Dec. 23, 1958 A. G. DEARING 2,865,432

CHAIR ARM TABLE

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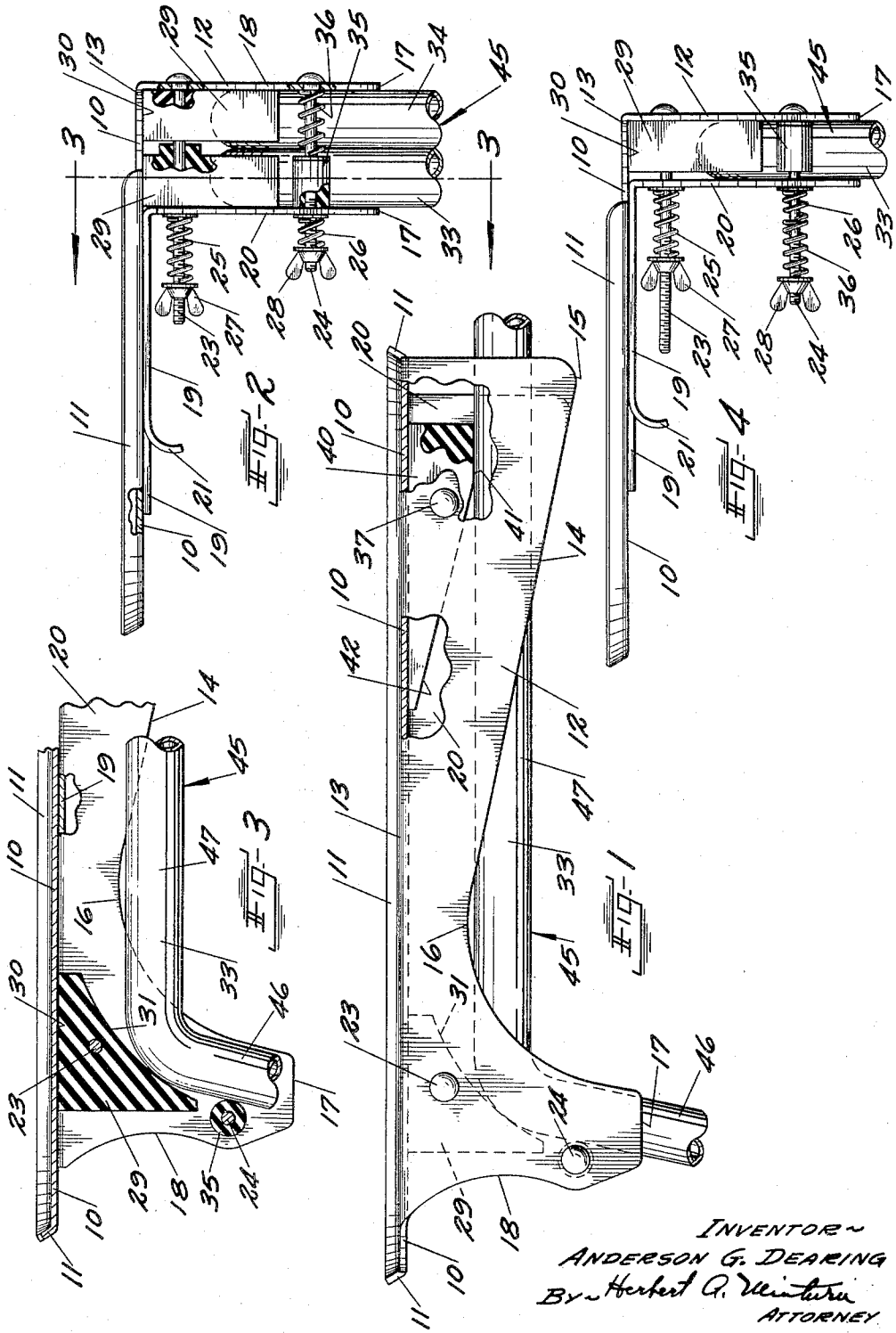


