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WOODWORKER

APRIL, 1954

FOLDING CAMP-BED

A bed of this type is not only admirable for camping purposes owing to its compactness when folded, but is also useful in these days of restricted housing accommodation since it can serve as a "put-you-up" for an occasional visitor. When folded, the headboard locks the legs together so that the bed is easily transportable and, of course, in the compact form can be used as a seat

A SUITABLE length for the bed is 6 ft. 2 in., but the dimension (X), Fig. 3, will be determined by the width of the canvas available. It should not be less than 2 ft. The height from the ground when extended should be about 15 in. Six pairs of legs for each side of the bed are shown, but this number can be increased, if desired, in order to give greater rigidity.

The Folding Action.—A hardwood, such as ash, beech, birch, or oak should be used for the legs. Stuff 1 in. square should be obtained which, if it has been sawn squarely, should clean up to full $\frac{7}{8}$ in. square. Twenty-four 19$\frac{1}{2}$ in. lengths will be required. Each outer leg (A) is pivoted at its centre and ends to an inner leg (B), the whole forming a trellis-like structure. As the holes for the $\frac{1}{4}$ in. rivets forming the pivots must be accurately located, it is as well to make up a drilling jig. This may comprise a box about 12 in. long and just large enough to permit the insertion of a leg. A leg is carefully drilled using a $\frac{17}{64}$ in. twist drill so as to allow a clearance for the rivets.

The drilled leg is inserted into the box, and is used as a template, for drilling holes through the bottom of the box. The leg is withdrawn and a lid fitted to the box. If the box is now inverted, it can be used as a jig for boring the centre hole and one end hole in each leg. To drill the other end hole, it will, of course, be necessary to reverse each leg in the jig.

Each pair of legs (B), with the exception of the extreme end pairs, is mortised to receive rails (C). As it is important that each frame formed by the legs (B) and rails (C) should be rigid, braces formed from black iron strip should be fixed in the angles as shown in Figs. 3 and 4. In lieu of these iron braces, short wooden braces butted into the legs and rails as indicated in Fig. 5, can be used.

Closed-in Ends.—As it is intended that the bed, when folded, should form a cabinet, the end pairs of legs (B) will have to be closed in, the end adjacent the head of the bed being fitted with a door so that access can be had to the interior of the cabinet. At the head end, the legs (B) are connected by cross-rails (D) and (E), Fig. 6. The door (F) can be made in the usual manner, the rails being stubbed into the stiles, and the panel, which can be plywood, fitted into plough grooves in the stiles and rails. An easier construction would be to use bridle joints for the frame, and attach the panel to the back by gluing and pinning.

At the foot end of the bed, the cabinet is closed by a framed panel similar to the door, the adjacent legs being glued and pinned to the stiles of the frame. In order that the rivet heads will not foul the stiles, the holes for the rivets will have to be recessed. At the foot end, it is necessary only to recess the centre holes in the legs. Before assembling the legs, the end pair at

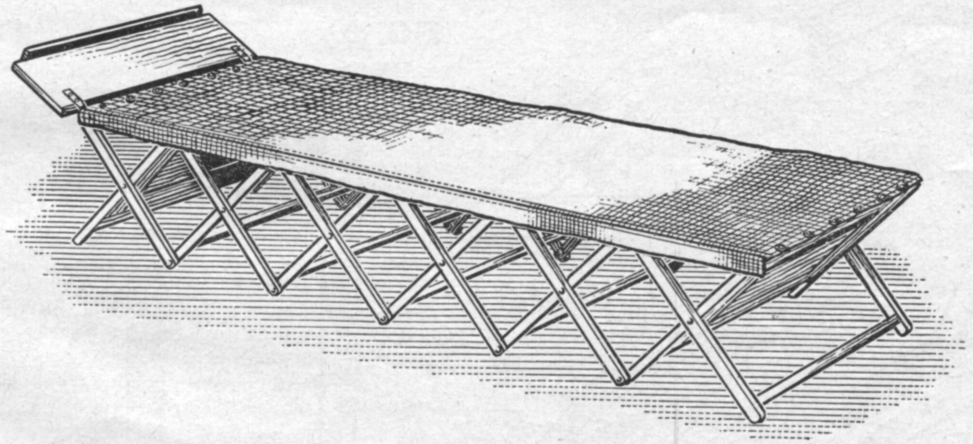

FIG. 1. USEFUL IN THE HOME FOR THE OCCASIONAL GUEST AND FOR OUTDOOR USE

This takes up very little space when not in use yet forms a comfortable bed. It can often prove a boon in case of illness as it can be put up in the sitting-room near a fire

