No. 732,227. PATENTED JUNE 30, 1903.

J. SHAFER & J. MILLER.

SELF WAITING TABLE.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 23, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

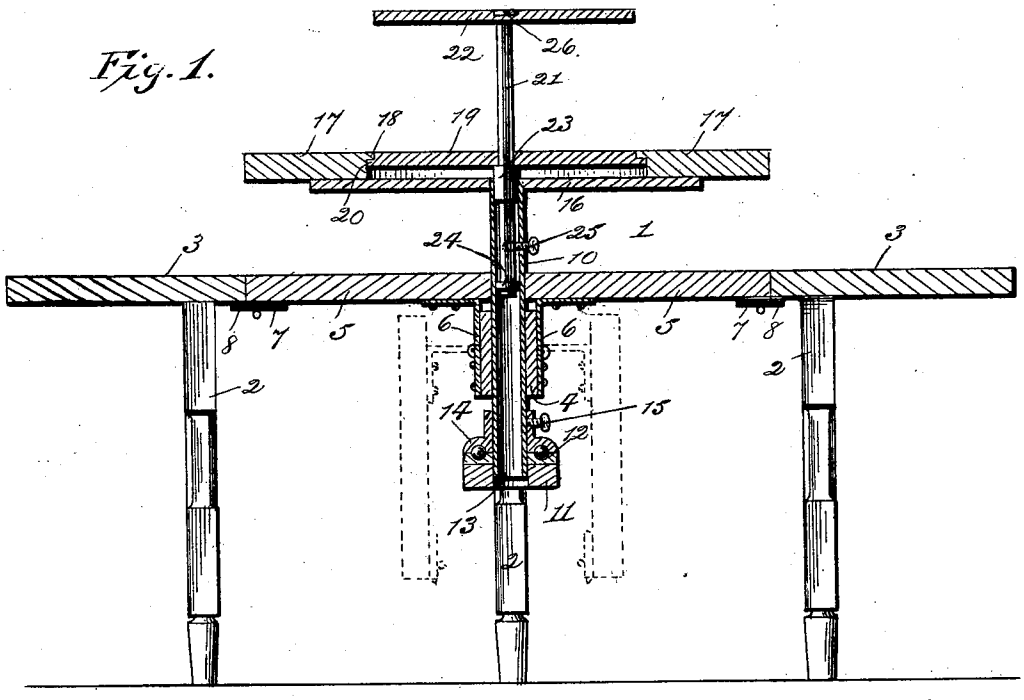
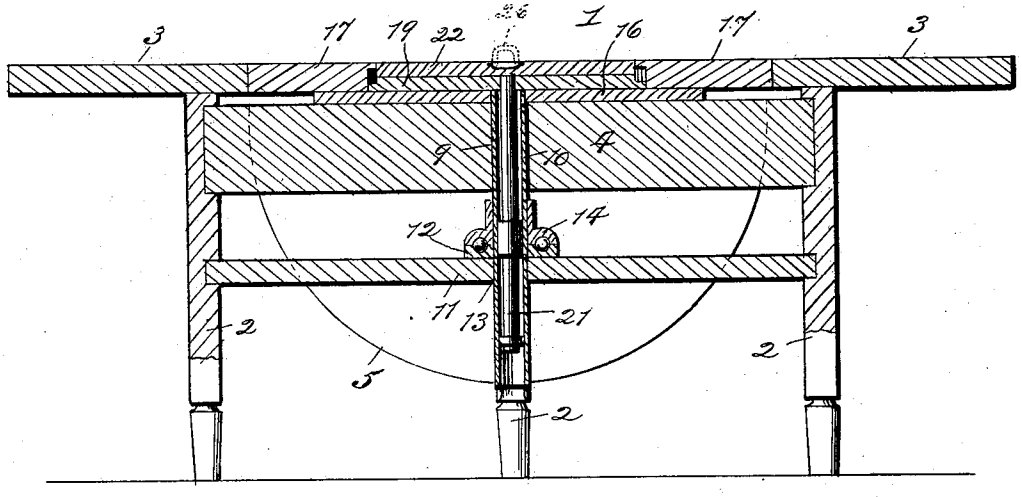


Fig. 2.



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No. 732,227. Patented June 30, 1903.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH SHAFER AND JOHN MILLER, OF RIPLEY, OKLAHOMA TERRITORY.

SELF-WAITING TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 732,227, dated June 30, 1903.

Application filed January 23, 1903. Serial No. 140,248. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOSEPH SHAFER and JOHN MILLER, citizens of the United States, residing at Ripley, in the county of Payne and Territory of Oklahoma, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Self-Waiting Tables; and we do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Our invention relates to tables, but more particularly to the class of self-waiting tables, and has for its object to provide a device of this class which may easily and quickly be converted into a perfectly flat table.

With this object in view our invention consists in the novel construction of the table and upper revolving sections.

Our invention also consists in the novel manner of telescoping the same and also in certain other novel features of construction and in combination of parts, which will be first fully described and afterward specifically pointed out in the appended claims.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical section of a table constructed in accordance with our invention, showing the same as a self-waiting table. Fig. 2 is a vertical section taken on a line at right angles to that of Fig. 1, showing table folded.

Like numerals of reference indicate the same parts throughout the two figures, in which—

1 is the table, preferably circular and having the legs 2.

