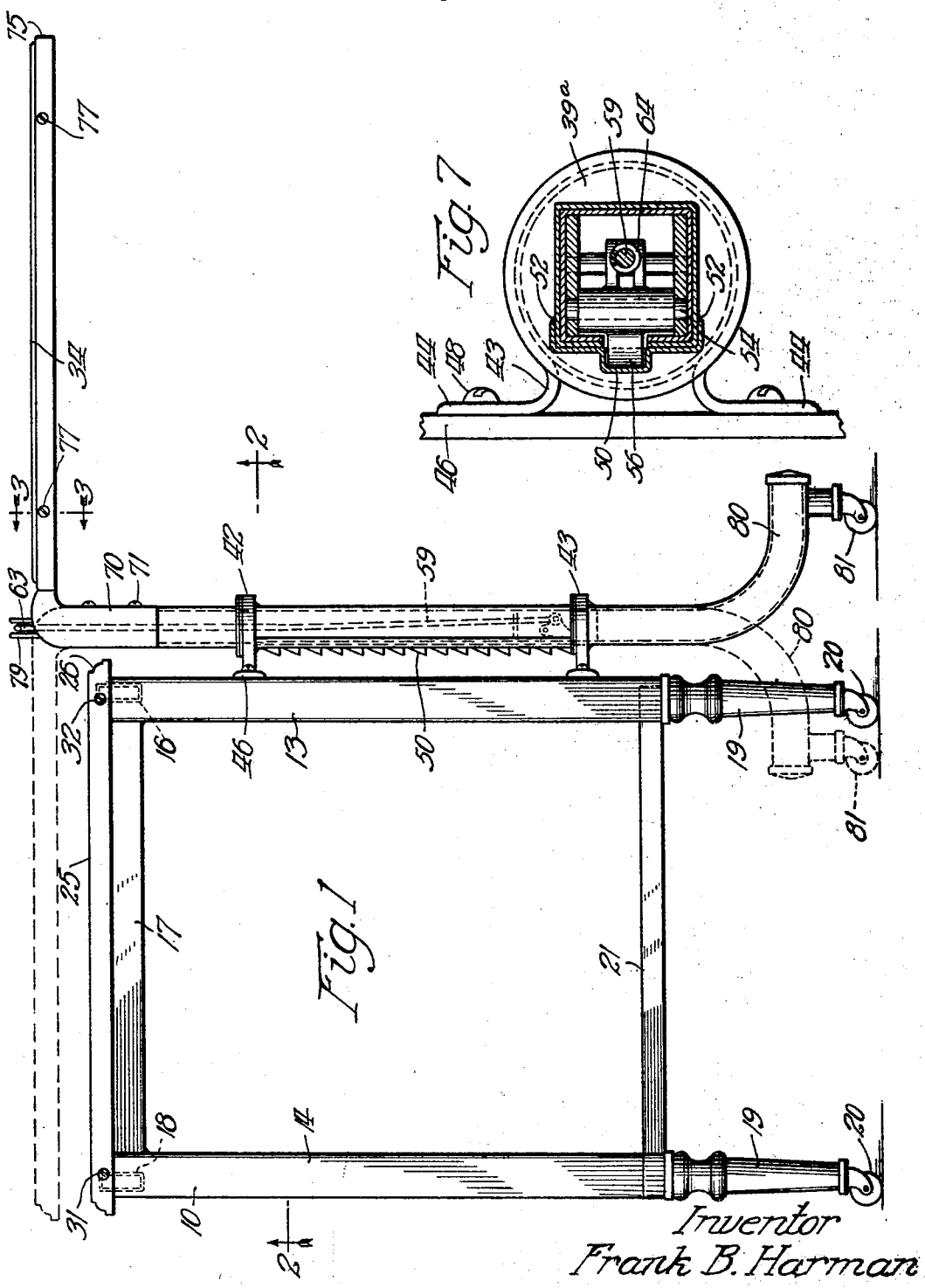
Dec. 6, 1932. F. B. HARMAN 1,889,783

HOSPITAL TABLE

Filed April 5, 1928 3 Sheets-Sheet 1



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HOSPITAL TABLE

