CONVERTIBLE TABLE SETTEE

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by Stanley Burch, Attorney
This invention relates generally to convertible furniture, and has more particular reference to improvements in furniture of that type which is convertible for use either as a settee or as a seat and table.

The primary object of the present invention is to provide a simple and durable construction of convertible settee including a seat and a back, the back being so mounted upon the seat as to constitute the back of the settee in one position and to constitute a table for use in connection with the seat when in another position.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a convertible settee of the character mentioned above which may be readily moved from one place to another, but which will not accidentally shift about when placed where desired and used.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a convertible settee of the character mentioned above wherein the seat is provided with auxiliary individual back rests adapted to be inoperatively disposed beneath the seat bottom or board when the device is converted into a settee, but adapted to be operatively positioned to serve as back rests for the occupants of the seat when the back member of the settee is positioned to act as a table.

A still further object of the present invention is to provide a convertible settee of the character mentioned above which is extremely simple and durable in construction, efficient in use, comfortable, and convenient to use.

Other objects and features of my invention will become apparent from the following description when considered in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a front elevational view of an embodiment of the present invention converted for use as a settee.

Figure 2 is an end elevational view of the device as shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a view similar to Figure 1, of the device converted for use as a table and seat.

Figure 4 is a top plan view of the device as shown in Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a vertical section on line 5—5 of Figure 3.

Figure 6 is an elevational view of one of the back rests; and

Figure 7 is a perspective view of one of the mounting brackets for the back rest.

Referring in detail to the drawings, the illustrated embodiment of the present invention includes, generally, a seat A and a back B.

The seat A consists of end members or supports 5 rigidly connected by a seat board or bottom 6, and the end members or supports 5 may extend above the seat bottom or board 6 to provide arm rests as at 7. Base strips 8 are rigidly provided on the lower edges of the end members or supports 5, and the rear ends of these base strips 8 project a short distance rearwardly of the end members or supports 5 where they are turned upwardly and have small ground-engaging wheels 9 journaled thereon. The arrangement is such that when the base strips 8 rest flat upon the floor or ground, the wheels 9 will be disengaged from the latter so as to not cause ready shifting of the article of furniture after being placed where desired. At the same time, by tilting the article of furniture rearwardly, the wheels 9 may be brought into engagement with the floor or ground to facilitate ready movement of the article of furniture from one place to another. The base strips 8 project at their forward ends a considerable distance forwardly beyond the end members or supports 5 so as to prevent overturning of the article of furniture when the back member B is shifted to the position of Figures 3 to 6 inclusive for use as a table. These forward ends of the base strips 8 may be fashioned as at 10 to serve as handles for use in rearwardly tilting the article of furniture and pushing it from one place to another. The end members or supports 5 are provided along their outer sides and respectively adjacent their front and rear vertical edges with shoulders 11 and 12, for a purpose which will presently be described.

The back B is shiftably or pivotally mounted on the seat A so as to be movable to a substantially upright position at the rear edge of the seat bottom or board 6 to form a back for the seat A, or to a horizontal position forwardly of and above the seat bottom or board 6 to form a table located for convenient use by occupants of the seat A. The shiftable back B includes end members 13 pivotally attached at 14 to the outer sides of the seat end 5 at points intermediate and slightly below the shoulders 11 and 12, and a back support or table top member 15 extending between and rigidly connecting the end members 13. The end members 13 are so formed as to abut the shoulders 11 at their forward edges and sustain the back support or table top 15 in the operative horizontal position of Figures 3 to 5 inclusive when the shiftable back B is moved to its forwardly shifted position, and to abut the shoulders 12 at their rear edges when the shiftable back B is shifted to its rearward substan-
tially upright position as shown in Figures 1 and 2. Obviously, when the back B is in the rearwardly shifted substantially upright position of Figure 1, the article of furniture will be converted for use as a settee, and when the back B is shifted forwardly to the position of Figures 3 to 5 inclusive, the article of furniture is converted for use as a seat and table.

