Feb. 4, 1936. J. K. MITCHELL 2,029,434

TABLE CONSTRUCTION

Original Filed Nov. 17, 1934 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

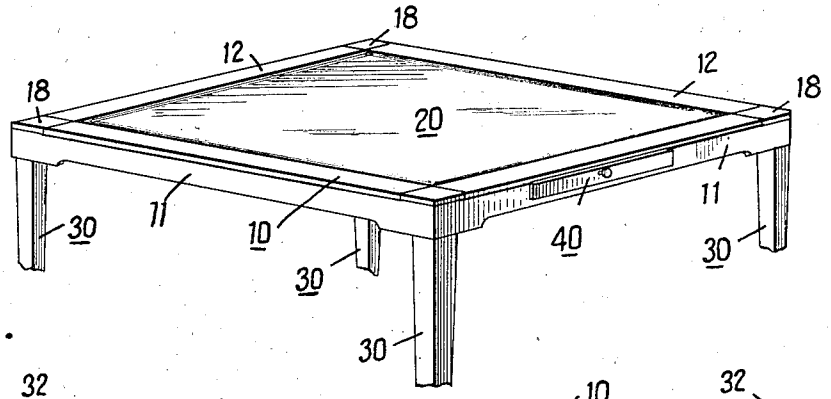
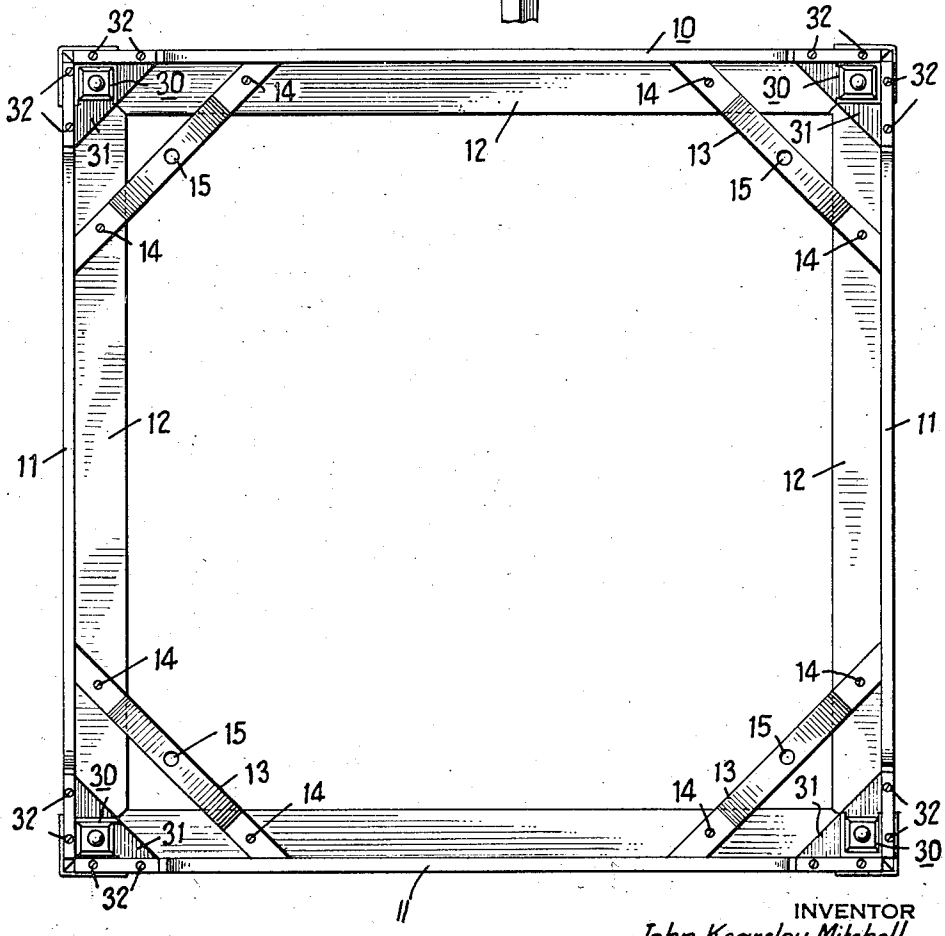


Fig. 2.



