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G. SPALT.

COMBINED DINING AND OTHER TABLE FOR PLAYING GAMES.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 22, 1902.

NO MODEL.

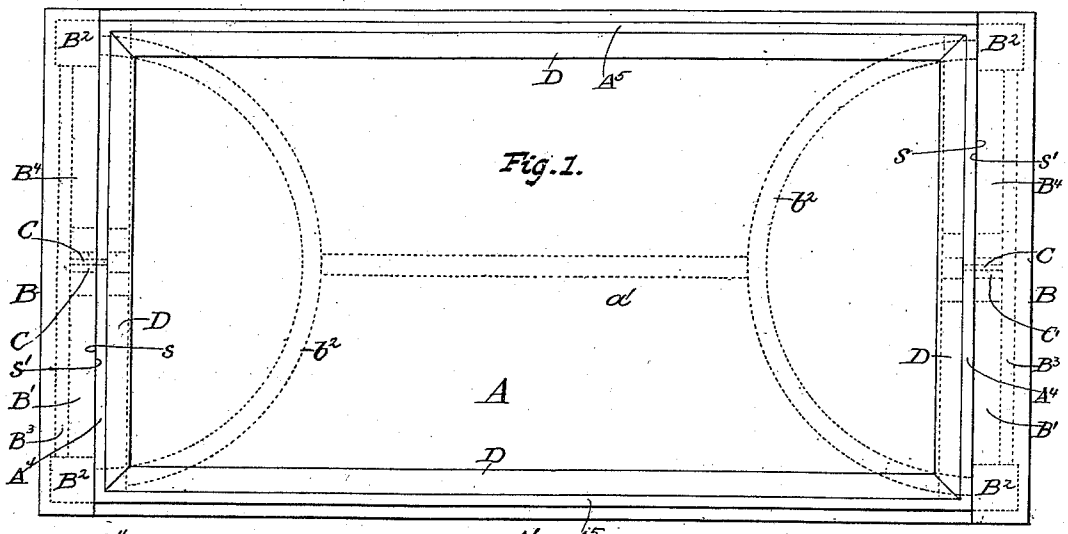


Fig. 1.

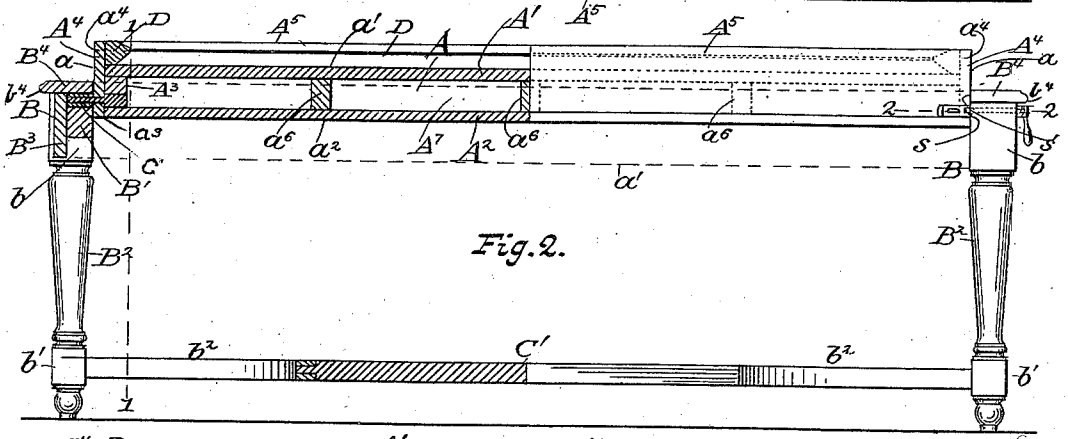


Fig. 2.

