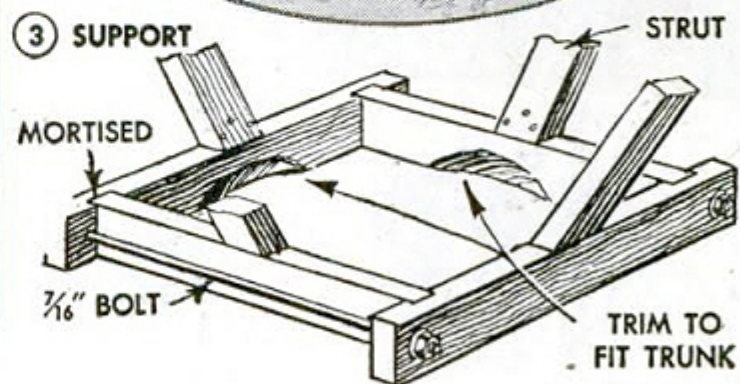
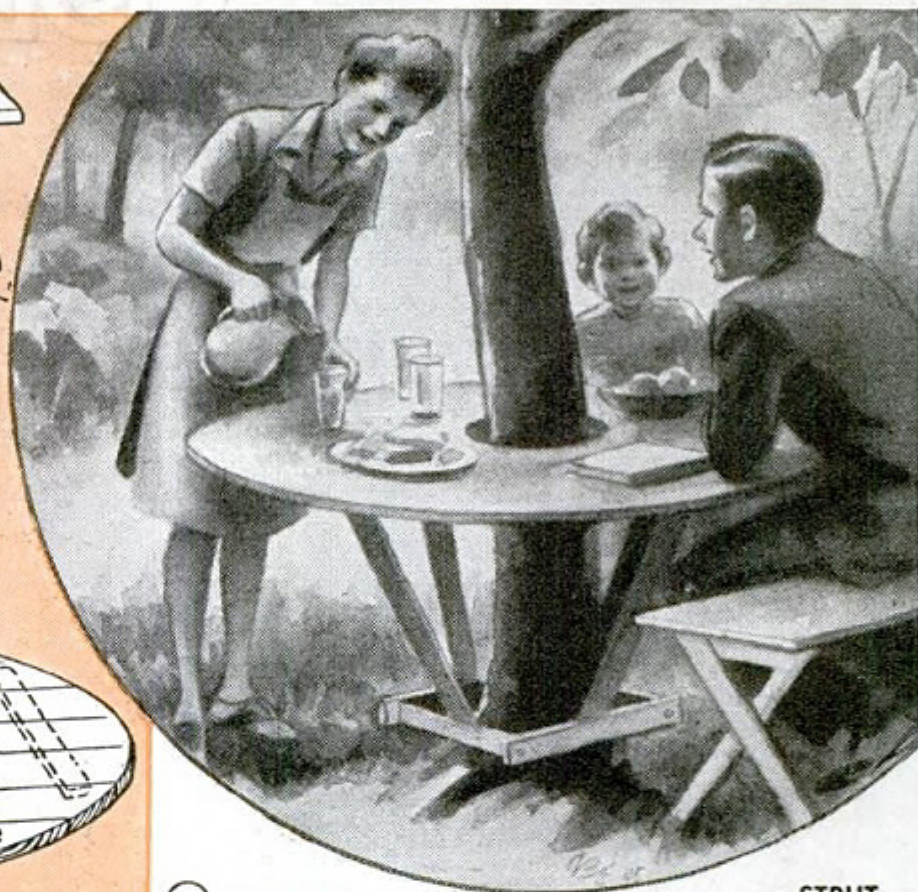
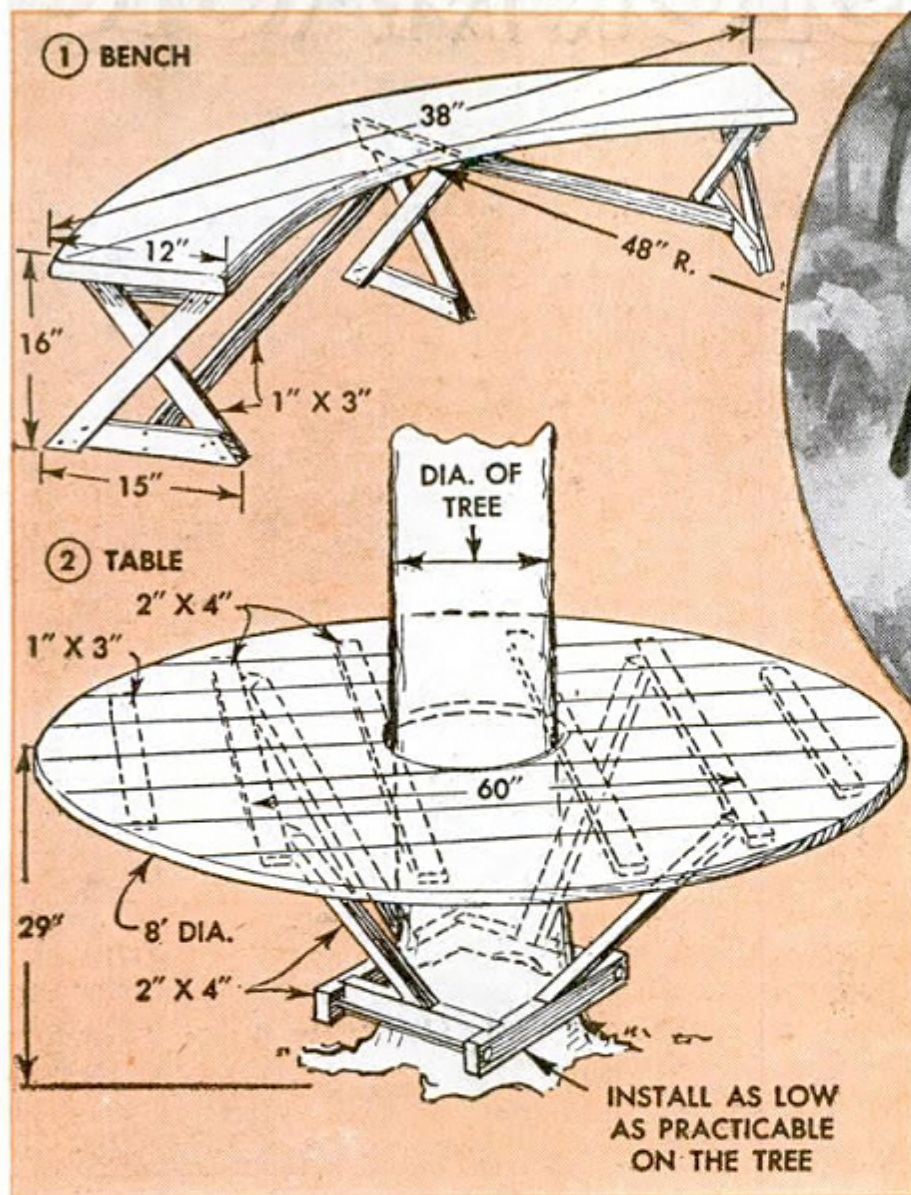


Picnic-Lunch Table Clamps Around Tree Trunk



In building a picnic table under a shade tree, it isn't necessary to injure the tree by using lag screws or nails to hold the table in place. Just prop the table top on four struts nailed to a frame, which fits around the tree trunk. The frame is made by mortising four lengths of 2 by 4-in. stock, trimming the inner edges to conform to the shape of the tree trunk near the ground, and then clamping the pieces together tightly with two long bolts as in Fig. 3.

The table top consists of rough, weathered boards screwed to 2 by 4-in. cleats, Fig. 2, the two center cleats being drawn snugly against the tree when the boards are attached. It is best to use a level to prevent a tilt that may cause articles to roll off. A bench to match is made as in Fig. 1. This also is made of weathered stock, surfaced to remove splinters, and is cut on a curve to conform to the table top.