Filed April 5, 1928 3 Sheets-Sheet 2

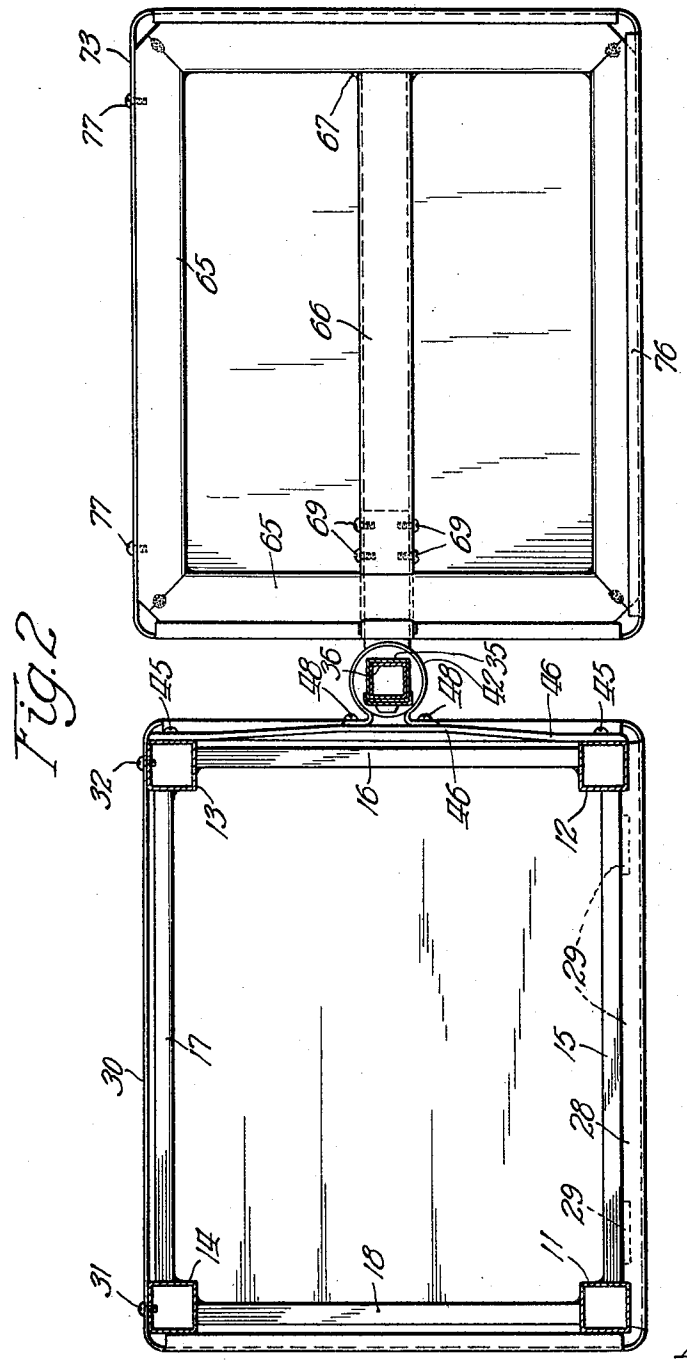


Fig. 2

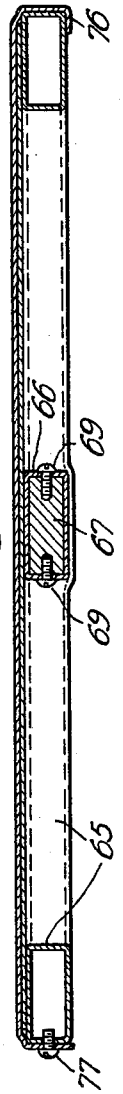


Fig. 3

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Dec. 6, 1932. F. B. HARMAN 1,889,783