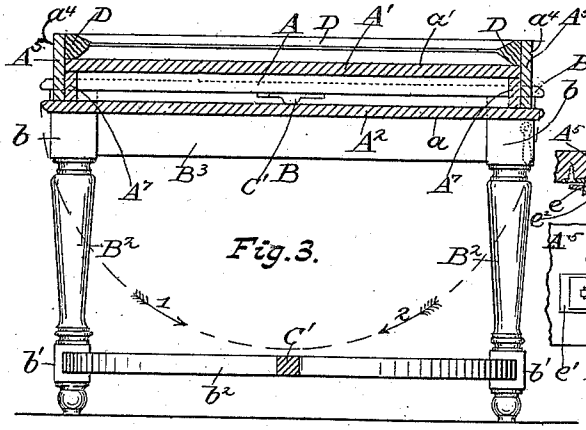


Fig. 3.

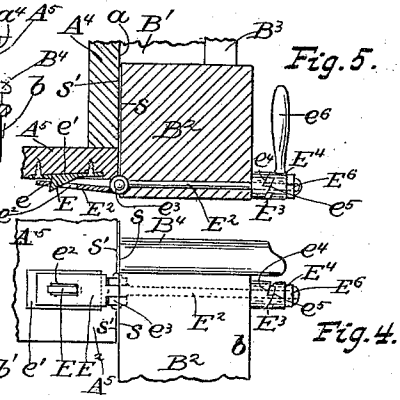


Fig. 5.

Fig. 4.

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No. 747,097. Patented December 15, 1903.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE SPALT, OF ALBANY, NEW YORK.

COMBINED DINING AND OTHER TABLE FOR PLAYING GAMES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 747,097, dated December 15, 1903.

Application filed January 22, 1902. Serial No. 90,792. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE SPALT, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Albany, in the county of Albany and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in a Combined Dining and other Table for Playing Games, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a combined dining and another table, which latter may be a table for playing billiards, pool, or other games employing balls; and it consists of the novel features of parts, construction, and combinations and arrangements of parts hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

The objects and advantages of this invention will be fully understood by the following description and claims when taken in connection with the drawings, in one sheet, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan of a table embodying this invention with game-playing table top side up. Fig. 2 is an elevation, part in section and illustrating devices and parts for reversal of the horizontal table-top surfaces at pleasure and for securing the table-top as adjusted from being accidentally changed. Fig. 3 is a section taken at line 1 in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a side view of the preferred form of clamping mechanism employed, and Fig. 5 is a section taken at line 2 in Fig. 2 and illustrating the same clamping mechanism.

Similar letters of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

In the drawings, A is a reversible table-top body made of length and width preferred or adapted to give to a horizontal table-top surface thereof suitable proportions as to width and length for playing billiards, pool, or other games in which a series of balls is a factor. In this description for convenience of expression I call horizontal floor A′ of the reversible table-top body A the "billiard-table" top and the horizontal floor A^2 of said body the "dining-table" top.

B B are vertical frames from which the table-top body A is suitably suspended by means of suitable trunnions or journals C, one between each end portion of said body A and an end frame B. These vertical end frames may be of any suitable form of construction adapted to stiffen them and give them strength and a pleasing appearance. The drawings show these end frames to be of similar construction and comprising each the horizontal end sill B′ and legs B^2 B^2, which are suitably joined to said sill, and the supplemental outer sill B^3 also having the outer ends thereof suitably joined to the upper portions b b of the said legs and suitably secured to the adjacent end sill B′ by glue or screws, or both combined. This supplemental sill B^3 serves the purpose of a reinforcing-piece to sill B′, to which it is secured, and also serves as a finish-rail to the frame. B^4 is a flat horizontal piece secured to the upper edges of sills B′ and B^3 by glue or screws, or both, as may be preferred. These vertical end frames B B are yoked together by a suitable connecting device C′, made with any preferred form of construction and strongly connected with lower portions b' b' of the legs of said frame, and the legs B^2 B^2 of each frame may have their lower ends held from spreading by means of a suitable tie-bar b^2, Fig. 3.

