July 19, 1932. L. ROSE 1,867,763

HOSPITAL TABLE

Filed Feb. 6, 1930 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1

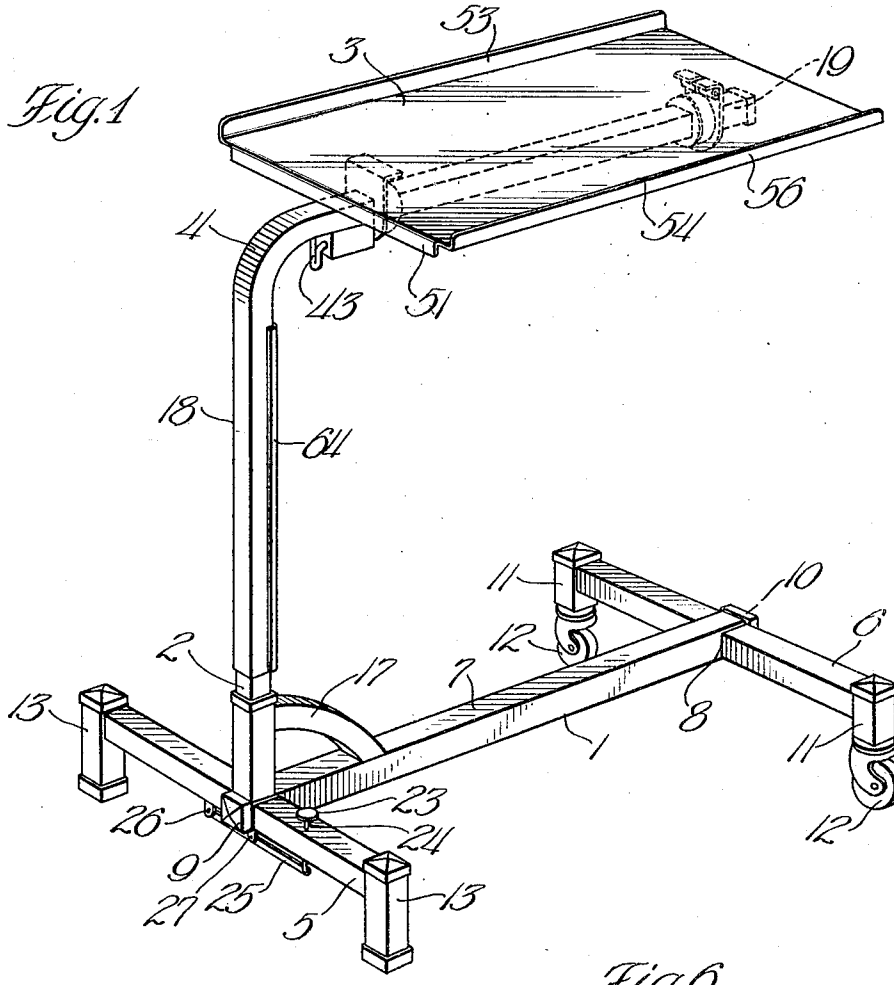
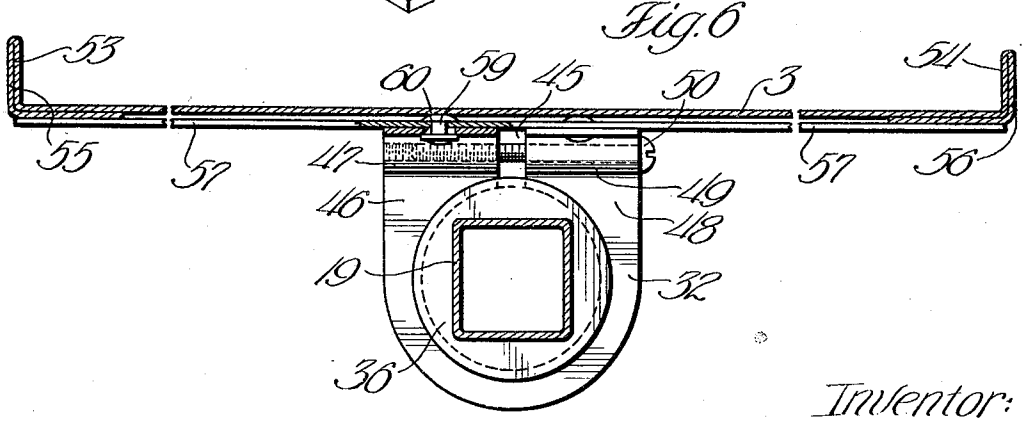


Fig. 6



Inventor:
Lamar Rose
By: Fisher, Clapp, Soans & Pond
Attys.