HOSPITAL TABLE

Filed April 5, 1928 3 Sheets-Sheet 3

Fig. 4

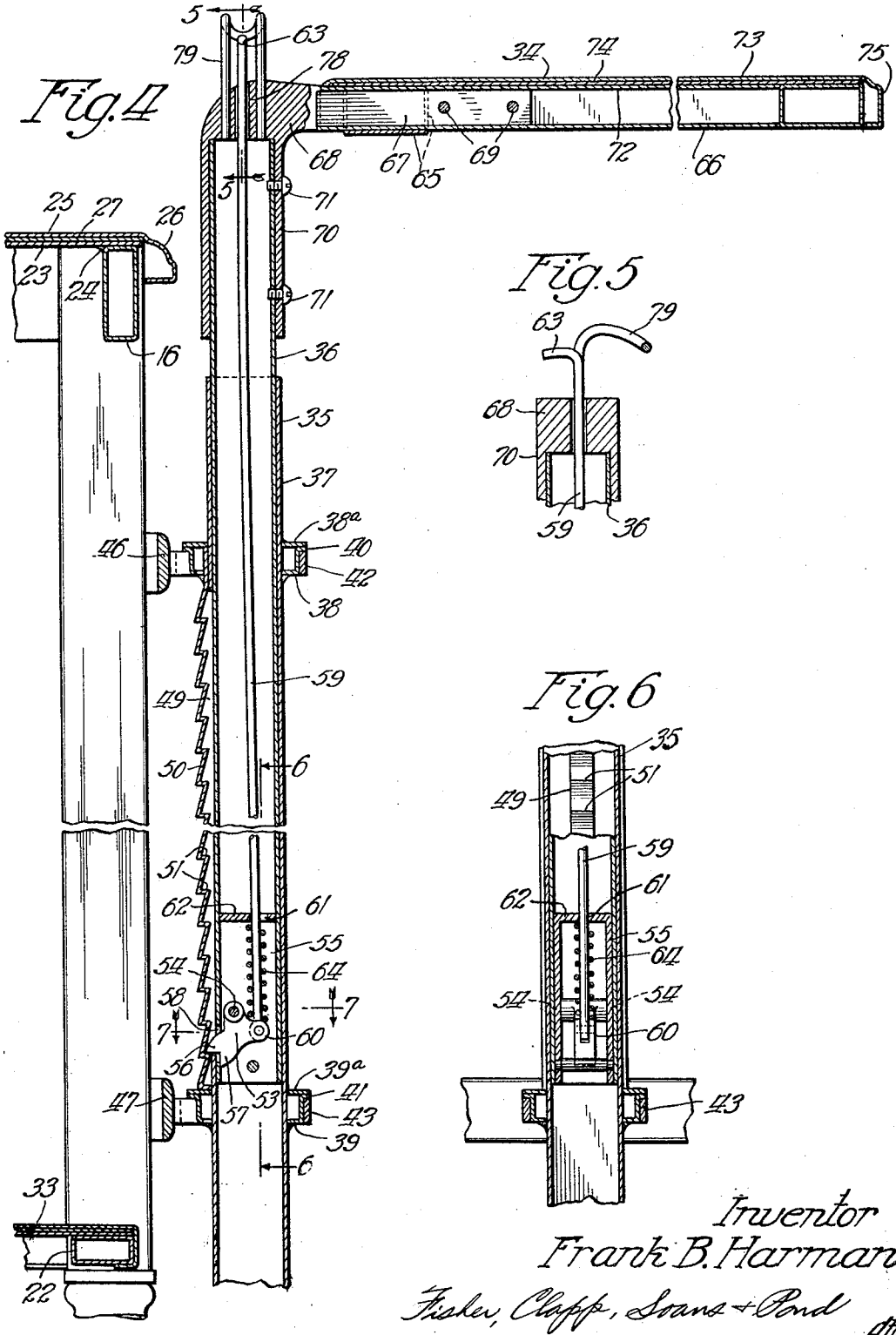


Fig. 5

Fig. 6

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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HOSPITAL TABLE

Application filed April 5, 1928. Serial No. 267,557.

This invention relates to hospital tables and more particularly to a hospital table which includes a stationary table top and a movable table top which is adapted to be projected over a bed while the stationary top remains alongside the bed.

The objects of the invention are; to provide an improved hospital table such as above described, of metal construction; to provide improved means for preventing the table from tipping due to the weight of the shiftable top when the latter is in offset position relative to the main table structure; to provide means for preventing such a tipping which means is operative in all positions of adjustment of the shiftable table top; and to provide such tipping preventing means which will be moved into operative position as an incident to the moving of the shiftable top.

Other objects of the invention are; to provide a vertically adjustable hospital table in connection with a bedside table; to provide an improved means for mounting the hospital table on such bedside table; to provide improved means for locking the hospital table in the desired position of vertical adjustment; to provide conveniently, accessible and easily operable means for releasing said locking means so as to facilitate vertical adjustment of the table, and it is a general object of my invention to provide an improved hospital table structure.

Other objects and advantages of my invention will be understood by reference to the following specification and accompanying drawings, in which I have illustrated a hospital table embodying a selected form of my invention.

In the drawings;

Fig. 1 is a side elevation.

Figs. 2 and 3 are sections on the lines 2—2 and 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a vertical section in a plane extending through the means for mounting the shiftable table top, and

Figs. 5, 6 and 7 are sections on the lines 5—5, 6—6 and 7—7 respectively, of Fig. 4.

