

Feb. 13, 1951

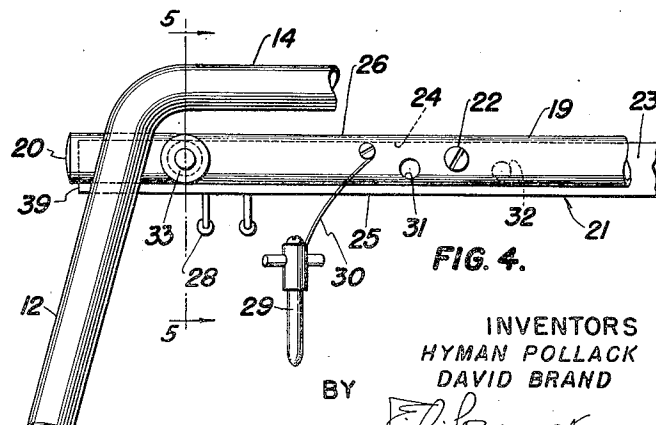
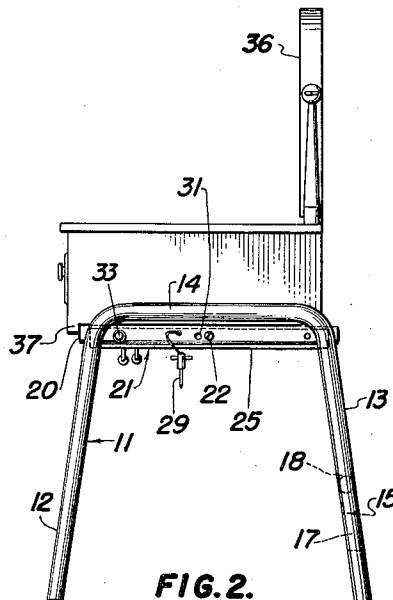
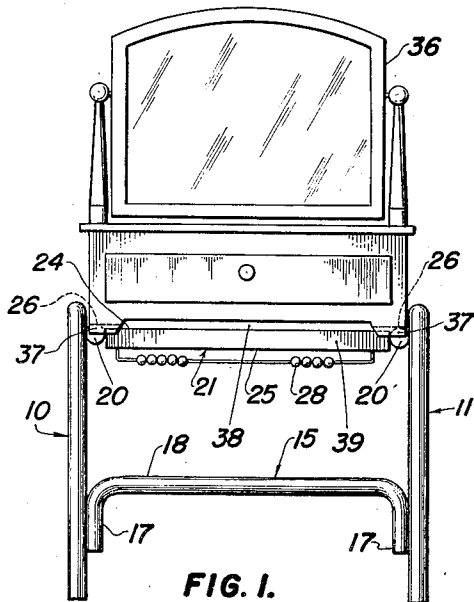
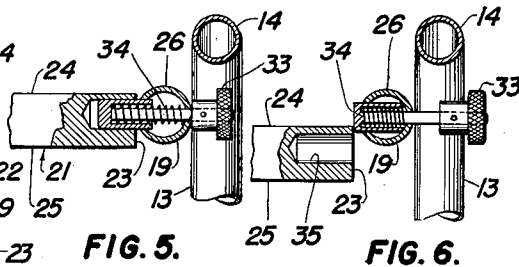
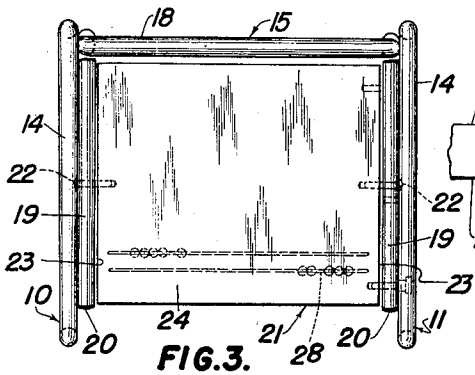
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COMBINATION PLAY TABLE AND SUPPORT