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Fig.3.

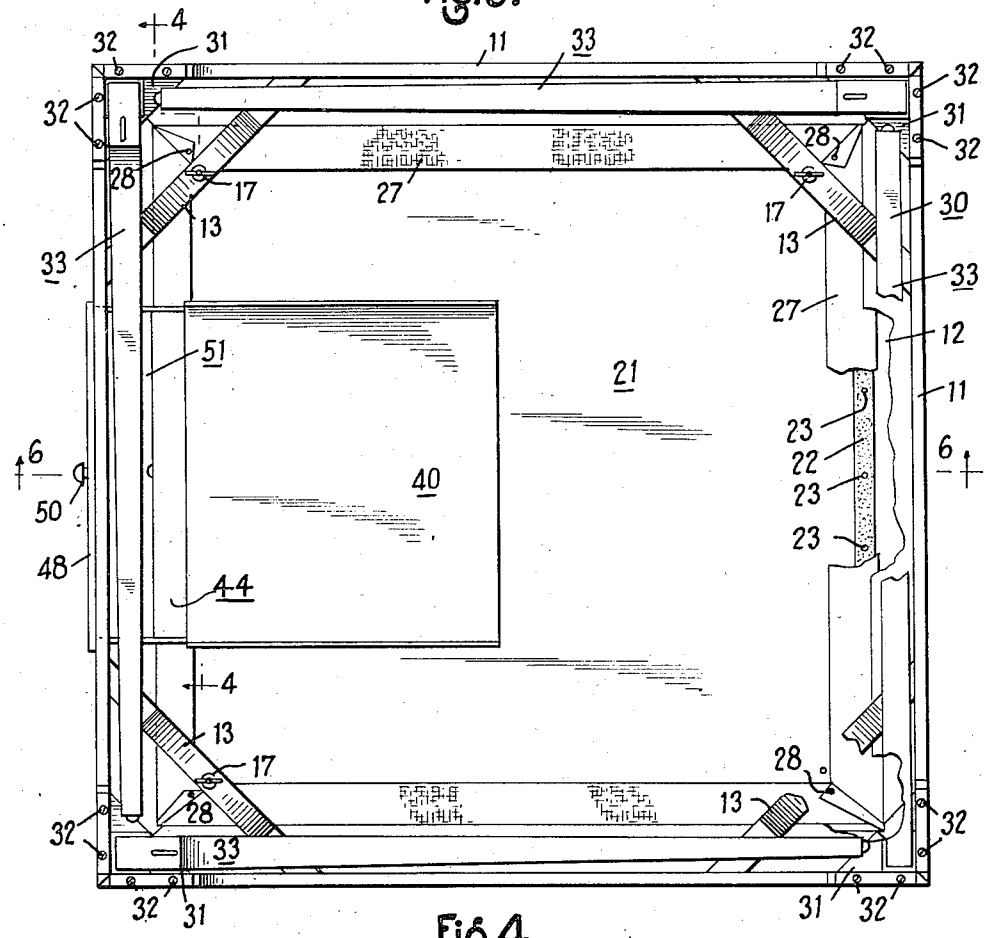


Fig.4.

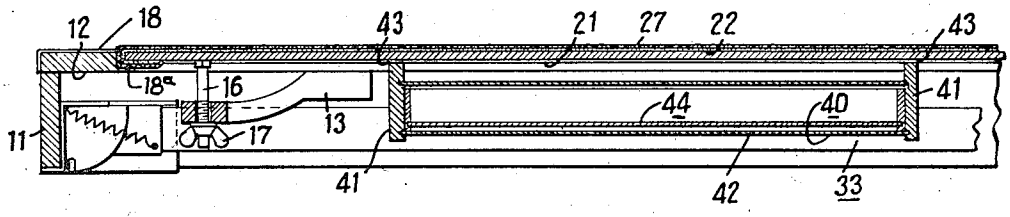
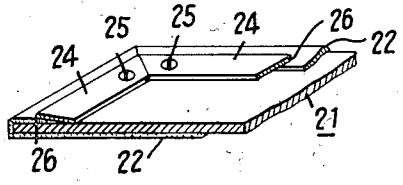


Fig.5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,029,434

TABLE CONSTRUCTION

John Kearsley Mitchell, Bryn Mawr, Pa.