Referring now to the drawings, my improved hospital table includes a main table 10, which may be similar to a conventional form of bedside table. The main table 10 includes a main supporting frame including corner posts 11, 12, 13 and 14, connected together adjacent their upper ends by tie members 15, 16, 17 and 18 which in the present instance are tubular metal members welded adjacent their opposite ends to the adjacent corner posts. The corner posts are also preferably of tubular metal construction and are provided with more or less ornamental leg portions 19—19 which may be provided with casters 20, as shown in Fig. 1. The corner posts are also connected together adjacent their lower ends by means of tie members such as 21 and 22, as shown in Figs. 1 and 4. The tie members 21 and 22 are also preferably of tubular metal construction and welded adjacent their opposite ends to the adjacent corner posts.

A table top fitting over the upper end of the main frame is provided and includes, in this instance, a metal plate 23 resting on the upper edges of the frame members 15, 16, 17 and 18 and secured thereto by suitable means such as welding, as indicated at 24. A removable top member 25 having an ornamented edge portion 26 is provided and adapted to be removably mounted on the plate 23, a layer of deadening material 27 being interposed between the plate 23 and top 25. Any suitable means may be provided for locking the removable top 25 in place. I have shown the removable top provided with a rebent flange portion 28 extending inwardly from one of the ornamental edge portions 26 of the top and adapted to interlock with one or more suitable projections 29 on the tie member 15. The opposite edge of the top member 25 is not provided with a flange such as 28 so that the top may be slipped into place with the flange 28 underneath the projections 29 until the opposite edge 30 will drop over the adjacent corner posts. The top may then be locked in place by means of a pair of screws 31 and 32 as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The tie members adjacent the lower ends of the corner posts may be utilized for supporting a shelf 33, the latter being of any suitable construction and secured in place in any con-

venient manner. It may be of the same construction as the table top above described, and locked in place in a similar manner.

An auxiliary or table top member 34, mounted on the upper end of a vertically disposed post 35 is also supported by the main frame 10, and is adapted to be shifted from normal position overlying the main table top as shown in broken lines in Fig. 1, to offset position adjacent one side of the main table top as shown in full lines in Fig. 1. When in the latter position, the shiftable top may conveniently be extended over a bed so that a person confined to the bed may conveniently use the table top.

The supporting post 35 includes inner and outer tubular metal members 36 and 37 respectively, the inner member being telescoped within the outer member and slidable longitudinally therein so as to form an extensible post. The post members 36 and 37 are square in the present instance so that they cannot rotate relative to each other, but the same may be of any suitable cross section, it being only necessary to provide any desirable means for preventing such relative rotation.

Circular cup-shaped bearing members 38 and 39 are secured to the post 37, for instance, by welding, at spaced points. The bearing members 38 and 39 are provided with laterally outwardly extending flanges 40 and 41 respectively, which are adapted to be seated on the upper edges of mounting brackets 42 and 43 as clearly shown in Fig. 4. Closure plates or caps 38*a* and 39*a* may be provided for closing the upper ends of the cup-shaped bearing members 38 and 39 respectively. The mounting members 42 and 43 consist of metal straps bent to form a substantially circular bearing portion, as clearly shown in Fig. 7, and attaching ears 44, whereby the members may be secured to cross members 46 and 47 which extend between the corner posts 12 and 13 of the main supporting frame. The cross members 46 and 47 are attached adjacent their ends to the adjacent corner posts by screws as shown at 45, or by other suitable means and are bowed outwardly a limited amount as clearly shown in Fig. 2. The bearing members 42 and 43 may be secured to the cross members 46 and 47 intermediate their ends, as shown in Fig. 2, by means of screws 48—48.

For locking the post member 36 in the desired position of vertical adjustment relative to the post member 37, the following described mechanism is provided. The post member 37 is slotted longitudinally intermediate the bearing members 38 and 39, as shown at 49 and a member 50 having a plurality of stops 51 formed therein is secured to the post member 37 by means of welding as shown at 52, with its stops 51 disposed opposite the slot 49 in the post member. A dog 53 is pivotally mounted at 54 in a mounting bracket 55 within the lower end of the inner tubular member 36, the mounting member 55 being in the form of an inverted U member and secured in place in the lower end of the tubular member in any suitable manner. The dog 53 is provided with a tooth portion 56 which is adapted to engage the stops 51 and another tooth portion 57 which engages the inside face of the adjacent portion of the inner tubular member 36, (see Fig. 4). The inner tubular member 36 is slotted as shown at 58 to permit the tooth portion 56 of the dog to project outwardly into engagement with said stops 51. It will be noted that the weight of the inner member 36 and the auxiliary top carried thereby normally tends to lower the member 36 in the outer member 37, and that the dog 53 is effective to prevent such lowering, the tooth 56 being effective to engage one of the stops 51, while the tooth 57 limits pivotal movement of the dog by engaging the adjacent portion of the inner tubular member.