FIG. 2

FIG. 4

FIG. 3

FIG. 1

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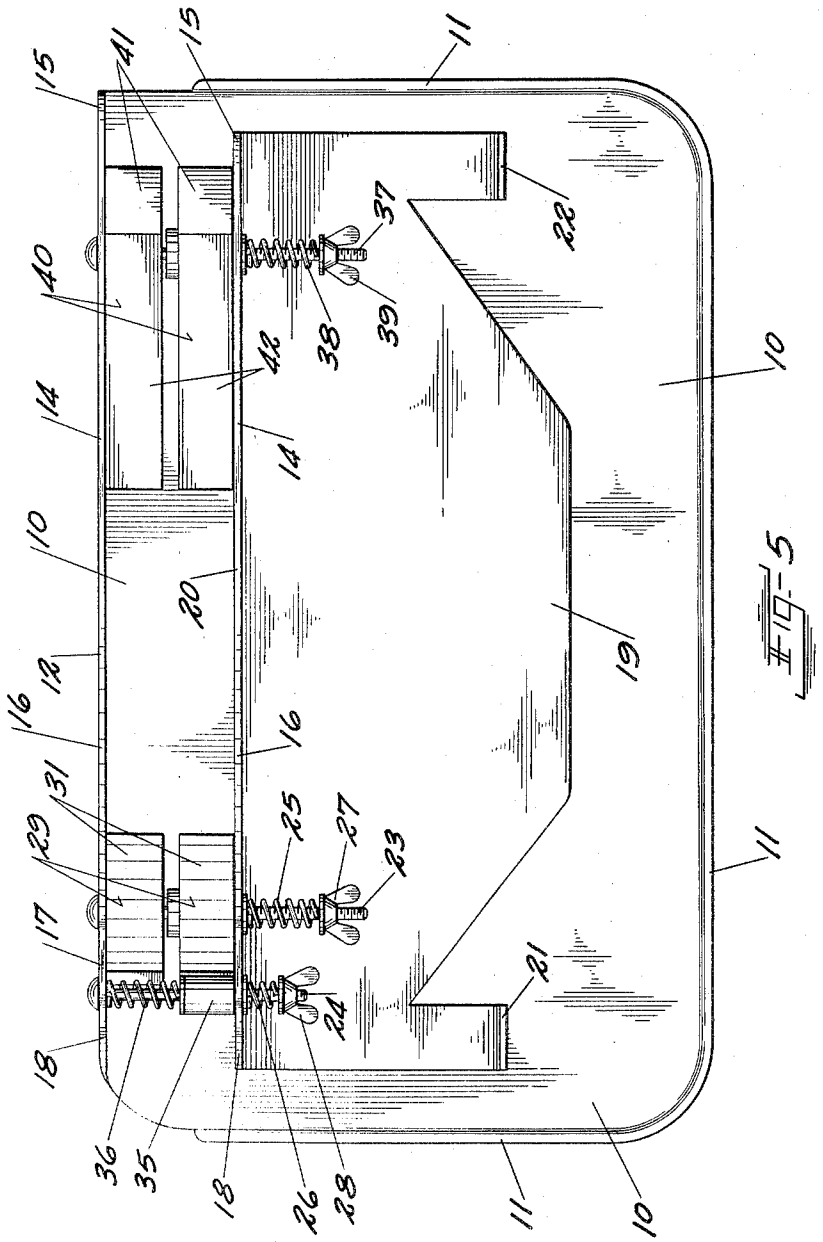



FIG-5

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# CHAIR ARM TABLE

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4 Claims. (Cl. 155—128)

This invention relates to a table or what may be termed a tray which is detachably mounted on an arm of a chair, the chair having either a single or a double tubular arm structure, or even having a wooden arm.

A primary purpose of the invention is to provide a table which may be quickly positioned on the chair arm and as quickly removed, all in the absence of having to employ tools, and in the absence of having to apply screws or bolts or other direct attaching means to the arm itself.

