A. W. MACON.

COMBINED CHAIR AND TABLE.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 12, 1917.

1,255,764.

Patented Feb. 5, 1918.

Fig. 1.

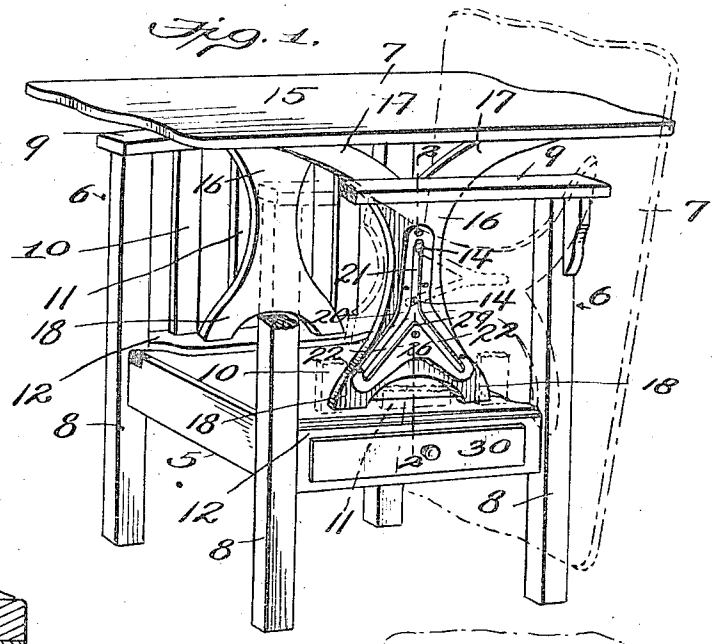


Fig. 2.

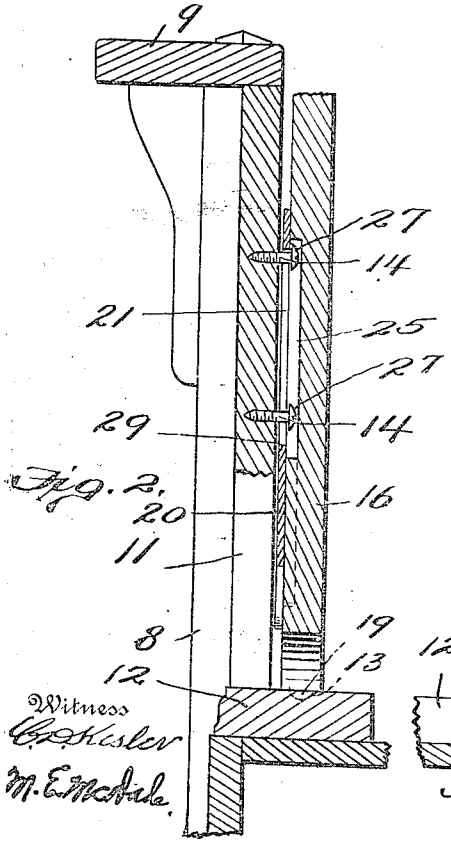
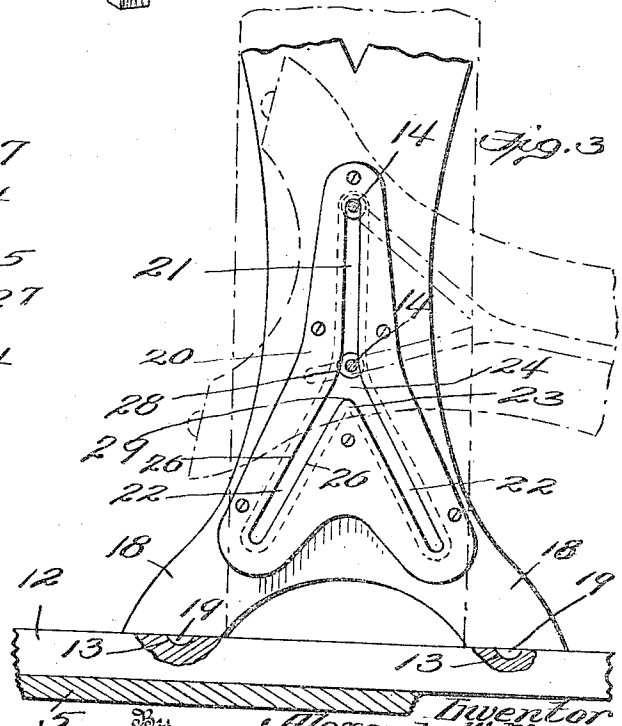


