Feb. 23, 1960 J. B. WEISS 2,925,851

CONVERTIBLE TABLE AND SEAT

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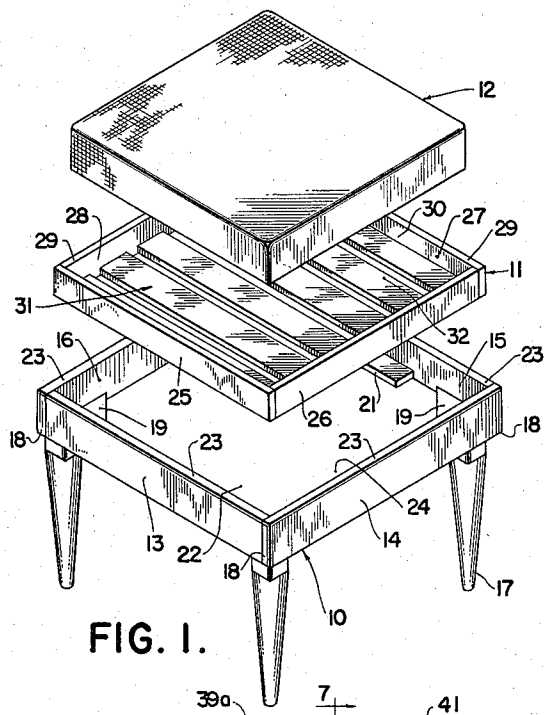


FIG. 1.

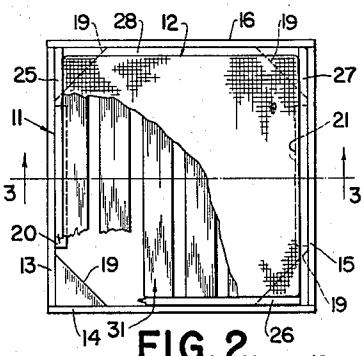


FIG. 2.

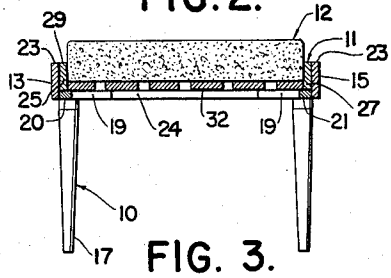


FIG. 3.

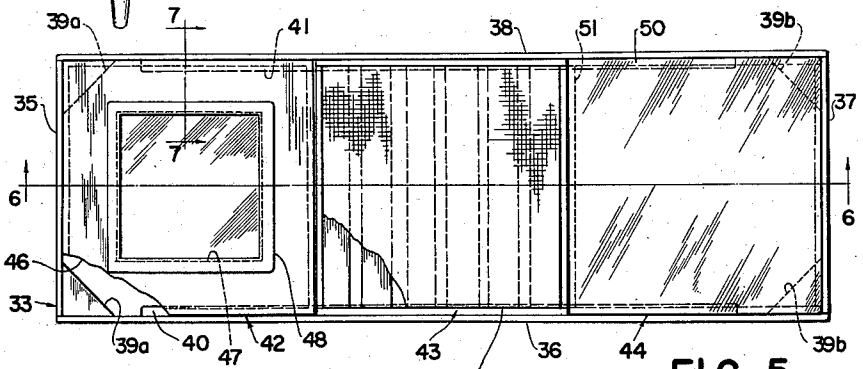


FIG. 5.

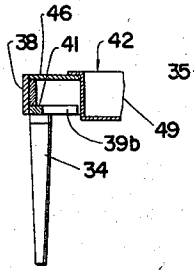


FIG. 7.

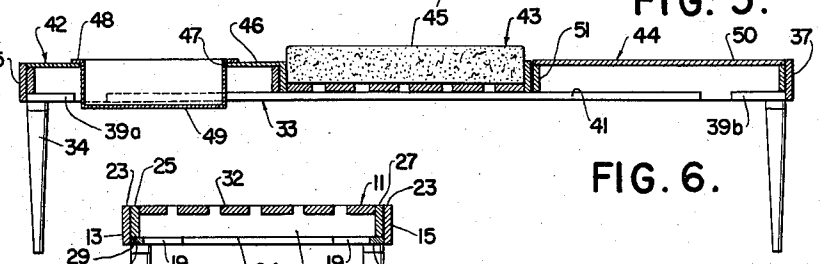


FIG. 6.

