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J. G. HAUGH

IRONING TABLE

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Fig. 1.

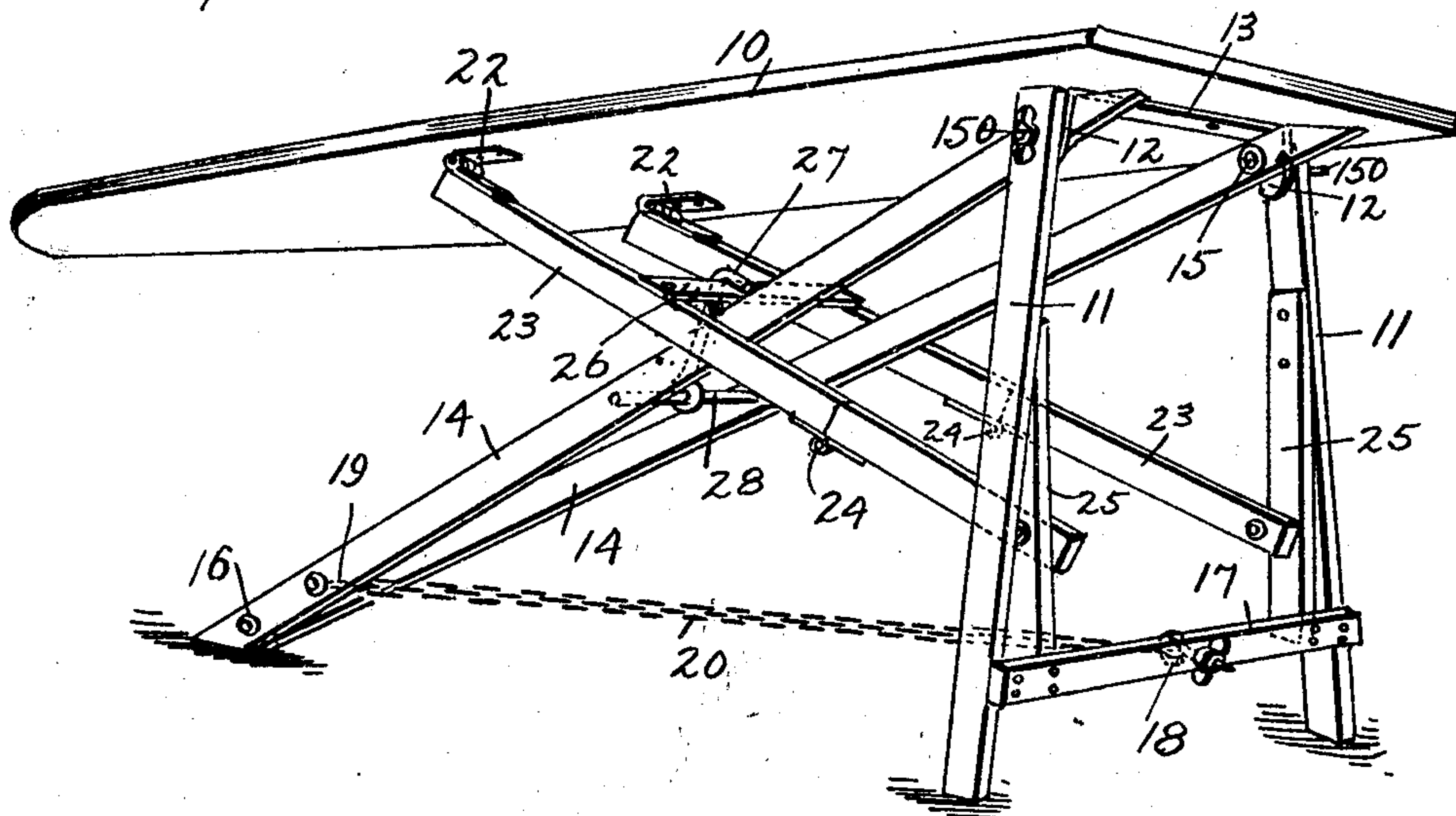


Fig. 2

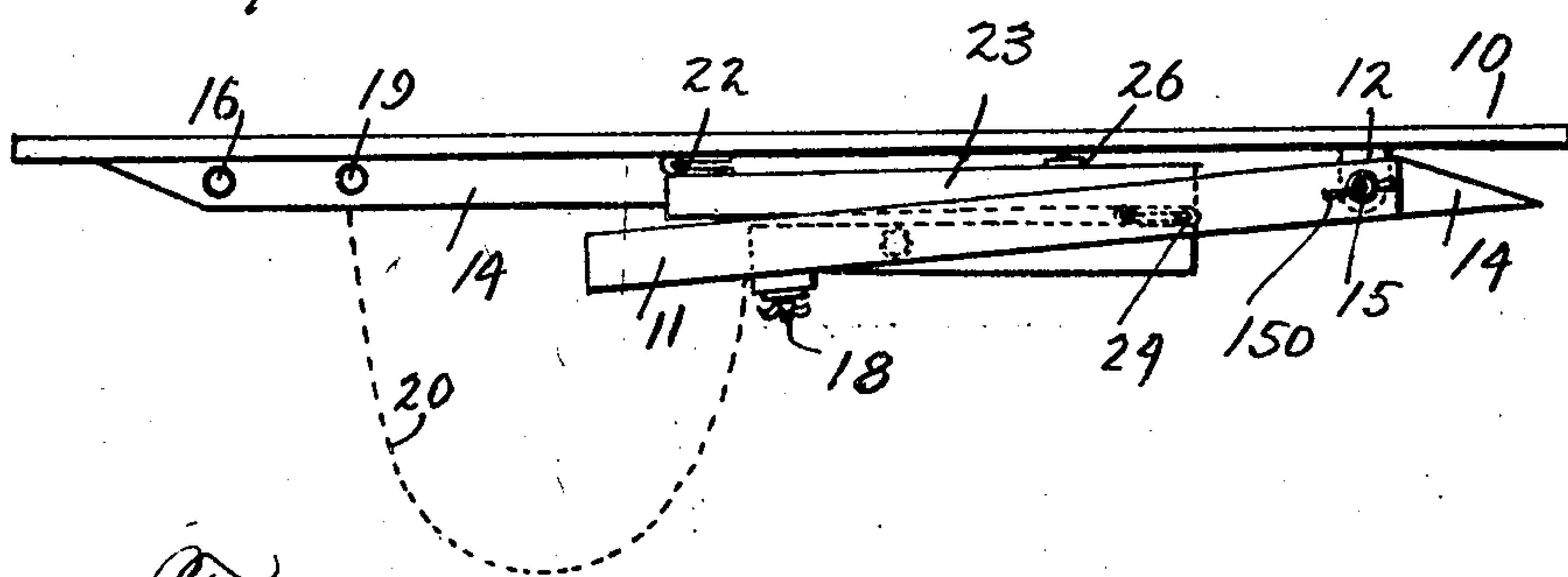
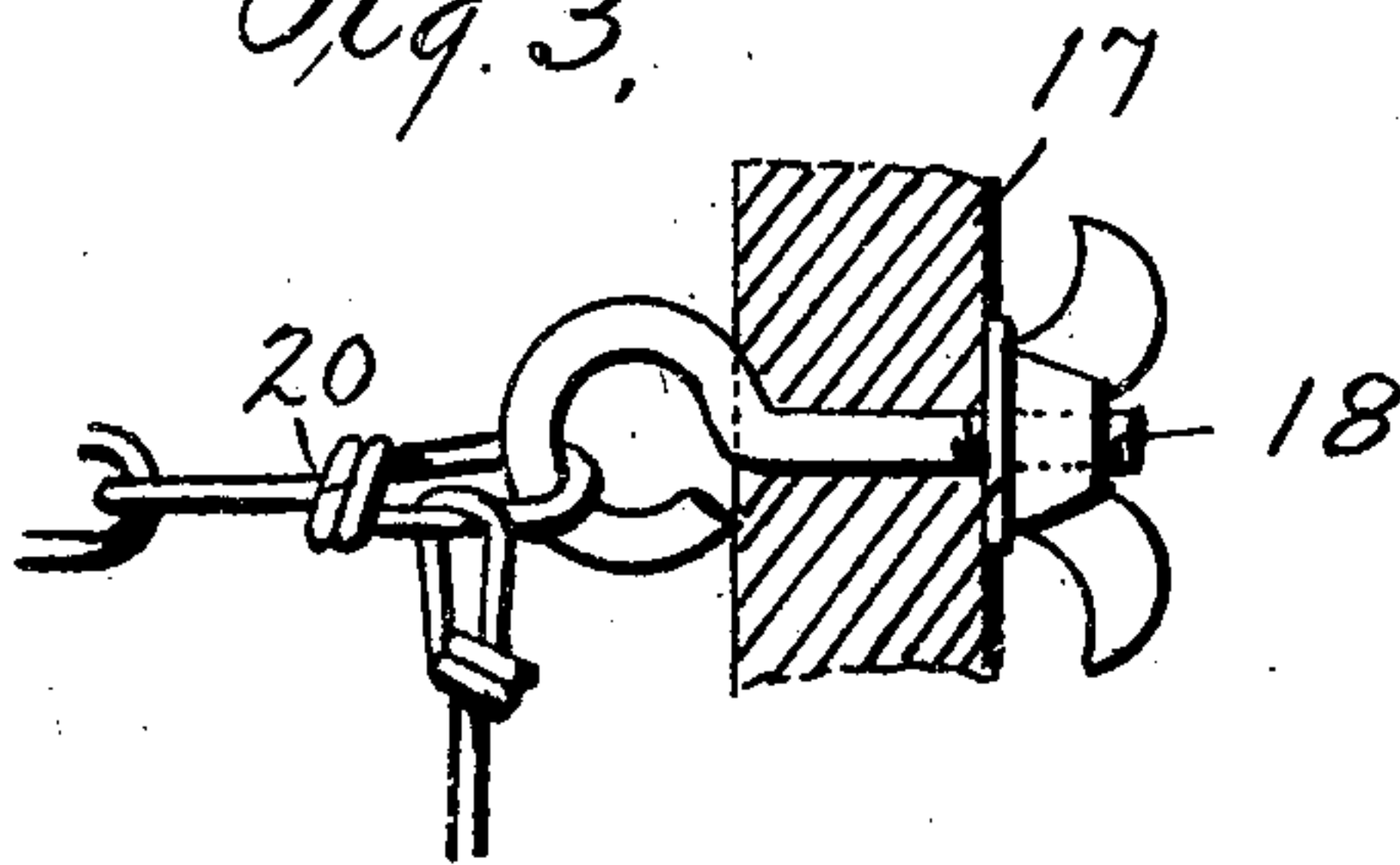


