

March 22, 1932.

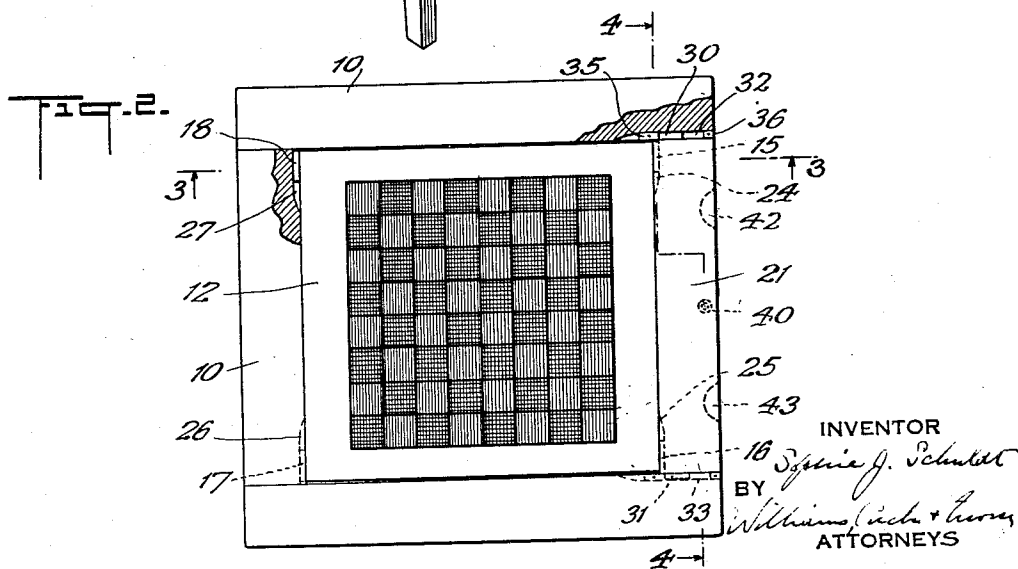
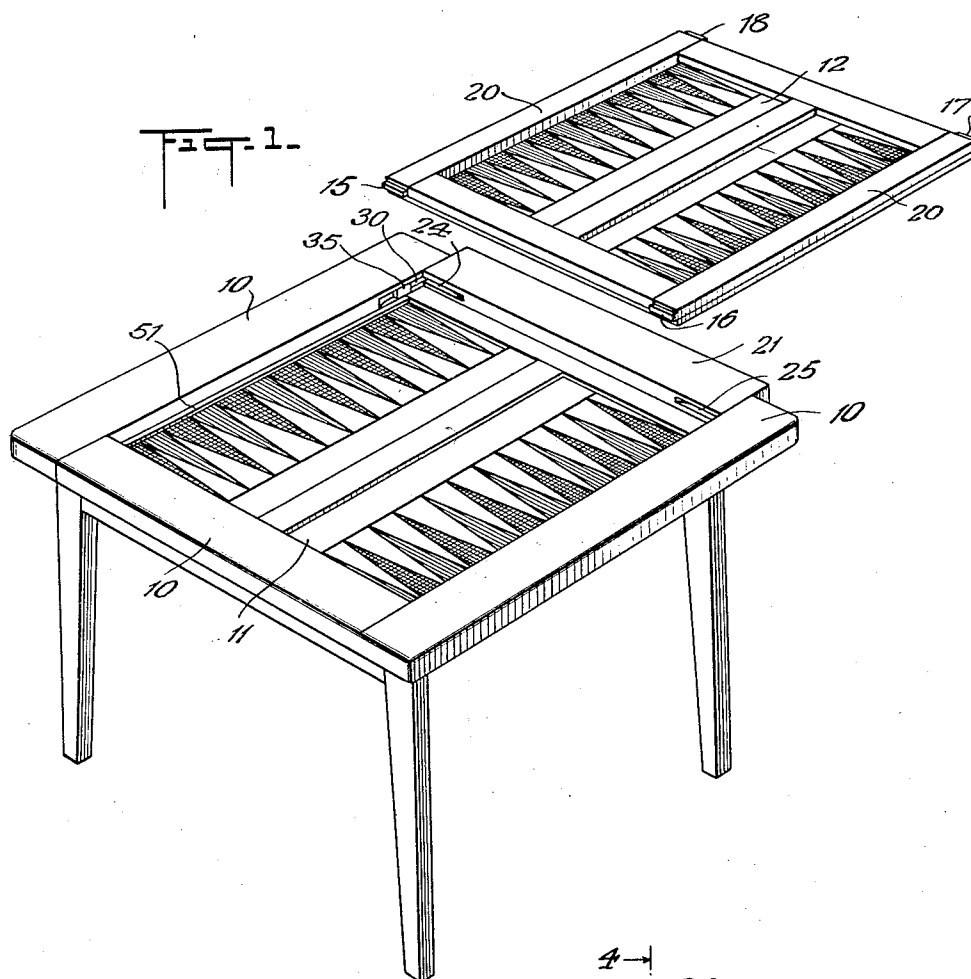
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1,850,420

