

July 31, 1928.

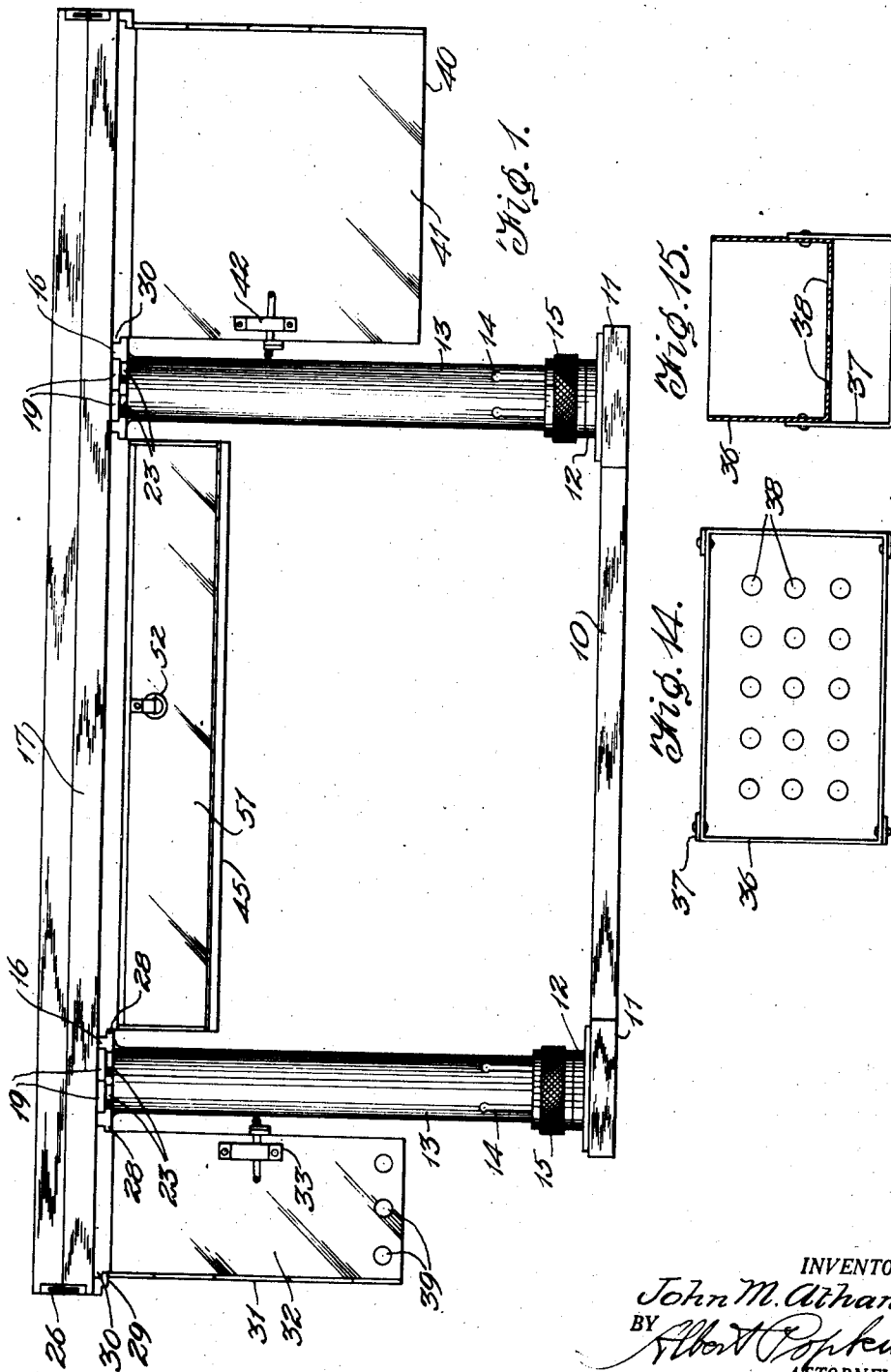
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1,679,017