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Fig. 2

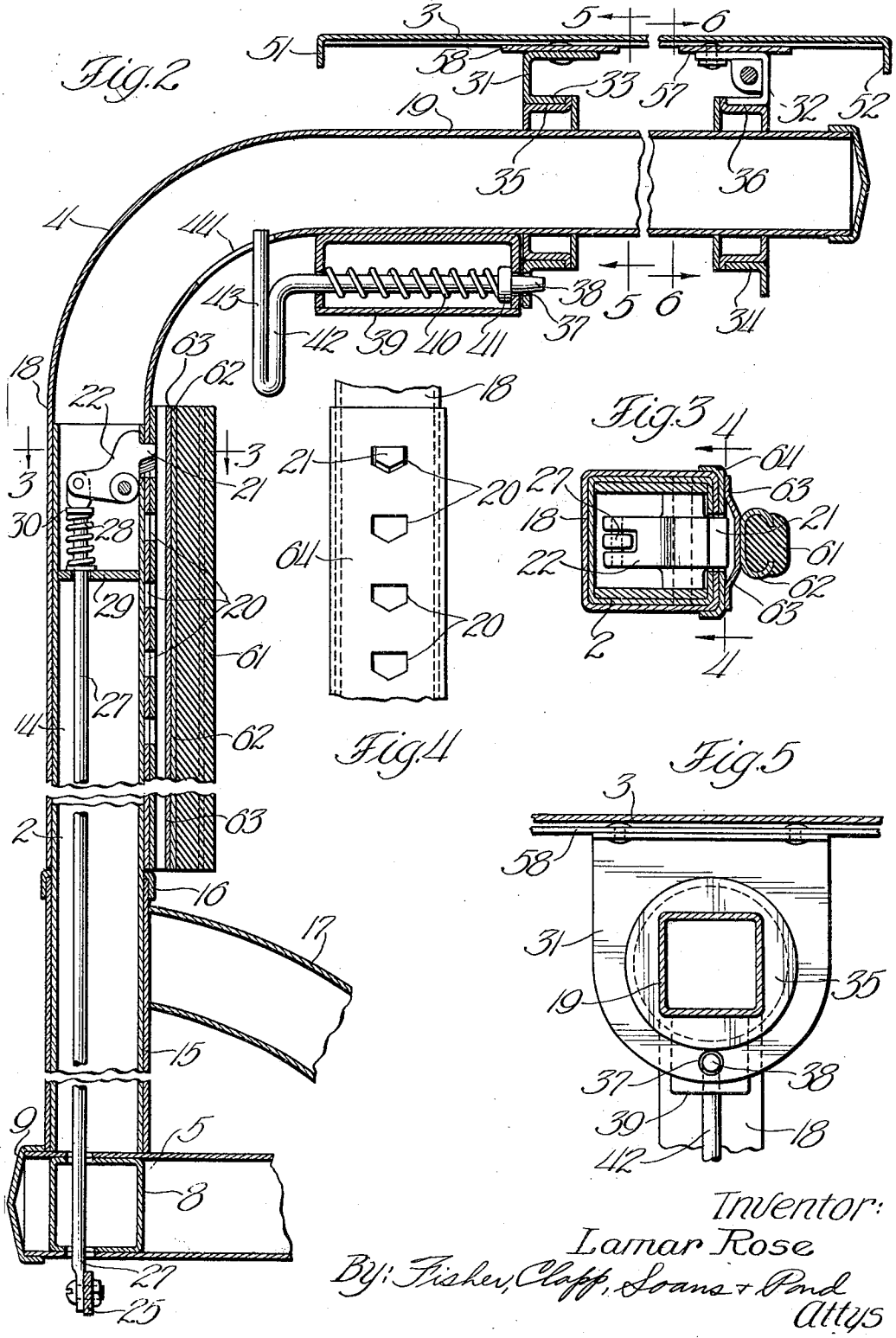


Fig. 4

Fig. 3

Fig. 5

Inventor:
Lamar Rose
By: Fisher, Cluff, Loans + Pond
Attys

Patented July 19, 1932 1,867,763

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

LAMAR ROSE, OF KENOSHA, WISCONSIN, ASSIGNOR TO SIMMONS COMPANY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF DELAWARE

HOSPITAL TABLE

Application filed February 6, 1930. Serial No. 426,218.

