Sept. 5, 1967 K. D. SCHREYER 3,339,504

TABLE CONSTRUCTION

Filed May 9, 1966 5 Sheets-Sheet 1

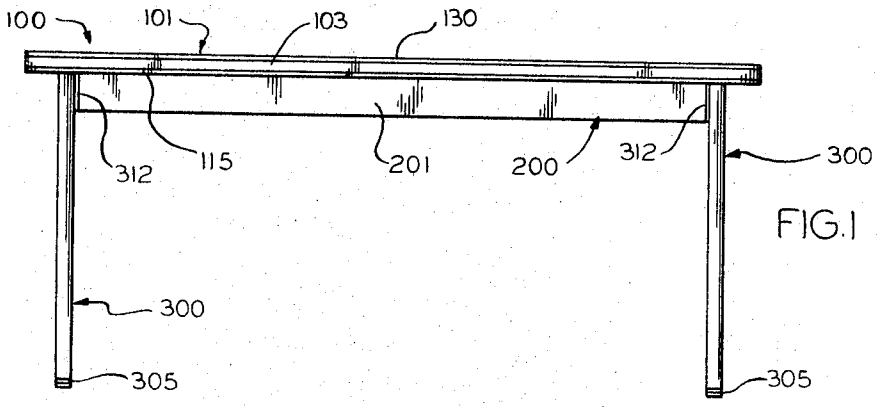


FIG.1

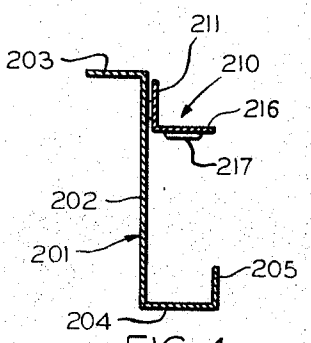


FIG.4

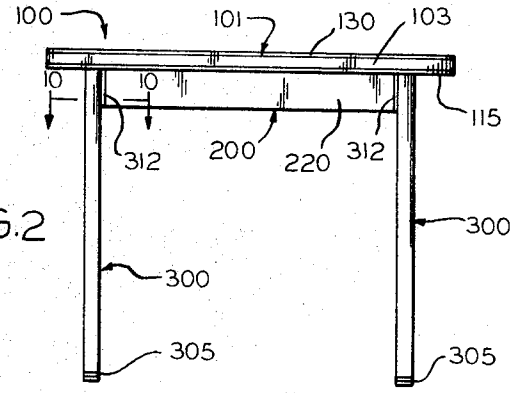


FIG.2

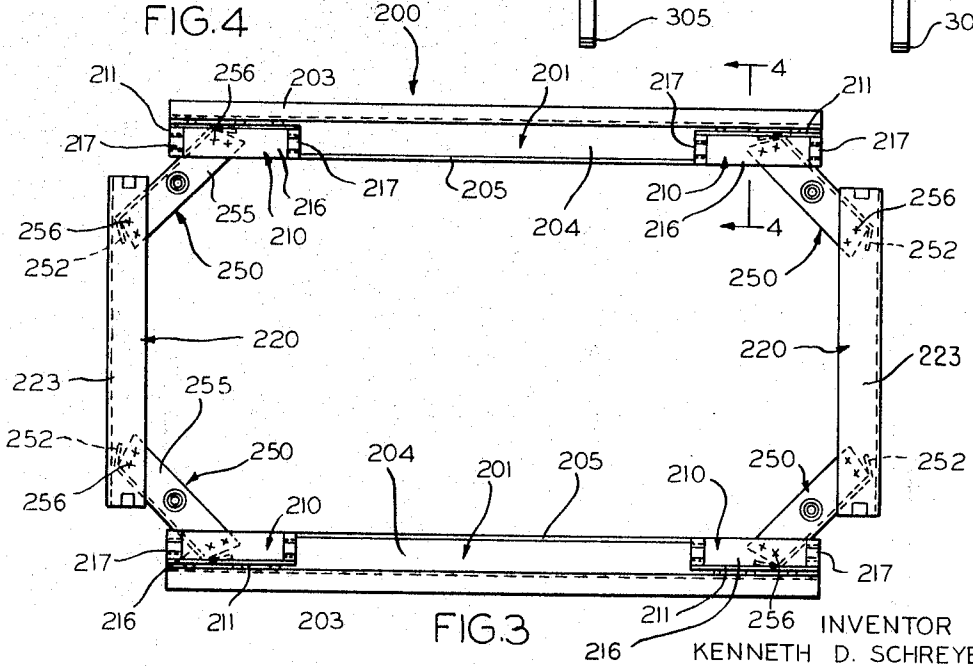


FIG.3

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FIG. 6

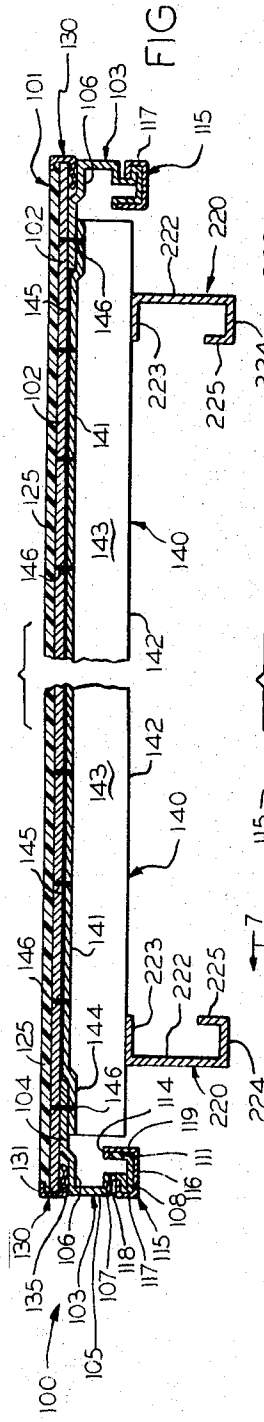
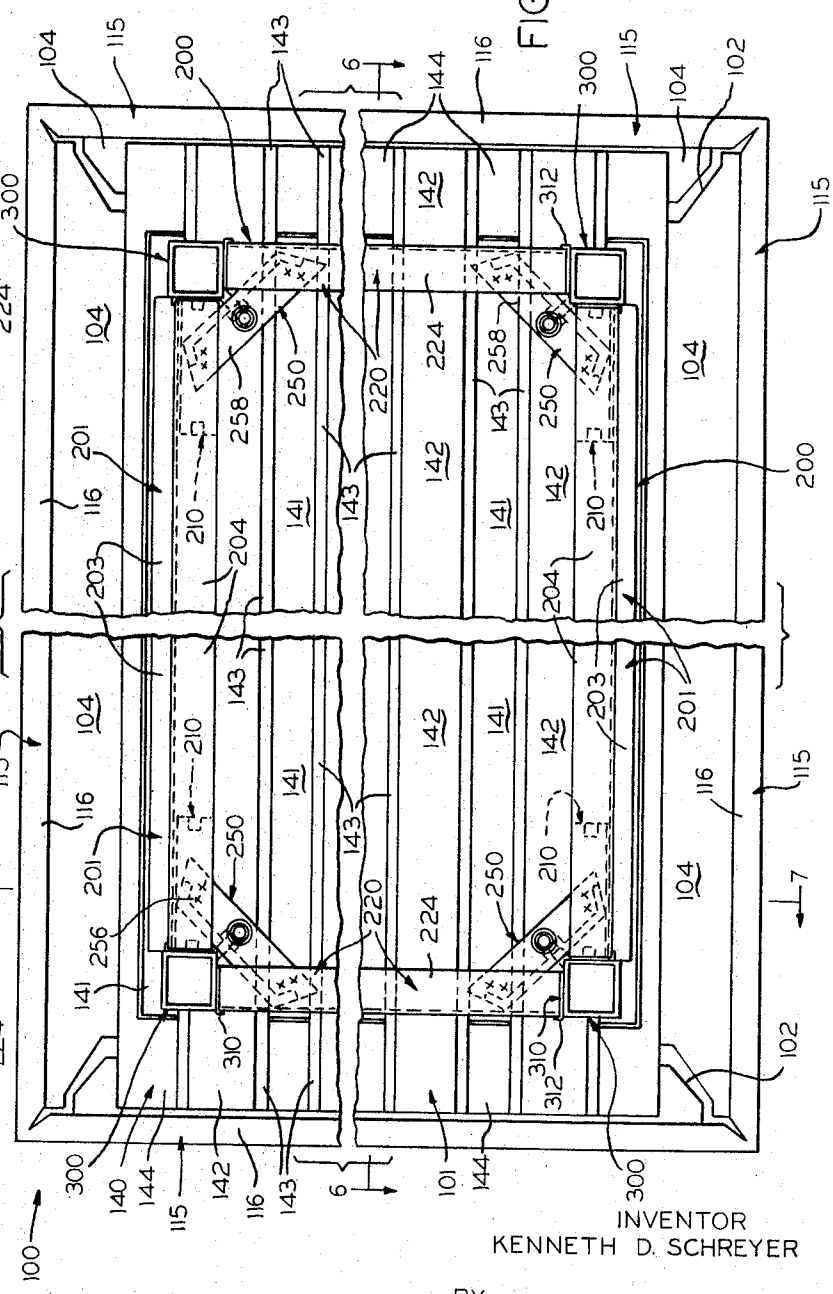