A still further important object of the invention is to provide a structure of the nature indicated which will be exceedingly strong and not displaced under normal usage so that the table will be firmly held in its horizontally disposed position over the chair arm, ready to receive and hold objects thereon without danger of the table revolving about the arm.

These and many other objects and advantages of the invention including the simplicity of construction as well as its lightness in weight and good appearance, will become apparent to those versed in the art in the following description of one particular form of the invention as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Fig. 1 is a view in side elevation of the invention and in partial section, applied to a chair tubular arm;

Fig. 2 is a view in front elevation and partial section;

Fig. 3 is a view in vertical section on the line 3—3 in Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a view in front elevation of the invention as applied to a single tubular arm; and

Fig. 5 is a view in bottom plan of the table.

A table top **10** is provided preferably with an upturned ledge **11** bounding its outer side and front and back end portions. A flange **12** is downturned from the inner edge portion **13** of the table **10**, substantially at right angles thereto, the major fore and aft length of the flange **12** having its under edge **14** tapered from a low point **15** upwardly and forwardly to a zone **16** from which the edge **14** is curved around downwardly to a lowermost edge portion **17**. From this edge **17**, the flange **12** is carried around and upwardly by the front edge portion **18** to merge into the edge **13**.

A base plate **19** has a planar area from a fore and aft edge of which there is a downturned flange **20** extending the full length thereof, and conforming in dimensions and contour to the flange **12**. Preferably the plate **19** is provided with front and rear downturned lips **21** and **22**. This plate **19** normally bears against the under side of the table **10**. The flange **20** is turned downwardly to be in substantial parallelism with the flange **12**. A pair of bolts **23** and **24** extend through the flanges **12** and **20**, to carry each respectively springs **25** and **26** bearing between the flange **20** and wing nuts **27** and **28** on the respective bolts **23** and **24**, the springs **25** and **26** normally urging the flange **20** toward the flange **12**, the pressure of such urging being controlled by the positioning of the nuts **27** and **28** on the respective bolts.



The bolt **23** is located in the upper forward portion of each of the flanges **12** and **20**, spaced rearwardly somewhat from the edges 18 of the flanges and carries between the two flanges a rubber block **29** having an upper side **30** bearing against the under side of the table **10**, and a rear upwardly sloping side **31**. When the table **10** is to be mounted on a chair arm having two tubular members **33** and **34**, Fig. 2, two such blocks **29** are employed to increase the spacing between the flanges **12** and **20**, and also to provide bearings upon each of the tubes **33** and **34**.

The other bolt **24** is spaced below and somewhat forwardly of the bolt **23**, see Figs. 2–4. This lower bolt **24** carries a rubber sleeve **35** between the two flanges **12** and **20**, particularly where but one tubular member **33** appears as the arm. Where there are two tubular members **33** and **34** constituting the arm, then a compression spring **36** also surrounds the bolt **24** to bear between the sleeve **35** and the flange **12**.

A third bolt **37** passes through the two flanges **12** and **20** at rear zones thereof, and spaced below the under side of the table **10**. This bolt **37** carries a compression spring **38** on an outward end portion thereof, the compression of which spring **38** is controlled by means of a wing nut **39** carried on the bolt **37**. Between the flanges **12** and **20**, there is a rubber block **40** through which the bolt **37** passes, the one block **40** being sufficient for a one tube arm and two such blocks being employed for a two tube arm so that there will be a block **40** for each tube. The block **40** has an under flat face **41**, from which face the block preferably slopes upwardly by the face **42**.