This invention relates to hospital tables or over-the-bed tables such as are used in hospitals, institutions and other places for the convenience of a person confined to a bed.

The objects of the invention are to provide a freely mobile or portable table of the class described; to provide such a portable table which will maintain itself in prearranged position and which will not be apt to roll, slide, or otherwise move out of the desired position by accident; to provide such a table which is readily adjustable vertically to suit various requirements as to height; to provide a table in which the table-top is pivotally adjustable about a horizontal axis so as to further suit the convenience of the person using the table; to provide improved means for maintaining the table-top in normal horizontal position and also in any desired pivotally adjusted position; to provide a structure in which the upper surface of the table-top is free from projections, indentations, or the like; to provide a hospital table structure which is comparatively light in weight, while being strong and rigid, and cheap and economical to manufacture; and, in general, it is the object of my invention to provide an improved table structure of the class described.

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 construction according to my invention.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective.

Fig. 2 is a vertical section through the supporting post and table-top on an enlarged scale.

Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Figs. 5 and 6 are sections on the lines 5—5 and 6—6, respectively, of Fig. 2.

Referring now to the drawings, my improved hospital table includes a base element 1, a supporting post 2, a table-top 3, and means indicated at 4 for vertically adjustably mounting the table-top 3 on the post 2.

The base 1, in the present instance, includes a pair of substantially parallel spaced end members 5 and 6 which are rigidly connected by means of a connecting bar 7 which extends between and is secured at its opposite ends to said end members 5 and 6. As shown, the connecting member 7 is disposed intermediate the ends of the respective end members 5 and 6. In the present instance, the base is formed of tubular metal members and the connecting member 7 is slightly larger in cross-sectional dimensions than the end members 5 and 6. The connecting member 7 is provided with openings at its opposite ends, such as indicated at 8, through which the end members 5 and 6 pass, as clearly indicated in Figure 1. These parts may be rigidly secured together in any suitable manner, for instance, by welding. End caps, such as shown at 9 and 10, may be provided for closing the opposite ends of the connecting member 7 and for improving the general appearance of the structure.

At the ends of the base end member 6, I provide vertically disposed foot members 11—11 for receiving casters 12—12 by means of which the table is adapted to be moved about.

On the ends of the base member 5, I provide foot members 13—13, which are preferably of a length equal to the combined length of the foot members 11—11 and the casters 12—12, so that the base as a whole is maintained in a substantially horizontal position. Any suitable form of floor-engaging caps may be provided on the lower ends of the foot members 13—13, and more or less ornamental caps may be provided on the upper ends of all of the foot members as clearly shown in Figure 1.

The post member 2 extends upwardly from the base end member 5 and preferably from the intersection between the connecting member 7 and end member 5. The post member includes an inner tubular metal member 14 and an outer, lower end reinforcing sleeve 15, which is provided with a trimming 16 at its upper end. These parts are rigidly secured to the base by means of welding or otherwise at their lower ends, and a brace 17 extending diagonally from the post to the

base part 7 is provided for reinforcing the connection between the post and base.