The reversible table-top body A is supported from its trunnions C C (indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 1 and shown by full lines in Fig. 2) and is of such construction as to prevent a sagging of said body or its getting out of shape by warpage of the same. I at the present time prefer to construct the said top body with the two horizontal floors A′ and A^2, (shown in Figs. 2 and 3,) end bars A^3, of suitable stiff hard wood, to which the material of said two floors A′ A^2 are rigidly secured by means of glue or screws or bolts, as may be preferred. These end bars A^3 have firmly secured to their outer sides the supplemental outer bars A^4, having their outer surfaces a at right angles to the surfaces a' a^3, respectively, of floors A′ A^2, while the lower edges a^3 of the said supplemental bars A^4 are on a plane with surface a^2 of the dining-table top A^2. These supplemental bars A^4, together with bars A^5, provided, respectively, at the sides of this table-top body, are made with a width which may extend a portion, as a^4, thereof to a suitable distance above the plane of surface a' of billiard-table top A′, so as to provide all around a guard of sufficient height above surface a' of the same for preventing balls from leaving said surface. Secured to the inner side of portions a^4 of the end bars

a are suitable strip-form cushions D, as are commonly employed in billiard-tables. In some cases this reversible table-top body is stiffened by means of several bars A^6 of width of end bars A^3, interposed between floors A′ and A^2 and to which the latter may be rigidly secured by gluing or screws, or both, while side bearing-pieces A^7 are secured to bars A^5 and have secured to them the lengthwise margin edges of the two floors A′ A^2, as shown in Fig. 3. The longitudinal margin of the dining-table floor A^2 is finished with a mold edge corresponding with the mold edge b^4 of end piece B^4, so that there will be a correspondence of finish of all the side and end edges of the table when the table-top floor A^2 is up and the floor A′ for billiard-table is down.

The trunnions C C may be of any suitable form of construction, and preferably consists of steel spindles c c, suitably secured in end bars A^3 and A^4 of the table-top body A at a point about midway between the ends of said bars, as shown in Fig. 3, and work in suitable bearings securely fastened in place in upper sides of frame-sills B′ and midway between the sides of the upper end portions of the legs B^2, as shown in Fig. 3. These trunnions C and their bearings are so placed in relation to the flat top horizontal piece B^4 of the respective end frames B B and the surface a^2 of the dining-floor top A^2 that when this table-top body is turned in either direction (indicated by arrows 1 and 2 in Fig. 3) the surface a^2 of floor A^2 will be up and on a plane with the top surfaces of horizontal flat pieces B^4 of said end frames, with the mold edges b^4 of said pieces registering with the mold edges of dining-floor top A^2, when the billiard-floor top A will be down, and the table may be used for a dining-table. A reversal of this table-top body A will be readily made that the table may serve as a billiard-table or pool-table by turning said body in either direction for carrying the billiard-top floor A′ up, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, when the table-top body A will have the major portion of depth above the plane of the upper surfaces of horizontal flat pieces B^4 of the end frames B B, as shown.