3 indicates the outer circular portion of the table-top, and 4 indicates a brace secured to legs 2, near the tops thereof. Suitably hinged to said brace 4 are the two semicircular central leaves or sections 5, which are provided with hinges 6, and 7 indicates a spring-bolt secured to each of said central sections which engages a keeper 8, secured to the outer circular portions 3. Said brace or support 4 is provided in the center thereof with a vertical circular opening 9, through which a cylindrical tube 10 passes.

11 indicates a lower brace or support secured to the legs 2 below the upper support 4, upon which a ball-bearing 12 is mounted. Said lower support and ball-bearing are provided with a central circular opening 13, directly below the opening 9 in the upper support 4, through which the cylindrical tube 10 passes. In the upper portion 14 of said ball-bearing we provide a set-screw 15, adapted to engage the cylindrical tube 10, as shown in Fig. 1. At the top of said cylindrical tube 10 we provide a circular rest 16, rigidly secured to said tube, and mounted on said rest 16 is the outer circular portion 17 of the first upper revolving section. It must be noticed here that said outer circular portion 17 is of a diameter exactly equal to that of the two central semicircular leaves 5 when in a raised position, as shown in Fig. 1. The interior edge of said upper revolving section 17 is provided with an annular rabbet 18, and within said outer circular portion 17 is a circular central section 19, which is provided with an outer annular rabbet 20, said central section 19 being about half the thickness of the outer circular section 17. Within said cylindrical tube 10 we provide a smaller cylinder 21, which carries at the top thereof the upper or second revolving section 22. We provide two collars 23 and 24 around said smaller cylinder 21, and a set-pin 25 passes through the larger cylindrical tube 10 and enters the smaller tube 21 within.

Having thus described the several parts of our invention, its operation is as follows: In Fig. 2 we show the table in a folded or flat position, with the central drop-leaves 5 down, as shown in dotted line in Fig. 1. In order to convert the table into a self-waiting arrangement, the outer cylindrical tube 10 is raised into the position shown in Fig. 1 or any intermediate position. The set-screw 15 in the upper portion of the ball-bearing 14 is then made to engage the outer cylindrical tube 10, which holds the same in the desired position. The central semicircular leaves 5, which are now in a dropped position, as shown in Fig. 2 and in dotted line in Fig. 1, are raised, as shown in Fig. 1, the spring-bolts 7 springing into their keepers 8 and forming a perfectly flat lower table, as shown in Fig. 1. The inner cylinder 21 is then raised into po-

sition shown in Fig. 1 by grasping the folding lift 26 in the center of the second revolving section 22, said lift being shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2 and folded in Fig. 1. The set-pin 25 is then inserted in the outer cylindrical tube 10 and into the inner cylinder 21, which securely holds the second revolving section 22 in the desired position. The operation of raising said inner rod 21 causes the upper collar 23 thereon to engage the central circular portion 19 of the lower revolving section and raise the same into position shown in Fig. 1, thus forming a perfectly flat lower revolving section. It will be seen that each of the three sections is now perfectly flat. In order to fold the table, as shown in Fig. 2, the set-pin 25 is withdrawn, which allows the upper section 22 to be lowered into the lower revolving section and rest directly on the central circular section 16 thereof. As a matter of fact, the table may be used in this position, if desired, having only the lower revolving section. The central semicircular leaves 5 in the table proper are then lowered into position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1, and the set-screw 15 in the ball-bearing is then loosened, which allows the lower revolving section to be lowered into the place formerly occupied by the central semicircular leaves 5, the rest 16 of the lower revolving section resting on the upper brace or support 4, thus forming a perfectly flat table, as shown in Fig. 2.

It is obviously seen that when the table is in position shown in Fig. 1 the two upper sections revolve on the ball-bearing 12. It is also obvious that by this construction a large area of table-surface is produced within a comparatively small space, as well as other economic conditions and usefulness. It will be also readily understood that the elevated sections are entirely out of the way of the larger table and that extra dishes, condiments, garnishments, and other table ornaments may be carried thereon without interfering with the general use of the table, and, further, it will be seen that when any article on the elevated section is required all that is necessary to do is to simply revolve that particular section to the point where the article desired can be easily reached.

This table can also be used by confectioners and others for the formation of pyramids for display of goods and general usefulness.

Having described our invention, we do not wish to be confined to the exact detail as shown and described, but claim any modifications coming within the scope and spirit thereof.

What we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a table, the combination of a plurality of revolving sections normally supported upon a central standard above the main table-top, the portion of said main table-top below said revolving sections consisting of two centrally-hinged sections, means for telescoping said revolving sections upon being lowered, and means for swinging said hinged sections out of the way of said revolving sections when lowered.

2. In a table, the combination of a revolving section normally supported upon a central standard above the main table-top, sections of said main table-top hinged centrally below said revolving section, and means for swinging said hinged sections out of the way of said revolving section when lowered.

3. In a table, the combination of a lower revolving section, and means for supporting the same, an upper revolving section adapted to be telescoped within said lower revolving section, a central section in said lower revolving section, and means for raising the same flush with the upper surface of said lower revolving section.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

JOSEPH SHAFER.
JOHN MILLER.

Witnesses:
ED R. BRUCE,
GEORGE WELCH.