FIG. 5



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TABLE CONSTRUCTION

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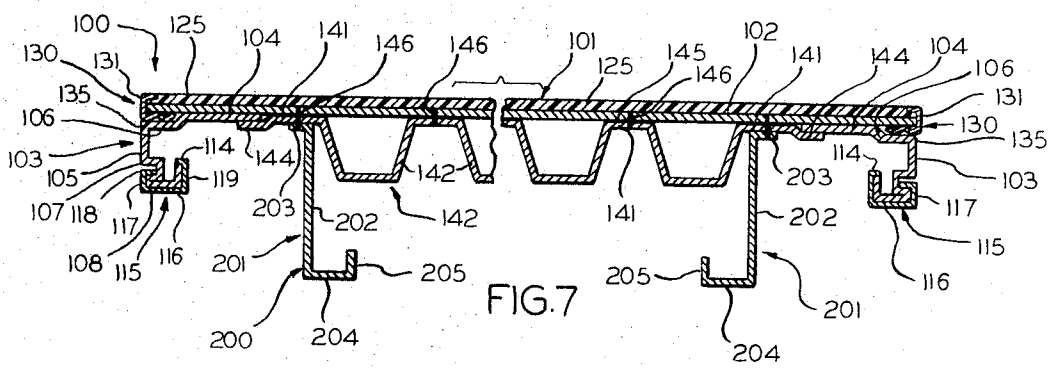


FIG.7

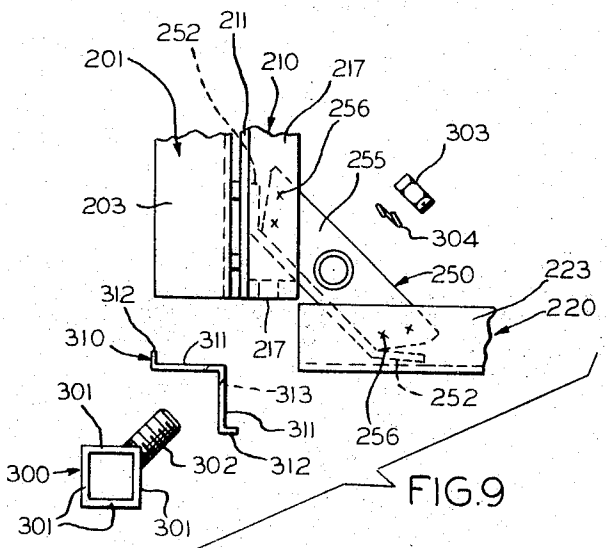


FIG.9

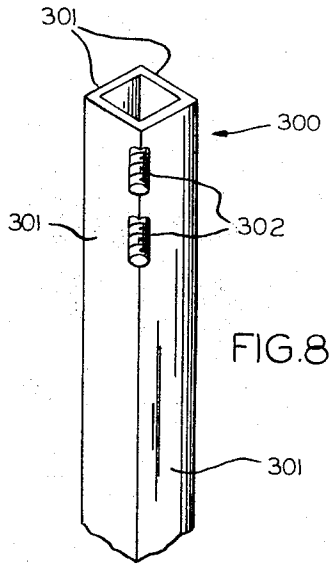


FIG.8

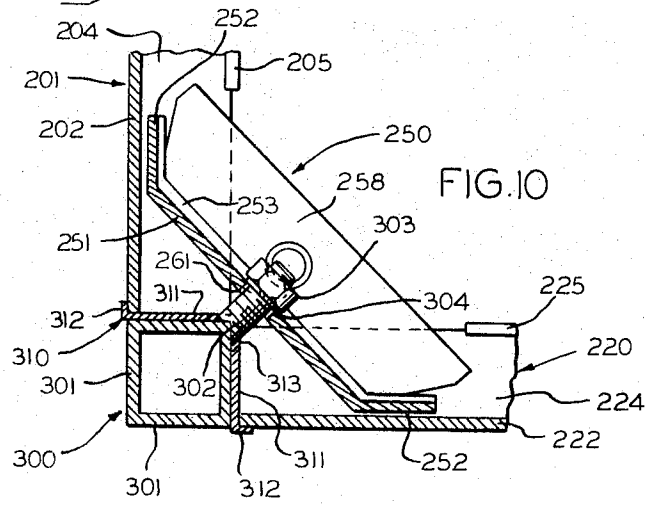


FIG.10

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TABLE CONSTRUCTION

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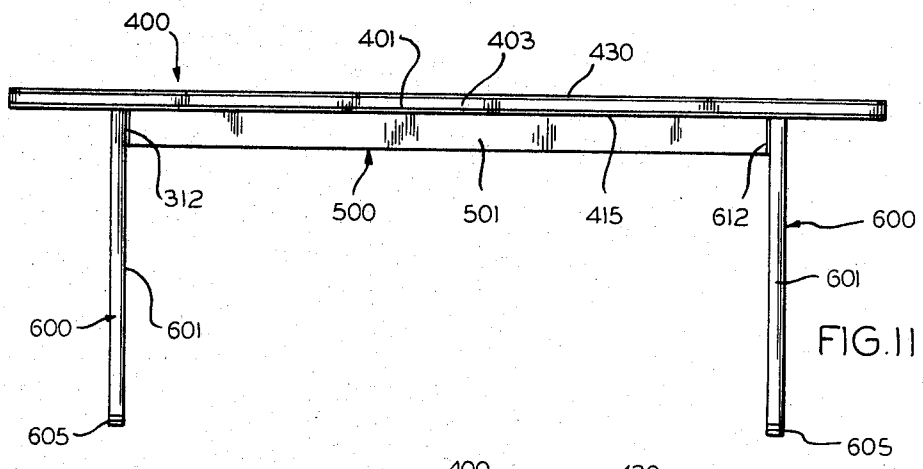