Original application November 17, 1934, Serial No. 753,445. Divided and this application June 10, 1935, Serial No. 25,711

4 Claims. (Cl. 311—108)

This invention relates to improvements in tables and more particularly to game tables having removable playing surfaces.

In the use of incidental mobilia such as game tables and the like it is often desirable to resurface tables with clean coverings. With the ordinary type game table, coverings are usually permanent and soon become soiled and unattractive. This particularly in view of the fact that when incidental tables having folding legs are nested or stacked away it is difficult to keep them in an orderly clean condition.

This application is a division of my application Serial No. 753,445, filed November 17, 1934, for Game table.

It is a feature of novelty of the present invention to provide an improved incidental table having folding leg constructions in which a removable panel is provided and fitted with means whereby the surfacings of the table or playing surface may be readily removed and replaced and the whole securely set in position in the table frame and fixedly secured thereto forming an integral part of the table proper.

Another feature of novelty of the present invention is the provision of improved panel fastening means, including means for removably securing surfacing members such as silk, cotton, linen, and other fabric table covers and the like.

It is also a feature of novelty of the present invention to provide improved resilient surfacings associated with removable panel members whereby to provide an improved playing surface for tables.

Yet another feature of novelty of the present invention is the provision of an improved incidental table having folding legs in which the table frame, panel and leg constructions are so associated as to mutually support and lock each other in fixed operative relation.

These and other desirable features and advantages of the present invention will be described in the specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, certain preferred embodiments being shown by way of example only, for, since the underlying structural features may be incorporated in other specific table structures it is not intended to be limited to the ones here shown except as such limitations are clearly imposed by the appended claims.

In the drawings like numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views, of which

Fig. 1 is a top elevation of an improved incidental table showing the upper portions of the legs in operative position;

Fig. 2 is a bottom view of the framework of the structure shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2 and showing the table paneling and associated table drawer and locking mechanism therefor;

Fig. 4 is a section taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a detailed, partly broken section of the underside of the table panel showing a method of removably securing the panel surfacing in position.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, the improvements of the present invention are best described with respect to an incidental table shown therein. This table comprises a frame portion designated generally by the numeral 10, a central panel portion designated generally by the numeral 20, leg members designated generally by the numeral 30, and a drawer member designated generally by the numeral 40. The frame member 10 may comprise side apron members 11, secured to panel strips 12, defining a central aperture adapted to receive the paneling, 20. The frame 10 may be braced at the corners by flat or arched braces, 13, secured to the undersides of the member 12 in any suitable manner as by means of screws 14. The members 13 may be made of wood or metal and may be centrally tapped as indicated at 15 to receive securing members such as bolts 16 provided with wing nuts 17. The frame 10 may have ornamental corner pieces 18 of any suitable material and construction associated therewith. In addition, the upper surfaces of the members 12 may be formed of heat and fire resistant materials and in a variety of colors.

Table leg socket supporting member 31 may be secured to the under side of the table frame at the corners thereof as by means of screws 32, secured to the member 11. The table leg and associated hinge constructions have been shown and claimed in my copending application, Serial No. 727,870, filed May 28, 1934, issued as Patent No. 2,003,835, June 4, 1935, for Folding leg constructions and will not be described further herein except with respect to the general combinations of parts in which they are associated.

The paneling comprising a body portion 21 over which may be placed a sheet or surfacing 22 of a resilient material such as sponge rubber, cotton, felt, and the like, which may be turned under the edges of the panel and held in gripping relation by the conjoint action or pressure of the inner edges of the table frame members 12 and the inner covering of the panel.

