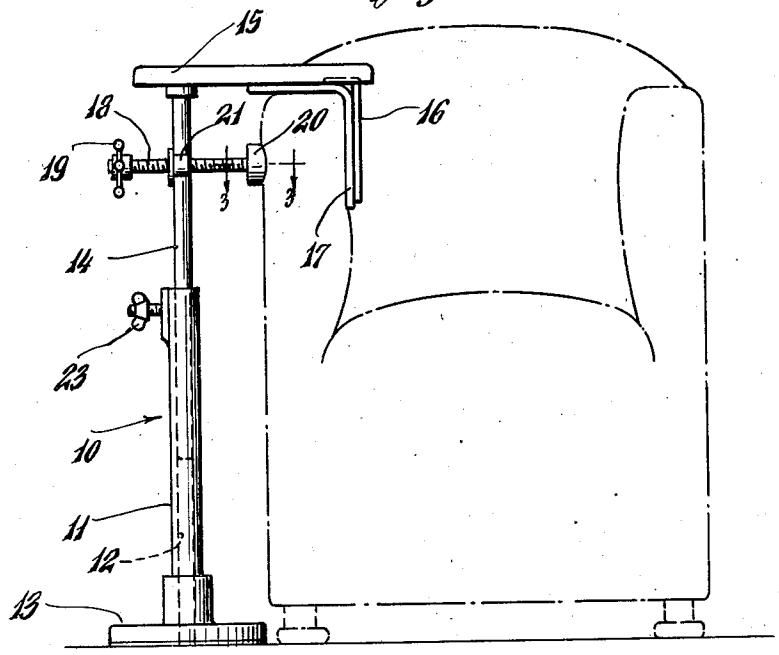
Aug. 19, 1947. P. HELLER 2,426,097

ATTACHABLE TRAY FOR ARMCHAIRS, BRIDGE TABLES, AND THE LIKE

Filed Nov. 20, 1944

Fig. 1.



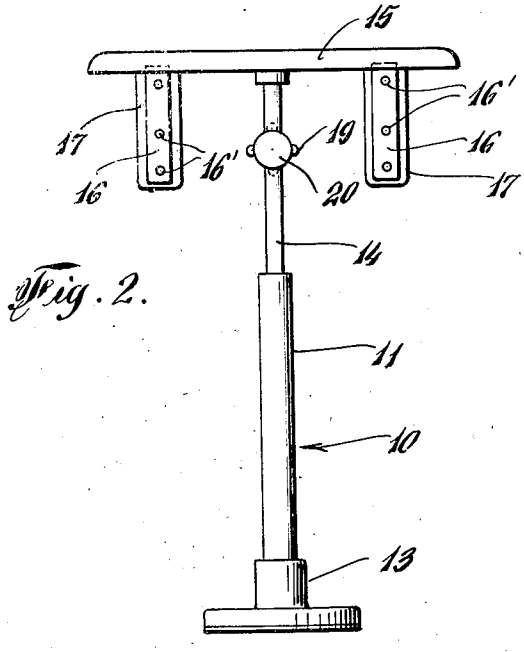
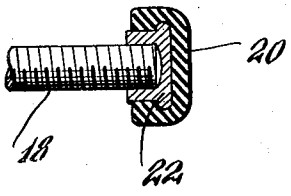


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



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ATTACHABLE TRAY FOR ARMCHAIRS, BRIDGE TABLES, AND THE LIKE

Phillip Heller, New York, N. Y.

Application November 20, 1944, Serial No. 564,274

1 Claim. (Cl. 311—39)

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My invention relates to improvements in combination chair and table sets for use in any place, particularly where space is limited, for instance in schools, apartments or the like.

The principal object of my invention is to provide simple, inexpensive means for attaching a tray or a small table to an arm chair or to the arm piece of a bench or the like;

Another object of the present invention is the provision of a device of the character described which can be used as a handy, detachable extension for a table, particularly for a bridge table, and which does not require any alteration of the table, chair or bench in connection with which it is used, yet which can be firmly connected thereto in a very simple manner;

Still another object of the present invention is the provision of a device of the character described which is longitudinally and laterally adjustable so that one and the same device can be attached to chairs, tables, and benches and the like of various size, shape and construction;

Yet still another object of the present invention resides in the provision of a means for supporting the device of the character described from the ground or from the armpiece of a chair or bench or from both, and the attaching of which to a piece of furniture can be done within a very short period of time and without the use of any tools as well as without the application of any considerable amount of skill;

A further object of the present invention is the provision of a device of the character described whose attaching to a piece of furniture does not result in any damage to the piece of furniture, nor will it leave any scratches or traces upon finished or painted or upholstered parts of furniture after it has been detached therefrom;

Still a further object of the present invention is the provision of a device of the character described which can be made of metal, wood, plastic material or the like, and which consists of only few simple and inexpensive parts but which is sturdy and well adapted to withstand the rough usage to which such devices are frequently subjected.