A rod 59 is pivotally connected as shown at 60, to the dog 53, extends upwardly through an aperture 61 in the top portion 62 of the mounting member 55 and is provided adjacent its upper end with a bent over portion 63 for facilitating lifting of the rod 59. A compression spring 64 disposed around the rod 59 is interposed between the portion 62 of the mount 55 and the dog 53 so as to normally urge the rod downwardly, and the tooth portion 56 of the dog outwardly so as to engage the stops 51. It will be apparent that when the rod 59 is pulled upwardly, the dog 53 will be swung against the pressure of the spring 64 so as to clear the stops 51 and thereby to permit vertical adjustment of the post member 36.

The auxiliary table top 34 includes a frame work 65 which in the present instance consists of tubular metal members joined at their ends to form a rectangular frame of the desired dimensions, as clearly shown in Fig. 2. An intermediate tubular member 66 extends lengthwise of the top and is secured adjacent its outer end to the adjacent frame member by means of welding as shown at 67. The opposite end of the intermediate frame member 66 extends through the adjacent frame member as clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 4, and receives the shank portion 67 of a mounting bracket 68 as shown in Fig. 4. Screws 69—69 may be used for locking the shank 67 in place in the member 66 and the outer portion of the mount 68 is provided with a socket part 70, which is adapted to fit over the upper end of the post member 36. The mounting bracket 68 may be locked on the post member 36 by means of screws as shown at 71—71.

The table top 34 may be similar in construction to the main table top and includes a plate 72 which is welded to the frame 65, and a top member 73 which is removably mounted over the plate 72, a sheet of deadening material 74

being interposed between the top 73 and plate 72. The marginal portions of the plate 73 are turned downwardly as shown at 75, and one of the downturned portions is provided with an inwardly extending flange 76 which is adapted to fit under the adjacent portion of the frame 65 as shown in Fig. 2. Screws such as shown at 77—77 extending through the downturned portion opposite the flange 76 and into the adjacent frame portion, serve to lock the removable top in place. It will be understood that by removing the screws 77 the adjacent edge of the removable top member 73 may be moved upwardly, clear of the adjacent edge of the frame 65 after which the top may be moved laterally so as to free the flange 76 from the frame, after which the top may be removed for cleaning or other purposes, as desired.

The rod 59 projects through an aperture 78 in the mounting bracket 68 and a handle member 79 is secured to the bracket adjacent the upper end of the rod 59 so as to facilitate lifting of the auxiliary table top and releasing of the dog 53. It will be understood that the handle portion 79 may be gripped in such a way as to permit the bent end 63 of the rod 59 to be engaged by one finger, for instance, the index finger, so as to release the dog 53 and to permit raising or lowering of the auxiliary table top.

The lower end of the post member 37 is bent as shown in Fig. 1, to provide an offset foot portion 80 having a caster 81 secured thereto. The foot portion 80 is bent so as to project laterally from the post in the direction in which the table member 34 projects from the post so that the foot will be effective to prevent tipping of the main frame 10, which might otherwise occur due to the weight of the auxiliary table top when the latter is in offset position as shown in Fig. 1. It will be understood that the foot portion 80 turns with the post 35 and top 34, so that it is effective in all positions of adjustment of the auxiliary table top to prevent the main frame 10 from tipping.

I am aware that hospital tables may be made to embody the features of my invention in other forms, without departing from the spirit of the invention, the scope of which should be determined by reference to the following claims, which should be construed as broadly as possible consistent with the state of the art.

I claim as my invention:

1. In a hospital table, the combination of a main supporting frame, a main table top mounted on said frame, a vertically disposed post rotatably mounted on said frame adjacent one side thereof, an auxiliary table top mounted, adjacent one edge thereof, on said post and adapted to turn therewith so as to be movable from normal position overlying said main table top to offset position adjacent one side of the latter, and a foot member secured to the lower end of said post and projecting laterally therefrom so as to be positioned beneath said auxiliary top, said foot member being also adapted to turn with said post so as to effectively support said shiftable top in any position of adjustment of the latter, thereby to prevent tipping of the table when said shiftable top is in offset position.