The loose ends may be secured to the panel in

any suitable manner as by means of tenter hooks or pins 23 or clamping strips 24, the said strips being fixed in place by means of screws or like members 25, fastened to the member 21. If desired, the clamping strips 24 may be provided with an internally toothed or gripping portion 26. A playing surface 27 of any suitable fabric may be stretched over the resilient surfacing and in turn brought under the edges of the panel and its loose or free ends secured in place by any suitable means such as thumb tacks or push pins 28. The paneling as noted above is adapted to snugly engage or nest in a shoulder or shelf 18a formed on the upper surface of member 12, and to thereby hold the fabric member 27 tightly gripped. The bolt and nut members 16 secure the panel in place on the table frame, being themselves held by the bracing members 13. Any desired amount of tension may be applied by means of the wing nuts 17, and on tightening up these nuts the panel 21 will be pulled down in position on the shelf 18 of the table frame member 12 thereby assisting in clamping the surfacings 22 and 27 firmly in position. With such construction it will be seen that the table frame and panel playing surface form a rigid immovable unit whose strength is appreciably increased by the mutual coaction of the several parts through the bracing and supporting members 13. In addition the folding leg members are also used in supporting the table structurally as the hinged members 31 being likewise fixedly secured to the corners of the table frame members aid further in maintaining a rigid assembly.

It will now be appreciated that there has been provided an improved incidental or game table having novel paneling adapted to be readily replaced, yet provide a fixed surfacing for a table top. There has further been disclosed a novel method of readily and rigidly securing a removable panel frame or table surfacing to a frame by means of bracing members, preferably bowed or arched, and adapted to receive securing members for the panels, the bracing members being also adapted to brace and support the table frame members proper, whereby to integrally join the frame and panelling in a unitary table top construction.

While certain features of the invention have been disclosed and are pointed out in the annexed claims, it will be understood that various omissions, substitutions and changes may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of the invention.

I claim:

1. An improved game table comprising, in combination, a frame having an internal shelf thereabout, arched bracing members secured to adjacent frame members and spaced from the corners thereof, a panel member set in the central upper portion of the table frame and forming a playing surface, securing members fastened to the under side of said panel member and adapted to engage the frame bracing members, the said securing members including adjustable fastening means, a resilient cover member disposed over the panel member and underneath the edges thereof and a fabric cover member stretched over the top of the panel member to form a playing surface and folded under and secured to the bottom of said panel.

2. An improved game table comprising, in combination, a frame having an internal shelf thereabout, arched bracing members secured to adjacent frame members and spaced from the corners thereof, a panel member set in the central upper portion of the table frame and forming a playing surface, securing members fastened to the under side of said panel member and adapted to engage the frame bracing members, the said securing members including adjustable fastening means, a resilient cover member disposed over the panel member and underneath the edges thereof and a fabric cover member stretched over the top of the panel member to form a playing surface and folded under and secured, with a tight friction grip, the loose edges of the cover member being secured to the bottom of the said panel.

3. An improved table top construction including a table frame composed of separate top pieces defining a central aperture, arched bracing members secured to adjacent top members and having a major portion of their length extending across the corners of the aperture formed by the said frame pieces; separate removable panel members adapted to fit into the aperture defined by the said frame piece, and means in the said panel members adapted to permit the same to be fixedly secured to the said arched bracing members at the crown of the arch whereby to form a unitary table top.

4. An improved table top construction including a table frame composed of separate top pieces and depending apron members secured to the top pieces, the whole defining a central aperture, arched bracing members secured to adjacent top members and having a major portion of their length extending across the corners of the apertures formed by the said frame pieces, leg supporting and bracing members at the corners of the framework and secured to the said apron members and providing with the said first-named bracing members a two-part strengthening unit for each corner or supporting section of the table member, separate removable panel member adapted to fit into the aperture defined by the said frame pieces, and means in the said panel member adapted to permit the same to be fixedly secured to the said arched bracing members whereby to form a unitary table top.

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