Fig. 3



Witness
G. Kesler
M. E. McArdle.

Inventor
Alexander W. Macon
By James L. Norris,
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER W. MACON, OF DALLAS, TEXAS, ASSIGNOR TO VIRGIL O. ROSSER, OF DALLAS, TEXAS, AND HARRY D. MARTIN, OF SHELBYVILLE, KENTUCKY.

COMBINED CHAIR AND TABLE.

1,255,764. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 5, 1918.

Application filed June 12, 1917. Serial No. 174,302.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER W. MACON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dallas, in the county of Dallas and State of Texas, have invented new and useful Improvements in Combined Chairs and Tables, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a combined chair and table, and the primary object of the same is to provide a furniture organization comprising supporting means or a seat with side arms and a shiftable or swinging member or combined back and table top associated with the supporting means in such manner that it may be readily moved or swung to form a supporting back in relation to either one of two sides of the supporting means or seat, or be disposed horizontally over the seat and arms to form a positively held table top, the shiftable member or back requiring only a minimized disengaging or lifting movement to permit it to swing over in either direction from a horizontal position to serve as a back for the supporting means or seat. A further object of the invention is to provide a combined chair and table comprising supporting means or a seat with side arms and a shiftable or swinging member or combined back and table top and simple devices in part secured to portions of the side arms and in part to brackets secured to and serving as the operative means for the said combined back and table top and whereby the latter may be positively and reliably held in either of its adjusted positions without liability of displacement or loose movement. A still further object of the invention is to provide a combined chair and table comprising supporting means or a seat with side arms and a shiftable or swinging member or combined back and table top movably connected to portions of the side arms by simple and effective means of an inexpensive character and strong and durable nature.

With these and other objects and advantages in view the invention consists in the construction and arrangement of the several parts which will be more fully hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved combined chair and table, partially broken away, and showing the same arranged as a table in full lines and as a chair in dotted lines.

Fig. 2 is a cross-section taken in the plane of the line 2—2, Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical section showing a portion of the combined chair and table and particularly illustrating in full and dotted lines the operation of the brackets relatively to the side arms and the connecting or associating means between the said brackets and side arms, the brackets being shown in full and dotted lines.

The improved combined chair and table comprises essentially a supporting means or seat 5 with side arms 6 and a combined table top and back 7. The supporting means or seat 5 may be of any suitable construction and upholstered as desired and has corner posts 8 secured thereto and extended above and below the same, the lower portions of the posts forming legs and the upper parts of the posts above the seat serving as portions of the side arms 6, the latter being connected at their upper ends by arm rests 9. Between the arm rests and the opposite ends of the seat 5 slats 10 are interposed; and between the slats are central panels 11 of sufficient width to permit the application thereto of connecting devices which will be presently explained and strong enough to resist breakage and give the combined table top and back 7 a reliable support, particularly when arranged as a back at either one of two sides of the chair structure. In the top portions of the end rails 12 of the seat 5 adjacent to the opposite side edges of the central panels 11, shallow sockets 13 are formed, as clearly shown by Figs. 2 and 3. At a suitable elevation above the top of the seat 5 and disposed in vertical alinement in each panel 11 are studs 14 having their heads projected inwardly, as clearly shown by Fig. 2, and spaced a predetermined distance apart.

