Dec. 4, 1956 W. B. PARMELE 2,772,886

CARD TABLE COVERS

Filed Nov. 10, 1954

FIG. 1

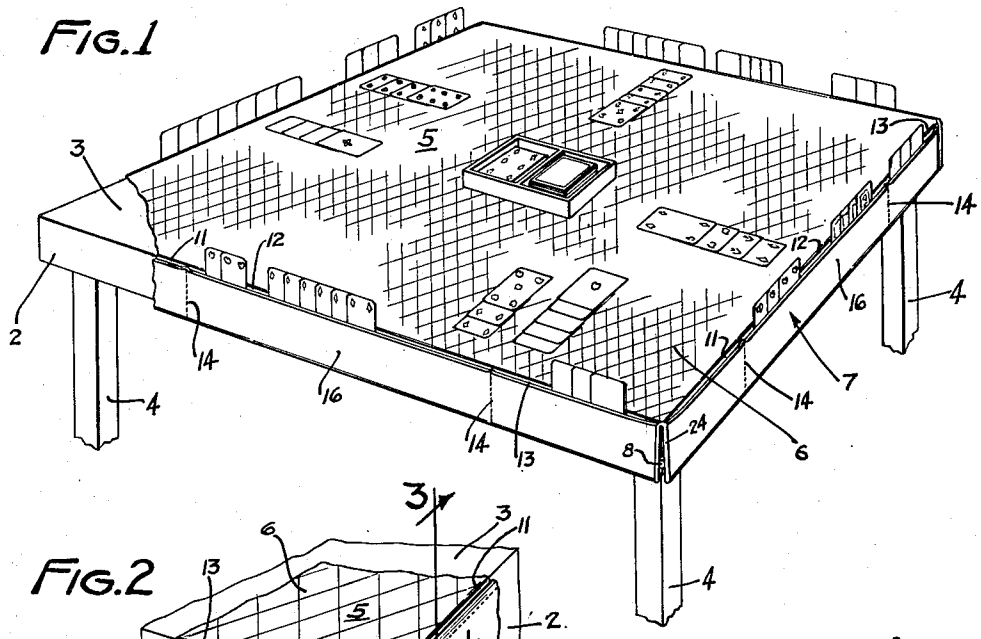


FIG. 2

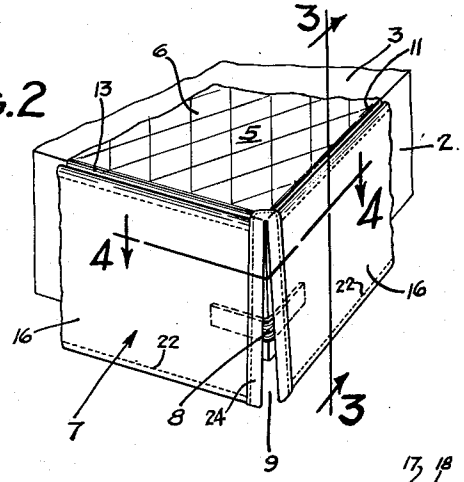
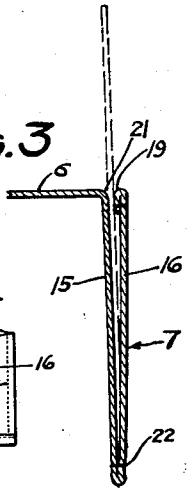


FIG. 3



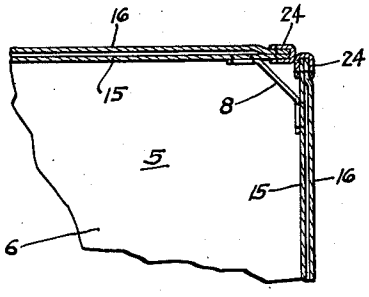


FIG. 4

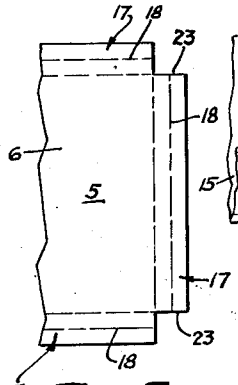


FIG. 5

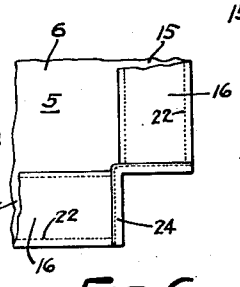


FIG. 6

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CARD TABLE COVERS

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2 Claims. (Cl. 273—136)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in card table covers, and is directed more particularly to a card table cover having means in its longitudinal side edges for holding cards in playing positions for the individual players.