FIG. 11

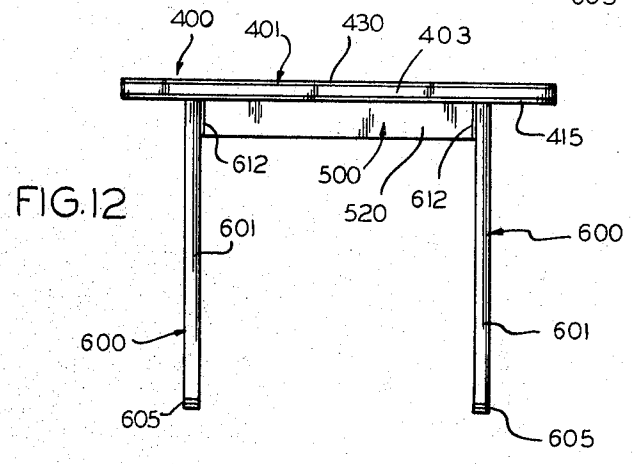


FIG. 12

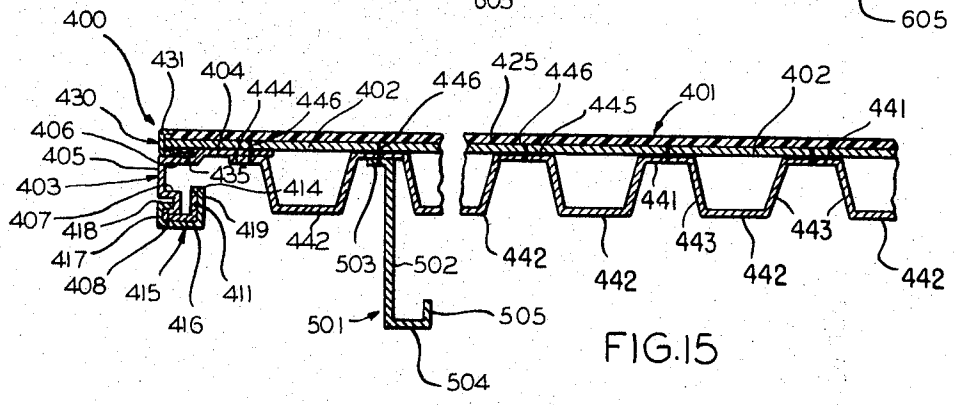


FIG. 15

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FIG. 14

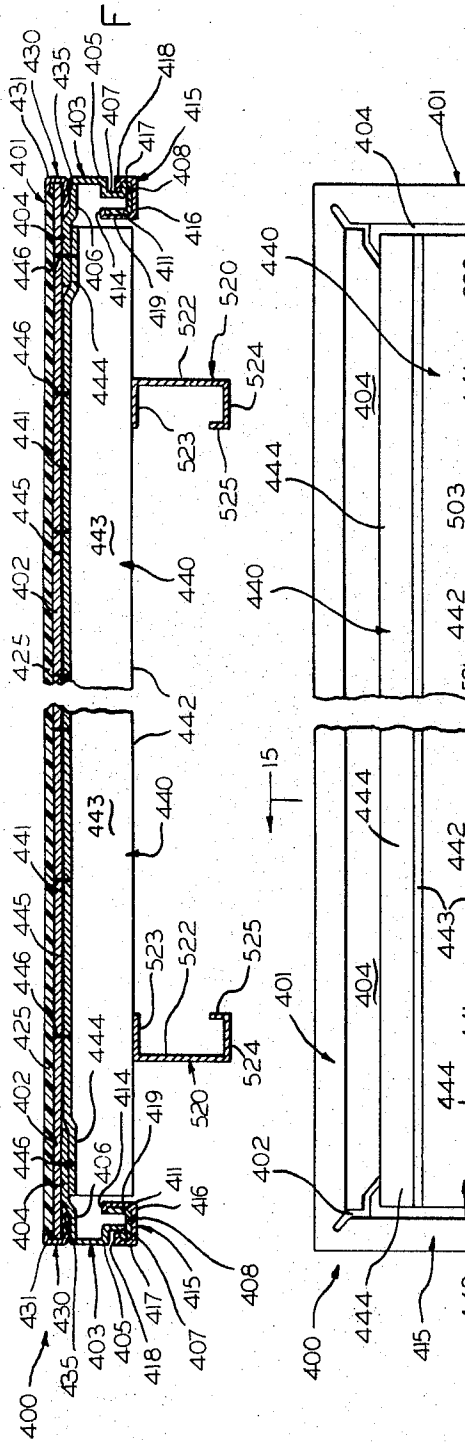
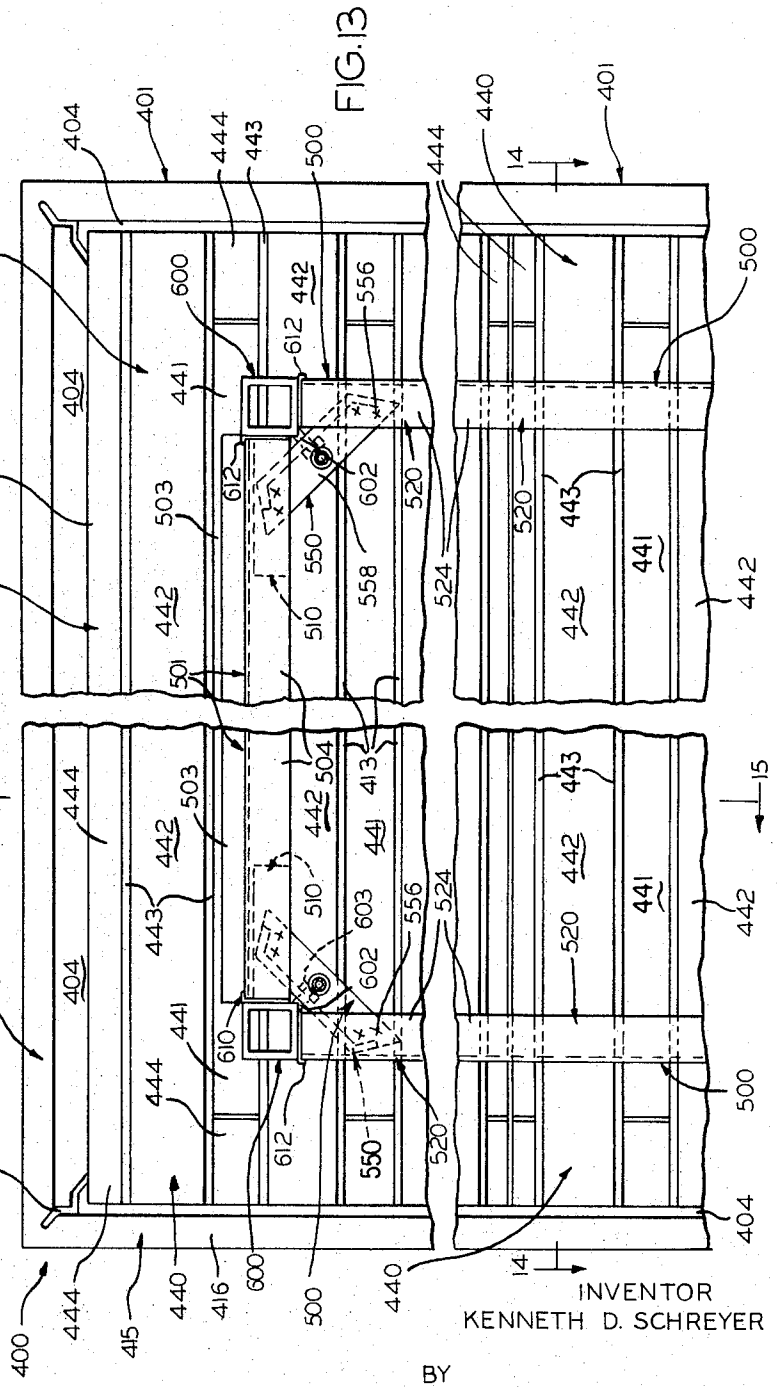


