June 2, 1925. 1,540,316

J. N. O. CLEMENT

COMBINATION DINING AND BILLIARD TABLE

Filed March 10, 1924 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

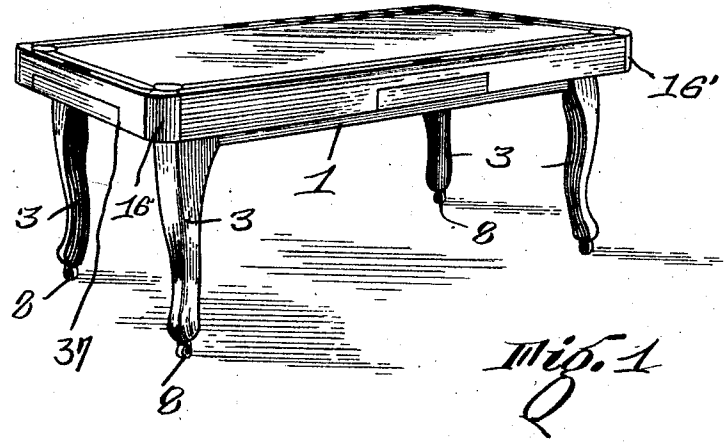


Fig. 1

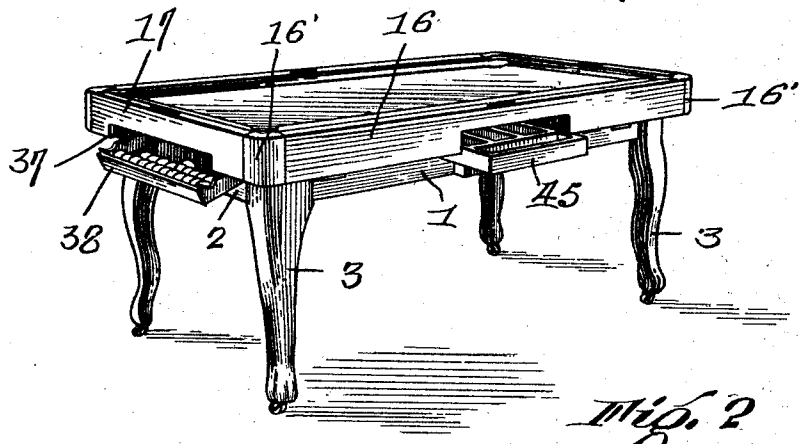


Fig. 2

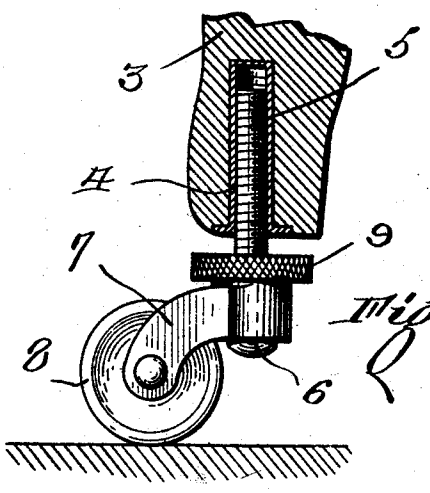


Fig. 3

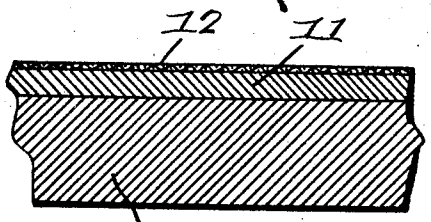


