A. L. KRAUSE.

DINING TABLE CLOTH APPLIANCE.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 6, 1914.

1,184,968.

Patented May 30, 1916

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

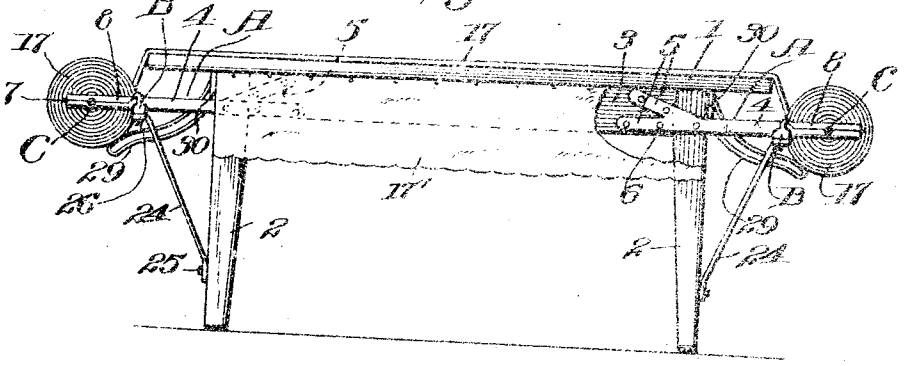


Fig. 2.

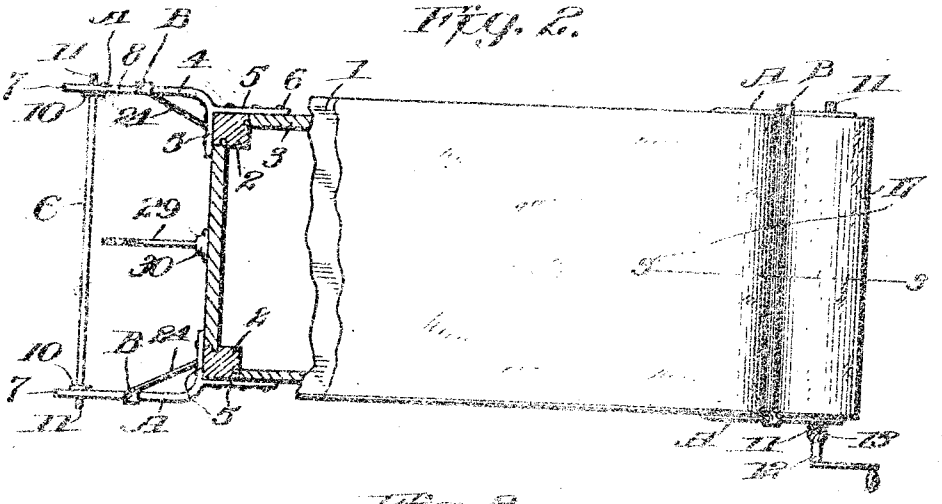
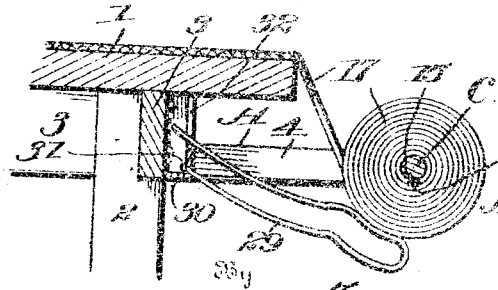


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

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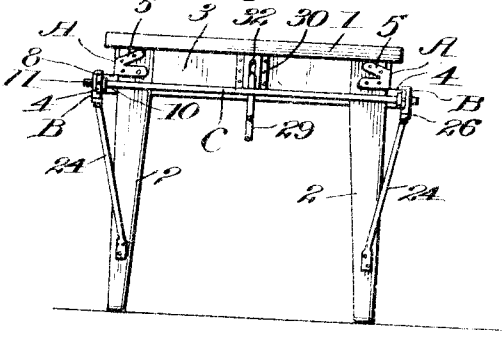
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.