The seat A is preferably provided with auxiliary back rests 16 which are shiftable to an inoperative position beneath the seat bottom or board 6 when the article of furniture is converted for use as a settee and the use of said auxiliary back rests is not necessary, and which may be shifted to an operative substantially upright position at the rear edge of the seat bottom or board 6, when the article of furniture is converted for use as a seat and table and the use of said auxiliary back rests 16 is necessary or desired. Obviously, the auxiliary back rests 16 may be constructed and mounted in any suitable or preferred manner, and the way and means for mounting these auxiliary back rests herein shown is merely illustrative of one satisfactory construction. For example, back rest 16 may be provided near its lower edge and on each side with a pair of spaced laterally projecting pins 17 arranged for slidably engaging in grooves 18 provided in the opposed sides of transverse guide strips 19 secured on the under side of the seat bottom or board 6, and to thereby sustain the back rest 16 in a horizontal position beneath the seat bottom or board 6 when not required for use. This arrangement also permits the auxiliary back rest 16 to be freely slid rearwardly, whereupon the back rest may be positioned in an upright position and the rear edge of the seat bottom or board 6 by reason of the fact that the slots 18 are open at the rear ends of the strips 19. Said strips 18 are also provided at their rear ends with a hook member 20 and a depressed recess 21 for engagement with the respective adjacent pins 17 to sustain the back rests in such operative substantially upright position. By tilting the back rest forwardly and then lifting it, and then swinging it backwardly to a horizontal position, it may be shifted to the horizontal inoperative position beneath the seat bottom or board 6. As this general form of mounting is conventional for analogous uses, further description thereof is deemed unnecessary herein.

Obviously, the present invention may be made for the accommodation of one or more persons, and may be constructed of any suitable material or materials, as well as in varying finishes and designs, depending upon the specific use. If desired, the wheels 9 may be of the rubber-tired type, and the member 15 may be upholstered on the side thereof which is lowermost when the back B is used as a table and which is in front when said back is used as a back member of the settee. Also, the back B and the seat bottom or board 6 may be provided with any desired kind of upholstery, either permanent or removable. Other changes in the details set forth may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

It will be seen that the construction is simple and inexpensive to manufacture and is easy and quickly converted to a settee or a seat and table.

What I claim as new is:

1. A device of the character described including a horizontal seat bottom, end supports for the seat bottom provided at their outer side and respectively adjacent their front and rear edges with sliding furniture will be carried by the back board and pivoted at their lower ends to the end supports for the seat at points intermediate and below said shoulders to permit swinging of the back board to either a position at the rear edge of the seat or a horizontal position forwardly of and above the seat, the front and rear edges of said end members being respectively engageable with said front and rear shoulders to sustain the back board in such positions, respectively.

2. A device of the character described including a horizontal seat, end supports for the seat, a back board, end members carrying the back board and pivotedly mounted on the end supports for the seat so that the back board is operable between a position at the rear edge of the seat and a horizontal position forwardly of and above the seat, base strips secured on the lower edges of said end supports projecting respectively a short distance rearwardly and a relatively greater distance forwardly of said end supports, and supporting wheels journaled on the rear ends of said base strips so as to be normally disengaged from the ground or floor when the base strips rest flatly on the latter and so as to engage said ground or floor when the device is tilted rearwardly to facilitate movement of the device from one place to another.

3. A device of the character described including a horizontal seat, end supports for the seat, a back board, end members carrying the back board and pivotedly mounted on the end supports for the seat so that the back board is operable between a position at the rear edge of the seat and a horizontal position forwardly of and above the seat, base strips secured on the lower edges of said end supports projecting respectively a short distance rearwardly of and a relatively greater distance forwardly of said end supports, and supporting wheels journaled on the rear ends of said base strips so as to be normally disengaged from the ground or floor when the base strips rest flatly on the latter and so as to engage said ground or floor when the device is tilted rearwardly to facilitate movement of the device from one place to another, the forward ends of said base strips being fashioned to form handles for use in moving the device from one place to another when so tilted.

4. A convertible table settee including a horizontal seat, end supports for the seat, a back board, end members carrying the back board and pivotedly mounted on the end supports for limited swinging movement so that the back board may be swung to either a position at the rear edge of the seat or a horizontal position forwardly of and above the seat, a plurality of auxiliary individual back rests, and means pivotally and slidably mounting said back rests on said seat to permit either rearward and upward shifting thereof to a substantially upright position at the rear edge of the seat or use when the back board is horizontally positioned or downward and forward shifting thereof to a substantially horizontal position beneath the seat when the back board is positioned at the rear edge of the seat.

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