2. In a hospital table, the combination of a support, a vertically disposed hollow post rotatably mounted on said support and comprising a pair of tubular members, one of said tubular members being telescoped within the other and adjustable lengthwise relative to the other member, means within said hollow post for locking said members in the desired position of longitudinal adjustment, a table top carried by one of said posts, and means for adjusting said locking means to permit raising or lowering of said table top.

3. In a hospital table, the combination of a support, a vertically disposed hollow post rotatably mounted on said support, said hollow post comprising a pair of tubular members, one telescoped within the other so as to form an extensible post and one of said tubular members being mounted on said support so as to be vertically stationary relative to the support, a table top secured to the other of said tubular members so as to be adjustable therewith relative to the vertically stationary member, means within said post for locking said tubular members in the desired position of vertical adjustment, and means outside of said post for releasing said locking means to permit such adjustment.

4. In a hospital table, the combination of a support, a hollow post rotatably mounted on said support and comprising a lower, vertically stationary tubular member rotatably mounted on said support, an upper tubular member telescoped within said lower member, rotatable therewith and slidable lengthwise therein so as to be vertically adjustable relative to said lower member, a plurality of spaced stops carried by said lower tubular member, a dog pivotally mounted within said upper member and adapted to engage said stops for locking the upper member in the desired position of vertical adjustment, means outside of said post for disengaging said dog from said stops so as to permit such adjustment of said upper member, and a table top secured to the upper end of said upper member so as to be vertically adjustable and horizontally rotatable therewith.

5. In a hospital table, the combination of a main supporting frame, a main table top secured to said frame, an auxiliary table top, means for mounting said auxiliary top on said frame so as to permit vertical and horizontal adjustment of said auxiliary top relative to said main top, said means comprising a vertically disposed, lower tubular member

rotatably mounted on said main frame and vertically stationary relative thereto, an upper tubular member, depending from said auxiliary top and telescoped within said lower member so as to be vertically adjustable relative thereto, means for locking said upper member in the desired position of vertical adjustment comprising a plurality of vertically spaced stops carried by said lower member on the inside thereof, a dog pivotally mounted inside of said upper member and adapted to engage said stops, spring means normally urging said dog into engagement with said stops and means adjacent the top of said auxiliary table top for disengaging said dog from said stops so as to permit vertical adjustment of said upper member and auxiliary top.

6. In combination with a table structure including a supporting frame and a table top mounted on the frame so as to be rotatable from a position overlying said frame to a position wherein the top projects laterally outwardly from the frame so that the weight thereof tends to overbalance and tip the frame, a leg connected to said top so as to be automatically shifted, as an incident to said rotation of the top, to stabilize and to prevent tipping of the frame when the table top is adjusted to said outwardly projecting position.

7. A device as defined in claim 2 wherein said tubular members are non-rotatable with respect to each other.

8. In a device of the class described, a support, a table top, a vertical member rotatably mounted on said support and carrying said table top, and laterally projecting means fixed to said vertical member adjacent its lower extremity for bracing and counterbalancing said table top, said means extending under said table top and adapted to bear against the floor and being rotatable with said vertical member, said table top being rotatable in a horizontal plane from a position overlying said support to an offset position and said vertical member being rotatable with said table top.

9. In a device of the class described, a support, a table top, a vertical member rotatably mounted on said support and carrying said table top, and laterally projecting means fixed to said vertical member adjacent its lower extremity for bracing and counterbalancing said table top, said means extending under said table top and adapted to bear against the floor and being rotatable with said vertical member, said table top being vertically adjustable independently of said counterbalancing means, and being rotatable in a horizontal plane from a position overlying said support to an offset position, and said vertical member being rotatable with said table top.

10. In a device of the class described, a support, a table top, a vertical member rotatably mounted on said support and carrying said table top, means connecting said table top to said vertical member, whereby said table top may be vertically adjusted relative to said vertical member without disturbing said vertical member, and laterally projecting means fixed to said vertical member adjacent its lower extremity for bracing and counterbalancing said table top, said means extending under said table top and adapted to bear against the floor, said table top being rotatable in a horizontal plane from a position overlying said support to an offset position, and said table top, vertical member, connecting means, and floor-engaging means being rotatable as a unit.

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