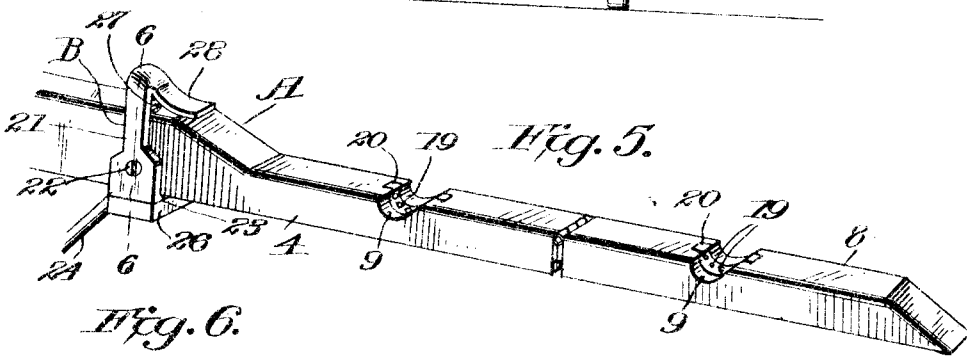
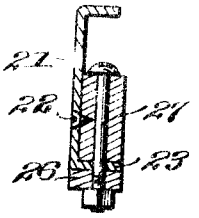


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.



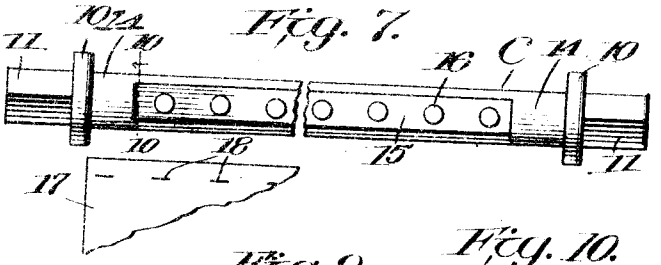


Fig. 7.

Fig. 9.

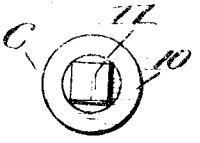


Fig. 10.

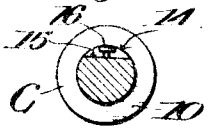
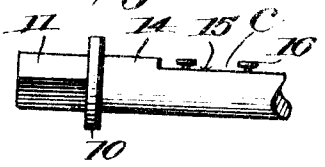


Fig. 8.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DINING-TABLE-CLOTH APPLIANCE.

1,184,968 Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 30, 1916.

Application filed October 6, 1914. Serial No. 865,222.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT J. KRAUSE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Portland, in the county of Multnomah and State of Oregon, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Dining-Table-Cloth Appliances, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to tables, particularly dining tables, and its main object is to provide a covering cloth therefor that may be operated to present for use a plurality of different portions to entirely cover the table so that when one portion is soiled, a clean portion may be presented without removal of the cloth from the table, whereby frequent changes of the cloth is avoided, and the time incidental to the removal of cloths and table service on the cloths is saved.

In carrying out the said main object, servient objects are to provide a table cloth of such length that it may cover the table top a plurality of times and which cloth is capable of being wound upon a spool shaft and the shafts in turn operated to wind or unwind the cloth; to provide means whereby accidental unwinding of the cloth is prevented; to provide means whereby the spool shafts may be removably supported from the table; to provide the latter means in the form of brackets having clasp arms to coöperate with the spool shafts and to provide a means whereby the table cloth may be positively though removably fastened to the spool shafts.

With the foregoing and additional objects such as will appear from the description hereinafter following, in view, the invention has been embodied in preferable form in the device illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation illustrating a table having my improvements applied thereto; Fig. 2, is a top or plan view, partly broken away; Fig. 3, is an enlarged cross sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2; Fig. 4, is an end view in elevation, of the table, having my improvements attached thereto but with the table cloth removed; Fig. 5, is a detail perspective view illustrating one of the supporting arms of the brackets mounting the spool shafts, showing the clasp arm in open position; Fig. 6, is a detail sectional view on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5; Fig. 7, is a detail elevation of one of the spool shafts; Fig. 8, is a fragmentary detail elevation of the spool shaft of Fig. 7, being taken at right angles to the said figure; Fig. 9, is an end view of one of the spool shafts; Fig. 10, is a cross sectional view on the line 10—10 of Fig. 7.

