No. 649,666. Patented May 15, 1900.

# J. E. LONG.

## TABLE.

(Application filed Feb. 13, 1900.)

(No Model.)

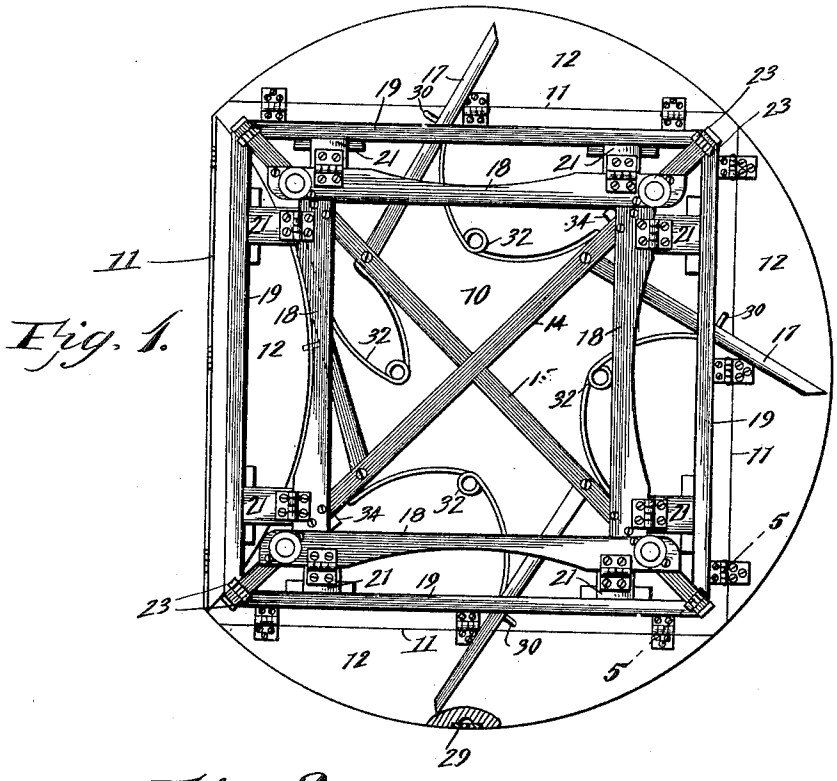



Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

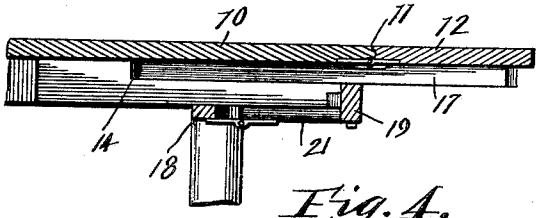



Fig. 4.

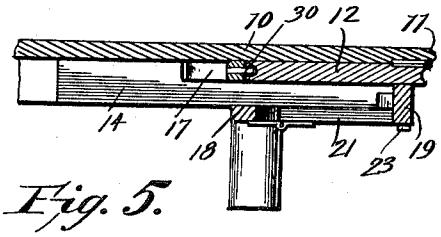
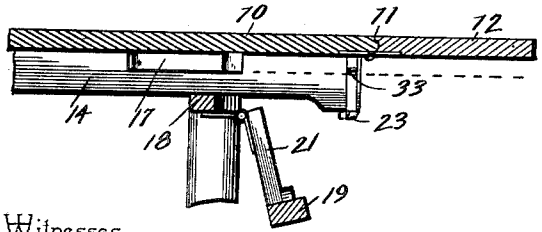
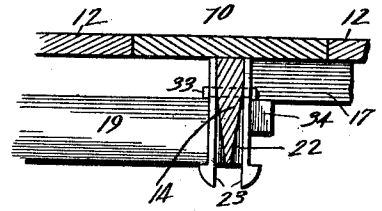



Fig. 5.




Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN E. LONG, OF CHILLICOTHE, OHIO.

## TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 649,666, dated May 15, 1900.

Application filed February 13, 1900. Serial No. 5,098. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN E. LONG, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chillicothe, in the county of Ross and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Table, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to tables in general, and more particularly to the class of folding tables, one object of the invention being to provide a device of this nature which will be cheap of construction and in which the outline of the table and its superficial area may be changed with ease and facility.

A further object of the invention is to provide a construction in which the folded parts will be held firmly in their folded or unfolded positions and in which the appearance of the table will not be marred in whatever position it may be.

In the drawings forming a portion of this specification, and in which like numerals of reference indicate similar parts in the several views, Figure 1 is a plan view of the under side of the table and showing one of the leaves of the table in its folded position, the other leaves being extended. Fig. 2 is a central section of the table, taken from the center thereof outwardly through one of the extended leaves. Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2 and showing the leaf folded. Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 2 and showing the side of the table lowered preparatory to folding the leaf under the top of the table. Fig. 5 is a section on line 5 5 of Fig. 1.

Referring now to the drawings, the table of the present invention comprises a top portion 10, which is shown as square, although, as will be readily understood, it may be oblong, triangular, or have the outline of any other polygon, the extreme corners of the table being shown as cut away in arc shape for a purpose which will be presently explained.

To each side edge 11 of the table-top 10 is hinged a segmental leaf 12, these leaves being connected by hinges on their under faces, so that their upper faces may lie absolutely flush with the upper surfaces of the table-top when the leaves are brought to lie in the same plane with the table-top. The chords of the segmental leaves are equal in length to the sides 11 of the table-top, while the radii of the arcs of these segmental leaves and also of the arc-shaped extreme corners of the table-top are equal, and thus when the leaves are all raised a circular table will result. When the table-top is fundamentally oblong, the radii of the segmental leaves vary, so as to present an elliptical table when the leaves are all raised.

