United States Patent [19]

Thomas

[11] **3,842,759**

[45] **Oct. 22, 1974**

[54] **TABLE**

[76] Inventor: **Morton I. Thomas,** 125 South St., Monroe, N.Y. 07055

[22] Filed: **Aug. 9, 1973**

[21] Appl. No.: **386,866**

Related U.S. Application Data

[62] Division of Ser. No. 272,050, July 14, 1972.

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **108/161,** 108/43

[51] **Int. Cl.** **A47b 13/00**

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 297/135, 148, 157, 170, 297/171, 174, 390, 136; 108/43, 50, 161, 59, 64, 119, 120; 273/136 R, 136 H, 136 Z

[56] **References Cited**

UNITED STATES PATENTS

2,049,114 7/1936 Gallamore ..... 108/25 X

FOREIGN PATENTS OR APPLICATIONS

603,085 4/1926 France 108/94

Primary Examiner—James C. Mitchell

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Philip G. Hilbert

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A table construction particularly designed for use with chairs having side arms, such as commonly used by invalids, the aged and hospital patients. The table includes a table top having a major portion with dimensions somewhat greater then the spacing between the side arms of the chair and a minor portion with dimensions such as to allow the same to be projected between the side arms of the chair to thereby locate such table top portion over the legs of the individual in the chair.

