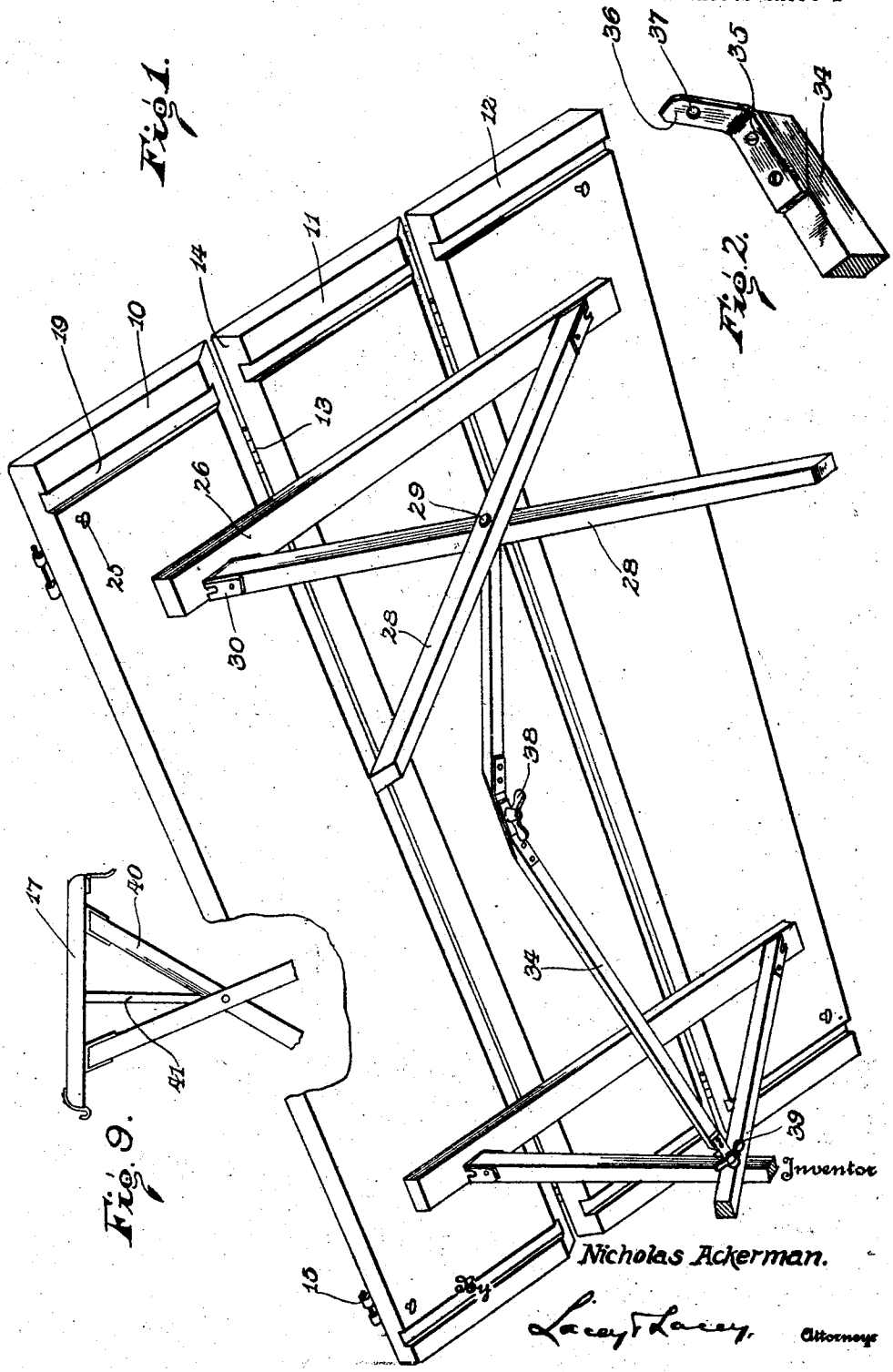
March 30, 1926. 1,578,248

N. ACKERMAN

COLLAPSIBLE CAMP FURNITURE

Filed May 29, 1924 2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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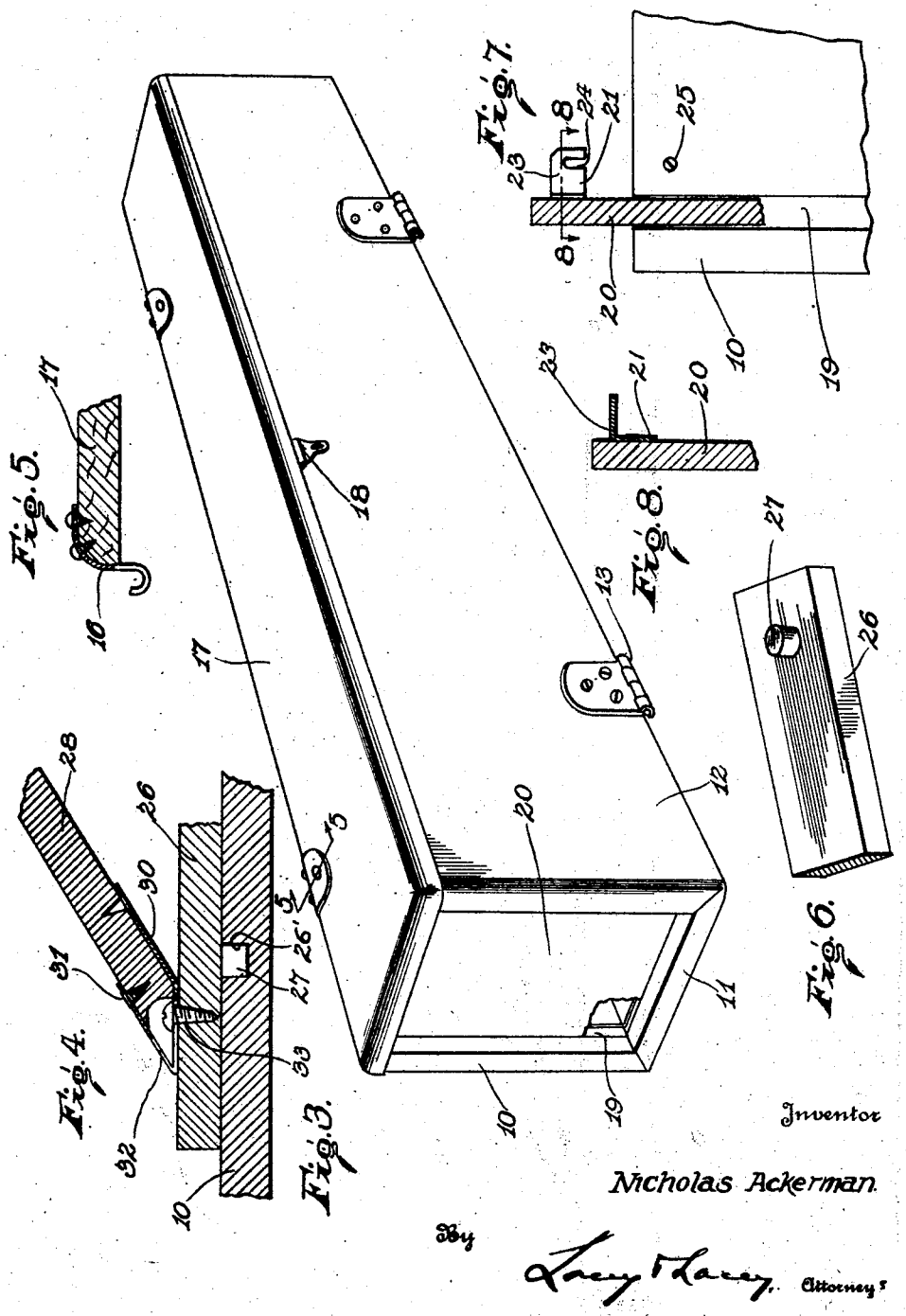

Patented Mar. 30, 1926. 1,578,248

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NICHOLAS ACKERMAN, OF WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON.

COLLAPSIBLE CAMP FURNITURE.

Application filed May 29, 1924. Serial No. 716,723.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NICHOLAS ACKERMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Wenatchee, in the county of Chelan and State of Washington, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Collapsible Camp Furniture, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to collapsible camp furniture, such as tables and benches, particularly designed for automobile tourists. When the table is collapsed, it forms a closed box which is suitable to be placed on the running board of an automobile and the size of the table may be made to suit the length of the running board.

The table consists of a top and detachable legs and braces, the top being made in several parts which are hinged together and held in flat or spread out position as by battens. All the movable parts of the table are enclosed in the box which is roomy enough for carrying sundries necessary to tourists and may also contain travelers' lunches and refreshments.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the table erected and as seen from the under side;

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary perspective view of one end of the brace;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the table folded into a box;

Fig. 4 is a vertical section through the top and one of the legs showing the connection between them;

Fig. 5 is a section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of one end of a batten;

Fig. 7 is a vertical section of one of the end walls of the box partly assembled;

Fig. 8 is a section on the line 8—8 of Fig. 7, and

Fig. 9 is a fragmentary end elevation of a bench made up from the lid of the box and suitable supports.

The table consists of a top having three leaves 10, 11 and 12 which are hinged together, as at 13. The adjacent edges of the hinged portions of the leaves are beveled, as at 14, approximately forty-five degrees so that, when the outer leaves 10 and 12 are turned on the hinges, they will form the sides of the box while the leaf 11 will form the bottom, the leaves then standing at right angles to each other. The hinges 13 are permanent so that the leaves cannot be detached from each other.