FIG. 13



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United States Patent Office

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Patented Sept. 5, 1967

3,339,504

TABLE CONSTRUCTION

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Filed May 9, 1966, Ser. No. 548,758
16 Claims. (Cl. 108—156)

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

There is disclosed a table comprising a top including a flat top plate, an edging extending around the periphery of the top plate and disposed adjacent to the underside thereof, the edging including an attachment flange and a dependent side flange on the outer edge thereof and extending downwardly therefrom, the attachment flange being connected to the top plate as by welding at points spaced inwardly with respect to the outer periphery of the top plate, a reinforcing sheet disposed adjacent to the underside of the top plate within the edging, the reinforcing sheet including a plurality of longitudinally extending spaced apart attachment portions disposed adjacent to the underside of the top plate and a plurality of longitudinally extending reinforcing ribs disposed between adjacent pairs of the attachment portions and spaced from the underside of the top plate, the attachment portions being secured as by welding to the underside of the top plate and to the underside of the adjacent one of the attachment flanges, an apron assembly arranged adjacent to the underside of the top and including longitudinally extending front and rear aprons and a pair of laterally extending side aprons all disposed within the outer periphery of the dependent side flange, the front and rear aprons each having a mounting flange on the upper side thereof and disposed against respective ones of the attachment portions and secured thereto as by welding, and a plurality of legs respectively secured to the apron assembly for supporting the table upon an underlying support surface.

This invention relates to tables, and particularly to improved structures for mounting aprons on table tops.

It is an important object of the invention to provide an improved table including a top having a substantially flat top plate, an edging extending around the periphery of the top plate and disposed adjacent to the underside thereof, the edging including an inwardly extending attachment flange and a dependent side flange on the outer edge thereof and extending downwardly therefrom, means interconnecting the attachment flange and the top plate at points spaced inwardly with respect to the outer periphery of the top plate, a reinforcing sheet disposed adjacent to the underside of the top plate and within the edging, the reinforcing sheet including a plurality of longitudinally extending spaced apart attachment portions disposed adjacent to the underside of the top plate and a plurality of longitudinally extending reinforcing ribs disposed between adjacent pairs of the attachment portions and spaced from the underside of the top plate, means securing the attachment portions to the underside of the top plate and to the underside of the adjacent one of the attachment flanges, an apron assembly arranged adjacent to the underside of the top and including longitudinally extending front and rear aprons and a pair of laterally extending side aprons all disposed within the outer periphery of the depending side flange, the front and rear aprons each having a mounting flange on the upper side thereof and disposed respectively against the longitudinally extending attachment portions, means securing the mounting flanges to the underside of the associated attachment portions to mount the apron assembly upon the top, and

a plurality of legs respectively secured to the apron assembly to support the table upon an underlying support surface.

Yet another object of the invention is to provide an improved table of the type set forth wherein the front and rear aprons are connected to the side aprons by attachment brackets and the legs are detachably secured to the attachment brackets.

Still another object of the invention is to provide an improved table of the type set forth wherein the mounting flanges on the front and rear aprons are disposed against and are secured to the outermost ones of the longitudinally extending attachment portions.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved table of the type set forth wherein the mounting flanges on the front and rear aprons are disposed against and secured to longitudinally extending attachment portions spaced inwardly from the front and rear table edges with at least one reinforcing rib disposed between the apron mounting flanges and the table top side flanges.

Further features of the invention pertain to the particular arrangement of the parts of the table and the table top and apron assembly, whereby the above-outlined and additional features thereof are attained.

The invention, both as to its organization and method of construction, together with further objects and advantages, will best be understood by reference to the following specification taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIGURE 1 is a front elevational view of a first form of table made in accordance with and embodying the principles of the present invention, the table top extending a small distance beyond the outer edge of the apron assembly;

FIG. 2 is an end elevational view of the table of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a plan view of the apron assembly forming a part of the table of FIGS. 1 and 2;

FIG. 4 is an enlarged view in vertical section through the apron assembly of FIG. 3 along the line **4—4**;

FIG. 5 is an enlarged bottom view with certain parts broken away of the table of FIGS. 1 and 2;

FIG. 6 is a view in vertical section through the table of FIG. 5 along the line **6—6** thereof;

FIG. 7 is a view in vertical section through the table of FIG. 5 along the line **7—7** thereof;

FIG. 8 is an enlarged fragmentary perspective view of the upper end of a leg forming a part of the table of FIGS. 1 and 2;

FIG. 9 is an exploded view showing one corner of the apron assembly and the parts utilized to secure a leg thereto, the parts being viewed from the top thereof;

FIG. 10 is a fragmentary view on a further enlarged scale in horizontal section through the corner of the table of FIG. 2 as seen along the lines **10—10** thereof;

FIG. 11 is a front elevational view of a second form of table made in accordance with and embodying the priciples of the present invention, the table top extending a substantial distance beyond the outer edge of the apron assembly;

FIG. 12 is an end elevational view of the table of FIG. 11;

FIG. 13 is an enlarged bottom view with certain parts broken away of the table of FIGS. 11 and 12;

FIG. 14 is a view in vertical section through the table of FIG. 13 along the line **14—14** thereof; and

FIG. 15 is a view in vertical section through the table of FIG. 13 along the line **15—15** thereof.

Referring first to FIGS. 1 through 10 of the drawings, there is illustrated a table **100** made in accordance with and embodying the principles of the present invention.

The table **100** includes a table top **101** beneath which is mounted an apron assembly **200** supported by four legs **300**, one of the legs **300** being disposed in each of the four corners of the generally rectangular apron assembly **200** and each having a foot **305** at the lower end thereof. Further details of construction of the table **101** will be described with particular reference to FIGS. 5, 6 and 7 of the drawings, wherein it will be seen that the table top **101** includes a generally flat top plate **102** of sheet metal, the top plate **102** being generally rectangular in shape and having the corners thereof formed square, the periphery of the top plate **102** being essentially the same as the periphery of the table top **101**. Disposed beneath the top plate **102** and extending around the periphery thereof is an edging **103** also formed of sheet metal, a substantially flat piece of sheet metal having been deformed to provide an attachment flange **104**, a side flange **105**, a mounting flange **106**, an inturned flange **107** and lower trim mounting flanges **108** and **111**. More specifically, the attachment flange **104** is disposed against the underside of the top plate **102** but is spaced inwardly with respect to the outer edge thereof, the outer edge of the attachment flange **104** carrying thereon the mounting flange **105** which is offset downwardly away from the underside of the top plate **102**, the attachment flange **104** in turn being joined to the mounting flange **106** by a curved portion **109**, the mounting flange **106** in turn being joined to the inturned flange **107** by a curved portion **110**, the inturned flange **107** in turn being joined to the lower trim mounting flange **108** by a curved portion **112**, the lower trim mounting flange **108** in turn being joined to the lower trim mounting flange **111** by a curved portion **113**, the mounting flanges **106** and **111** being parallel to the attachment flange **104** and the curved portions **109**, **110**, **112** and **113** being of the same radius, the mounting flanges **106** and **111** being of the same width and the mounting flange **106** being longer than the mounting flange **111**, the flanges **104**, **106** and **111** and the curved portions **109**, **110**, **112** and **113** being of the same thickness, the mounting flanges **106** and **111** being disposed substantially parallel to the shorter top sides and being joined by welding.

Also disposed on the underside of the top plate **102** is a reinforcing sheet **140** formed from a substantially flat piece of sheet metal bent to provide attachment portions **141**, ribs **142** having side walls **143**, and connecting portions **144** at the outer periphery thereof. The attachment portions **141** are disposed toward the underside of the top plate **102**, there being a body of mastic **145** applied therebetween through which a weld **146** is made. The side walls **143** extend downwardly from the attachment portions **141** to form the ribs **142** which are spaced from the underside of the top plate **102**. The connecting portions **144** are offset from the underside of the top plate **102** to accommodate therebetween portions such as the attachment flanges **104** on the edging **103**, the three layers mentioned being connected as by welding.