1 Claim, 5 Drawing Figures

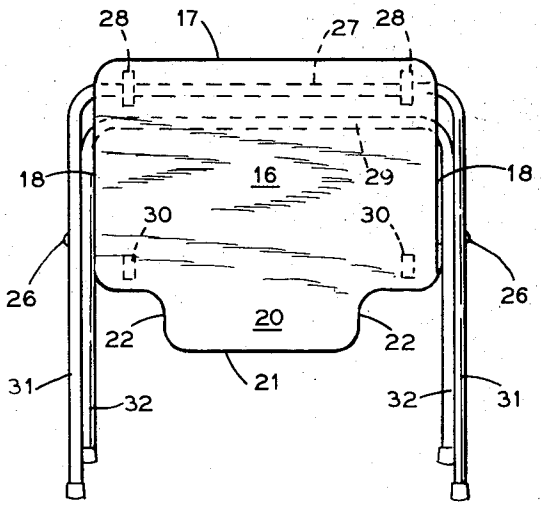


FIG. 1

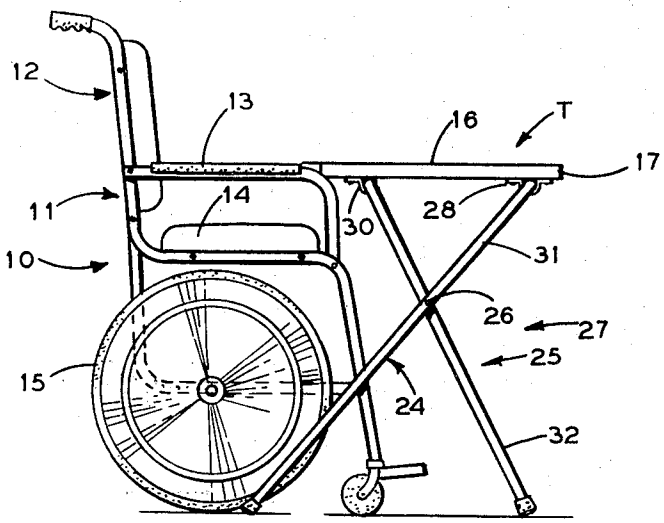

12
13
16
T
17
11
14
30
28
31
10
26
27
25
15
24
32

FIG. 2

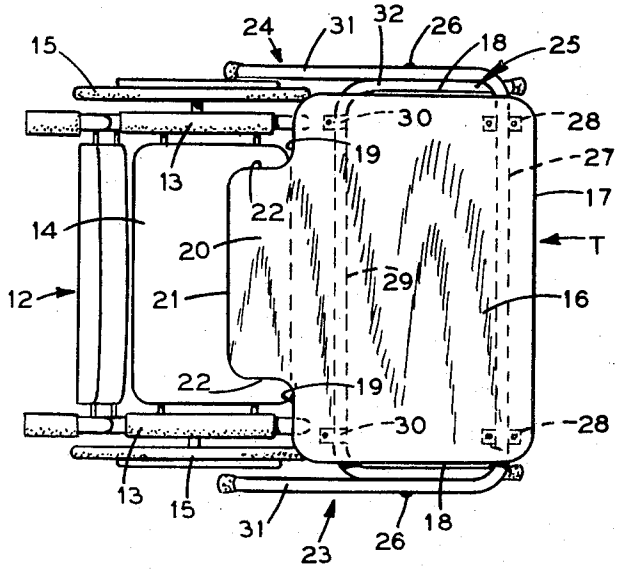

24
31
32
26
18
25
15
30
28
19
27
13
22
17
14
20
T
29
12
21
16
22
19
30
28
13
15
31
23
26
18

FIG. 3

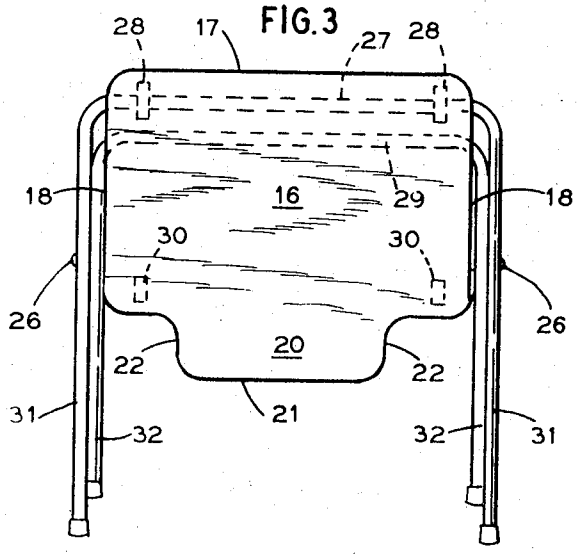


FIG. 4

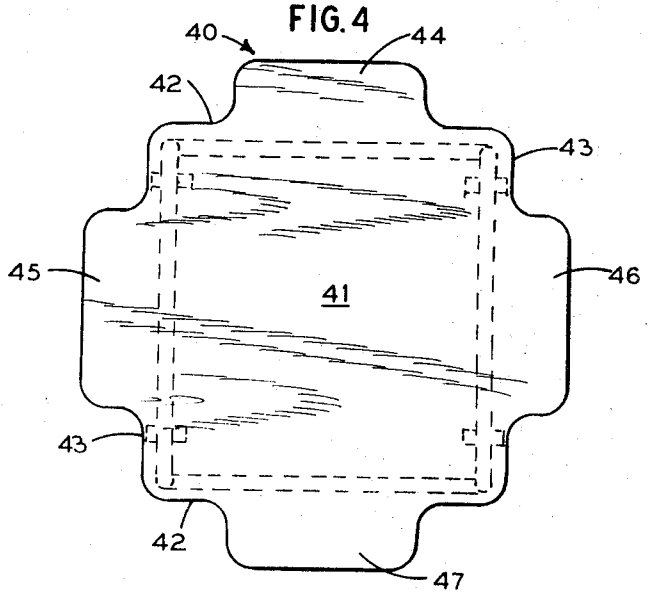
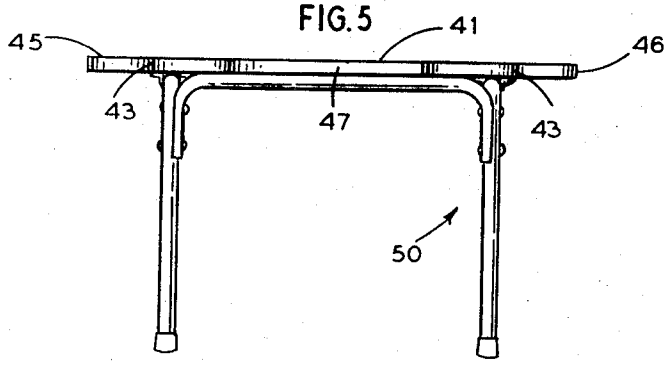


FIG. 5



TABLE

This is a division of application Ser. No. 272,050, filed July 14, 1972.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Small tables are conventionally used with wheel chairs and other chairs having side arms for the aged, invalids and hospital patient for feeding the occupants of such chairs. However, such known tables are of rectangular shape and dimensions greater than the spacing between the side arms of the chairs. Accordingly, in use, the inner edge of the table abuts the outer ends of the side arms of the chair since the table top and the side arms of the chair are substantially colevel.

With such disposition of the table relative to the chair, there is space of varying dimensions between the inner edge of the table top and the abdomen of the occupant of the chair. This leads to spillage of food and the like, as well locating the food, utensils and the like somewhat remotely from the occupant of the chair.