The table-mounting means 4 consists of a tubular metal member bent so as to provide a vertically disposed leg 18 which telescopes over the post member 14 and a horizontal leg 19 on which the table-top 3 is mounted. One wall of the tubular leg member 18 is provided with a series of vertically spaced openings, such as indicated at 20, for receiving the jaw portion 21 of a locking dog 22 which is pivotally mounted inside of the post member 14 adjacent the upper end of the latter. The locking dog 22 may conveniently be controlled by means of a pedal or button 23 carried by a rod 24 which is slidably mounted in suitable openings provided in the top and bottom walls of the end member 5 of the base. The rod 24 is pivotally connected to an arm 25 which extends lengthwise under the end member 5 and is pivoted thereto, as indicated at 26. Intermediate its ends, the arm 25 is pivotally connected to a rod 27 which extends upwardly inside of the post member 14, as clearly shown in Figure 2, and which is pivotally connected at its upper end to the locking dog. A spring 28 disposed between a bearing plate 29 inside of the post member 14 and a stop 30 carried by the rod 27 serves to normally urge the rod upwardly and to move the jaw 21 of the locking dog outwardly into engagement with one of the openings 20 in the leg 18. The jaw 21 of the locking dog is preferably beveled so that the jaw may be readily displaced merely by lifting upwardly on the table-mounting part 4, while downward movement of the latter is positively prevented except when the button 23 is depressed to withdraw the jaw of the locking dog.

In the present instance, the base and the table-mounting means are formed of square or rectangular tubular metal. Obviously, the parts are not rotatable relative to each other, whereby the leg 19 of the mounting means 4 is maintained in normal position; i. e., extending laterally from the post into position overlying the base.

The table-top 3 is pivotally adjustably mounted on the leg 19 by means of bracket or bearing members 31 and 32 which are formed with annular flanges 33 and 34, respectively. The annular flanges 33 and 34 fit over drum-like mounts 35 and 36, respectively, so that the bearing members 31 and 32 are rotatable with respect to the said mounts and with respect to the leg 19. The mounts 35 and 36 are rigidly secured to the leg 19 in any suitable manner, for instance, by welding.

For maintaining the table in normal horizontal position, the bearing member 31 is provided with an opening 37 which is adapted to receive one end of a spring-pressed locking element 38. The locking element 38 is slidably mounted in a box-like bracket 39 which is secured to the under side of the leg 19, and a spring 40 for normally urging the locking rod 38 outwardly is disposed between a collar 41 carried by the locking rod 38 and the opposite end wall of the bracket 39. The locking rod 38 is provided with a handle part 42 which is formed by bending the rod 38, and a rebent end portion 43 extends upwardly into a slot 44 provided in the leg 19 whereby the locking rod is held against rotation and the handle 42 maintained in predetermined readily accessible position.

The table may be locked in various pivotally adjusted positions by providing a plurality of circumferentially spaced openings adapted to receive the locking rod 38, but I prefer to provide friction means for holding the table in its various positions of pivotal adjustment. In the present instance, the frictional holding means is provided by splitting the bracket or bearing member 32, as indicated at 45, and providing one leg 46 with a threaded nut element 47 and the other leg 48 with a sleeve 49. A clamping screw 50, passing freely through the sleeve 49 and threadedly engaging the nut 47, serves to tighten the split clamping element around its mount 3, and it will be obvious that the holding effect of the split member 32 may be adjusted as desired.

The table top 3 may conveniently be made of sheet metal of the desired thickness, and it is preferably provided with down-turned end flanges, such as indicated at 51 and 52, and upturned side flanges 53 and 54. In order to provide a smooth edge on the upturned flanges 53 and 54, and also for the purpose of strengthening the structure, marginal side portions of the table-top are re-bent as indicated at 55 and 56 so as to form two-ply side edge portions.

Cross brackets or straps 57 and 58 are secured at their ends to the re-bent marginal portions underneath the table top as clearly shown in Figure 6, and the mounting bearings or brackets 31 and 32 are preferably secured to these cross bars, thereby avoiding the use of fastening means visible on the upper side of the table top. As clearly shown in Fig. 5, the bracket member 31 is secured to the cross bar 58 by means of rivets, and as shown in Figure 6 the bracket 32 is secured to the cross bar 57 in a similar manner. In order to permit adjustment of the holding power of the bracket 32 on the drum 36, the leg 46 of the bracket 32 is adjustably secured to the bar 57 by means of a rivet 59 which passes through a slot 60 provided in the leg 46. The thickness of the cross bars 57 and 58 may be such that the bars will suitable strengthen the table-top and the upper heads of the rivets by which the brackets 31 and 32 are secured to the bars may conveniently be of such thickness that the table-top will rest thereon and thereby be supported against sagging.