SERVICE TABLE

Filed June 9, 1927

5 Sheets-Sheet 1



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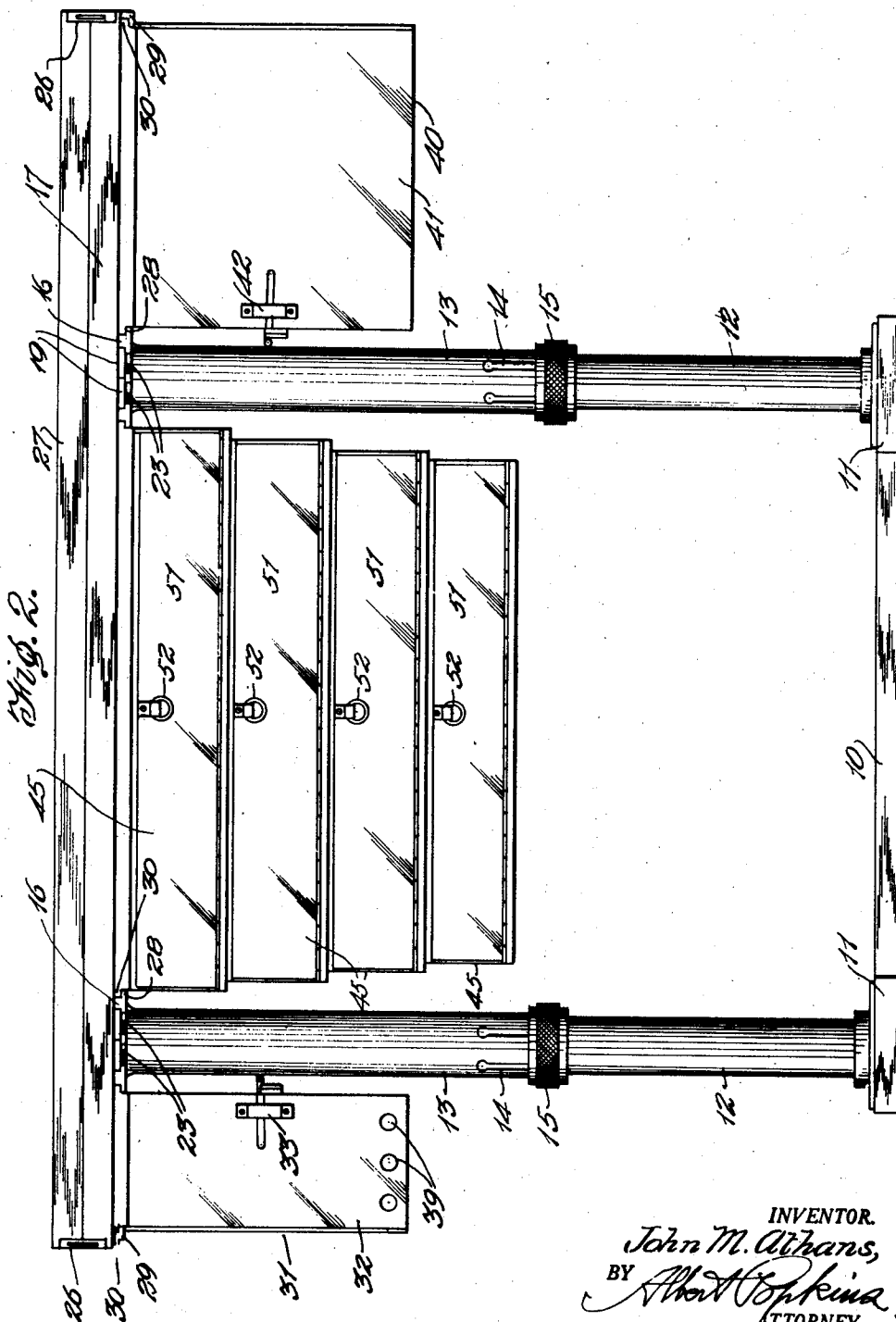
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SERVICE TABLE