Disposed on the upper surface of the top plate **102** is a covering **125** preferably formed of a synthetic organic resin, the preferred materials being those sold under the trademarks "Textolite," "Micarta" and "Formica." An adhesive is applied both to the upper surface of the top plate **102** and to the lower surface of the covering **125** to provide a good bond therebetween, the preferred adhesive being a synthetic rubber resin adhesive of the contact type such as that sold under the trademark "D–500" by Armstrong Cork Company, the two parts being oven heated to about 200° F. to drive off the volatile ingredients in the adhesive.

To complete the table top **101**, a lower decorative trim **115** is provided around the periphery of the lower portion of the edging **103** and an upper decorative trim **130** is provided about the edge of the top plate **102**. Referring first to the lower trim **115**, it will be seen that the trim **115** includes a main wall **116** which is disposed below the flanges **108** and **111**, the main wall **116** having integral therewith an upwardly directed decorative side wall **117** having a generally concave outer surface and carrying on the upper end thereof an integral and inwardly extending mounting flange **118** adapted to engage on the trim holding flange **108**. The inner edge of the main wall **116** carries an upstanding integral inner wall **119** having

on the upper end thereof an inwardly directed mounting flange **114** that overlines the upper edge of the inner flange **111**. The two mounting flanges **114** and **118** cooperate to hold the decorative lower trim **115** upon the trim holding flanges **108** and **111** on the lower edge of the edging **103**, the trim **115** being formed as two pieces that extend completely around the periphery of the associated table top **101**. The preferred materials of contruction of the trim **115** are synthetic organic plastic resins, one preferred material being an acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene copolymer (ABS) such as those sold under the trademarks "Abson," "Kralastic" and "Cycolac," another preferred material being high-impact polystyrene.

The upper trim **130** is preferably formed of sheet metal, the preferred material being stainless steel. A single sheet of metal is bent to provide an outer wall **131** and a mounting tongue **135**. As illustrated, the outer wall **131** is disposed generally vertically and extends inwardly to contact the edge of the covering **125**. The lower edge of the outer wall **131** extends downwardly at least to the top of the edging **103** and carries thereon the mounting tongue **135** that is resiliently held between the top plate **102** and the mounting flange **106**.

Mounted beneath the table top **101** and extending substantially around the entire periphery thereof is an apron assembly **200** which includes a front apron **201**, a rear apron **201** (identical to the front apron **201**), a pair of side aprons **220** and a pair of corner brackets **210**, the aprons **201** and **220** being preferably formed of sheet metal, the preferred material being stainless steel. Each of the aprons **201** and **220** includes a main wall **202** (see FIG. 6) that is disposed vertically during the use of the table and lies in a plane that is normal to the main walls **202**. The upper edge of the main wall **202** carries an inwardly directed top flange **203** that in use is disposed against and bears against the underside of the ribs **142**, and the lower edge of the main wall **202** carries an inwardly directed bottom flange **204**, the inner edge of the bottom flange **204** carrying an upwardly directed reinforcing flange **205**.

Mounted adjacent to each end of the apron **201** is an angle bracket **210** (see FIG. 4 also) including an attachment flange **211** suitably secured as by welding to the main wall **202** adjacent to the upper edge thereof and on the inner side thereof; integral with the lower edge of the attachment flange **211** is an inwardly directed flange **216** overlying and disposed substantially parallel to the bottom flange **204**, the flanges **204** and **216** having attached thereto attachment brackets **250** as will be explained more fully hereinafter. Formed on each end of the flange **216** are reinforcing deformations **217**.

Spaced from the outer ends of the front and rear aprons **201** are the side aprons **220**, the side aprons **220** also being identical in construction whereby like reference numerals have been applied to both throughout the drawings. Each of the side aprons **220** includes a main wall **222** (see FIG. 6) that is disposed vertically during the use of the table and lies in a plane that is normal to the main walls **202**. The upper edge of the main wall **222** carries an inwardly directed top flange **223** that in use is disposed against and bears against the underside of the ribs **142**, and the lower edge of the main wall **222** carries an inwardly directed bottom flange **224**, the inner edge of the bottom flange **224** carrying an upwardly directed reinforcing flange **225**.

The adjacent ends of the front and rear aprons **201** and the side aprons **220** are interconnected by means of attachment brackets **250**, the details of construction of one of the attachment brackets **250** being best illustrated in FIGS. 3, 9 and 10 of the drawings; four of the attachment brackets **250** are provided, each formed identical to the other, and accordingly, only one will be described in detail and like reference numerals applied to like parts throughout the drawings. The attachment bracket **250** includes a main wall **251** which is generally rectangular in shape and carries on the outer shorter sides thereof vertically arranged reinforcing flanges **252**, the flanges **252** being disposed at an obtuse angle of approximately 133° with respect to the main wall **251**. There further

is provided an inwardly directed reinforcing rib **253** that is disposed substantially midway between longer sides of the main wall **251** and continues outwardly onto the reinforcing flanges **252** to form a very strong structure. Integral with the upper longer edge of the main wall **251** is a top wall **255** which extends therefrom in the same direction as the reinforcing flanges **252** but is disposed substantially normal thereto. The lower longer edge of the main wall **251** carries an inwardly directed bottom wall **258** thereon.

As may be best seen in FIGS. 3, 5, 9 and 10, one of the attachment brackets **250** is disposed at the juncture of the ends of the side aprons **220** with the associated front and rear aprons **201**, the top wall **255** and the bottom wall **258** more particularly being disposed between the top wall **223** and the bottom wall **224** of the associated side apron **220** and between the bottom wall **204** and the bracket wall **216** on the front and rear aprons **201**, the various adjacent walls being suitably secured together as by welding at points **236**. The described interconnection completes the apron assembly **200** and provides an extremely rigid construction thereof. As will be best seen in FIG. 3, the adjacent ends of the various aprons are spaced apart at the corners to form essentially rectangular recesses which are to receive the adjacent upper end of a leg **300** therein as will be described more fully hereinafter.

The thus completed apron assembly **200** is assembled to the underside of the associated table top **101** and is secured thereto by welding. More specifically, the mounting flanges **203** on the upper edges of the front and rear aprons **201** are disposed against the longitudinally extending attachment portions **141** on the table top **101** and are secured thereto by welds **146** (see FIG. 7). Referring to FIG. 6, it will be seen that the top flanges **223** on the side aprons **220** bear against the lower surfaces of the ribs **142** on the table top **101** but are not otherwise secured thereto. It will be seen therefore that the only connection between the apron assembly **200** and the table top **101** is the welded connection between the mounting flanges **203** and the attachment portions **141**, and specifically the outermost ones of the attachment portions **141**, i.e., those disposed outwardly toward the adjacent edging **103**.

The legs **300** for the table **100** are mounted thereon by attachment to the brackets **250**. Referring particularly to FIGS. 5, 8, 9 and 10 of the drawings, it will be seen that each of the legs **300** is essentially square in cross section and includes four identical side walls **301** joined to form a hollow tubular leg **300** of essentially square cross section. Affixed to each of the legs **300** adjacent to the upper end thereof is a pair of mounting studs **302** that extend outwardly at a corner thereof, the axis of each of the studs **302** being disposed at an angle of 135° with respect to the adjacent side wall **301**. The studs **302** are spaced apart vertically a distance equal to the vertical spacing of the openings **261** in the attachment brackets **250**, whereby the studs **302** are readily inserted therethrough. The outer surfaces of the studs **302** further are threaded for reception of an internally threaded nut **303** and an associated lock washer **304** used in mounting the leg **300** on the associated attachment bracket **250**.

