Sept. 13, 1932. M. BOTHWELL 1,876,559

COUNTERSUNK ASH TRAY FOR CARD TABLES

Filed June 13, 1930

Fig. 1.

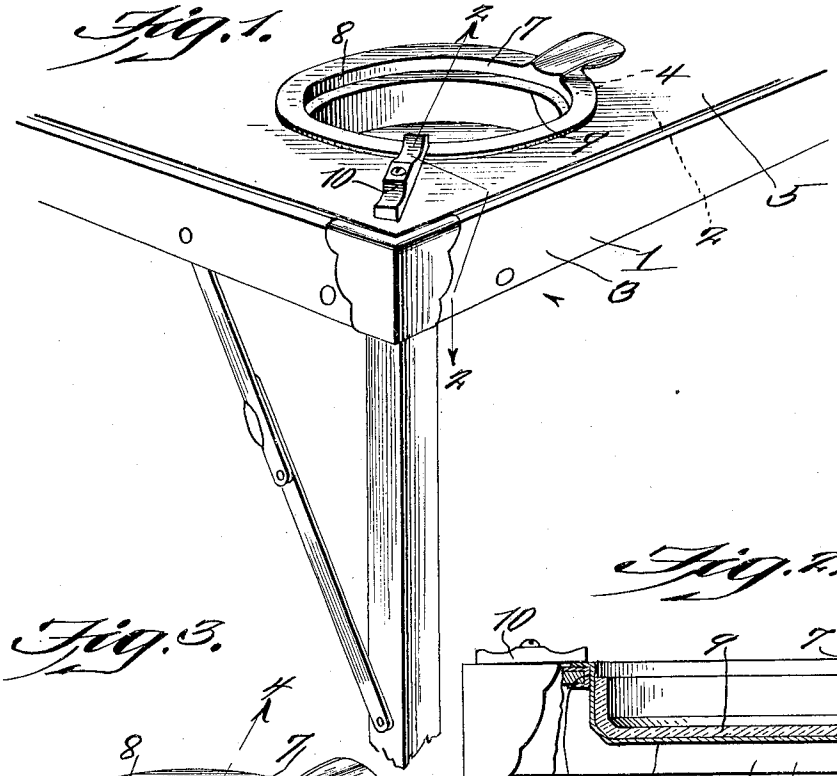


Fig. 2.

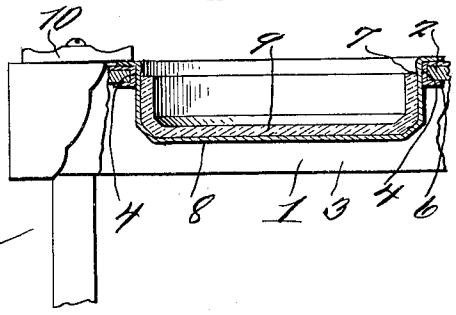


Fig. 3.

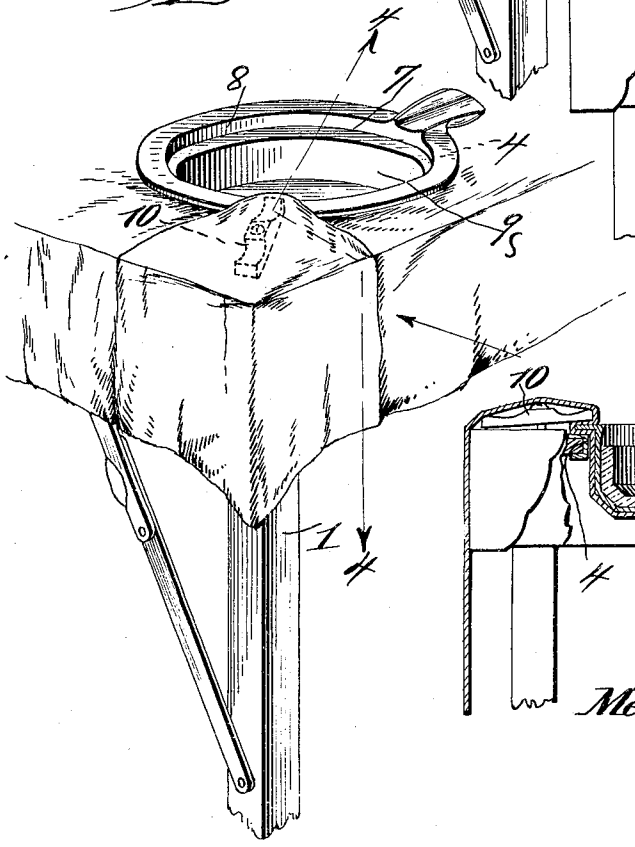
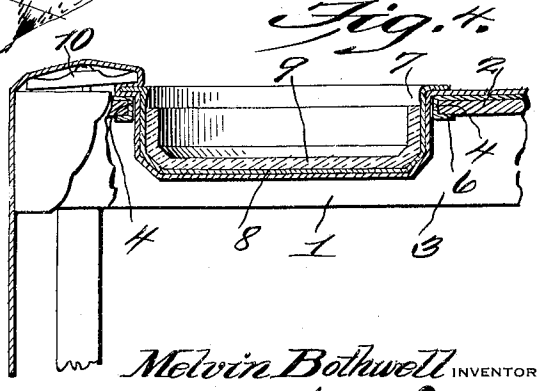