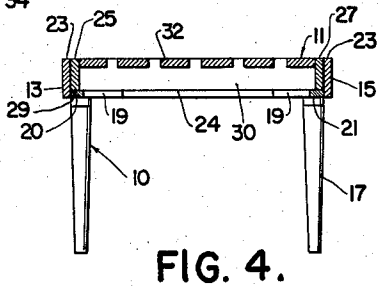


FIG. 4.

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CONVERTIBLE TABLE AND SEAT

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1 Claim. (Cl. 155—43)

This invention relates to convertible articles of furniture, and is particularly directed to seat and table structures.

In modern homes and apartments there is need for a variety of table and seating appurtenances, such as padded chairs, hard benches, coffee tables, flower pot supports, etc. Such varieties of furniture pieces are costly and space-consuming, and have not been available to or practical for those of limited financial means or whose living quarters are of limited size. It is an object of my invention to meet this situation by providing an article of furniture that can readily be converted into a variety of forms, such as those above identified.

More specifically, it is my objective to provide a convertible article of furniture of the type above mentioned that is so constructed as to enable the conversion to be effected with a minimum of effort, and in which the movable elements are firmly secured in place without the use of special fastenings.

Another object of my invention is to provide a construction that is adapted for coactive use with one or more similar devices whereby an enlarged unitary structure is effected.

And it is my further objective to provide a simply constructed and relatively inexpensive device having the features above mentioned.

Other objects, features and advantages will appear from the drawings and the description hereinafter given.

Referring to the drawings,

Fig. 1 is an exploded perspective view of the three components of one form of my invention.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the device of Fig. 1 with the said components in assembled relation in the form of a padded seat, a portion being broken away for clarity.

Fig. 3 is a section of Fig. 2 taken along line 3—3.

Fig. 4 is a section substantially like Fig. 3, but showing only two components in assembled relation in the form of a hard bench or low table.

Fig. 5 is a plan view of another form of my invention.

Fig. 6 is a section of Fig. 5 taken along line 6—6.

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary section of Fig. 5 taken along line 7—7.

In the form of my invention illustrated in Figs. 1 to 4, there are three main components, the base member generally designated **10**, the intermediate supporting member **11**, which is reversible in a manner to be hereinbelow described, and the upper supported member **12** shown as a cushion or pad.

The said base member **10** comprises the four upstanding peripheral walls **13**, **14**, **15** and **16**, the legs **17** underlying and supporting the corner portions generally designated **18**. Disposed within said base member at the lower portions of said peripheral walls are a plurality of inwardly extending shelf members, these comprising the corner shelves generally designated **19** and the oppositely disposed lateral shelves **20** and **21** secured to said respective peripheral walls 13 and **15**. In the preferred form illustrated, the entire top of the member **10** is

open, said open portion, generally designated **22**, being defined by the top edges **23** of said peripheral walls; and the bottom is also open, said bottom open portion, generally designated **24**, being defined by said shelf members **19**, **20** and **21**, and the bottom edges of said peripheral walls disposed between said shelf members.

The said intermediate supporting member **11** comprises the peripheral walls **25**, **26**, **27** and **28**, the upper free edges **29** (as shown in Figs. 1 to 3) defining the open portion generally designated **30**, the opposite lower portions of said last-mentioned peripheral walls having secured thereto the horizontal supporting wall generally designated **31** and shown, in the particular embodiment illustrated, as comprising the slats **32**. The proportions of the supporting intermediate member **11** are such that said member can be inserted into member **10** through said open portion **22** thereof, the peripheral walls **25**, **26**, **27** and **28** nesting within said peripheral walls **13**, **14**, **15** and **16** of said base member, the said upper edges **23** and **29** of said respective sets of peripheral walls being at the same level. And the proportions of said supported cushion member **12** are such that this member can be inserted into member **11** through said open portion **30** thereof, said peripheral walls **25**, **26**, **27** and **28** defining a receptacle and serving as retaining means for said member **12**.

The arrangement is hence such that, due to the coactive relation of said components, the structure is readily convertible into different forms with a variety of uses. In the form shown in Figs. 2 and 3, the device serves the function of a cushioned seat; and in the form shown in Fig. 4, the device serves either as a hard seat bench or as a coffee table or the like. Because of the location and arrangement of the shelf members **19**, **20** and **21** on the base member **10**, the intermediate member **11** is firmly supported either in its position where it serves as a receptacle for the pad **12**, or in its position where the horizontal wall **31** (comprising the slats **32**) is in spaced relation with respect to the said shelf members and at the level of the upper edges **23** of the said peripheral walls. It is to be noted that because the wall **31** is level with the upper edges **23**, as aforesaid, the device in this position contains no obstructive elements that might interfere with its function as a hard bench or a table.

