Oct. 4, 1932. H. P. BALLIET 1,881,306

TABLE

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Fig. 1.

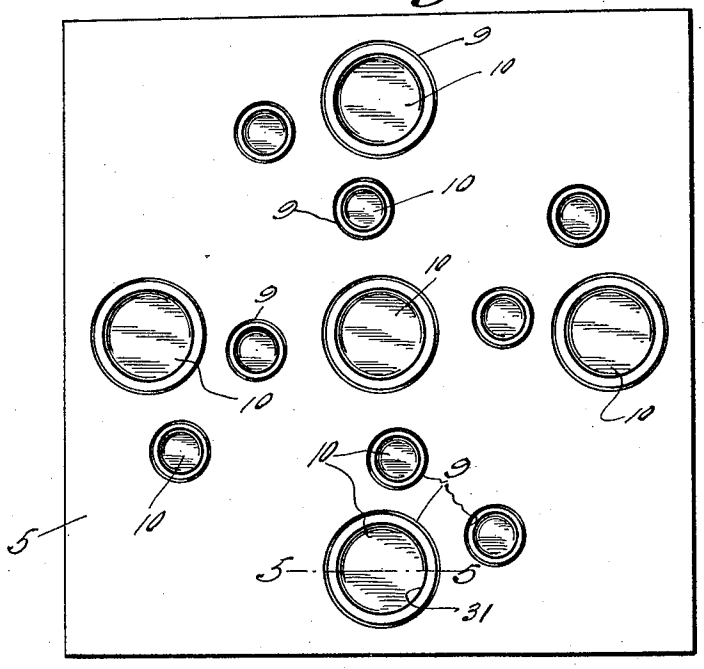
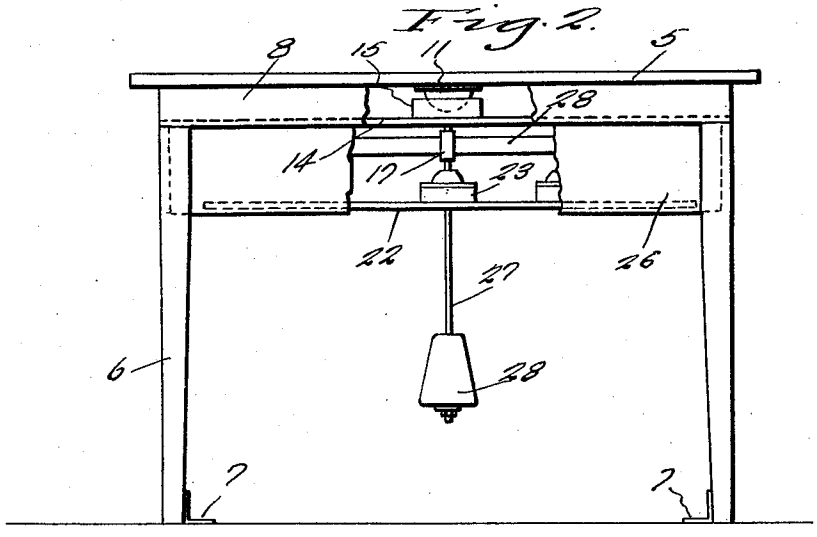


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 3.

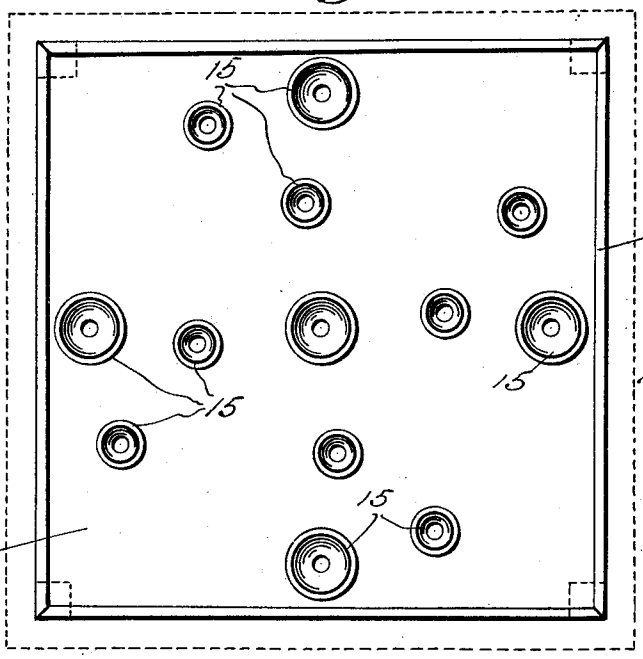


Fig. 6.