*Operation*

Assuming that the arm which may be generally designated by the numeral **45** whether consisting of one tube or two tubes, has the shape as indicated in Figs. 1 and 3, the table **10** will be applied thereto by adjusting the wing nuts **27** and **28** to compress the springs **25** and **26** to that degree where the flanges **12** and **20** may be brought over the tube **33** to straddle it and have the lower front edges **17** brought down along the inclined front portion **46** of the tube **33**. The flanges are so positioned relative to the portion **46** and the generally horizontally disposed portion **47** that the sleeve **35** will be compressibly against the front side of the portion **46**, and the inclined face **31** of the block **29** will bear upon the forward side of the juncture of the portion **46** with the horizontal portion **47** of the tube **33** as indicated in Fig. 3. The flanges **12** and **20** are rocked around downwardly so that this contact of the face **31** with the tube **33** is had when the face **41** of the block **40** is brought down to rest on the horizontal length of the tube **33**, Fig. 1. That is all that is required to mount the table **10** on the arm **45**. It is to be noted that the flanges **12** and **20** by their forward depending end portions terminating in the edges **17** pass downwardly over the sides of the inclined tube portion **46** sufficiently to prevent revolving of the top **10** about the horizontal length **47**, and lateral displacement horizontally across the tube **33** at the rear end of the table **10** is prevented also by the rear end portions of the two flanges **12** and **20** passing respectively down over the outer and inner sides of the tube **33**. All that is necessary to remove the table **10** is to pull on the two lips **21** and **22** so as to further compress the springs **25** and **26**, whereupon the table **10** may be simply lifted from the arm **45**.

When the arm **45** has two tubes, tubes **33**, **34**, Fig. 2, then the two sets of blocks **29** at the front end and **40** at the rear end are employed, and the spring **36** is inserted between the flange **12** and the sleeve **35**, and the

same mode of operation in attaching the table 10 to the arm is followed as above indicated in reference to the single tube 33.

This construction gives an unusually stable mounting of the table 10, and loads up to ten pounds have been applied on the outer fore and aft ledge 11 without any tendency of revolving the table 10 about the arm, or tendency to displace it in any manner whatsoever.

The lower bolt 24, it is to be noted, is employed primarily to prevent spreading apart of the lower front end portions of the flanges 12 and 20, and also to carry the sleeve 35 which serves as an additional stop bearing against the inclined tube portion 46, the three rubber members, block 29, block 40, and sleeve 35 aiding in giving a cushioned spacing between the table 10 and the arm 45 and at the same time setting up quite a bit of frictional resistance to displacement.

Therefore while I have shown and described my invention in the one particular form in minute detail, it is obvious that structural changes may be employed such as substituting any durable resilient material for the rubber blocks, all without departing from the spirit of the invention, and I therefore do not desire to be limited to that precise form beyond the limitations which may be imposed by the following claims.

I claim:

1. A table detachably applied to a chair arm having a substantially horizontally disposed length, and a forward downturn portion, comprising a table; a flange downwardly extending from the table along the inner side of the arm and, by a portion at least, along said arm downturned portion; a plate in contact with the under side of said table; a flange downwardly extending from a side of the plate spaced from said table flange and extending along the outer side of said arm and, by a portion at least, along the outer side of said arm downturned portion; a bolt extending between the upper forward portions of said flanges; a resilient, friction surface block carried by said bolt between said flanges and having an under face inclined downwardly and outwardly to bear downwardly and rearwardly against said arm; a second bolt extending between said flanges below and forwardly of said first bolt; a resilient member carried by the second bolt and bearing against said arm downturned portion; a third bolt extending between said flanges at rear portions thereof; a resilient, friction surface block carried by said third bolt resting on said arm; and means yieldingly retaining said flanges in compressive engagement with the sides of said arm.

2. The structure of claim 1 in which there is a second resilient member carried by said second bolt bearing against said table downturned flange.

3. The structure of claim 1 in which said plate slidably shifts under said table with movement of said plate flange.

4. The structure of claim 1 in which said retaining means comprises extensions of said bolts beyond one of said flanges; nuts on said extensions; springs on said extensions bearing between said one flange and said nuts; and said blocks limiting travel of said flange toward the other under urge of said springs.

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