It will be apparent that the above described table structure is adapted to be positioned with respect to a bed by rolling the base 1 under the bed until the post 2 is disposed closely adjacent one side of the bed. The table 3 will then be positioned over the bed in position overlying the base 1. The foot members 13—13 of the base, which frictionally engage the floor, will, of course, prevent the table structure from being accidentally moved out of its prearranged position. To move the table, it is merely necessary to lift the friction-footed end off the floor slightly, after which the structure may readily be rolled on its casters 12—12.

For preventing scratching or otherwise marring the bed structure, I provide a cushion element 61 on the table post, as clearly shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3. This cushion may be of any suitable material and may be anchored in a channel member 62 which is carried by a bridging strip 63. The bridging strip 63 is more or less trough-shaped, as clearly shown in Figure 3, so as to bridge over the openings through which the locking jaw 21 projects and so that normal operation of the locking jaw is not interfered with. A channel-mounting strip 64 is secured to the leg 18 and the bridging strip 63 is in turn secured to the said mounting strip. The openings 20 in the leg 18 are extended through the mounting strip 64, as clearly shown in Figures 2, 3 and 4, so as to permit the locking dog to move outwardly to its full locking position, as shown in Figure 2.

The hospital table structure above described is exceptionally light in weight so that the same is easy to move from one place to another, while also being exceedingly strong, rigid and durable. The structure is also easy to keep clean by reason of its plane surfaces which may be coated with enamel, porcelain, or other appropriate material.

In addition to being convenient for manipulation by attendants, the table is readily adjustable as to height and inclination by the occupant of a bed. The height of the table may be increased merely by raising the table-top and mounting post, since the locking dog is automatically disengageable by such upward movement. Inclination of the table is readily adjusted from positively locked horizontal position, to the desired position, since the locking member is disposed adjacent one end of the table-top in a position accessible to the bed occupant.

I am aware that changes may be made in the above-described structure without departing from the spirit of my invention, the scope of which should be determined by reference to the following claims, the same being 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 tubular post, a base for supporting said post, said post extending upwardly from and being secured to said base at one end of the latter whereby the base is adapted to be disposed under a bed in transversely extending position relative thereto and with the post disposed adjacent one side of the bed, a table overlying said base, means for vertically adjustably mounting said table on said post, and disengageable means disposed inside of and adjacent the upper end of said post for locking said vertically adjustable mounting means in selected position of vertical adjustment.

2. In a hospital table, the combination of an upright post, a base for supporting said post, said post extending upwardly from and being secured to said base at one end of the latter whereby the base is adapted to be disposed under a bed in transversely extending position relative thereto and with the post disposed adjacent one side of the bed, a table overlying said base, means for vertically adjustably mounting said table on said post, disengageable means for locking said vertically adjustable mounting means in adjusted position, and pedal means for facilitating disengagement of said locking means.

3. In a hospital table, the combination of an upright post, a base for supporting said post, said post extending upwardly from and being secured to said base at one end of the latter whereby the base is adapted to be disposed under a bed in transversely extending position relative thereto and with the post disposed adjacent one side of the bed, a table overlying said base, means for vertically adjustably mounting said table on said post, disengageable means for locking said vertically adjustable mounting means in adjusted position, and pedal means carried by said base for facilitating disengagement of said locking means.

4. In a hospital table, the combination of an upright post, a base for supporting said post, said post extending upwardly from and being secured to said base at one end of the latter whereby the base is adapted to be disposed under a bed, in transversely extending position relative thereto, with the post disposed adjacent one side of the bed, a table, means for mounting said table on said post so as to permit pivotal adjustment of the table about a normally horizontal axis, positive locking means for holding said table in predetermined fixed position, and friction means for holding said table in pivotally adjusted position.

5. In a hospital table, the combination of an upright post, a base for supporting said post, said post extending upwardly from and being secured to said base at one end of the latter whereby the base is adapted to be disposed under a bed in transversely extending position relative thereto, with the post dis-

posed adjacent one side of the bed, a table, means for mounting said table on said post so as to permit pivotal adjustment of the table about a normally horizontal axis, and positive locking means for holding said table in horizontal position, and friction means for holding the table in selected angular position of pivotal adjustment.

6. In a hospital table, the combination of a base, a table top, means carried by said base for supporting said table top, said table top comprising a sheet metal member having a side portion re-bent to form a two-ply, stiffened marginal portion, said marginal portion being further bent intermediate its edges to form a flange at one side edge of said top.