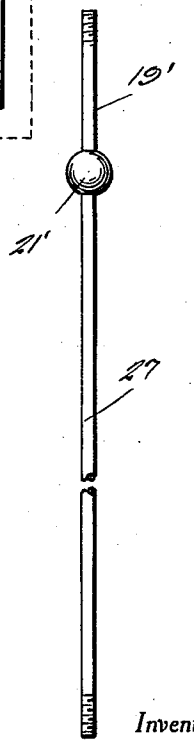
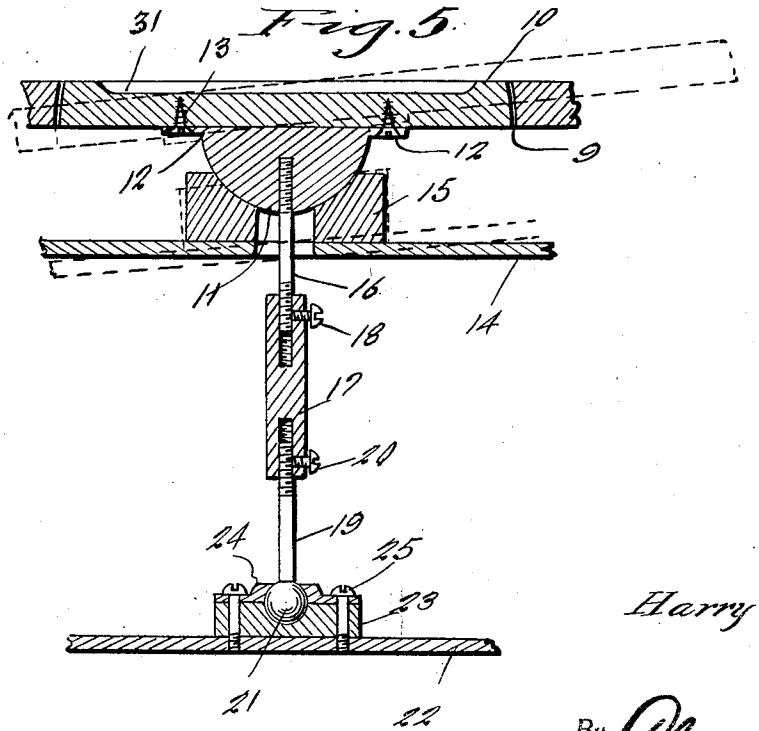


Fig. 5.