Filed Dec. 17, 1948

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

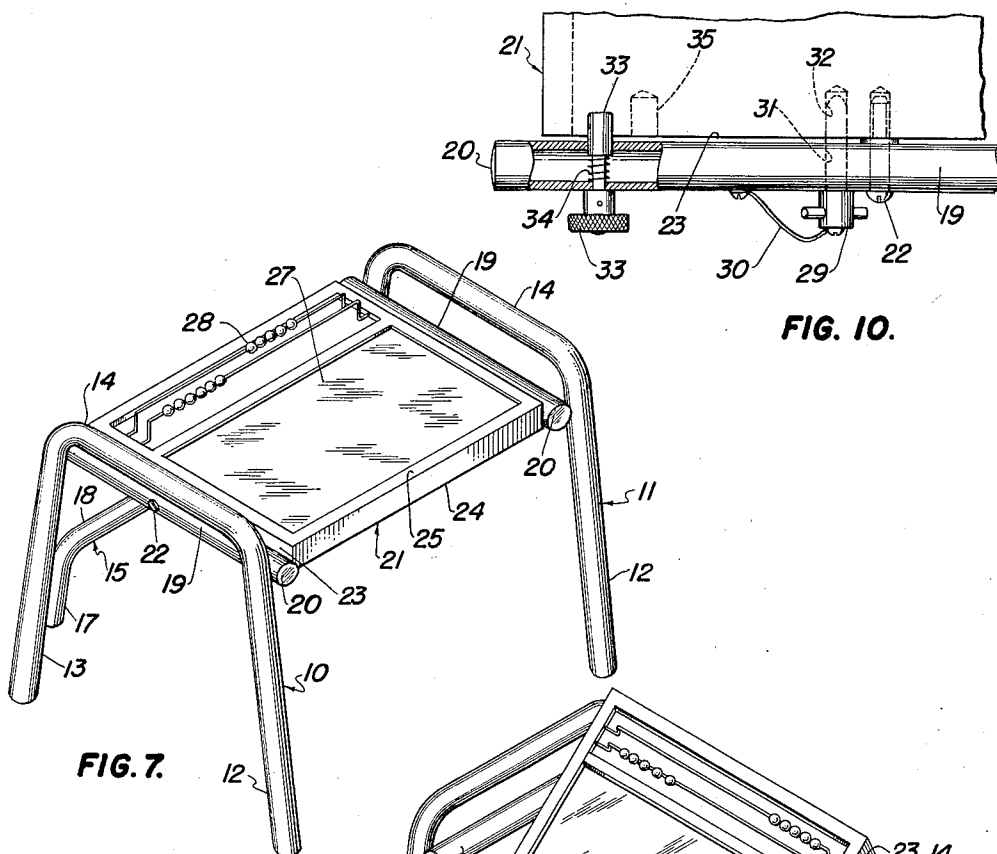


FIG. 10.

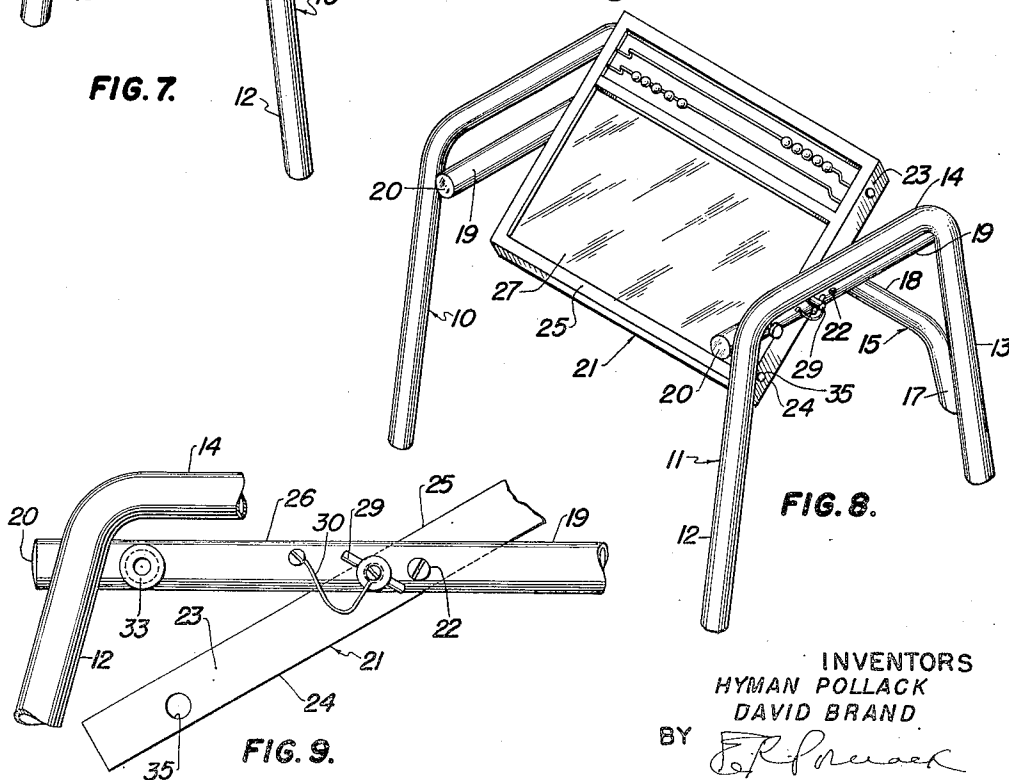


FIG. 8.