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5 Sheets-Sheet 2



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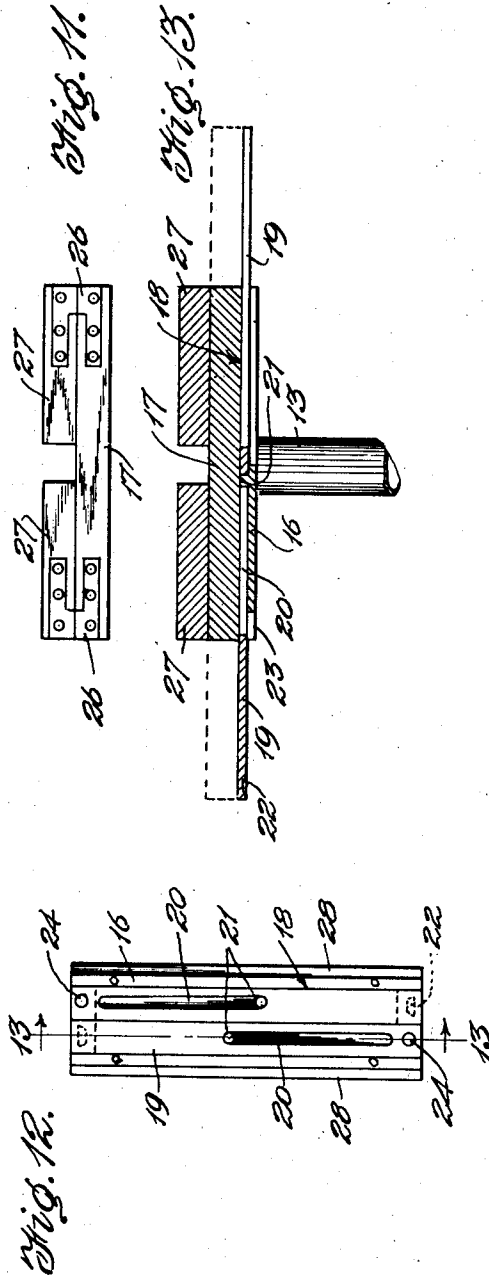
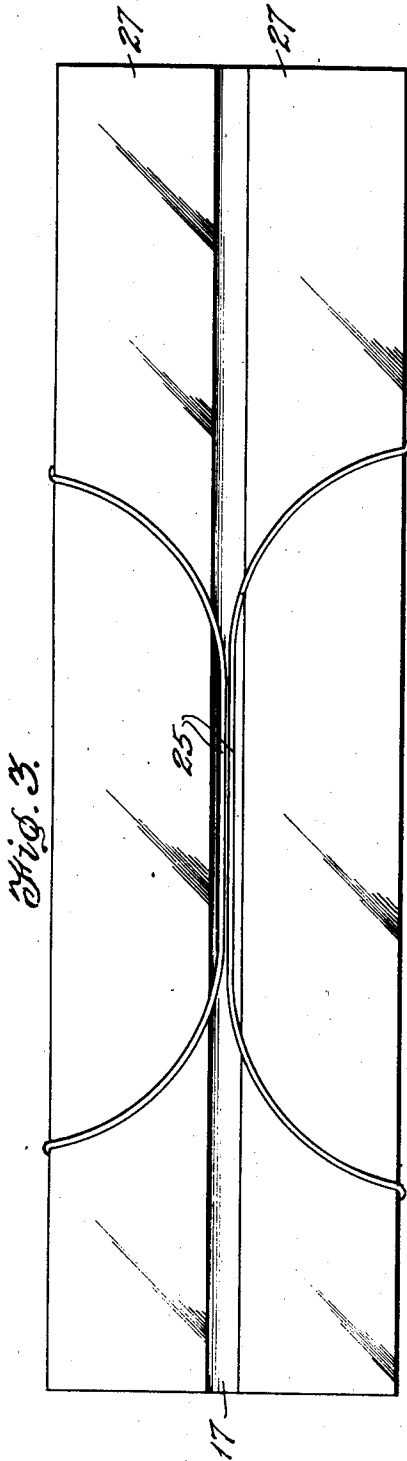
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SERVICE TABLE