Further objects of the instant invention reside in any novel feature of construction or operation or novel combination or parts present in the embodiment of the invention described and shown in the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a preferred embodiment of my invention, as it appears in connection with an easy chair;

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Figure 2 is a front elevation of the same; and

Figure 3 is a longitudinal sectional view of a detail drawn on an enlarged scale, on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

In the drawing, the numeral 15 denotes a panel or tray, which is preferably rectangular, and from whose lower side a longitudinally adjustable supporting stand 10 as well as one or more brackets or fixed jaws 16 are perpendicularly extended. The supporting stand 10 consists preferably of a tubular member 11 in whose bore 12 a rod 14 is shiftable, and which has at its lower end a base 13 adapted to maintain it safely in an upright position on the floor.

I prefer to use two brackets or jaws 16, as in the instance shown, and to secure them in spaced relation to each other to the lower side of the panel 15 near one of its longer edges. The rod 14, which is parallel to the brackets 16, is preferably attached to the underface of panel 15 near that longitudinal edge which is opposite to that at which the brackets 16 are disposed, and rod 14 is so located that it is equally spaced apart from each bracket 16. In this way it will be possible to place the panel 15 upon the corner portion of a table top so that two adjoining table top edges are adjacent to the brackets 16 and that panel 15 is disposed to the edges of the table top at an angle of substantially forty-five degrees. The panel 15 thus placed upon a corner portion of a bridge table, for instance, is partially supported by the table and partially by its supporting stand 10. A clamp (not shown) can be used in addition for securing panel 15 to the table top in a well known manner.

In order to prevent any damage of the surface of a piece of furniture to which the panel 15 is attached, I prefer to provide the underface of panel 15 as well as the inner surface of the brackets 16 with a lining 17 of rubber or of any other suitable soft material, which can be pasted upon said underface of panel 15 and secured to the brackets 16 by means of rivets 16' (Fig. 2) or the like.

In Figure 1, the device is shown in connection with an easy chair which is indicated in dash-and-dotted lines. If the device is used in connection with any type of arm chair or easy chair or with a bench having arm pieces, the panel 15 is placed upon an arm piece as shown, so that the brackets 16 rest against the inner side of the arm piece and that the panel 15 is partially supported by said arm piece and partially by the

adjustable supporting stand 10. If a lateral hold of panel 15 is desired, the threaded spindle 18 can be used. Spindle 18 is extended through a threaded aperture in an eye 21 at the upper portion of rod 14, and has at its outer end a handle 19 and at its inner end a jaw or cap 22. The movable jaw or cap 22 is preferably provided with an internally threaded bore, which normally engages the inner end of spindle 18, and its outer surface is provided with a lining 20 of rubber or of any other suitable soft material. The cap 22 can be unscrewed from spindle 18, so that spindle 18 can be screwed out of eye 21 entirely if the device is being used on a table or the like, where a lateral hold by spindle 18 is not necessary.

A set screw 23 is provided on the upper portion of the tubular member 11 so that rod 14 can be retained in the proper position after adjustment.

It can be seen that there has been provided in accordance with this invention an attachable tray for use on armchairs and like furniture comprising a panel having opposite edges, two downwardly extending fixed jaws arranged in spaced relation to each other at one of said edges, a rod support adjustable in length and extending downwardly from adjacent the other of said edges for contact with the floor on which said furniture rests, said rod support being disposed substantially centrally of said other edge and intermediate said fixed jaws, and a member terminating into a jaw, said member being carried by said rod support and extending perpendicularly to the plane in which said fixed jaws are positioned, said member being movable relatively to said support and in the direction toward said fixed jaws, whereby a clamping action between said fixed jaws and said jaw of said movable member may be obtained to secure said panel in position on said furniture.

While there has been shown and described and pointed out the fundamental novel features of the invention as applied to a single modification, it will be understood that various omissions and substitutions and changes in the form and details of the device illustrated and in its operation may

be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of the invention. It is the intention, therefore, to be limited only as indicated by the scope of the following claim.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent in the United States is:

An attachable tray for use on armchairs and like furniture comprising a panel having opposite edges, two downwardly extending fixed jaws arranged in spaced relation to each other at one of said edges, a rod support adjustable in length and extending downwardly from adjacent the other of said edges for contact with the floor on which said furniture rests, said rod support being disposed substantially centrally of said other edge and intermediate said fixed jaws, and a member terminating in a jaw, said member being carried by said rod support and extending perpendicularly to the plane in which said fixed jaws are positioned, said member being movable relatively to said support and in the direction toward said fixed jaws, whereby a clamping action between said fixed jaws and said jaw of said movable member may be obtained to secure said panel in position on said furniture.

PHILLIP HELLER.

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