7. In a hospital table, the combination of a base, a table top comprising a sheet metal member having its side portions re-bent to form two-ply, stiffened, marginal portions, said marginal portions being further bent to form flanges at the side edges of said top, vertically adjustable means carried by said base for supporting said table top, said means including a normally horizontal bar disposed under said table top, and means for mounting said table top on said bar comprising a bracket under said top extending transversely thereof and having its ends secured to said stiffened marginal portions, and means connecting said bracket with said bar.

8. In a table structure, the combination of a normally horizontally disposed supporting member, a table top mounted on said supporting member so as to be pivotally adjustable about the axis thereof, means for so mounting said table comprising a split clamping ring adapted to be clamped around said supporting member, one end of said ring being fixedly secured to said table top and the other end being adjustably secured thereto, and means for adjusting said split clamping ring to adjust the holding effect thereof.

9. In a table structure, the combination of a normally horizontally disposed supporting member, a table top mounted on said supporting member so as to be pivotally adjustable about the axis thereof, means for so mounting said table comprising a bracket member secured to the under side of said table top and having a portion spaced from said under side, a split clamping ring adapted to be clamped around said supporting member, means for adjusting said split clamping ring to adjust the holding effect thereof, and means connecting the ends of said clamping ring to said bracket, one end of said split ring being fixedly secured and the other end being adjustably connected thereto so as to permit adjustment of said holding effect, the space between said bracket member and the under side of said table top serving to receive portions of said connecting means.

10. In a hospital table of the class described, a base for supporting the table comprising a tubular metal structure including a pair of substantially parallel, spaced end members, a connecting member extending between and secured to said end members intermediate the ends of the latter, said connecting member being provided with openings in its opposite ends through which said end members extend, and foot members secured to the ends of said end members.

11. In a hospital table of the class described, a base for supporting the table comprising a tubular metal structure including a pair of substantially parallel, spaced end members, a connecting member extending between and secured to said end members intermediate the ends of the latter, said connecting member being provided with openings in its opposite ends through which said end members extend, foot members secured to the ends of said end members, a post secured to said base and extending upwardly from the intersection of said connecting member and one of said end members, and a brace extending diagonally between and secured at its ends to said post and connecting member.

12. In a hospital table, the combination of a base, a hollow post secured to and extending upwardly from said base at one end of the latter, whereby the base is adapted to be disposed under a bed in a transversely extending position relative thereto, with the post disposed adjacent one side of the bed, a table overlying said base, a hollow post depending from said table and telescoping over said first-mentioned post, disengageable means mounted within said first-mentioned post adjacent its upper end for locking said depending post in selected position of vertical adjustment relative to said first-mentioned post, lock-operating means within said posts, extending downwardly from said locking means to said base, and a pedal connected to said operating means for facilitating actuation thereof.

13. In a hospital table, the combination of a base, a post secured to and extending upwardly from said base at one end thereof, a second post telescopically fitting said upright post and having an arm extending horizontally therefrom over said base, a table top, means for mounting said table top on said arm so as to permit pivotal adjustment thereof about said arm, and means for locking said table in predetermined position comprising a bracket element carried by said table and a spring-pressed plunger adapted to be interlocked with said bracket element, said plunger being mounted on said arm for movement longitudinally thereof and having a laterally extending handle portion, said arm being provided with an elongated opening and said handle having a portion slidably fitting in said elongated opening to lock the handle in predetermined position.

14. In a table structure of the class de-

scribed, the combination of a base, a table top comprising a sheet metal member having downwardly rebent side portions forming two-ply, stiffened marginal portions, vertically adjustable means carried by said base for supporting said table top, the said means including a normally horizontal bar disposed under said table top, a bracket member extending transversely of said top in spaced relation to the bottom side thereof intermediate said rebent marginal portions and secured to the latter, a split clamping ring fitting around a portion of said horizontal bar, means connecting the ends of said clamping ring to said bracket, one end of said split ring being fixedly secured and the other end being adjustably connected to said bracket, and means for adjusting said split clamping ring to adjust the holding effect thereof, the space between said bracket member and the under side of said table top and intermediate said rebent marginal portions serving to receive portions of said split-ring connecting means.

LAMAR ROSE.