Accordingly, an object of this invention is to provide an improved table construction for use with chairs having side arms, wherein the table top thereof includes at least one portion of such dimensions as will allow the same to be disposed between the side arms of the chair to thereby locate such table top portion in close proximity to the abdomen of the occupant of the chair.

Another object of this invention is to provide a table construction for use with wheel chairs having side arms, and including a table top having a tongue portion projecting from a peripheral portion of the major portion of the table top; such tongue portion being receivable between the side arms of the chair.

A further object of this invention is to provide a table of the character described, which includes a central portion and a plurality of tongue portions projecting from respective portions of the central portion, whereby a plurality of chairs having side arms may be located around the periphery of the table top with the tongue portions thereof receivable between the arms of the associated chairs.

Other objects of this invention will in part be obvious and in part hereinafter pointed out.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

FIG. **1** is a side elevational view showing the combination of a wheel chair having side arms and a table construction embodying the invention;

FIG. **2** is a top plan view thereof;

FIG. **3** is an elevational view showing the table construction in its collapsed condition;

FIG. **4** is a plan view showing another embodiment of the table top construction embodying the invention; and

FIG. **5** is a side elevational view thereof.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

As shown in FIGS. **1** and **2**, **10** designates a conventional wheel chair such as those used for invalids, the aged, and hospital patients generally. Such chair **10** comprises the usual side frames generally indicated at **11**, back frame **12**, side arms **13**, seat **14** and wheels **15**.

A table construction T embodying the invention, is adapted to be used with chair **10**, as when the occupant of chair **10** is to be fed. The table T comprises a top **16** which is of rectangular shape with a forward edge **17** and side edges **18**. The spacing between side edges **18** is somewhat greater then the spacing between the side arms **13** of chair **10**.

Table top **16** further includes a rear edge **19** from which projects a tongue portion **20** of rectangular shape. Tongue portion **20** includes a rear edge **21** and side edges **22** which have a spacing somewhat less than the spacing between the side arms **13** of chair **10**. Tongue portion **20** is symmetrically related to table top **16**.

It will be apparent that table T may be located with respect to chair **10** so as to dispose tongue portion **20** between the side arms of chair **10** and inwardly of the outer ends of said side arms **13**. Thus, table T presents a top portion closer to the abdomen of the occupant of the chair **10**, thereby facilitating feeding such occupant.

Foldable leg means **23** is mounted on the underside of table top **16**. Such leg means **23** comprises a pair of inverted U-shaped members **24, 25** which are interpivoted as at **26**. The bight portion **27** of member **24** is swivelly mounted on the underside of table top portion **16** by brackets **28**. The bight portion **29** of member **25** is releasably gripped by clips **30** on the underside of table top portion **16**. The legs **31** of member **24** are longer than the legs **32** of member **25**; thereby locating the bottom ends of legs **31** in alignment with tongue portion **20** of table top **16** to assure stability of table construction I.

Another embodiment of the novel table construction is shown in FIGS. **4, 5**. Here the table top generally indicated at **40** comprises a relatively large central portion **41** which is of generally rectangular shape, with side edges **42** and end edges **43**. A series of tongue portions integral with central portion **41** project from edges **42, 43** thereof; as at **44, 45, 46** and **47**. Such tongue portions **44–47** are symmetrically related to edges **42, 43**. Conventional leg means generally indicated at **50**, is mounted on the underside of table top portion **41**. Such leg means may be fixed, as shown; or may be of the collapsible type.

It will be apparent that with tongue portions **44–47** of a transverse dimension somewhat less than the spacing between the side arms **13** of chairs **10**; the several chairs **10** may be brought into operative relation to table top **40** with the tongue portions **44–47** disposed between side arms **13** of the chairs. Thus, such tongue portions **44–47** may be brought closer to the abdomens of the occupants of chairs **10** to facilitate feeding and the like.

It is understood that leg means of the table constructions embodying the instant invention are adapted to locate the table tops thereof substantially colevel with the side arms **13** of the chairs **10**.

I claim:

1. For use with a chair having side arms with a predetermined lateral spacing therebetween, a table comprising a table top and leg means mounted on the underside of said table top, said table top comprising a first portion having a width greater then the spacing between said side arms and for location adjacent and across the chair immediately forward of the outer ends of the side arms, a second portion integral with said first portion and having a width somewhat less then the spacing between said side arms locatable between the side arms of said chair for projecting inwardly of the outer ends of said side arms for disposition adjacent the abdomen of the user.

* * * * *