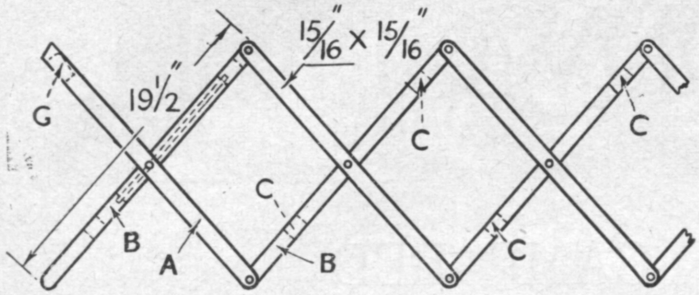

FIG. 2

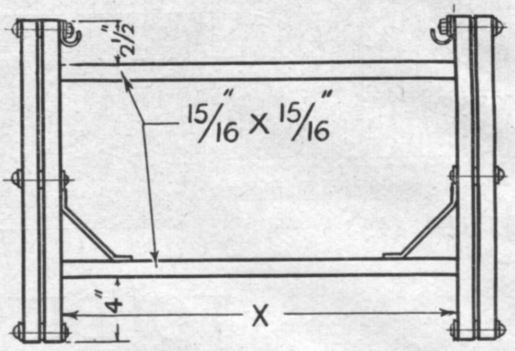

FIG. 3

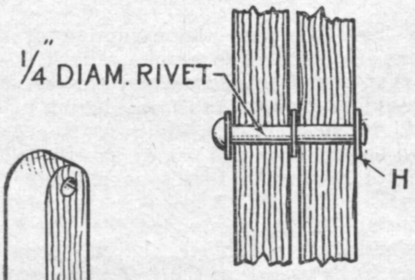

FIG. 8

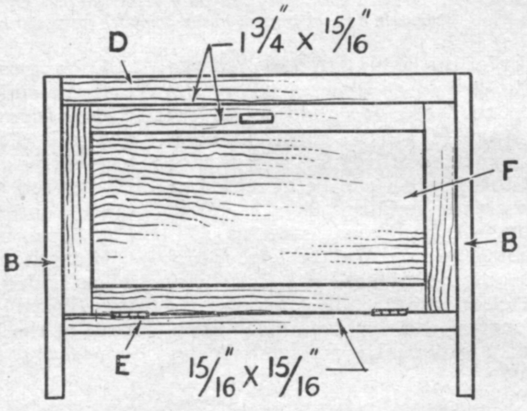

FIG. 6

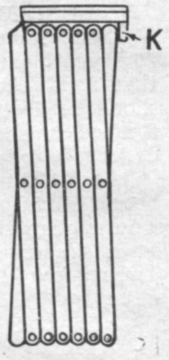

FIG. 10

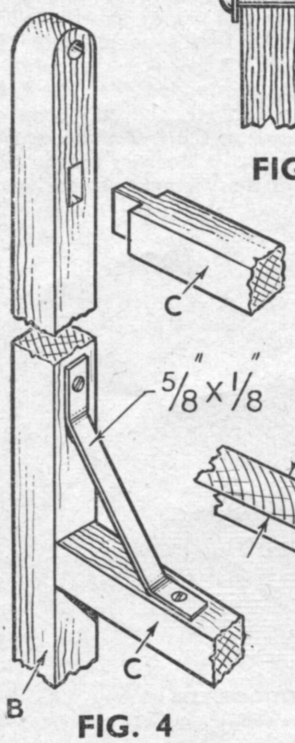

FIG. 4

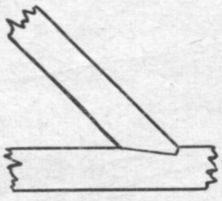

FIG. 5

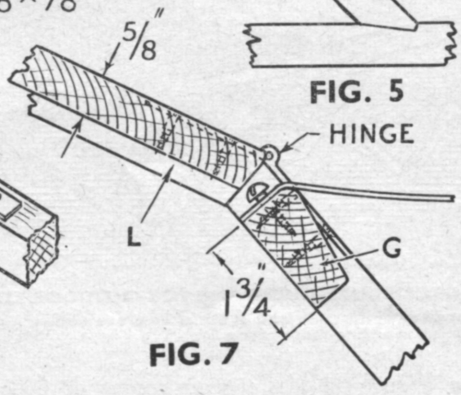

FIG. 7

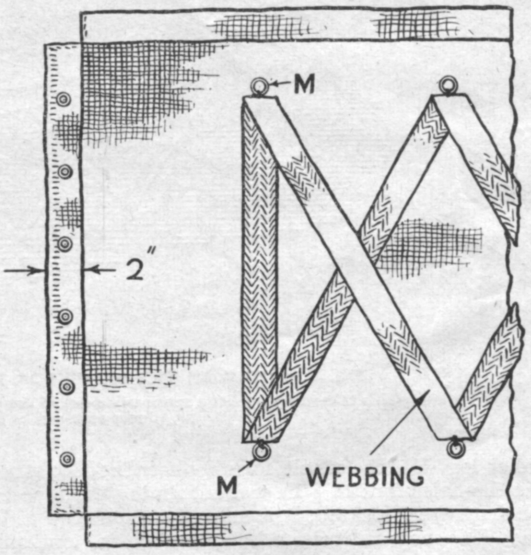

FIG. 11

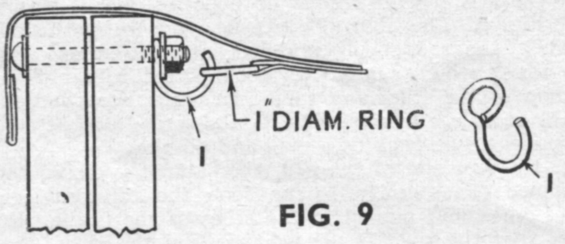

FIG. 9

FIG. 2. SIZES AND DETAILS OF LEGS. FIG. 3. END ELEVATION. FIG. 4. METAL BRACES. FIG. 5. ALTERNATIVE WOOD STRUTS. FIG. 6. END WITH PANELLED DROP DOOR. FIG. 7. HINGEING OF HEADBOARD. FIG. 8. HOW LEGS ARE RIVETED. FIG. 9. METHOD OF SUPPORTING CANVAS. FIG. 10. BED IN FOLDED POSITION. FIG. 11. CANVAS AND WEBBING DETAIL

the foot will have to be mortised for a bottom rail, shown in Fig. 1.

In order to provide an anchorage at the head of the bed for the canvas platform, a rail (G) is tenoned into the adjacent pair of legs, Figs. 2 and 7. This rail and also the one at the foot end may require bevelling as indicated in Fig. 7, in order that the rails do not obstruct the close folding of the bed. Rail (G) is spaced from the top ends of the legs to which it is connected so that the anchoring screws for the canvas do not interfere with the closing of the headboard.

Rivets.—The rivets forming the pivotal connections may comprise $\frac{1}{4}$ in. diameter bolts of such a length that when passed through the legs and the washers, as shown in Fig. 8, the threaded part of each bolt can be cut off leaving about $\frac{1}{16}$ in. for burring over. As the legs should have free movement about the rivets without undue slackness, care should be taken when burring over not to clamp the legs together. The holes in the washers should just clear the bolts, otherwise considerable burring will be necessary in order to retain the washers (H). This applies to the centre and bottom pivots only, since the top pivots carry hooks (I) which are secured by nuts, Fig. 9, the ends of the bolts being burred over to retain the nuts. These hooks can be hammered to shape from No. 8 S.W.G. galvanised iron wire around a $\frac{1}{4}$ in. diameter mandrel clamped in a metal vice.