GAME TABLE

Filed Nov. 3, 1930

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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March 22, 1932.

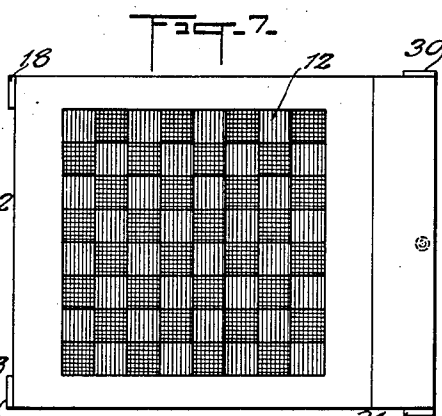
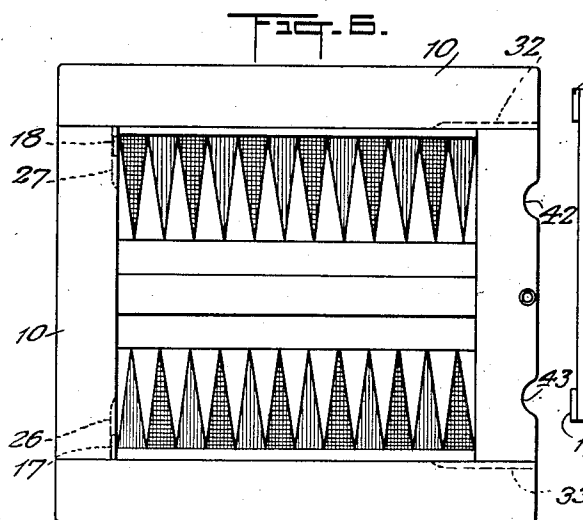
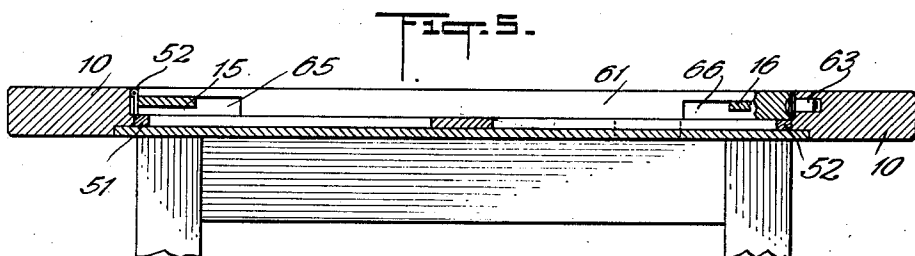
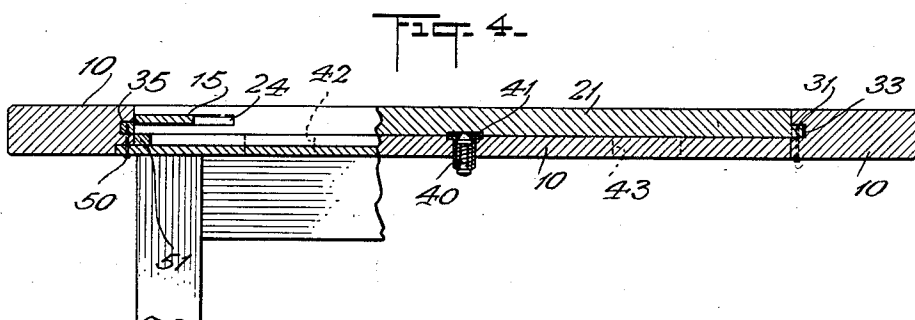
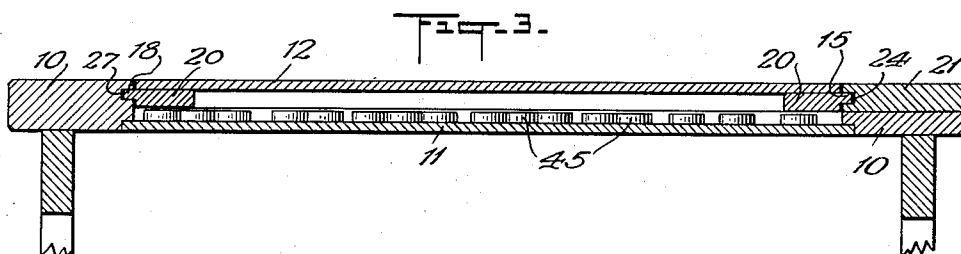
S. J. SCHULDT