There further is disposed between each of the legs **300** and the associated attachment bracket **250** a corner spacer **310** formed of sheet metal and shaped to provide a pair of right angularly disposed main walls **311** and a pair of vertically extending side flanges **312**, the juncture of the main walls **311** having a pair of openings **313** thereat to receive therethrough the studs **302** on the associated leg **300**. Referring particularly to FIGS. 5 and 10 of the drawings, it will be seen that each leg **300** fits within the essentially square opening formed by spacing apart the adjacent ends of the front and rear aprons **201** and the side aprons **220**, the corner spacer **310** being disposed between the adjacent side walls of the leg **300** and the adjacent ends of the front or rear apron **201** and the adjacent side apron **220**, respectively, the side flanges **312** of the corner spacer **310** overlying the adjacent edges of the apron main walls **202** and **222**, respectively. The mounting studs **302** extend through the aligned openings in the corner spacer **310** and the attachment bracket **250** and receive on the outer ends thereof the associated lock washer **304** and the associated nut **303**, thereby firmly to mount the associated leg **300** upon the associated attachment bracket **250**. It will be seen that the outer surfaces of the leg **300** are disposed substantially in the same plane as the outer surfaces of the associated apron main walls **202** and **222**, as the case may be.

Referring now to FIGS. 11 through 15 of the drawings, there is illustrated a second preferred form of table **400** made in accordance with and embodying the principles of the present invention, the table **400** having a substantially greater overhang around the periphery thereof as compared to the table **100** described above with reference to FIGS. 1 to 10. The table **400** includes a table top **401** beneath which is mounted an apron assembly **500** supported by four legs **600**, one of the legs **600** being disposed in each of the four corners of the generally rectangular apron assembly **500** and each having a foot **605** at the lower end thereof. Further details of construction of the table top **401** will be described with particular reference to FIGS. 13, 14 and 15 of the drawings, wherein it will be seen that the table top **401** includes a generally flat top plate **402** formed of sheet metal, the top plate **402** being generally rectangular in shape and having the corners thereof formed square, the periphery of the top plate **402** being essentially the same as the periphery of the table top **401**. Disposed beneath the top plate **402** and extending around the periphery thereof is an edging **403** also formed of sheet metal, a substantially flat piece of sheet metal having been deformed to provide an attachment flange **404**, a side flange **405**, a mounting flange **406**, an inturned flange **407** and trim mounting flanges **408** and **411**. More specifically, the attachment flange **404** is disposed against the underside of the top plate **402** but is spaced inwardly with respect to the outer edge thereof, the outer edge of the attachment flange **404** carrying thereon the mounting flange **406** which is offset downwardly away from the underside of the top plate **402**. As illustrated, the side flange **405** is integral with the mounting flange **406** and depends therefrom and is disposed substantially normal thereto. There is provided on the lower edge of the side flange **405** a lower trim mounting member including the inturned flange **407** carrying on the inner edge thereof a first integral outer trim holding flange **408** and an upwardly directed inner trim holding flange **411**. Preferably the edging **403** is formed as two pieces and is secured to the top plate **402** by welding at the attachment flange **404**, the abutting edges of the edging **403** being located at the midpoints of the shorter top sides and also being welded to each other to form seams therebetween.

Also disposed on the underside of the top plate **402** is a reinforcing sheet **440** formed from a substantially flat piece of sheet metal bent to provide an attachment portion **441**, ribs having side walls **443**, and connecting portions **444** at the outer periphery thereof. The attachment portions **441** are disposed against the underside of the top plate **402**, there being a body of mastic **445** therebetween through which a weld **446** is made. The side walls **443** extend downwardly from the attachment portions **441** to form the ribs **442** which are spaced from the underside of the top plate **402**. The connecting portions **444** are offset from the underside of the top plate **402** to accommodate therebetween portions such as the attachment flanges **404** on the edging **403**, the three layers mentioned being connected as by welding at **446**.

Disposed on the upper surface of the top plate **402** is a covering **425**, preferably formed of a synthetic organic resin, the preferred materials being those sold under the

trademarks Textolite, Micarta and Formica. An adhesive is applied both to the upper surface of the top plate **402** and to the lower surface of the covering **425** to provide a good bond therebetween, the preferred adhesive being a synthetic rubber resin adhesive of the contact type such as that sold under the trademark D–500 by the Armstrong Cork Company, the two parts being oven heated to about 200° F. to drive off the volatile ingredients in the adhesive.

To complete the table top **401**, a lower decorative trim **415** is provided around the periphery of the lower portion of the edging **403** and an upper decorative trim **430** is provided about the edge of the top plate **402**. Referring first to the lower trim **415**, it will be seen that the trim **415** includes a main wall **416** that is disposed below the flanges **408** and **411**, the main wall **416** having integral therewith an upwardly directed decorative side wall **417** having a generally concave vertical outer surface and carrying on the upper end thereof an integral and inwardly directed mounting flange **418** adapted to engage on the trim holding flange **408**. The inner edge of the main wall **416** carries an upstanding integral inner wall **419** having on the upper end thereof an outwardly directed mounting flange **414** that overlies the upper edge of the inner flange **411**. The two mounting flanges **414** and **418** cooperate to hold the decorative lower trim **415** upon the trim holding flanges **408** and **411** on the lower edge of the edging **403**, the trim **415** extending around the entire periphery of the associated table top **401**. The preferred materials of construction of the trim **415** are synthetic organic plastic resins, one preferred material being an acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene copolymer (ABS) such as those sold under the trademarks Abson, Kralastic and Cycolac, another preferred material being high-impact polystyrene.

The upper trim **430** is preferably formed of sheet metal, the preferred material being stainless steel. A single sheet of metal is bent to provide an outer wall **431** and a mounting tongue **435**. As illustrated, the outer wall **431** is disposed generally vertically and the upper end thereof extends over the edge of the covering **425** and the lower edge thereof extends downwardly at least to the top of the edging **403** and carries thereon the mounting tongue **435** that is resiliently held between the top plate **402** and the mounting flange **406**.

Mounted beneath the table top **401** and extending substantially around the entire periphery thereof but substantially recessed inwardly with respect thereto is the apron assembly **500**, the details of construction thereof being best illustrated in FIGS. 13 to 15 of the drawings. The apron assembly **500** is made up of a plurality of individual aprons suitably interconnected including a pair of spaced apart aprons **501** extending longitudinally of the table **400** and referred to hereinafter as the front and rear aprons, and a pair of side aprons **520** disposed laterally of the table **400** and interconnecting the opposed ends of the aprons **501**. The aprons **501** are identical in construction one to the other, and therefore like reference numerals have been applied to like parts throughout and only one of the aprons **501** will be described in detail. The apron **501** includes a main wall **502** (see FIG. 15) having at the upper edge thereof an outwardly directed longitudinally extending mounting flange **503** and on the lower edge thereof an inwardly directed bottom flange **504**, the bottom flange **504** carrying on the inner edge thereof an upturned reinforcing flange **505**. It will be understood that in use the front and rear aprons **501** have the main walls **502** thereof disposed parallel to each other and arranged generally vertically with the mounting flanges **503** extending outwardly therefrom and with the bottom flanges **504** thereof extending inwardly toward each other.

Spaced from the outer ends of the aprons **501** are the side aprons **520**, the side aprons **520** being identical in construction whereby like reference numerals have been applied to both throughout the drawings. Referring to FIG. 14, it will be seen that each of the side aprons **520** includes a main wall **522** that is disposed vertically during the use of the table **400** and lies in a plane that is normal to both the main walls **502**. The upper edge of the main wall **522** carries an inwardly directed top flange **523** disposed beneath and lying against the ribs **442**, and the lower edge of the main wall **522** carries an inwardly directed bottom flange **524**, the inner edge of the bottom flange **524** carrying an upwardly directed reinforcing flange **525**.