In the form of my invention illustrated in Figs. 5 to 7, an elongated base member **33** is employed, supported by the legs **34** and having peripheral walls **35**, **36**, **37** and **38**. At the lower portions of said walls are the corner shelves **39***a* and **39***b*, and the opposite lateral shelves **40** and **41** secured to the peripheral walls **36** and **38**, respectively. This base member is proportioned to accommodate along its length the supporting members **42**, **43** and **44**. Member **43** is like intermediate member **11** of the embodiment above described, and is shown operatively supporting the pad member **45**, and is itself supported by the lateral shelves **40** and **41**. Member **42** has the horizontal supporting wall **46** containing the apertured portion **47**, said horizontal wall **46** supporting the marginal flange **48** of the pan **49**, the body of which extends downwardly through said apertured portion **47** and the open portion at the bottom of base member **33**. The said member **42** is supported by the corner shelves **39***a* and the lateral shelves **40** and **41**. Member **44** has the horizontal wall **50**, said member being supported by the corner shelves **39***b* and the lateral shelves **40** and **41**, member **44** being shown positioned with the horizontal wall **50** spaced above said supporting shelves and positioned to serve either as a seat or table top. Said supporting members **42**, **43** and **44** are proportioned for reversible nesting fits within the peripheral walls of the base member **33**, substantially in the manner of the form first above described. The peripheral walls, generally desig-

nated 51, of the supporting members 42, 43 and 44, are of such proportions that when operatively supported by the respective coacting shelves, the uppermost portions of said supporting members are at the level of the uppermost edges of the peripheral walls 35, 36, 37 and 38 of said base member.

In both forms of the invention illustrated, the conversion from one form to another—as well as the rearrangement of the supporting members on the base member of the embodiment of Figs. 5 to 7—can be effected by simple manual manipulations requiring no special skill or manual dexterity. Once operatively positioned, the parts are firmly maintained in place, without the use of any fastening means. Moreover, the components of the two forms of my invention illustrated are so arranged that the structure of Figs. 1 to 4 can readily be juxtaposed with respect to that of Figs. 5 to 7, so as to produce a unitary effect—the manner of juxtaposition not requiring further elaboration since it can be effected in accordance with one's individual taste.

In the above description, the invention has been disclosed merely by way of example and in preferred manner; but obviously may variations and modifications may be made therein. It is to be understood, therefore, that the invention is not limited to any specific form or manner of practicing same, except insofar as such limitations are specified in the appended claim.

I claim:

In a convertible table and seat, a base member, an intermediate supporting member, said base member comprising peripheral wall means having respective upper and lower edge portions defining the upper and lower limits of said base member, corner shelves attached to and extending inwardly from the respective adjacent corner portions of said peripheral walls, two oppositely disposed lateral shelves attached to and extending inwardly from two opposite peripheral walls of said base member, said corner shelves and said lateral shelves being attached at the same level to the respective bottom portions of said peripheral walls and being in spaced relation to said upper edge portions of said peripheral edge portions, said shelves and the portions of said peripheral walls therebetween defining an open bottom portion of said base member, and leg means in underlying supporting engagement with said base member; said supporting member comprising four peripheral walls having respective upper and lower edge portions defining the upper and lower limits of said supporting member, a supporting wall attached to said last-mentioned peripheral walls and in spaced relation to one of said edge portions, thereby forming a recessed portion laterally defined by said latter peripheral walls, said last-mentioned peripheral walls being proportioned for removable and reversible nesting positioning within said first-mentioned peripheral walls of the base member, said shelves being proportioned and positioned for underlying supporting engagement with said supporting member when the latter is operatively disposed within said base member; and a pad member positioned within the recessed portion of said intermediate supporting member and extending upwardly beyond the confines of the upper edge portions of the peripheral walls of said base member and said supporting member to define a cushioned seat, said pad member being removable from said recessed portion of said supporting member when said supporting member is reversed and positioned in nesting engagement within said first mentioned peripheral walls, the upper surface of said supporting wall in the reversed position thereof being at the same level as the upper edge portions of the peripheral walls of said base member to define a serving area.

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