Fig. 3.



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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## IRONING TABLE.

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My invention relates to ironing boards of the type which have a foldable or collapsible arrangement of supporting legs. My object is to provide an ironing table of this description which will be free from such catch devices for locking the legs in an open position which are objectionable because they may be accidentally released and which involve small parts that are easily broken; which will be free from slidable connections which are objectionable, because slots are employed that weaken the leg or brace members, and are apt by reason of friction or twisting of members not to work satisfactorily; which while adequately supporting the ironing board with all required firmness or rigidity will have a base of such limited extent as in no way to interfere with the free movement or positioning of the feet of the person at work; and above all which will be of as few parts as possible, light in weight, and which when folded will require a minimum of room or space.

My invention consists in whatever is described by or is included within the terms or scope of the appended claims.

In the annexed drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of an ironing table embodying my invention shown in readiness for use;

Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof, with the supporting legs folded;

Fig. 3 is a detail view in cross section.

The ironing board, 10, is of the usual conventional form, and the support comprises a floor engaging member that comprises two downwardly diverging straight legs, 11, pivoted at their upper ends to downwardly turned lugs, 12, on a metal strap, 13, which is secured to the underside of the board, and a two-part leg that consists of two straight bars, 14, which are pivoted by the same pivots, 15, that pivot legs, 11, to the lugs, 12, and thence, converge until they meet at their other ends where they are secured together by bolts or rivets, 16, to make a single foot which when the ironing table is in use, rests upon the floor at a point beneath the small end of the board, so that ample floor space is left between the three widely separated points of support by the three legs, which allow unobstructed freedom of movement and positioning of the feet of the user. The two legs, 11, are connected a short distance above the floor engaging ends thereof by a cross-bar, 17.