The side aprons **520** are connected to adjacent ends of the front and rear aprons **501** by means of four attachment brackets **550**, see FIG. 13. The attachment brackets **550** are identical in construction to the attachment brackets **250** described above, and accordingly like reference numerals in the **500** series are applied to the corresponding parts. It further is pointed out that each of the front and rear aprons **501** is provided at each end with an angle bracket **510** which is identical in construction to the angle bracket **210** described above, whereby like reference numerals in the **500** series have been applied to corresponding parts thereof. In the construction of the apron assembly **500**, one of the attachment brackets **550** is disposed at the juncture of the ends of the side aprons **520** and the associated front and rear aprons **501**, and the overlapping flanges are suitably secured to each other as by welding at points **556**. The described interconnection completes the apron assembly **500** and provides an extremely rigid construction thereof.

As will be best seen in FIG. 13, the adjacent ends of the various aprons are spaced apart at the corners to form essentially square recesses which receive the adjacent upper end of a leg **600** therein. The legs **600** are identical in construction to the legs **300**, whereby like reference numerals in the **600** series have been applied to corresponding parts throughout, and likewise a corner spacer **610** is provided identical in construction to the corner spacer **310**, described above, whereby like reference numerals in the **600** series have been applied to corresponding parts thereof.

In order to interconnect the apron assembly **500** to the table top **401**, the mounting flanges **503** on the aprons **501** are disposed between adjacent pairs of the longitudinally extending ribs **442** and against the attachment portions **441** disposed therebetween. Welds as at **446** are made to connect the mounting flanges **503** to the attachment portions **441**. In this arrangement, it will be noted from FIGS. 13 and 15 that one of the ribs **442** is disposed between the apron **501** and the table top edging **403**, whereby to provide a significant overhang of the table top **401** with respect to the apron assembly **500**. In the construction, the top flanges **523** of the side aprons **520** bearing against the undersurface of the ribs **442** disposed between the aprons **501**, the flanges **523** bearing against the ribs **442** but not otherwise being secured thereto.

Fundamentally, the tables **100** and **400** are formed of sheet metal with the exception of the several parts mentioned in the course of the above description. Furthermore, the sheet metal forming the various parts is of relatively light gauge, as will be appreciated from the following examples of the gauge of the sheet metal utilized to form the various parts of the tables **100** and **400**. For example, in a typical illustrative embodiment of the table tops **101** and **401**, the top plates **102** and **402** are formed of 20 gauge steel, the edgings **103** and **403** are formed of 18 gauge steel, and the reinforcing sheets **140** and **440** are formed of 24 gauge steel. In illustrative examples of the apron assemblies **200** and **500**, the front and rear aprons **201** and **501** are formed of 18 gauge steel, the side aprons **220** and **520** are formed of 18 gauge steel, the angle brackets **210** and **510** are formed of 18 gauge steel, and the attachment brackets **250** and **550** are formed of 14 gauge steel. Each of the legs **300** and **600** is formed of 16 gauge sheet steel formed to the shape illustrated; the corner spacers **310** and **610** are formed of 22 gauge steel.

From the above description it will be seen that there has been provided an improved table which fulfills all of the objects and advantages set forth above. More specifically, there has been provided an improved table formed essentially of sheet metal that is simple in construction and economical in manufacture. The improved tables **100** and **400** include respectively an improved table top **101** and **401** having substantially flat top plates **102** and **402**, edgings **103** and **403** extending around the periphery respectively of the top plates **102** and **402** and disposed adjacent to the underside thereof, the edgings **103** and **403** each including an inwardly extending attachment flange **104** and **404** respectively and a dependent side flange **105** and **405** extending downwardly therefrom, welds interconnecting the attachment flanges **104** and **404** and the respective top plates **102** and **402** at points spaced inwardly with respect to the outer periphery of the top plates **102** and **402**, reinforcing sheets **140** and **440** respectively disposed adjacent to the underside of the top plates **102** and **402** and within the edgings **103** and **403**, the reinforcing sheets **140** and **440** each including a plurality of longitudinally spaced apart attachment portions **141** and **441** disposed adjacent to the underside of the top plates **102** and **402** and a plurality of longitudinally extending reinforcing ribs **142** and **442** disposed respectively between adjacent pairs of the attachment portions **141** and **441** and spaced from the underside of the top plate **102** and **402**, welds securing the attachment portions **141** and **441** to the underside of the top plates **102** and **402** and to the underside of the adjacent one of the attachment flanges **104** and **404**, apron assemblies **200** and **500** arranged respectively to the underside of the tops **101** and **401** and including longitudinally extending front and rear aprons **201** and **501** and pairs of laterally extending side aprons **220** and **520** all disposed within the outer periphery of the associated depending side flanges **105** and **405**, the front and rear aprons **201** and **501** each having a mounting flange **203** and **503** on the upper side thereof and disposed against respective ones of the attachment portions **141** and **441**, welds securing the mounting flanges **203** and **503** to the underside of the associated attachment portions **141** and **441** to mount the associated apron assemblies **200** and **500** upon the respective tops **101** and **401**, and a plurality of legs **300** and **600** respectively secured to the apron assemblies **200** and **500** to support the tables **100** and **400** upon underlying support surfaces.

It is preferred that the front and rear aprons **201** and **501** have the ends thereof spaced from the side aprons **220** and **520** and that a plurality of attachment brackets **250** and **550** be disposed therebetween and secured thereto for connecting the aprons one to the other to form the apron assemblies **200** and **500**. The apron assemblies and associated table tops can be so dimensioned and arranged that the front and rear aprons may be attached either to the outermost attachment portions as illustrated in FIGS. 1 to 10 of the drawings to provide a moderate overhang of the table top **101** beyond the apron assembly **200**, or the parts may be so dimensioned and arranged that the mounting flanges on the front and rear aprons are disposed inwardly a greater distance and within the outermost reinforcing ribs **442** as is illustrated in FIGS. 11 to 15 of the drawings to provide a substantial and greater overhang around the periphery of the table **400**.

While there have been described what are at present considered to be certain preferred embodiments of the invention, it will be understood that various modifications may be made therein, and it is intended to cover in the appended claims all such modifications as fall within the true spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A table comprising a top including a substantially flat top plate, an edging extending around the periphery of said top plate and disposed adjacent to the underside thereof, said edging including an inwardly extending attachment flange and a dependent side flange on the outer edge thereof and extending downwardly therefrom, means interconnecting said attachment flange and said top plate at points spaced inwardly with respect to the outer periphery of said top plate, a continuous reinforcing sheet disposed adjacent to the underside of said top plate and being substantially co-extensive with the area of said top plate within said edging, said reinforcing sheet including a plurality of longitudinally extending spaced apart attachment portions disposed adjacent to the underside of said top plate and a plurality of longitudinally extending reinforcing ribs disposed between adjacent pairs of said attachment portions and spaced from the underside of said top plate, means securing said attachment portions to the underside of said top plate and to the underside of the adjacent one of said attachment flanges, an apron assembly arranged adjacent to the underside of said top and including longitudinally extending front and rear aprons and a pair of laterally extending side aprons all disposed within the outer periphery of said depending side flange, said front and rear aprons each having a mounting flange on the upper side thereof and disposed against respective ones of said attachment portions, means securing said mounting flanges to the underside of the associated attachment portions to mount said apron assembly upon said top, and a plurality of legs respectively secured only to said apron assembly to support said table upon an underlying support surface.

2. The table set forth in claim **1**, wherein said top plate and said edging and said reinforcing sheet and said apron are all formed of sheet metal, said attachment flange and said top plate are interconnected by welding, and said attachment portions are secured to the underside of said top plate and to the underside of the adjacent one of said attachment flanges and to the adjacent one of said mounting flanges by welding.