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5 Sheets-Sheet 3



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SERVICE TABLE

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5 Sheets-Sheet 4

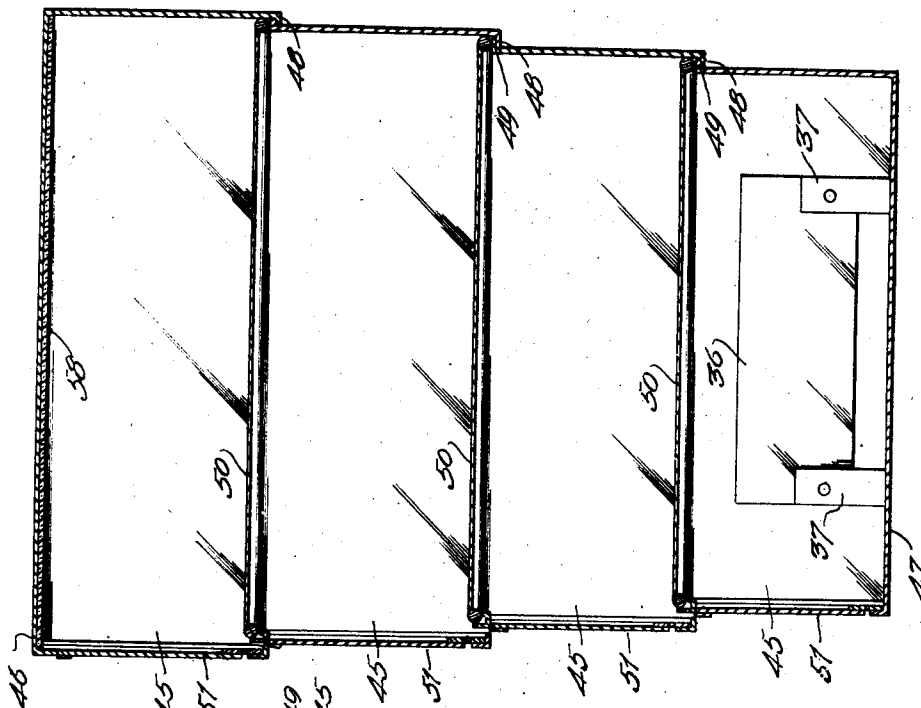


Fig. 5.

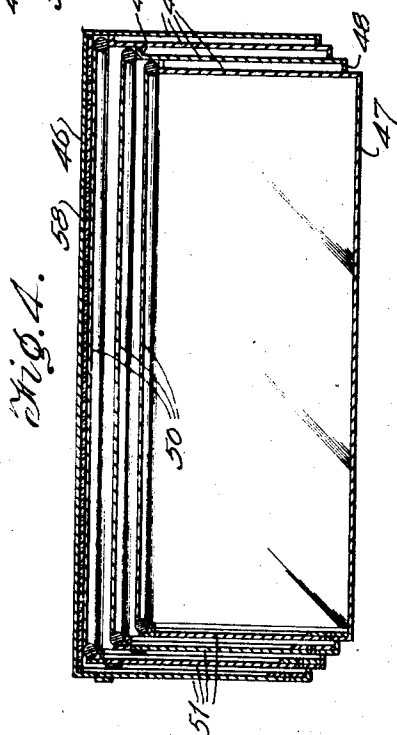


Fig. 4.

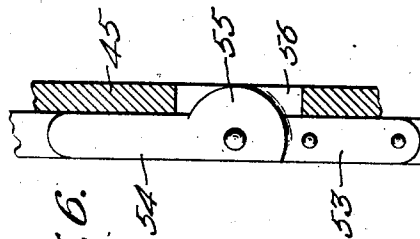


Fig. 6.

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5 Sheets-Sheet 5

Fig. 8.

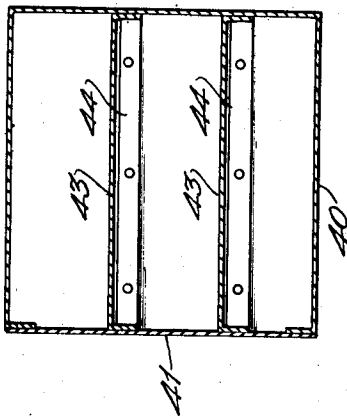


Fig. 10.