1,850,420

GAME TABLE

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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GAME TABLE

Application filed November 3, 1930. Serial No. 492,963.

The present invention relates to game tables and its general object is to provide a table which may be divided to enable the playing of several games thereon.

One object of the invention is to provide a table having a top panel which may be removed and used for playing a game. A further object is to provide a table upon which another game may be played while the top panel is removed, thus permitting the playing of two games simultaneously. A further object is to provide a table which will be attractive in appearance, in which the pieces used in playing games may be stored when the table is not in use, and which may be inexpensively constructed.

Several embodiments of the invention are described in this specification taken in connection with the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings, Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a table and a top panel therefor, the top panel shown as removed; Fig. 2 is a plan view, partly in section of the table shown in Fig. 1 with the top panel in place; Fig. 3 is a section taken along the line 3—3 of Fig. 2; Fig. 4 is a section taken along the broken line 4—4 of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a horizontal section showing a modified construction of the locking means for securing the top panel in position. Figs. 6 and 7 are plan views showing another modification in the construction of the top panel and its locking means.

Referring to the drawings, Fig. 1 illustrates a game table having a rectangular frame 10 to which is secured a bottom panel 11 and in which fits a top panel 12. In Fig. 1 the top panel 12 is shown with its under side uppermost. The top of the panel 12 is flat and when in position in the frame 10, as illustrated in Fig. 2, the top is flush with the frame 10, making a smooth table surface.

Means are provided whereby the top panel 12 may be securely locked in position in the frame 10. To this end Fig. 1 shows tongues 15, 16, 17 and 18 on the top panel frame 20.

The segment 21 of the table frame 10 is movable. In the segment 21 are the grooves 24 and 25 and in the frame 10 (see Fig. 2) are the grooves 26 and 27 for receiving the tongues 15, 16, 17 and 18.

Referring to Fig. 2, the movable segment 21 has at its ends the tongues 30 and 31 which cooperate with the grooves 32 and 33 respectively in the frame 10. Stops are provided in the grooves 32 and 33, as shown in Fig. 2, as for example the stops 35 and 36, to limit the movement of the segment 21. To permit an operator to grasp the segment 21 the frame 10 is cut out as shown at 42 and 43. Referring particularly to Fig. 4, a spring catch 40 is provided to maintain the segment 21 in closed position.

Fig. 3 shows in section how the tongue 18 cooperates with the groove 27 to maintain one end of the top panel in position in the frame 10 while the tongue 15 cooperates with the groove 24 in the segment 21 when the segment is closed, to lock the other end of the top panel in place. This figure illustrates the space between the bottom panel 11 and top panel 12 in which pieces such as checkers 45 may be stored when not in use.

Fig. 4, which is a section along the broken line 4—4 of Fig. 2, illustrates the mechanism of the segment 21. It shows the tongue 31 cooperating with the groove 33, in which it slides, and the stop 35 held in place by a brad 50 for limiting the movement of the segment 21. The tongue 15 on the top panel frame is shown in position in the groove 24. The spring catch 40 and its cooperating plate 41 are permanently secured respectively in the frame 10 and the segment 21.

Fig. 5 shows strips 51 and 52 which form abutments for the top panel 12, when it is in position. These strips are secured along the inside of the frame 10, the strip 51 as shown in Fig. 1 and a corresponding strip along the opposite side of the frame 10.

Fig. 5 shows a modification of the movable

segment of the frame 10. The embodiment illustrated comprises a movable segment 61 which is pivotally connected at one end to the frame 10 by the hinge 52. At the other end a spring catch 63, like that shown at 40 in Fig. 4, is mounted in the frame 10 with a cooperating plate in the end of the segment 61. In the segment 61 are grooves 65 and 66 for receiving the tongues 15 and 16 on the top panel frame.