3. The table set forth in claim **1**, wherein the side flange of said edging extends downwardly a distance at least equal to the distance that said reinforcing ribs are disposed from said top plate.

4. The table set forth in claim **1**, wherein a body of mastic is disposed between each of said attachment portions and the underside of said top plate.

5. The table set forth in claim **1**, and further comprising a covering for said top plate extending over the entire upper surface thereof and secured thereto, and a trim extending around the periphery of said top plate and covering the outer edge of said top plate and at least a portion of the outer edge of said covering.

6. The table set forth in claim **1**, wherein said top and said apron assembly are essentially rectangular in shape, and said legs are disposed in the corners of said apron assembly.

7. The table set forth in claim **1**, wherein said apron assembly has recesses in the periphery thereof shaped complementary to said legs for receiving the upper ends of said legs therein.

8. A table comprising a top including a substantially flat top plate, an edging extending around the periphery of said top plate and disposed adjacent to the underside thereof, said edging including an inwardly extending attachment flange and a dependent side flange on the outer edge thereof and extending downwardly therefrom, means interconnecting said attachment flange and said top plate at points spaced inwardly with respect to the outer periphery of said top plate, a continuous reinforcing sheet disposed adjacent to the under side of said top plate and being substantially coextensive with the area of said top plate within said edging, said reinforcing sheet including a plurality of longitudinally extending spaced apart attachment portions disposed adjacent to the underside of said top plate and a plurality of longitudinally extending reinforcing ribs disposed between adjacent pairs of said attachment portions and spaced from the underside of said top plate, means securing said attachment portions to the

underside of said top plate and to the underside of the adjacent one of said attachment flanges, an apron assembly arranged adjacent to the underside of said top and including a longitudinally extending front apron and a longitudinally extending rear apron and a pair of laterally extending side aprons all disposed within the outer periphery of said depending side flange, a plurality of attachment brackets disposed between the adjacent ends of said aprons within the periphery thereof and secured thereto and securing said aprons one to the other, said front and rear aprons each having a mounting flange on the upper side thereof and disposed against respective ones of said longitudinally extending attachment portions, means securing said mounting flanges to the underside of the associated attachment portions to mount said apron assembly upon said top, and a corresponding plurality of legs respectively detachably secured to said attachment brackets to support said table upon an underlying support surface.

9. The table set forth in claim 8, wherein said legs are substantially square in cross section and the corners of said apron assembly have complementarily shaped recesses disposed therein for receiving said legs, whereby the outer surfaces of said legs are substantially flush with the outer surfaces of the adjacent ones of said aprons.

10. The table set forth in claim 1, wherein the mounting flanges on said front and rear aprons are disposed respectively against the outermost ones of said attachment portions and are spaced a short distance inwardly from the adjacent ones of said attachment flanges.

11. The table set forth in claim 1, wherein said side aprons are fixedly secured to said front and rear aprons and have the upper sides thereof bearing against the underside of said reinforcing ribs.

12. The table set forth in claim 1, wherein the mounting flanges on said front and rear aprons are disposed respectively against longitudinally extending attachment portions spaced inwardly from the respective front and rear edges of said table top with at least one of said reinforcing ribs disposed between each of said mounting flanges and the adjacent side flange.

13. A table comprising a top including a substantially flat top plate, an edging extending around the periphery of said top plate and disposed adjacent to the underside thereof, said edging including an inwardly extending attachment flange an a dependent side flange on the outer edge thereof and extending downwardly therefrom, means interconnecting said attachment flange and said top plate at points spaced inwardly with respect to the outer periphery of said top plate, a reinforcing sheet disposed adjacent to the underside of said top plate and within said edging, said reinforcing sheet including a plurality of longitudinally extending spaced apart attachment portions disposed adjacent to the underside of said top plate and a plurality of longitudinally extending reinforcing ribs disposed between adjacent pairs of said attachment portions and spaced from the underside of said top plate, means securing said attachment portions to the underside of said top plate and to the underside of the adjacent one of said attachment flanges, an apron assembly arranged adjacent to the underside of said top and including a longitudinally extending front apron and a longitudinally extending rear apron and a pair of laterally extending side aprons all disposed within the outer periphery of said depending side flange, a plurality of attachment brackets disposed between the adjacent ends of said aprons within the periphery thereof and secured thereto and securing said aprons one to the other, said front and rear aprons each having a mounting flange on the upper side thereof and disposed against respective ones of said longitudinally extending attachment portions, means securing said mounting flanges to the underside of the associated attachment portions to mount said apron assembly upon said top, a corresponding plurality of legs respectively detachably secured to said attachment brackets to support said table upon an underlying support surface, and a plurality of spacers respectively disposed between said legs and said aprons and including side flanges overlying the adjacent edges of said aprons.

14. A table comprising a top including a substantially flat top plate, an edging extending around the periphery of said top plate and disposed adjacent to the underside thereof, said edging including an inwardly extending attachment flange and a dependent side flange on the outer edge thereof and extending downwardly therefrom, means interconnecting said attachment flange and said top plate at points spaced inwardly with respect to the outer periphery of said top plate, a reinforcing sheet disposed adjacent to the underside of said top plate and within said edging, said reinforcing sheet including a plurality of longitudinally extending spaced apart attachment portions disposed adjacent to the underside of said top plate and a plurality of longitudinally extending reinforcing ribs disposed between adjacent pairs of said attachment portions and spaced from the underside of said top plate, means securing said attachment portions to the underside of said top plate and to the underside of the adjacent one of said attachment flanges, an apron assembly arranged adjacent to the underside of said top and including a longitudinally extending front apron and a longitudinally extending rear apron and a pair of laterally extending side aprons all disposed within the outer periphery of said depending side flange, a plurality of attachment brackets disposed between the adjacent ends of said aprons within the periphery thereof and secured thereto and securing said aprons one to the other, said front and rear aprons each having a mounting flange on the upper side thereof and disposed against respective ones of said longitudinally extending attachment portions, means securing said mounting flanges to the underside of the associated attachment portions to mount said apron assembly upon said top, a corresponding plurality of legs each having a pair of longitudinally spaced apart studs secured adjacent to the upper end thereof and extending outwardly therefrom, each of said attachment brackets having a pair of openings therein receiving said studs therethrough, and fasteners engaging said studs for securing each of said legs to the associated one of said attachment brackets.

15. A table comprising a top, an apron assembly arranged adjacent to the underside of said top and including a longitudinally extending front apron and a longitudinally extending rear apron and a pair of laterally extending side aprons all disposed within the outer periphery of said top, a plurality of attachment brackets disposed between the adjacent ends of said apron within a periphery thereof and secured thereto and securing said aprons one to the other, said front and rear aprons each having a mounting flange on the upper side thereof and disposed against the underside of said top and secured thereto to mount said apron assembly upon said top, a corresponding plurality of legs respectively detachably secured to said attachment brackets for supporting said table upon an underlying support surface, and a plurality of spacers respectively disposed between said legs and said aprons and including side flanges overlying adjacent edges of said aprons, comprising a top, an apron assembly arranged adjacent to the underside of said top and including a longitudinally extending front apron and a longitudinally extending rear apron and a pair of laterally extending side aprons all disposed within the outer periphery of said depending side flange, a plurality of attachment brackets disposed between the adjacent ends of said aprons within the periphery thereof and secured thereto and securing said aprons one to the other, said front and rear aprons each having a mounting flange on the upper side thereof disposed against the underside of said top and secured thereto to mount said apron assembly upon said top, a corresponding plurality of legs each having a pair of longitudinally spaced apart studs secured thereto ad-

jacent to the apron end thereof and extending outwardly therefrom, each of said attachment brackets having a pair of openings therein receiving said studs therethrough, and fasteners engaging said studs for securing each of said legs to the associated one of said attachment brackets.

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