Certain card games such as "Canasta," "Samba" and others requiring two or more decks of fifty-two cards each, in the playing thereof, can present quite a problem at times relative to the manual holding of the cards. For example, when playing "Canasta," should a player be unsuccessful in picking cards from the "pack" which will enable him to fill certain card combinations in his hand, he may eventually accumulate so many cards in his hands that it becomes exceedingly difficult for him to so arrange the cards in his hands that he may quickly note, at all times, just what cards he is holding, which is of utmost importance, particularly when it becomes his turn to play.

An important object of the present invention, therefore, is to provide a card table cover having means embodied in its usual peripheral skirt for holding cards in playing positions before players seated around the table, if deemed necessary, to relieve a player's hands of an excess number of cards.

A further object of the invention is to provide a card table cover provided along each of its longitudinal side edges with means adapted to support a plurality of cards and/or groups of cards in upright playing positions, whereby the various players seated around the table may, if they find the cards accumulating in their hands to the extent that they become difficult to conveniently manipulate in playing the game, remove some of the cards from their hands and place them in the card-holding means provided in their respective sides of the card table cover, whereby all player's cards are constantly visible to him, so that he may quickly determine the proper card to play.

A further object of the invention is to provide a card table cover having a plurality of card-holding pockets embodied in each of its longitudinal side edges adapted to hold cards in playing positions, when playing such games as "Canasta," "Samba," etc., which pockets are normally substantially concealed from sight, whereby the card table cover may be utilized for playing bridge and other conventional card games, as will be understood.

Other objects of the invention reside in the provision of a card table cover having a plurality of longitudinally spaced card-holding pockets in the peripheral skirt thereof for supporting cards and/or groups of cards in playing positions to facilitate playing certain card games; in the specific manner of folding the marginal edge portions of the blank from which the table cover is constructed, thereby to form the card-holding pockets; and in the provision of a card table cover of the class described which is of simple, inexpensive construction to facilitate manufacture in quantity production, and readily lends itself for use in the playing of all conventional card games, particularly card games such as "Canasta" and "Samba,"

which require two or more complete decks of conventional playing cards to play the game.

Other objects of this invention will become apparent as the description proceeds.

In the accompanying drawings there has been disclosed a structure designed to carry out the various objects of the invention, but it is to be understood that the invention is not confined to the exact features shown, as various changes may be made within the scope of the claims which follow.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a card table top showing the improved cover applied thereto;

Figure 2 is a fragmentary view in perspective on an enlarged scale, illustrating the preferred manner of constructing the corners of the depending peripheral skirt of the cover;

Figure 3 is an enlarged detail sectional view on the line 3—3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a detail sectional view on the line 4—4 of Figure 2;

Figure 5 is a view showing the blank from which the cover is made; and

Figure 6 is a view showing the marginal edges of the blank folded upon themselves in the formation of the card-holding pockets.

In the selected embodiment of the invention herein disclosed, there is illustrated in Figure 1 for purposes of disclosure, a portion of a conventional card table comprising the usual frame 2, table top 3 and supporting legs 4. The legs are pivotally connected to the frame 2 by suitable means not shown, whereby the legs may be folded flatly against the bottom of the table to facilitate storage, as is well-known in the art.

The novel card table cover herein disclosed is generally designated by the numeral 5, and comprises a top portion or panel 6 adapted to overlie the top 3 of the table, and having a peripheral skirt, generally designated by the numeral 7. The skirt, as is customary in card table covers, is adapted to be fitted over the edges of the card table top, as shown in Figures 1 and 2, whereby the entire top of the card table may be substantially concealed by the table cover.

To facilitate securing the table cover in position on the table top, suitable elastic tapes 8 may be provided at the corners of the table cover, as illustrated in Figure 2, which are so arranged that they constantly exert a pull on the various sections of the skirt, thereby to hold the table cover taut over the table top. In the construction shown in Figures 1 and 2, the skirt 7 is open, or vertically slitted at the corners of the table, as indicated at 9 in Figure 2, to facilitate slipping the cover over the table top. In other words, by slitting the skirt at the corners of the table cover, as indicated at 9, it may readily be stretched over the edges of the card table, after which the elastic tapes will draw the skirt snugly into contact with the frame or edge 2 of the card table, as is well-known.

In Figure 2, the elastic tapes 8 are shown located at such an elevation that they engage the corners of the frame of the card table. In some instances, it may be found more desirable to locate the tapes at an elevation below the frame of the card table, whereby they may draw the lower edge portions of the skirt partially under the corners of the table when the cover is applied thereto.