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COMBINATION PLAY TABLE AND SUPPORT

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10 Claims. (Cl. 312-255)

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This invention relates to a combination play table and support, more particularly to a device containing a pivotally mounted top having play elements thereon and adapted to support a chest of drawers, highchair, vanity table or the like.

It is primarily within the contemplation of our invention to provide a structure of the class described which is adapted for use as an independent play device for a child, and which can also serve to support juvenile appurtenances. And in this aspect of our invention it is a further object to enable the table portion to be readily manipulated into various positions, such as a horizontal position for writing, eating, or the playing of games, an inclined position where the device may serve as a blackboard or for disposing a suitably supported abacus within convenient reach, and in such other horizontal position where the table will not interfere with the supporting function of the structure.

It is also within our contemplation to provide a device of the above-mentioned category with horizontal supporting members or rails which will slidably receive thereon a structure such as a chest of drawers or the like, without contacting the pivotal table, whereby the latter will be completely relieved of any load. And it is also an object to permit said rails to serve as stops for limiting the rearward sliding movement of the superimposed structure.

And it is a further object of our invention to provide a device having the aforesaid features and which will be simple and inexpensive to fabricate.

Other objects, features and advantages will appear from the drawings and the description hereinafter given.

Referring to the drawings:

Figure 1 is a front view of our invention, showing the understructure supporting a vanity.

Figure 2 is a side view of Fig. 1.

Figure 3 is a plan view of Fig. 1 with the vanity piece removed.

Figure 4 is an enlarged fragmentary side view of Fig. 1.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary section of Fig. 4 taken along line 5-5.

Figure 6 is a view substantially like Fig. 5 but with the retractable pin in disengaged position.

Figure 7 is a perspective view of the understructure portion of our invention, with the underside or play portion of the table upwardly disposed.

Figure 8 is a perspective view of our invention, with the table in an inclined position.

Figure 9 is an enlarged fragmentary side view of Fig. 8, and

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Figure 10 is an enlarged fragmentary plan view of Fig. 8, a fragment being broken away for clarity.

In the preferred embodiment of our invention illustrated, the two lateral supports 10 and 11 are formed of tubular inverted U-shaped elements each comprising a front leg 12, rear leg 13 and upper connecting bar 14. The two said front legs 12 have the space therebetween completely unobstructed to provide leg room for a child seated at the front of the device; but the rear legs 13 are connected by an inverted U-shaped brace 15 containing substantially vertical legs 17 soldered or otherwise secured to rear legs 13, and an upper connecting portion 18. The upper portions of the supports 10 and 11 have secured thereto, along their inner surfaces, the two tubular supporting rails 19, these being disposed below the level of the connecting bars 14 of members 10 and 11, but above the connecting portion 18 of the brace 15. It will further be observed that the forward portions 20 of the two rails 19 extend forwardly beyond the front legs 12.

Pivotally mounted upon and between the two supporting rails 19 is the table 21, the pivotal connections comprising pins 22 extending through the rails 19 and into the sides 23 of the table. It will be observed by referring to Fig. 4 that the said pins are disposed closer to the surface 24 (shown as the top surface) than to undersurface 25, whereby said surface 24 is disposed below the uppermost surfaces 26 of the rails 19 when the table is in the position shown in said Figs. 1 and 5.

Side 25 is, in the embodiment disclosed, provided with a blackboard portion 27 and an abacus 28 which protrudes beyond the said side 25. When the table is pivotally rotated to the position shown in Fig. 8, where it can be used either as a blackboard or for the purpose of using the abacus, it may be fixedly maintained in said position by inserting the key 29, suspended by a chain 30 from one of the rails 19, through the hole 31 and the corresponding hole 32 in a lateral edge of the table. It is, of course, obvious that said hole 32 is in spaced relation to the pivotal point 22. When it is desired to return the table to its normal operative position as shown in Fig. 1, the pin 33, slidably disposed within one of the rails 19, is retracted against the action of spring 34, and the table rotated until it is in the proper horizontal position, whereupon the pin is released to permit it to enter the corresponding hole 35 in the adjacent lateral edge of the table. In this manner the table is held locked against displacement.

If it is desired to superimpose a structure, such

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as the vanity table 36, upon the device, all that need be done is to elevate the said vanity table to the level of tracks 19, and then place it upon such tracks, slidably moving it rearwardly until the downwardly extending stops 37 engage the forward portions 20 of the rails 19. As will be seen from Fig. 1, the protruding portions of the table 21, such as the abacus 28, are disposed on the underside thereof. The vanity table 36 rests only on the rails 19, inasmuch as there is a space 38 between the flat underside of vanity table 36 and upper surface 24. And inasmuch as the foremost portions 20 of the rails 19 are disposed forwardly of the front edge 39 of table 21, there is no contact whatsoever between any portion of vanity table 36 and table 21.