The combined table top and back 7 mainly consists of a flat plate or member 15 having brackets 16 secured to opposite sides thereof at the center, the ends of the brackets attached to the plate or member 15 being diverged to form arms 17 which are firmly secured to the plate or member, and the opposite end of each bracket being free and

diverged and formed with feet 18 having buttons or hemispherical dowels 19 in their free ends, as shown by dotted and full lines in Figs. 2 and 3, said buttons or dowels being adapted to engage the sockets 13 in the top portions of the rails 12. The brackets 16 serve as supports for the combined table top and back 7 when the latter is arranged horizontally and also as supporting or holding means when the combined table top or back is swung over to serve as a back at either one of two sides of the chair. When the brackets are in vertical position and engage the rails 12 the combined table top and back is held in a horizontal position at an elevation above the arm rests 9, and during the movement of the said combined table top and back from one position to another a complete clearance of contact with relation to the upper surfaces and ends of the arm rests 9 ensues in view of the particular connection of the brackets with the panels 11 in a manner which will now be explained. On the outer side of each bracket a plate 20 of inverted approximately Y-form is secured and has a straight vertical slot 21 in the upper portion thereof continuing into divergent downwardly extending slots 22, the plate between the slots 22 continuing upwardly to an angle or point, as at 23, and adjacent thereto where the slots 21 and 22 intersect an enlarged or switch slot 24 is formed. Each bracket 16 is formed with a recess 25 having a contour precisely corresponding to the slots 21 and 22, but of greater width than the latter in order that the opposite edge walls 26 of the slots 21 and 22 will project over or overhang the slots 21 and 22 and the enlarged switch slot 24. The studs 14 engage and are movable in the recess 25, and the heads 27 of these studs are held against the inner surface of the plate or the side edge walls of the slots 21 and 22. By this means the studs 14 are retained in positive movable association with the plates 20 and the brackets 16 are thus connected to the panels 11. The edges of the walls of the slots 21 and 22 at their point of intersection and mergence continue in regular curves, as at 28, and the angle or point 23 is also rounded, as at 29, so that the studs 14 will not become jammed or caught during their shifting movement in the slots 21 and 22, but will regularly slide from one into the other in accordance with the adjustment of the brackets 16 and combined table top and back 7. As clearly shown by Fig. 3, when the combined table top and back 7 is adjusted to form a back the studs 14 engage the upper vertical slots 21 of the plates 20, the uppermost stud bracing against the upper terminals of the slots 21 and the lower stud positioned adjacent to the switch slots 24 or close to the point of intersection of the slots 21 and 22. When the combined table top and back 7 is shifted or swung into a horizontal plane from the position shown in dotted lines by Figs. 1 and 3, the lower stud 14 passes into the slot 22 at the right and gradually descends, and the upper stud enters and moves in the slot 22 at the left, as shown by Fig. 3, a turning movement being automatically imparted to the brackets in view of the divergent character of the two slots 22; and when the combined table top and back has assumed a horizontal position the brackets 16 will be vertically disposed and their buttons or dowels 19 will be in engagement with the sockets 13 in the rails 12. When the brackets 16 are in upright or vertical positions and the combined table top and back in a horizontal plane, as shown by Fig. 1, the two studs 14 will then rest firmly in the upper vertical slots 21, as shown by full lines in Fig. 3, and by this means the table top 7 will be positively held in a movable position over the chair seat and at an elevation above the arm rests 9. When it is desired to shift or swing the combined table top or back 7 from the horizontal position, as shown by Fig. 1, to the dotted position shown by the same figure a slight or minimized lift imparted to the combined table top and back will disengage the buttons or dowels 19 from the sockets 13 and the said combined table top and back may then be swung over to one side of the seat and arms 5 and 6 and the studs 14 will then occupy the positions shown by dotted lines in Fig. 3, or engage the lower terminals of the divergent slots 22 of the plates 20. It will be understood that the combined table top and back may be swung over to either side of the seat 5 and arms 6, but the positions of the studs will be the same in either operation. When the brackets 16 are disengaged from the rails 12 and are turned to permit the combined table top or back 7 to serve as a chair back the free ends of said brackets, comprising the feet 18, will stand clear of engagement with any part of the improved combined chair and table close to the inner sides of the panels 11 and will not in the least interfere with the use of the device as a chair.