The leaf 10 is provided with hinge portions 15 which are adapted to register with the hooked or hinge portions 16 secured at one edge of the lid 17. In this manner the lid is made removable from the table leaf 10. On the opposite edge of the lid 17 is furnished a hasp 18 for locking the lid down on the leaf 12.

The under sides of the leaves 10, 11 and 12 are grooved transversely, as at 19, and the grooves are intended to receive the end walls 20 to form the box. These walls are built the same height as the depth of the box and are held securely in place by the grooves and by the latch plates 21 which are formed from angle iron and secured by rivets or screws to the end walls. The projecting portion 23 of each latch plate has a slot 24 which is adapted to engage with the stud or screw 25 provided at the upper edge of each leaf 10 and 12, as best seen in Fig. 7. By this arrangement, the end walls 20 firmly connect the leaves and keep the outer ones from falling apart when the table is made into a box.

When the table top is unfolded, as best seen in Fig. 1, the leaves 10, 11 and 12 are held in this position by means of battens 26 each provided with a stud 27 near its ends, these studs being adapted to engage in corresponding recesses 26′ in the outer table leaves 10 and 12.

A pair of legs 28 are supplied for each end of the table, and these legs are hinged substantially midway between their ends on the pivot pin 29 in the manner of legs for a trestle-board. The upper end of each leg 28 is provided with a metal shoe 30 secured by screws or the like 31, as best seen in Fig. 4. This shoe is slit, as at 32, in order to receive a shank of the screw 33 projecting from the under side of the batten 26. The head of the screw engages the edges of the shoe to firmly secure the end of the leg 28 under the batten 26, the leg being for this reason beveled to correspond to the angle at which the leg is set to the batten 26.

In order to obtain a firm hold in the longitudinal direction of the table, braces 34 are provided. These braces are furnished with a metal plate 35 bolted or riveted to the ends of the braces. Each metal plate has a projecting foot 36 having a small aperture 37. The feet of the upper ends of the braces are

secured to the under side of the central leaf 11 by means of a screw and wing nut 38. Similarly, the lower feet of the braces 34 engage with their apertures 37 the pivot pins 29 in the legs 28, said pins being threaded at the ends and provided with clamping nuts 39. By having the braces secured to the central leaf, a positive connection is provided which will prevent the table top from having longitudinal movement independent of the supports and it is, therefore, prevented from becoming disengaged from the battens or causing the legs to be tilted to such an extent that they will become broken at their connections with the battens or braces.

When the table is erected with the parts in position, as indicated in Fig. 1, the two end walls 20 and the lid 17 are not used.

In order to take down the table, the braces 34 are first removed by releasing the wing nuts 38 and 39, these nuts being immediately replaced on their corresponding threaded pins. The legs 28 are next removed by pushing the shoes 30 together alongside of the battens 26 and the legs are folded so as to lie side by side. Next the battens are removed from the table top and the latter folded on its hinges 13 to form the bottom of the central leaf 11 and the sides of the box by the outer leaves 10 and 12. The end walls are thereupon slid into the grooves 19 and the latch plate pushed over the studs 25. Thus, the box is completed and the legs, battens and braces may be deposited in the bottom thereof. Lastly, the lid 17 is hooked onto the hinge plates 15 and closed over the open top of the box and finally the hasp 18 drawn over the leaf 12 and a padlock attached if necessary.

In erecting the table, the opposite order is followed.

The lid 17 is intended to be used as a bench and for that purpose legs 40 are provided. These legs are of the same construction as legs 28 for the table and are secured to the lid in the same manner. In order to make the structure firm, braces 41, similar to the braces 34 for the lid, connect the legs with the middle of the table.

Having thus described the invention, I claim:

1. Convertible camp furniture including leaves hingedly connected and having aligning grooves adjacent opposite ends, end members having three marginal edge portions seated in the grooves when the outer leaves are extended vertically, headed pins carried by the outer leaves, latch plates carried by the side leaves and having portions extending therefrom and formed with notches to receive said pins and secure said outer leaves in an upright position, and a leaf movably connected to one of the outer leaves and extending over and engaging the upper edges of the end members and the opposite side leaf and provided with fastening means to engage complemental fastening means on the said opposite side leaf.

2. Convertible camp furniture including leaves hingedly connected and adapted to be extended to form a table top, or folded to form the bottom and sides of a box, certain of said leaves having recesses formed in their inner or under sides, battens provided with studs to fit the said recesses, supports each including legs pivotally connected to each other and adapted to be detachably connected to the battens and braces detachably connected to the legs at their pivotal mountings and releasably secured to an inner leaf intermediate the battens.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

NICHOLAS ACKERMAN. [L. S.]