It is thus apparent that the device above described is capable of conveniently serving several functions. The table 21 can be readily manipulated so that it may serve either as an ordinary table for a child, as a blackboard or a play table, and can be firmly maintained in various positions. And when it is desired that the structure serve to support a superimposed member, that can be readily effectuated without imposing any load on the table proper 21. Furthermore, not only can a supported member such as the vanity table 36 be conveniently slid into place, but it can also be maintained against rearward displacement by virtue of the forwardly protruding disposition of portions 20 of the rails, and against lateral displacement by virtue of the fact that the connecting bars 14 of supports 10 and 11, being disposed above rails 19, serve as lateral guides.

In the above description, the invention has been disclosed merely by way of example and in preferred manner; but obviously many variations and modifications may be made therein which will still be comprised within its spirit. It is to be understood, therefore, that the invention is not limited to any specific form or manner of practicing same, except insofar as such limitations are specified in the appended claims.

We claim:

1. A combination play table and support comprising two front and two rear legs, two parallel rails each secured to interiorly disposed confronting surfaces of a pair of front and rear legs, and a table pivotally mounted upon and between said rails, one surface of the table when in its upwardly disposed horizontal position being below the uppermost level of said rails, whereby said rails are adapted to support a superimposed structure in spaced relation to said table.

2. A combination play table and support according to claim 1, the pivotal mounting for the table being closer to the said surface thereof than to the opposite surface of the table.

3. A combination play table and support according to claim 1, further provided with two lateral parallel bars extending between said front and rear legs, said bars being disposed above and laterally adjacent said rails, whereby said bars are adapted to hold against lateral movement a superimposed structure by said rails.

4. A combination play table and support according to claim 1, said rails extending forwardly beyond said front legs.

5. A combination play table and support according to claim 1, further provided with a releasable locking member supported by one of said rails and engageable with the table for holding it against movement.

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6. A combination play table and support comprising two lateral supports each formed of an inverted U-shaped member having a front leg, a rear leg and an upper connecting bar, two parallel rails secured to interiorly disposed confronting surfaces of said two supports and disposed below said connecting bars, a table pivotally mounted upon and between said rails, an inverted U-shaped brace connecting the rear legs, said brace having an upper connecting portion disposed below said rails, the said front legs having an unobstructed space therebetween, and releasable locking means supported by one of said rails and engageable with the table for holding it against movement, one surface of the table when in its upwardly disposed horizontal position being below the uppermost level of said rails, whereby said rails are adapted to support a superimposed structure in spaced relation to said table.

7. A combination play table and support comprising two lateral supports each formed of an inverted U-shaped member having a front leg, a rear leg and an upper connecting bar, two parallel rails secured to interiorly disposed confronting surfaces of said two supports and disposed below said connecting bars, a table pivotally mounted upon and between said rails, an inverted U-shaped brace connecting the rear legs, said brace having an upper connecting portion disposed below said rails, the said front legs having an unobstructed space therebetween, and releasable locking means supported by one of said rails and engageable with the table for holding it against movement, said locking means comprising an apertured portion in one of said rails, an opening in the adjacent edge of the table disposed for registry with said apertured portions, and a retractable elongated element extending through said apertured portion and opening when they are operatively in registry.

8. A combination play table and support comprising two lateral supports each formed of an inverted U-shaped member having a front leg, a rear leg and an upper connecting bar, two parallel rails each secured to interiorly disposed confronting surfaces of said two supports and disposed below said connecting bars, a table pivotally mounted upon and between said rails, said table being revolvable for inclined positioning and horizontal positioning with both opposite sides of the table adapted to be upwardly disposed, one of said surfaces being flat and unobstructed, the opposite surface having a flat portion and containing a protruding play element, the said unobstructed surface of the table when in its upwardly disposed horizontal position being below the uppermost level of said rails, whereby said rails are adapted to support a superimposed structure in spaced relation to said table.

9. A convertible article of furniture comprising an understructure and a superstructure supported thereby, the understructure comprising two lateral supports each formed of an inverted U-shaped member having a front leg, a rear leg and an upper connecting bar, two parallel rails each secured to interiorly disposed confronting surfaces of said two supports and disposed below said connecting bars, a table pivotally mounted upon and between said rails, one surface of the table when in its upwardly disposed horizontal position being below the uppermost level of said rails, said rails extending forwardly beyond said front legs and the front edge of the table; the super-

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structure comprising a body portion with a flat base slidably supported upon said rails, between said upper connecting bars and in spaced relation to said surface when in its horizontal position.

10. The combination of an understructure and a superstructure supported thereby according to claim 9, the forward portion of the body portion containing two downwardly extending stops engageable with the forward end of said rails, whereby the superstructure is out of engagement with said table.

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