Connected at mid-length to the cross-bar, 17, by an eye-bolt, 18, and to the converging ends of the bars, 14, by a cross-bolt, 19, is a laterally flexible tie-member which is preferably a chain, 20, which when the table is in use prevents the spreading apart of the supporting members or legs, and which by reason of its lateral flexibility permits the ready collapsing required for folding the table. A chain-link is engaged with the eye of the eye-bolt, and for the purpose of adjustment the eye is slightly open so that one link may be disengaged and any other engaged therewith according to the requirements of the length of the chain to properly serve its tie function. The shank of the eye-bolt passes through the cross-bar, 17, and upon the end thereof is a thumb-nut by which the eye can be drawn with its slightly open side against the cross-bar, and thereby the chain-link prevented from accidental disconnection, and yet, the eye-bolt may be loosened to expose the opening in the eye when the link engagement is to be changed. It may be necessary for various reasons to adjust the length of the chain or tie-member. Thus, by usage or from shrinkage or warping of the wooden members of the board, slack or a loose condition may result which deprives the board of that stiffness and rigidity in use which are so desirable and important. While a bar, jointed with a rule joint could be made to serve the purpose of the tie-member which the chain constitutes, such bar lacks the possibility of adjustment which the chain affords, and which is so necessary. Again the chain compared with the jointed bar is cheaper to make, the appearance of the table is lighter, and neater, or less cumbersome looking.

At substantially midlength of the ironing board, 10, there are secured at one end by a hinge, 22, two brace-bars, 23, each having a hinge-joint, 24, intermediate its ends to allow upward breaking, but which lock against downward breaking when each brace-bar is in a straight line position, and each bar, 23, being pivotally connected at its other end to a supplemental vertical bar, 25, which is attached at its upper end to the inner side of one of the legs, 11, and at its lower end to the cross-bar, 17. When the supporting members are in an open position, said brace-bars, 23, extend obliquely downward and toward the legs, 11, so as to sustain the thrust from the load upon the top

of the ironing board. Preferably, the two brace-bars, 23, are connected by a metal tie-bar or strap, 26.

It is desirable as a matter of safety, as when children are playing about the table when set up, to prevent accidental collapsing of the rule-jointed brace-bars, 23. I therefore provide a lock device which will prevent the upward opening of said brace-bars on their rule joints, 24. That lock device may be simply a hook, 27, adapted to be moved into and out of engagement at its free end from the strap, 26, that connects the bars, 23, and which is pivoted at its other end to a cross-rod, 28, that is fastened to and extends between the leg-forming bars 14.

It will be observed that the points of hinge connections of the brace-bars, 23, with the ironing board, are substantial distances apart, and are towards the sides of the ironing board, and thus the latter will be supported against any tendency to twist or turn transversely under loads or pressure upon its upper side away from the longitudinal center of the ironing board.

Referring to Fig. 2, which shows the board support in a collapsed state, it will be seen how compactly such support folds up and the collapsible members are within the outline of the ironing board with no objectionable projections beyond the same.

Preferably the pivot bolts, 15, have each a wing nut, 150, to enable any loose contact or play which might come from wear or otherwise to be taken up.

What I claim is:

1. An ironing table comprising a board, a pair of legs pivoted to the underside of the board near one end thereof, and constituting separated floor-engaging members,

a single point floor-engaging member composed of bars pivoted to the ironing board at the same end as said legs, and spaced apart where they are pivoted and converged to meet at the floor-engaging point, a pair of hinged braces pivoted to the underside of the board at separated points at substantially midlength thereof and pivotally connected to said legs, said braces having hinges that permit the same to break towards the board when the sections of said members are in a straight line and a flexible tension member connected to said pair of legs at a point below the pivotal connection of said braces therewith and extending directly to and connected with said single point floor engaging member near the floor engaging end thereof.

2. An ironing table comprising a board, a supporting member pivoted to said board near one end and comprising a pair of downwardly diverging legs a diagonally disposed two part leg pivoted to the board adjacent the pivots of the supporting member and comprising a pair of downwardly converging legs providing a single floor engaging point, a flexible member connected at one end to the lower end of said diagonal leg, the other end of said flexible member being adjustably connected to the supporting member, a pair of braces each hinged together intermediate its end and having portions hinged at opposite ends to the board and supporting member, said braces breaking upwardly when the legs are folded, and a latch pivoted to said diagonal leg and adapted to be moved into engagement with said braces.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

JAMES G. HAUGH.