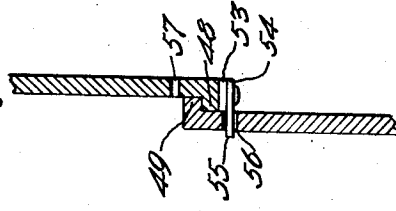


Fig. 9.

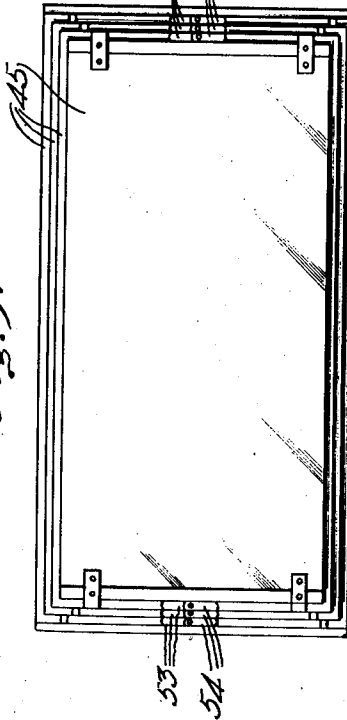
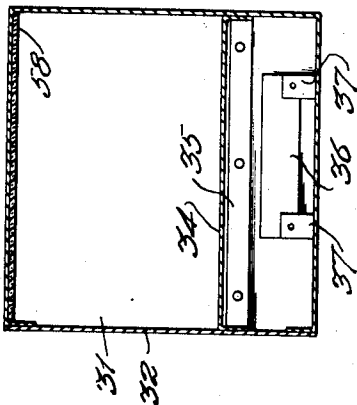


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SERVICE TABLE.

Application filed June 9, 1927. Serial No. 197,694.

This invention relates to service tables.

In hotels, hotel apartments and other like buildings guests frequently wish a meal served in their room or apartment. This necessitates, in most cases, the carrying of a table, its equipment and the food to the room and consequently requires the services of two or more employees or, if a single waiter attempts the service he has to dress the table to be carried to the room in the pantry or serving room and then balance the table carefully on one hand while carrying it and its load of dishes and food to the guest's room. This makes either an extra expense when two or more employees are used or an awkward and inconvenient method when performed by a single waiter.

One principal object of the present invention is to provide a novel and improved service table by the use of which a single waiter can readily and conveniently transport from the serving room the table with its full equipment of linen, silverware, dishes and other articles to the guest's room.

A second important object of the invention is to provide a service table so constructed in an improved manner that it may be collapsed to relatively small dimensions for transportation without decreasing the space to be used for transporting the food, dishes and other articles.

A third important object of the invention is to provide an improved table of this kind which shall be equipped with suitable closets for maintaining food in hot and cold conditions, for carrying plates and other table ware and which are so arranged that they are held between the table top and base during the transportation and when the table is collapsed for transportation.

A fourth important object of the invention is to provide an improved table of the above character having the closets referred to removable for cleansing and the like.

A fifth important object of the invention is to provide an arrangement of closet in such a table which may be collapsed after the contents are removed so as to be out of the way of the knees of persons using the table.

With the above and other objects in view as will be hereinafter apparent, the invention consists in general of certain novel details of construction and combinations of

parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and specifically claimed.

In the accompanying drawings like characters of reference indicate like parts in the several views, and:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the table in its collapsed form and showing the middle closet collapsed.

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the table expanded to substantially its full height.

Figure 3 is a plan view of the table in condition for transportation.

Figure 4 is a transverse section through the collapsible closet showing the same in collapsed position.

Figure 5 is a view of the parts shown in Figure 4 fully expanded.

Figure 6 is a view of one form of lock suitable for the closet.

Figure 7 is a transverse view of the closet for keeping coffee and the like hot.

Figure 8 is a transverse section of the closet for use in keeping articles cold.

Figure 9 is a bottom plan view of the collapsible closet.

Figure 10 is a detail section showing one of the locking devices for the sections of the collapsible closet.

Figure 11 is an end view of the table top with the side leaves folded over.

Figure 12 is a top view of one of the cross members of the table top showing the leaf supporting bars.