Figs. 6 and 7 show another modification of the invention. This structure differs from those already shown in that the segment corresponding to the segment 21 of Figs. 1, 2, 3 and 4 is made integral with the top panel 12. The same tongues, 17 and 18 on the top panel and 30 and 31 on the movable segment, are provided and the same grooves 26, 27, 32 and 33 are provided in the frame 10. However, the stops 35 and 36 found in the groove 32 and corresponding stops in the groove 33 (Fig. 2) are omitted in this modification.

With this description of the construction of the several embodiments illustrated in the drawings, an explanation of the uses and operation of the table will be given. Referring to Fig. 2, when the top panel 12 is in position in the frame 10, as illustrated, and the segment 21 is closed, a table with a smooth surface is presented which may be used for the ordinary purposes to which tables are put. If desired, the top panel 12 may be decorated as a checker board as illustrated. Referring to Fig. 1, the bottom panel 11 and the inside of the top panel 12 may be decorated as backgammon boards. As backgammon is ordinarily played by only two persons, a table such as that illustrated and described herein is a great advantage, as by removing the top panel the table is divided into two separate boards which may be used for the entertainment of four or more persons. In the embodiment illustrated in Figs. 1, 2, 3 and 4, the removal of the top panel is effected by pulling out the segment 21, raising the edge of the top panel adjacent thereto and sliding the tongues 17 and 18 out of their grooves.

The tongues 15, 16, 17 and 18 are so placed as to be centered on the edge formed jointly by the panel 12 and the panel frame 20. The grooves 24, 25, 26 and 27 are so located in the frame 10 that the top panel 20 may be locked in the frame 10 with either side up.

The space between the bottom panel 11 and the top panel 12, when the top panel is in place with the smooth side uppermost, it is of sufficient depth to contain the pieces used in playing the game.

In the embodiment illustrated in Fig. 4, the operation is the same except for the segment 21 which, being hinged at one end, is opened on that hinge to release the tongues 15 and 16, instead of being moved laterally like the segment 21.

In the embodiment illustrated in Figs. 6

and 7 the top panel 12 and the segment corresponding to the segment 21 of Fig. 1 are permanently secured together and they are inserted in and removed in the frame 10 as a unit, as will readily be understood from the drawings.

What is claimed is:

1. In a game table, a frame including an end member and a pair of side members, a removable panel adapted to be inserted in said frame intermediate said side members, and panel-retaining means for locking said panel to said frame consisting of a tongue and a groove adapted for cooperation with each other as between said end member only and one end of said panel and a segment movable with respect to said frame and adapted to establish an interlocking connection as between said frame and the other end of said panel.

2. In a game table, a frame including an end member and a pair of side members, a removable panel adapted to be inserted in said frame member intermediate said side members, and panel-retaining means for locking said panel to said frame comprising a segment interlocked with and slidably connected to said side members intermediate the same, a tongue and a groove adapted for cooperation with each other as between said end member only and one end of said panel and a tongue and a groove adapted for cooperation with each other as between said segment only and the opposite end of said panel to establish an interlocking connection between said frame and said opposite end of said panel through said segment as an intermediary.

3. In a game table, a frame including an end member and a pair of side members, a removable panel adapted to be inserted in said frame member intermediate said side members, panel-retaining means for locking said panel to said frame comprising a segment hinged at one end to one of said side members and adapted to assume a position intermediate said side members, securing means for detachably connecting the other end of said segment to the other of said side members, a tongue and a groove adapted for cooperation with each other as between said end member only and one end of said panel and a tongue and a groove adapted for cooperation with each other as between said segment only and the opposite end of said panel to establish an interlocking connection between said frame and said opposite end of said panel through said segment as an intermediary.

4. In a game table, a frame including an end member and a pair of side members, a removable panel adapted to be inserted in said frame intermediate said side members, panel-retaining means for locking said panel to said frame consisting of a tongue and a

5 groove adapted for cooperation with each
other as between said end member only and
one end of said panel, a segment coextensive
with one edge of said panel and permanently
secured thereto, said segment being movable
10 with respect to said side members intermedi-
ate the same, and segment-retaining means
for interlocking said segment with said frame
consisting of tongues and grooves adapted for
15 respective cooperation with each other as be-
tween the ends only of said side members and
the opposite ends of said segment.

In testimony whereof, I have signed this
specification.

15 SOPHIE J. SCHULDT.

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