Referring specifically to the drawings, wherein like reference characters designate like or similar parts throughout the various views, a conventional table is shown having a top 1 supporting legs 2 and depending side and end brace members 3. On each side of the table at each of the four corners is fastened a bracket generally designated A, and shown as comprising longitudinally and outwardly extending supporting arms 4, integral with which arms are fastening arms or tangs 5, arranged at an angle to each other, and through openings of which pass fastening members 6, in order to secure the brackets to the table. Each arm 4 at its end has hinged thereto at 7, a clasp arm 8 adapted to be fastened in closed position by means of a fastening device or clasp generally designated B. The clasp arms 8 and the arms 4 are provided with registering semicircular depressions 9, collectively forming circular openings in which are rotatably mounted spool shafts C.

The spool shafts C have annular abutment shoulders or flanges 10, beyond which are provided tool engaging heads or ends 11, preferably square or otherwise polygonal in cross section. A tool that may engage the ends 11 is shown in Fig. 2 and designated 12, it having a socket 13 in which the ends 11 are removably received. Between the flanges 10, the spool shafts are elongated, having bearing portions 14 round in cross section and which are mounted in the circular openings formed by depressions 9. Intermediate the portions 11, the shafts C are cut away so as to provide a flat surface 15 above which project fastening members in the nature of buttons having heads, 16.

The table cloth which is designated 17 is detachably fastened to the shafts C and to this end the cloth at each end extremity is provided with a row of button holes 18 to permit attachment of the cloth to the button heads 16. Side cloths 17′ may be provided if desired to lend to the attractiveness of the table. For the purpose of reducing undue friction between portions 11 of the spool shafts and the walls of the depressions 9, bearing balls 19 are provided at the dep-

sions to be engaged by the portions 14, said balls preferably being carried by retainers 20.

Referring to the clasp or fastening devices B, same have upstanding arms 21 through which fastening screws 22 may pass. Also said devices B have angle plates 23. Brace bracket members 24 are fastened to the legs 2, as at 25, and said bracket members 24 have angle plates 26. Aliming openings are provided in the arms 4, arms 8, angle plates 23 and 26, and through said openings extend fastening bolts 27. At its upper end, arm 21 is provided with an angularly disposed spring clasp finger 28 arranged so that its front end will normally extend slightly over the free end of arm 8 so as to fasten same in position supporting the spool shafts C.

As a means for preventing accidental unwinding of the cloth, I provide a substantially U shaped spring member 29. This member 29 is carried by a bracket 30 fastened to one of the end members 3. At one end, said spring 29 is permanently fastened to the bracket 30, as at 31. The other end of the spring is free and extends loosely into a vertically elongated slot 32 of the bracket 30.

In actual use, the cloth is in the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2, having its ends detachably fastened to the spool shafts C by means of the buttons 16 and button holes 18 and the cloth at each end is wrapped around the shaft forming bolts of cloth, so that the cloth will be of considerable length and be capable of adjustment to present a plurality of portions which will completely cover the table top so as to carry out the objects stated at the beginning of this specification. It will be realized that the spool shafts C are removably fastened in place on the brackets A by means of the arms 8 and the clasp devices B. When the arms 8 are moved to closed position, the spring fingers 28 yield to permit the arms to pass the same. When said arms 8 however are opened, the fingers 28 may be manually pressed aside to permit the opening swinging movement of these arms. Springs 29 at all times bear against the cloth bolts frictionally so as to prevent accidental unwinding. When the bolts become smaller in diameter, due to the provision of the slot 32, the spring 29 will yield upwardly to compensate for the unwound cloth. In order that the springs 29 may function as described, they are necessarily under considerable tension when the cloth bolts are largest. In order to shift the position of the cloth so as to present a different portion of the cloth, the crank tool 12 may be applied to either of the polygonal ends 11 of the shafts C and the crank thereupon turned in the proper direction. The tension of the springs 29 is insufficient to hamper the proper turning movement of the shafts C and the bolts.

As merely the preferred embodiment of the invention has been illustrated and described, it is to be understood that changes in the details of construction may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

I claim:

In a device of the class described, supporting means, a turnable element mounted therefrom, a cloth carried by said element in bolt form, a bracket mounted on said supporting means having an elongated slot therein, and means to bear against the said bolt to prevent accidental unwinding of the cloth, said means being yieldable so as to engage the bolt upon reduction of its diameter and being specifically a spring element of substantially U-shape having one end rigidly connected to the bracket and its other end extending into and movable in said elongated slot.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ALBERT J. KRAUSE.

Witnesses:
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