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Fig. 4

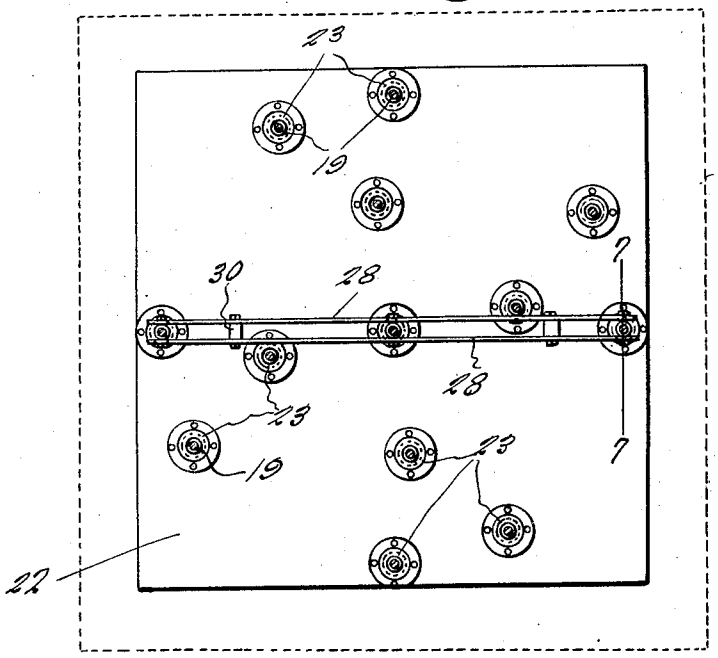


Fig. 7

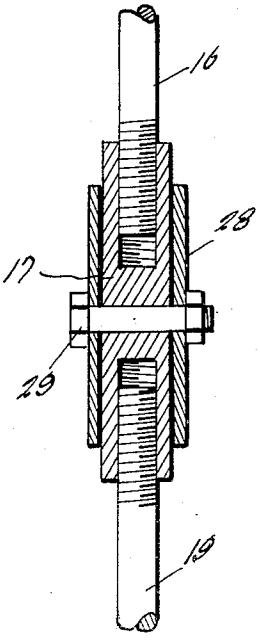
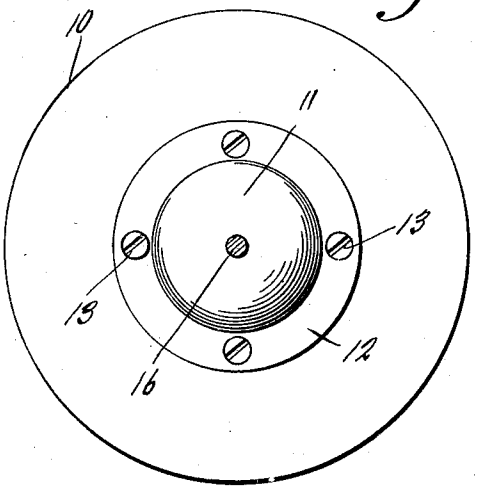


Fig. 8.



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Patented Oct. 4, 1932 1,881,306

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

HARRY P. BALLIET, OF SLATEDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

TABLE

Application filed February 25, 1932. Serial No. 595,166.

This invention relates to tables, and in accordance with the present invention a table is provided especially adapted for use on railway passenger trains and boats.

The present invention consists in the provision of a table provided with means whereby the dishes or similar articles placed thereon will not be affected by the motion of the table caused by the swaying and pitching of the land or water vehicle.

The invention together with its numerous objects and advantages will be best understood from a study of the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the table.

Figure 2 is a side elevational view thereof with parts broken away.

Figure 3 is a top plan view of a socket-equipped plate.

Figure 4 is a bottom plan view of a suspended plate.

Figure 5 is a sectional view taken substantially on the line 5—5 of Figure 1.

Figure 6 is an elevational view of a weight equipped rod.

Figure 7 is a sectional view taken substantially on the line 7—7 of Figure 4, and

Figure 8 is a bottom plan view of a disc forming part of the table top.

As shown in the drawings the table includes a top 5 and legs 6, the latter at their lower ends being suitably equipped as at 7 for fastening to a floor or the like. The upper end of the legs 6 are connected to the corners of a frame 8 which supports the top 5.

The top 5 is provided with a plurality of predeterminedly arranged apertures 9, varying in size, and these apertures 9 are preferably arranged to correspond with the arrangement of the dinner dishes, that is the plate, cups, saucers, center dishes and the like as suggested in Figure 1.

Such dishes, in actual practice, rest on discs 10 arranged within the apertures 9, and each disk 10 on the under side thereof, as shown clearly in Figure 8, is equipped with a semi-spherical or half-ball 11 provided at its flat side with a flange 12 secured to the disk through the medium of screws or other fastening element 18.