Headboard.—A satisfactory material for the headboard is $12\frac{1}{2}$ mm. birch plywood. Its length should be equal to the width of the bed. Glued and pinned to the headboard is a fillet (K), Fig. 10, and the width of the headboard should be such that when the legs are folded together, the headboard can be turned over so that the fillet (K) engages the end pair of legs to lock the bed when folded, Fig. 10. As one end of the canvas platform is taken over the top edge of rail (G), Fig. 7, the headboard obviously cannot be hinged to this rail, therefore the headboard has to be hinged to outer pair of legs (A) by strong flap hinges as shown.

The headboard can be supported at a comfortable angle by bevelling the lower edge of the board and the top end of the legs at a suitable angle as indicated. Attached to the underside of the board are end fillets (L) which serve to provide additional butting surfaces for the board.

Canvas Platform.—It improves the appearance of the bed if the long edges of the canvas lap over and conceal the top joints of the legs, Fig. 1. Therefore it will be necessary to allow about 8 in. in the width of the canvas, 2 in. for a hem on each side and 2 in. overlap, Fig. 11. Brass eyelets are secured in the ends, which engage with round-headed screws fixed on the rail (G), and in the top rail of the panelled end at the foot of the bed. It will be seen that the heads of these screws lie below the top level of the bed so as not to obstruct the closing down of the headboard, when the bed is folded.

It will be found necessary to cut away the corners of the platform at the head in order to clear the hinges securing the headboard. The canvas is reinforced on its underside by webbing stitched to the canvas. Sewn to the webbing are rings (M). The position of the webbing and also that of the rings should be located with some care since the rings must engage the hooks (I) without undue sagging of the canvas.

It is intended that when the bed is to be folded, the canvas platform is removed for stowing within the cabinet.

Of course, additional comfort could be obtained if the canvas is covered by a suitable material and padded with washed wool well distributed and stabbed at intervals with buttons sewn through to retain the stuffing in position, but the resulting extra bulk may not permit the platform being rolled up and stowed away as suggested. A separate light mattress is more satisfactory. (261)

CHIPS FROM THE CHISEL

(*Continued from page* 64)

going and that at the finish he will be reasonably sure of liking the result. So that the first essential is not to be hypnotised by the fashion of the moment as depicted in the stuff that crowds showrooms and shop windows, but, by keeping an observant eye open for the things he genuinely likes and feels would be pleasant to live with, year in and year out, get a pretty shrewd idea of the kind of design he wants. Here, too, he has to be reasonably patient and persistent till he finds it, but all such patient trailing can add enormously to the interest of life, often enriching our experience in quite unexpected ways. I never can resist a sneaking sympathy with Horace Walpole, the eighteenth century man about town who took twenty years to finish the building and furnishing of his " Gothic " house at Strawberry Hill, which enshrined his own conceptions of beauty, however absurd they seem to later generations. Because the man who could write when he was in his forties : " To finish all the works I have in hand and all the schemes I have in my head I cannot afford to live less than fifty years " was getting a lot of fun out of life (399)

REPOLISHING YOUR FURNITURE

(*Continued from page* 69)

parent, or white polish may be used. Button is the most suitable.

Method	*Wash Coat*	*Linseed*	*White Filler*	*Transparent Filler*
1	First	Third	Second	
2	Second	First		Third

We shall conclude this article with a note on linseed. Where this is applied first its main purpose is to bring out clearly the beauty of the timber. Boiled linseed dries more quickly than raw but the latter is better for its purpose. Both will saturate, dry and wipe easier if $\frac{1}{8}$th as much white spirit is added. For quicker drying still add not more than ten drops of terebene to the $\frac{1}{4}$-pint of the oil. This is necessary with raw oil only.

The above preparation is not so complicated as it seems at first reading. It pays off handsomely when the actual polishing routine is started. (371)

CORRECTION

Cactus Stand and Book Rack, January, 1954

We regret that an error occurred in the cutting list. It should be as follows :

	Long ft. in.	Wide in.	Thick in.
Item 4—Boxes, 6 sides	5	$4\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{3}{8}$
Item 7—Centre, 2 sides	10	3	$\frac{3}{8}$
Item 8—Centre, 1 holder ..	10	$3\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{8}$