In this invention the table-top body A, being suspended from trunnions between the end frames B B and adapted to have its two floors A′ and A^2 reversible at pleasure in relation to the said end frames, is made to be a dual table-top, presenting two distinct and separate floors, each for a different use and purpose. One, A′, being for use for playing billiards or other games by balls and cues, is made to have its floor-surface a' on which the balls roll up on a plane above the upper surface of the horizontal flat pieces B^4 of the end frames, so as to be at proper height, while the other floor, A^2, being for use as a dining-table top, is made to have its floor-surface a^2 on a plane with the top surfaces of said flat pieces B^4 of the end frame, while the other floor, A′, with its side and end guards, cushions, &c., are beneath. To secure this dual table-top in place between the end frames B B, with the floor to be used up and horizontal and without liability of being accidentally turned in either direction, I provide suitable devices which are adapted to tightly clamp the inner surface s of each horizontal end sill tight against the outer surface s' of the respective end bars A^4 of the table-top body A, as clearly seen in Fig. 5. Although any suitable device adapted to draw the upper ends of the end surfaces tight against the ends of the top body A may be employed, yet I at present prefer to employ a holding and clamping mechanism, which is shown in Figs. 1, 4, and 5, one at each corner of this table. A description of one of these mechanisms will suffice for the others. This preferred mechanism comprises in one part the catch E, having a slightly inwardly inclined holding-surface e and integral with a suitable base-plate e', which is secured to the side bar A^5 at a proper place thereon, as shown in Figs. 2, 4, and 5; another part, the catch-engaging link E^2, provided with a suitable slot e^2, adapted to receive catch E and is provided with a suitable pivot-ear e^3; another part, the draw-rod E^2, hinged to ears e^3 of link E′; another part, the wedging device E^2, mounted on the outer end portion of draw-rod E^2 and provided with one or more inclines e^4, so as to be free to be moved on the same toward and from the side bar A^5, but held from revolving in either direction, another part consisting of a revolving wedging device E^4, provided with one or more inclines e^5 for coaction with a similar number of the inclines e^4 of the wedging device E^3, and also provided with a suitable lever-form handle e^6 for operating this revolving wedging device, and another part, a suitable screw-threaded set-nut E^6, which may be moved in either direction on the outer end portion of said draw-rod E for setting the revolving wedging device E^4. By this above-described clamping mechanism, one at each corner of the table and relatively at the upper portions of the respective legs B^2, this dual table-top may be rigidly secured from being accidentally moved in either direction from the order of arrangement of its respective floors A′ A^2, which said top may be adjusted to.

Having described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a combined dining and another table for playing games, the combination with two end frames adapted to stand vertically, and a yoking mechanism adapted to yoke said end frames together at their lower end portion, of a dual table-top having one side comprising a dining-table top and the opposite side thereof a table-top adapted to serve as a table on which to play billiards, &c., trunnions between the respective ends of said dual table-top and the vertical end frames, and at a line coincident with the line of middle of width of

said table-top and width of said end frames whereby said table-top may at pleasure have its dining-table top, and billiard-table top turned at pleasure, uppermost, and mechanism adapted to clamp the table, comprising a catch secured to the table, a coacting catch supported by the end frame, a draw-rod carrying said coacting catch, and a revoluble handle adapted to operate said draw-rod to secure coaction of said catches.

2. In a combined dining and another table for playing games, the combination with a dual table-top comprising a floor for service as a top of a dining-table and an opposite side floor for service as a top of a billiard-table, two supporting-frames comprising each two vertical legs and a horizontal upper end piece which is secured by its ends, to the upper end portions of said legs, pieces securing the lower end portions of the legs of each frame to the corresponding lower end portions of the legs of the other frame, and trunnions between each of said vertical frames and the adjoining ends of said dual table-top, and having their axial lines coincident with each other and with the line of middle of width of said table-top, of clamping mechanisms at each corner of the table, each of said mechanisms being formed by the combination with a catch secured to the end portion of the side bars, a coacting catch adapted to engage with the said catch, draw-rod jointed on the coacting catch, wedging device movable lengthwise on said draw-rod, revolving wedge device provided with a handle adapted to revolve the same and a set-nut screwing on the outer end of the said draw-rod, as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a combined dining and another table, the combination with two vertical end frames, a dual table-top, trunnions supporting the said table-top from a point coincident with the line of width of said table-top, and middle of width of said frames and connecting-pieces holding with lower portions of each of said frames, of mechanism at each corner of the table, comprising a catch, a link provided with a slot adapted to engage with said catch, a draw-rod pivoted to the said link, a wedging device provided with a series of inclines mounted on the outer end portions of said draw-rod and movable in direction of the length of the same, a revoluble wedging device provided with inclines adapted to coöperate with the inclines on the draw-rod and mounted on the said draw-rod outside said longitudinal moving wedging device, and provided with a handle, and a set-nut screwing on the outer end of said draw-rod, the catch being secured to a side bar of said table at a corner thereof, and the draw-bar passing through the upper portion of an upright part of the frame, as and for the purpose set forth.

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Witnesses:
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