Fixedly mounted within the frame 8 is a plate 14 provided with a suitable socket 15 for each half-ball or semi-spherical 11. Each socket 15 has a relatively large opening therethrough accommodating a rod section 16. Each rod section 16 has one end thereof threadedly engaged with its associated half ball or semi-spherical 11, while the other end of the rod section 16 is threaded into one socketed end of a double socketed connecting member 17. A set screw 18 locks a rod 16 and its associated socket member 17 in coupled relation against casual relative rotation as shown in Figure 5.

A rod section 19 has one end screwed into the remaining socket of each member 17 and is locked in coupled relation thereto through the medium of a set screw 20. Each rod 19 is provided with a ball 21. Rod sections 16, 19 and coupling members 17 serve as suspension means for a plate 22 that on its top side is equipped with sockets 23 receiving the balls 21. Balls 21 are secured in the sockets 23 through the medium of clamping plates 24, bolts or similar fastening elements 25 serving to couple sockets 23 and plates 24 and to secure such assemblies to the plate 22.

Swinging movement of plate 22 is limited through the medium of an auxiliary frame 26 supported between the legs 6 immediately below the frame 8 as shown in Figure 2.

A rod 19′ associated with the most centrally located disk 11, and corresponding to the rods 19 has its ball 21′ provided with an elongated shank or rod extension 27 that terminates below the plate 22. To the lowermost end of the rod 27, there is suitably connected a weight 28.

Also, as shown in Figure 4, three alined double socketed members 17 are connected together by a pair of bars 28, which bars 28 are secured to said socket 17 through the medium of bolt and nut means 29. Spacer blocks 30 are also provided between the plates or bars 28 adjacent corresponding ends of said bars.

As fully shown in Figure 5 each disk 11 is provided on its top face with a concavity or

recess 31 suitably designed to receive a dish.

From the foregoing it will be apparent, that the table top 5 is free to swing as may be occasioned by the rocking and swaying of the train or the like, while the disks 11 will remain in substantial horizontal position, unaffected by said swaying, by reason of the fact that the disks 11 are free of any positive connection with the table top, and accordingly will be influenced by the weight of the plate 22 and the pendulum or counterbalance weight 28, both of which as is well known will be unaffected by such swaying of the vehicle.

Even though I have herein shown and described the preferred embodiment of the invention I am fully aware that certain changes, in actual practice may be resorted to and accordingly, claim all such forms of the invention to which I am entitled, intending to nowise limit the invention beyond the requirement of the prior art and the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is:

1. A table comprising in combination a fixed plate, a plurality of disks, ball and socket means connecting said disks with said plate, a floating member beneath said plate, and suspension means connecting the ball of each of said ball and socket means with said floating member.

2. A table comprising in combination a top provided with a plurality of apertures, a relatively fixed plate beneath said top, a disk in each of said apertures and provided on its underside with a ball, sockets on said plate receiving said balls, a floating plate and suspension means connecting it with said balls.

3. A table comprising in combination a top provided with a plurality of apertures, a relatively fixed plate beneath said top, sockets on said plate, a disk arranged in each of said apertures and provided on its upper face with a recess for accommodating a plate or the like, a half-ball secured to the under side of said plate and engaging one of said sockets, a floating plate beneath the first named plate, and an adjustable suspension element rigidly connected at one end with a half-ball, and having a ball and socket connection at a relatively opposite end with said floating plate.

4. A table comprising in combination a top provided with a plurality of apertures, a relatively fixed plate beneath said top, sockets on said plate, a disk arranged in each of said apertures and provided on its upper face with a recess for accommodating a plate or the like, a half-ball secured to the under side of said plate and engaging one of said sockets, a floating plate beneath the first named plate, and an adjustable suspension element rigidly connected at one end with a half-ball, and having a ball and socket connection at a relatively opposite end with said floating plate, and the suspension element connected with the ball of the most centrally located disk including a rod extension depending from said floating plate, and a weight on said rod extension.

5. A table comprising in combination a top having an aperture, a relatively fixed socket beneath said top concentric of said aperture, a disk arranged in said aperture, a half-ball secured to the under side of said disk and engaged with said socket, a rod extending vertically from said half ball, and weight means adjacent the lower end of said rod.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

HARRY P. BALLIET.