Brace-beams 14 and 15 are secured to the under side of the table-top 10 and act to brace the table and prevent warping. They divide the under face of the table-top into triangular inclosures, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings. In each of these inclosures is disposed a leaf-supporting arm 17, the inner end of which is disposed in a recess in one of the braces 14 and 15 and has pivotal connection therewith, so that the outer end of the arm may swing into and out of operative position to lie under and against the lower face of its respective leaf to support the latter.

Secured to the under faces of the cross-braces 14 and 15 are beams 18, that lie parallel with the edges of the table-top, and hinged to each of these beams is a table side 19, these table sides being so formed that when in one position they will lie between the outer ends of their respective braces, the inner faces of the ends of the side pieces 19 being beveled for this purpose. The hinges 20, that hold the side pieces in place, are not connected directly to the side pieces, but instead are attached to blocks 21, which are in turn attached to the side pieces, and thus when the side pieces are pivotally moved on their hinges they swing bodily down and away from the table-top, as shown in Fig. 4 of the drawings.

When the table-leaves are in their unfolded positions and the supporting-arms are in engagement therewith, the upper edges of the side pieces 19 lie against the lower faces of the supporting-arms and act to support them midway between their free outer ends and their pivots, so that the weight of the leaves do not press the arms downward, and the leaves are held securely in their extended positions. In order that the side pieces may be in turn supported, recesses 22 are cut in the faces of the braces 14 and 15 and adjacent their outer ends, and in each of these recesses is disposed a spring-latch 23, comprising a spring-plate having an enlarged head of the

usual construction. When the sides 19 are raised to lie against the supporting-arms, they snap over the heads of the latch-springs and are supported by the upper faces of the heads thereof in their proper positions.

In order to hold the leaves in their folded positions—that is, lying against the under face of the table-top—each leaf has a recess or perforation 29 in its outer edge, which recesses are in position to receive pins 30, carried by the supporting-arms when said arms are moved inwardly to lie wholly beneath the table-top. In order to hold these pins in engagement with the perforations, as also to hold the arms in their extended positions to support the leaves, spring-bows 32 are provided, one for each supporting-arm, and having one end engaged with an adjacent portion of a cross-brace 14 and 15, respectively, and having its opposite end engaged with the arm. These springs act also to throw the arms outwardly and into their operative positions when the leaves are raised or unfolded.

When the leaves are folded to lie beneath the table-top, it is necessary that some means be provided for preventing the sides 19 from striking or resting against the leaves, and for this purpose pins 33 are carried by the cross-braces, as shown, and which pins are engaged by the sides and limit their upward movements. These pins may be the bolts that secure the spring-latches to the cross-braces.

In order to further hold the supporting-arms when they act to hold the leaves in their folded positions, blocks 34 are secured to the braces 14 and 15 in position for the free ends of the supporting-arms to pass thereunder when the pins thereof are engaged with the perforations in the edges of the leaves.

The legs of the table may be secured to the cross-braces in any suitable manner, or, if preferred, a standard or pedestal may be secured to the central portion thereof.

From the foregoing it will be seen that with the present structure a table may be made which will be fundamentally square, triangular, oblong, or of any other regular angular outline and that one or more leaves may be folded or unfolded to cause the table to assume any specific shape desired that is within the limits of the structure. Also when the leaves are in their unfolded positions a regular and even surface is presented, and when the leaves are folded the sides cover the edges of the leaves and prevent an unsightly appearance.

It will of course be understood that in practice any specific shape may be given to the table-top, any suitable materials may be used, and various modifications may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What is claimed is—

1. A table comprising a top, leaves connected with the top and adapted to be folded into and out of operative position, said leaves having perforations in their edges and arms movably connected with the top and adapted to support the leaves in their unfolded positions said arms having pins for engagement with the perforations of the leaves to hold them in their folded positions.

2. A table comprising a top, leaves hinged to the top and adapted to be folded to lie against the under side thereof, and to be unfolded to lie flush with the upper face of the table-top, sides hinged with respect to the top and adapted for bodily movement to lie beneath the leaves, supporting-arms for engagement with the leaves to hold them in their folded positions and means for supporting the leaves in their unfolded positions.

3. A table comprising a top, leaves hinged to the top, arms pivoted with respect to the top to hold the leaves at one limit of their hinge movement, sides hinged with respect to the top and adapted for engagement with the arms to hold them in their operative positions, and means for holding the sides in their operative positions with respect to the arms.

4. A table comprising a top, leaves hinged to the top and adapted to lie against the under side of the top in folded position, and to lie in unfolded positions flush with the top, means for supporting the leaves in their unfolded positions, sides hinged with respect to the top, and supporting-arms pivoted with respect to the top, said arms being adapted to lie against the leaves and hold them in their unfolded positions and having means for engagement with the leaves to hold them in their folded positions.

5. A table comprising a top portion, braces connected to the under side of the top, beams upon the braces, leaves hinged to the top and adapted to fold and lie between the braces, sides hinged to the beams and adapted to lie below the leaves when they are in their folded positions, latches upon the braces for engagement with the sides to hold them in operative positions with respect to the leaves, and arms pivoted with respect to the top and adapted to lie upon the sides and support the leaves when the latter are in their unfolded positions.

6. A table comprising an angular rigid top having a plurality of leaves hinged at their edges to the top to move pivotally to lie flush with the top at times and to lie beneath and with their under faces against the under face of the top at other times, and a single means for engagement with each leaf to hold it in both its folded and its unfolded positions.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN E. LONG.

Witnesses:
GEO. CHANDLER,
M. PERRY HAHN.