Figure 13 is a section on the line 13—13 of Figure 12 but also showing the table top in folded position in full lines and with the leaves opened in dotted lines.

Figure 14 is a plan view of a charcoal holder for heating the compartments.

Figure 15 is a cross-sectional view thereof.

In the present embodiment of the invention there is provided a longitudinal base member 10 at each end of which is a transverse base member 11 and secured to these base members at the junctions of the longitudinal and transverse members is a pipe leg section 12 on which fits a pipe leg section 13 which thus telescopes with respect to the section 12. The sections 13 each have their lower ends split as at 14 and on these sections is screwed a clamp nut 15 of the usual taper threaded type so that as the nuts 15 are screwed up the split portions

of the sections 13 are collapsed and caused to grip tightly on the sections 12. By this means the telescopic legs may be either held in expanded or collapsed condition.

5 On the top of each section 13 is a cross member 16 to which is screwed the main table top member 17, these cross members serving as cross braces on this member. Each cross member has its upper face provided with a channel 18 and in these channels are fitted pairs of leaf supporting bars 19 each of which has one end slotted as at 20, a pin 21 being fixed in the member 16 to enter the slot. By means of these slots 15 the extent of protraction and retraction of the bars 19 is limited to the proper amount. Each of the bars 19 likewise has on its underside adjacent the end which is protracted in use a finger notch 22 by means of 20 which the bar may be drawn out, the cross member being cut away as at 23 to enable this finger notch to be reached. Also each member 19 is provided in its opposite end with a hole 24 for the reception of one end 25 of a carrying cord 25, best seen in Figure 3. At each end of the main portion 17 there is provided a pair of hinges 26 which carry the leaves 27, the hinges being of such type and so arranged that these leaves may 30 either fold over on top of the main member 17 as shown in full lines in Figures 11 and 13 or may be folded outwardly, as shown in dotted lines in Figure 13 to rest on the extended bars 19 as indicated in that figure. Now, it will be seen that when the 35 bars 19 are retracted, as in Figure 12, the cords 25 will be left loose but when these bars are drawn out the cords 25 will be pulled into the space normally occupied by the inner ends of the bars so that the slack 40 of these cords will be taken up and they will not hang down, the length of the cord being adjusted to this end.

Each of the members 16 is provided with 45 flanges 28 spaced from the underside of the member 17 and also at each end of the member 17 on its underside is secured a corresponding flange member 29 so that the flanges 30 at the upper ends of certain 50 closets presently to be described may slide in and out on the flange members 29 and flanges 28 thus making these closets removable and replaceable. The member 17 projects beyond the supporting legs at each 55 end and beneath one end is provided a closet 31 having a door 32 equipped with a suitable latch 33. This has in its interior a removable shelf 34 which normally rests on a bracket 35. The shelf 34 is spaced sufficiently above the bottom so that a charcoal 60 tray for burning charcoal may be inserted beneath it. The charcoal trays used each consists of a body 36 having U-shaped legs 37 riveted to its ends and provided with a 65 floor or bottom perforated as at 38 to en-

sure draft. Also the door 32 is provided with perforations 39 for substantially the same purpose.

At the other end of the main member is a closet 40 having a door 41 and latch 42, 70 this closet being provided with two or more shelves 43 resting on brackets 44. Between the legs is located a collapsible closet consisting of a plurality of telescopic sections 45. The upper of these sections is provided with a top 46 on which are located 75 the flanges 30 before mentioned. Likewise the bottom section is provided with a bottom 47. Each of these sections except the bottom is provided at its lower edge with 80 an inwardly extending flange 48 and each section except the top is provided with an outwardly extending flange 49, best seen in Figure 10. Thus when these sections are expanded as in Figure 5 the flanges 48 and 85 49 limit expanding movement. Also on top of all but the upper section rests a grill 50 and each section is provided on its front with a hinge door 51 normally closed by a suitable latch mechanism indicated at 52. 90 At each end, in the present instance, there is provided a lock for each section which consists of a bar 53 secured beneath the flange 48 and on this bar is pivoted a cam latch member 54 having a cam portion 55 adapted 95 to enter either a slot 56 in the upper part of the section next below to hold the closet expanded or to enter a slot 57 in the lower part of said section to hold the closet collapsed. 100

It is to be understood that while this particular form of latch is shown I do not confine myself to the use of this latch but it is to be taken merely as typical of any preferred form. Also, it is to be understood that 105 the manner of holding the legs in expanded or collapsed condition can be varied from that shown and I do not confine myself to this special construction.