As hereinbefore stated, one of the outstanding features of the present invention resides in the construction of the peripheral skirt of the table cover, and particularly in the embodiment of means therein for supporting cards or groups of cards in an upright playing position in front of each player seated around the table.

In such games, as "Canasta," "Samba" and "Bolivia,"

which require at least two complete decks of fifty-two cards each in playing the game, the number of cards held in each player's hands may, in some instances, accumulate to such an extent that it may become extremely difficult for a player to note the values of the cards which he holds, which may cause him to overlook certain card combinations or single cards which could be removed from his hands and placed on the table as the game progresses.

The means provided for thus supporting cards or groups of cards in playing positions in the skirt in front of each player is shown comprising a plurality of upwardly facing, longitudinally aligned pockets or slits **11**, **12** and **13**, as clearly indicated in Figure 2. The pockets **11**, **12** and **13** are separated from one another by suitable means such as vertical rows of stitches **14**, which secure together the inner and outer walls **15** and **16** of the skirt, and thus separate the pockets **11**, **12** and **13** from one another.

In the drawing the card table cover **5** is shown formed from a single blank of textile fabric, preferably shaped as shown in Figure 5, whereby each side of the body of the blank is provided with a longitudinally extending skirt-forming portion **17**. To form the pockets, each skirt-forming portion **17** is folded upon itself along a fold line **18** to the position shown in Figure 3. Before folding the skirt-forming portions **17** upon themselves, the outer longitudinal edge of each portion **17** is preferably hemmed, as shown at **19** in Figure 3, thereby to provide smooth selvaged top edges for the outer walls **16** of the pockets, as will be understood by reference to Figure 3.

If desired, a longitudinally extending seam **22** may be provided along the lower marginal edge of the pocket-forming member, as indicated in Figure 3. After the skirt-forming portions have been folded upon themselves, the end portions **23** thereof are sewn together to retain the portions **17** in their folded positions, after which suitable bindings **24** may be secured to the end edges of the skirt-forming portions, as best illustrated in Figure 6, thereby completely closing the adjacent ends of the end pockets **11** and **13**, as will be understood.

In the drawing, the skirt-forming portions of the card table cover are shown constituting an integral part of the table cover top panel **6**. In some instances, the outer walls **16** of the skirt may be formed from an independent strip of material which is sewn to the inner wall member **15** along their lower marginal edges, as shown in Figure 3. It is also to be understood that the corner construction of the card table cover herein disclosed may be varied in numerous ways without departing from the scope of the invention. The number of pockets provided in each skirt section may also be varied, if desired.

It is to be understood that the card table cover **5** may be made of any desired sheet material applicable for the purpose without departing from the scope of the invention. In some instances, it may also be found desirable to make the peripheral card-holding skirt portion **7** independently of the table top cover. When so constructed, the skirt portion **7** could be in the form of an annular endless elastic member adapted to be stretched over the marginal edge of the card table top and supported thereon by the inherent elasticity of the material from which it is made. It could also be made in the form of an elongated strap-like member adapted to be fitted against the edge of the card table top and detachably secured thereto by suitable means, such as a releasable adhesive, of which there are several available on the market.

The novel card table cover herein disclosed has the general appearance of a conventional card table, as the pockets **11**, **12** and **13** are substantially concealed, when empty of cards or other articles. The pockets may, if desired, be utilized for holding other articles, such as a score pad and pencil, etc.

The foregoing detailed description has been given for clearness of understanding only, and no unnecessary limitations should be understood therefrom, but the appended claims should be construed as broadly as permissible in view of the prior art.

I claim as my invention:

1. A flexible attachment for a card table, said card table having a flat top surface bounded by a surrounding narrow edge portion depending vertically therefrom, said edge portion having a plurality of straight side portions and a vertically disposed corner at each juncture of said side portions, comprising: a flexible skirt formed to overlie and snugly fit said edge portion all around said table, said skirt comprising a plurality of sections, one for each of said side portions, each said section comprising an inner wall for overlying one of said side portions and an outer wall attached to the lower edge of said inner wall and extending upwardly therefrom substantially the height of said inner wall, said outer wall being attached to said inner wall between the top and bottom thereof at points spaced along said section to form narrow vertically disposed pockets open at the top and adapted to hold playing cards with their upper portions extending above the top of said section so that the indicia of said cards is visible, said section having opposite end edges shaped to lie rsepectively along the vertically disposed corners at the opposite ends of said one of said side portions, and means for holding said skirt against said narrow edge portion with each said skirt section end edge in position closely adjacent the respective corners of said edge portion.

2. A flexible attachment in accordance with claim 1 comprising a flexible top panel portion adapted to overlie said flat top surface of said table, said flexible skirt depending from said top panel portion.

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