It will be seen that the connecting and operating means interposed between the brackets 16 and the panels 11 are of simple and strong and durable form, and ready assemblage thereof may be had; and, moreover, the expense of constructing a combined chair and table of this type is reduced to a minimum. Furthermore, the studs 14 and slotted plates 20 are connected between the brackets 16 and the panels 11, and no fastening or connecting devices penetrate said brackets and panels nor are they discernible from the inner sides of the brackets or outer sides of the panels. By this means a neat finish is produced and contact or en-

gagement of the hands and arms as well as the apparel of the user with the said fastening or connecting means is prevented.

The seat 5 or the arms 6 may be provided with any of the usual forms of racks or other appurtenances that may be desired, and in the present instance the seat is shown as equipped with a drawer 30 for receiving magazines, papers or other matter that may be desired to be placed therein.

What is claimed as new is:

1. In a combined chair and table of the class specified, a supporting means having a seat and side members extending upwardly therefrom, a shiftable member embodying a flat component with brackets centrally extending from the opposite sides thereof, the brackets being shiftable either forwardly or rearwardly over the supporting means between the side members, slotted plates secured to the inner sides of the seat side members, and fixed spaced studs arranged in vertical alinement in pairs at each side and held by and projecting from the outer sides of the said brackets and engaging the slotted plates and regularly movable in the latter, the plates and studs being concealed between the seat side members and the brackets to avoid exposure or projection of any part of the studs or plates respectively at the inner sides of the brackets and the outer sides of the side members of the seat.

2. In a combined chair and table of the class specified, a supporting means having a seat and side members rising therefrom, a shiftable member embodying a flat component with brackets at opposite sides of the center thereof mounted to move between said side members and to bear on opposite portions of the seat to support the flat component in stable horizontal position, spaced vertically alined headed projecting devices extending outwardly from the outer sides of the brackets in pairs, and slotted devices secured against the inner sides of the side members of the seat and engaged by said pairs of headed projecting devices, the headed projecting devices fitting in the slotted devices and having a sliding connection with relation to the latter and wholly concealed between the brackets and the side members rising from the seat, the slotted devices having divergent slots to permit the shiftable member to move in opposite directions, the brackets and the portions of the seat engaged thereby having co-acting means to prevent the flat component from shifting from horizontal position until manually released.

3. In a combined chair and table of the class specified, a supporting means having a seat and side members, a shiftable member embodying a flat component with brackets, vertically alined pairs of studs secured to the central portions of the side members, and slotted plates having upper vertical and lower divergent slots and secured to the brackets and engaged by the vertically alined pairs of studs, the studs and plates being interposed and concealed between the brackets and portions of the side members carrying the studs.

4. In a combined chair and table of the class specified, a supporting means having a seat and side members, a shiftable member embodying a flat component with brackets, means on the brackets having slots, portions of the slots being divergent, and pairs of headed projecting devices secured to portions of the side members and engaging the slots of the said means on the brackets.

5. In a combined chair and table of the class specified, a supporting means having a seat and side members, a shiftable member embodying a flat component with brackets terminating at one end of each in feet provided with hemispherical dowels, the opposite side portions of the seat being provided with shallow sockets to receive the said dowels, and vertically alined headed projecting devices and slotted means respectively secured to the adjacent sides of and located between the side members and brackets and having a slidable and pivotal engaging operation.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ALEXANDER W. MACON.

Witnesses:
ROY DASHER,
MARIA KAMINSKI.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."