In using the invention the legs are collapsed to the position shown in Figure 1 but the central closet is expanded as shown in Figure 2. The closets are then loaded with the necessary table supplies and food, such 110 articles as tea, coffee and the like being placed in their serving vessels in the left hand closet 31 and one of the trays for charcoal being filled with charcoal and placed in the bottom of this closet. In the right hand closet is placed the silverware and any articles which it may be desirable to keep cool 115 such as salads, ices and the like. In the central closet in the bottom section is placed two or more of the charcoal trays filled with the lighted charcoal and above these on the grids or grills is placed the food to be kept 120 hot together with the service plates, cups and saucers and the like. At this time the carrying cords 25 are slack and loose and the table cloth and other linen may be placed on 125 130

the table top and folded over with the leaves. The cords are then brought up in the position shown in Figure 3 and the waiter grasps the same with his hand and carries the service table and its contents to the guest's room.

On reaching the room he loosens the nuts 15 and pulls the top up after which he tightens these nuts thus holding the top in raised position. He then opens the table leaves, first pulling out the bars 19, and spreads the table, removing the food from the closets. After everything is taken out of the central closet he collapses the same to the position shown in Figure 1 and locks the sections in collapsed position so that this closet does not interfere with the knees of the persons sitting opposite each other at the table. If four persons are to be served the closets 31 and 40 may be slid out from beneath the table thus leaving the ends also free.

Suitable asbestos pads 58 are disposed wherever needed to prevent heat from the hot closets either injuring the wood of the table top or making the heat from the closets unpleasant for the guests at the table as well as to prevent waste of heat.

There has thus been provided a simple and efficient device of the kind described and for the purpose specified.

It is obvious that minor changes may be made in the form and construction of the invention without departing from the material spirit thereof. It is not, therefore, desired to confine the invention to the exact form herein shown and described, but it is desired to include all such as properly come within the scope claimed.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, is:

1. In a service table, a base, a top having a central portion and leaves attached thereto to fold outwardly in the plane of the central portion and to fold inwardly above the central portion, leaf supporting bars slidable beneath the central portion to project on opposite sides thereof and to be retracted beneath the central portion, and flexible carrier elements having their ends connected to the inner ends of the bars whereby the carriers are houses upon protrusion of the bars and protruded upon housing of the bars.

2. In a service table, a base, a top, means to support the top for movement toward and from the base, and a series of telescopic article carriers having sliding connection with the underside of said top.

3. In a service table, a base, a top, means to support the top for movement toward and from the base, and a series of telescopic article carriers having sliding connection with the underside of said top, one of said carriers being vertically collapsible.

4. In a service table, a base, a top, telescopic pipe legs connecting the base and top adjacent the ends thereof, and a vertically telescoping article carrier carried by the top and depending between said pipe legs.

5. In a service table, a top, spaced guide flanges extending transversely of said top and arranged to form opposed guide channels, and a telescopic article carrier consisting of vertically collapsible sections and having its upper member provided with flanges slidably engaging in said channels to permit removal and replacement of the article carrier.

6. In a service table, a top, spaced guide flanges extending transversely of said top and arranged to form opposed guide channels, an article carrier consisting of vertically collapsible sections and having its upper member provided with flanges slidably engaging in said channels to permit removal and replacement of the article carrier, and means to lock the several sections of the article carrier in expanded and collapsed positions.

7. In a service table, a top, spaced guide flanges extending transversely of said top and arranged to form opposed guide channels, an article carrier consisting of vertically collapsible sections and having its upper member provided with flanges slidably engaging in said channels to permit removal and replacement of the article carrier, and means to lock each pair of adjacent sections of the article carrier in relative expanded and collapsed positions independently of the remaining sections.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JOHN M. ATHANS.