 of the gravity lock *n* and drawing such lock toward the pointed end *a'* of the body. If the latter mode of operation is used, the pull upon the gravity lock *n* pivots the lock clock-wise, as viewed in Fig. 4, to release its engagement with the member *i* and then closes the jointed member *j* and pulls up the leg *b* and crutch *d* together therewith. The latch *n* is proportioned so that the weighted end *n'* swings into abutment with the under surface of the element *j'* when the hooked end *n*2 swings out of engagement with the member *i* and thus serves to limit the degree of pivot about the pin *o*, as is shown in Fig. 5.

I claim:

1. In an ironing table, an ironing board and a collapsible supporting frame for the latter, said frame comprising a leg, a diagonal crutch and a jointed brace member, the leg and diagonal crutch being pivotally connected to the board at one end of the latter and the jointed brace member being pivotally connected by one of its ends to the middle of the board and by the other to the leg, a laterally arranged member carried by the crutch and a stop carried by the brace member with which stop the laterally arranged member abuts when the supporting frame is fully extended, a pivotally mounted gravity latch carried by the brace member, said latch having its center of mass arranged eccentrically to its pivotal mounting and provided with a hooked end adapted to be swung toward and arranged to grip the laterally arranged member when the latter is in abutment with the stop and the supporting frame is arranged beneath the board.

2. In an ironing table, an ironing board and a collapsible supporting frame for the latter, said frame comprising a leg, a diagonal crutch and a jointed brace member, the leg and diagonal crutch being pivotally connected to the board at one end of the latter and the jointed brace member being pivotally connected by one of its ends to the middle of the board and by the other to the leg, a laterally arranged member carried by the crutch and a stop carried by the brace member with which stop the laterally arranged member abuts when the supporting frame is fully extended, a pivotally mounted gravity latch carried by the brace member, said latch having its center of mass arranged eccentrically to its pivotal mounting and provided with a hooked end adapted to be swung toward and arranged to grip the laterally arranged member when the latter is in abutment with the stop and the supporting frame is arranged beneath the board, said hooked end being proportioned to swing free of and be disengaged from the laterally extending member under the influence of the eccentric mass of said latch when the supporting frame is arranged above the board.

3. In an ironing table, an ironing board and a collapsible supporting frame for the latter, said frame comprising a leg, a diagonal crutch and a jointed brace member, the leg and diagonal crutch being pivotally connected to the board at one end of the latter and the jointed brace member being pivotally connected by one of its ends to the middle of the board and by the other to the leg, a laterally arranged member carried by the crutch and a stop carried by the brace member with which stop the laterally arranged member abuts when the supporting frame is fully extended, a pivoted latch carried by said brace member adjacent the stop, the latch having a hooked portion at one side of its pivot and a weighted end at the other proportioned to swing the hooked portion towards the brace member and to engage the lateral member when the latter is arranged in abutment with the stop.

4. In an ironing table, an ironing board and a collapsible supporting frame for the latter, said frame comprising a leg, a diagonal crutch and a jointed brace member, the leg and diagonal crutch being pivotally connected to the board at one end of the latter and the jointed brace member being pivotally connected by one of its ends to the middle of the board and by the other to the leg, a laterally arranged member carried by the crutch and a stop carried by the brace member with which stop the laterally arranged member abuts when the supporting frame is fully extended, a pivoted latch carried by said brace member adjacent the stop, the

latch having a hooked portion at one side of its pivot and a weighted end at the other proportioned to swing the hooked portion toward the brace member and to engage the lateral member when the latter is arranged in abutment with the stop, the end of the latch carrying said hooked portion being tapered and extending outwardly from its pivot to provide a handle for manipulation thereof.

In testimony whereof he does affix his signature.

JOHN CHESTER DE PENNING.