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

MELVIN BOTHWELL, OF ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY

COUNTERSUNK ASH TRAY FOR CARD TABLES

Application filed June 13, 1930. Serial No. 461,021.

It is well known that at card parties, ash trays, while being a convenience and necessity, they cause a great deal of annoyance, especially if they are knocked on the floor, or upset, or otherwise disturbed, necessitating the ash tray being returned to the table and sweeping up the carpet and then getting rid of the cigarette butts and cigar stumps. It is possible when an ash tray is knocked off the table to burn the carpet or possibly burn the player's garment.

It is therefore the purpose of this invention to entirely avoid the above named inconveniences, by providing an improved counter-sunk ash tray, which is fixed in an opening formed in the table top, the margin of the ash tray being flush with the surface of the table top, thereby avoiding any obstruction to a person's arm and preventing the tray from being knocked off the table.

Another purpose is accomplished by this improved counter-sunk ash tray, namely using the ash tray in conjunction with the opening in the table top, to retain a table cloth on the table, that is where a table is spread with a cloth when serving refreshments subsequent to completing the game of cards, still enabling the persons to use the ash trays after refreshments have been served.

It is to be understood that the particulars herein given are in no way limitative, and that while still keeping within the scope of the invention, any desired modification of details and proportions may be made in the construction of the appliance according to circumstances.

The invention comprises further features and combination of parts to be hereinafter set forth, shown in the drawing and claimed.

In the drawing:—

Figure 1 is a view of one corner of a card table, showing the ash tray applied.

Figure 2 is a sectional view on line 2—2 of Figure 1, showing the construction more in detail and illustrating how the tray is held in the opening.

Figure 3 is a view showing the table cloth held in place by the ash tray.

Figure 4 is a sectional view on line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Referring to the drawing, 1 identifies a card table which may be any well known construction now in ordinary use, preferably one which has a relatively heavy card-board top 2, which is fastened to the frame 3 in the usual manner.

This card-board top has a circular opening 4 the top having the usual table covering of oil cloth or the like 5, which may be so cut adjacent to and over the opening, so that the margin of the table cover can be drawn in tight around the edge of the opening as shown at 6, said margin being fastened adhesively to the under surface of the card-board top.

7 identifies an ash tray, which may be any construction and size now in general use, preferably consisting of a metallic outer portion 8 and an inner shell 9. This inner shell being preferably glass. Such ash trays can be bought on the open market and in different colors, such as may match the coloring of the table cover, so as to make the ash tray match up with the table top.

The table may have such openings at all four corners or at two diagonal opposite corners, the latter being preferable, and into each opening an ash tray of the above character may be fitted in counter-sunk position. A butterfly fastener 10 is pivoted on the table top and is adapted to overlie the margin of the ash tray and thereby retain the tray in the opening.

It is apparent that the ash tray avoids any obstructions whatever, and at any time the ash tray can be removed and emptied. As shown in Figures 3 and 4 the table cloth when applied can be fastened in position by disposing the cloth over the opening, and then inserting the ash tray, and in such an instance the butterfly fastener may still be used. However, due to the table cloth being forced through the opening it causes the ash tray to bind it in place as well as bind the ash tray in position.

The invention having been set forth, what is claimed is:

In combination, a card table having the top

formed with an ash tray receiving opening, a cloth spread over the top with a portion thereof depressed into said opening, an ash tray seated in said opening on top of the cloth and having a bounding flange resting on the table top on top of the cloth, and a butterfly fastened pivotally mounted on the table top adjacent said opening and movable into and out of overlapping relation to the flange of said ash tray, the fastener being disposed beneath the cloth but overlapping and pressing a portion of the latter into contact with the ash tray flange when moved to overlap the same.

In testimony whereof he affixes his signature.

MELVIN BOTHWELL.