Fig. 4

Inventor

J. N. Omer Clement

By William C. Linton

Attorney

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J. N. O. CLEMENT

COMBINATION DINING AND BILLIARD TABLE

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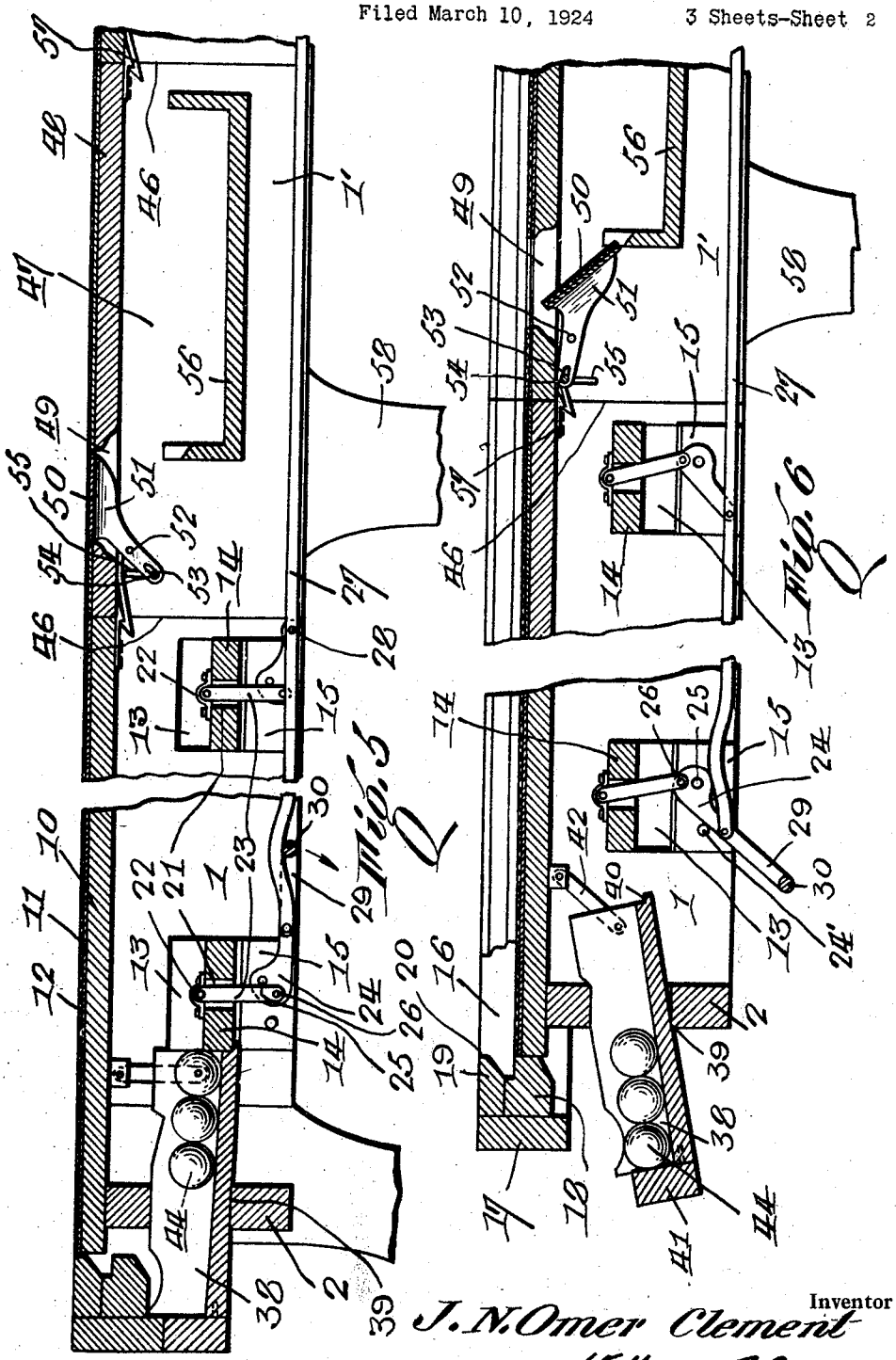


Fig. 5

Fig. 6

Inventor

J. N. Omer Clement

By William Clinton

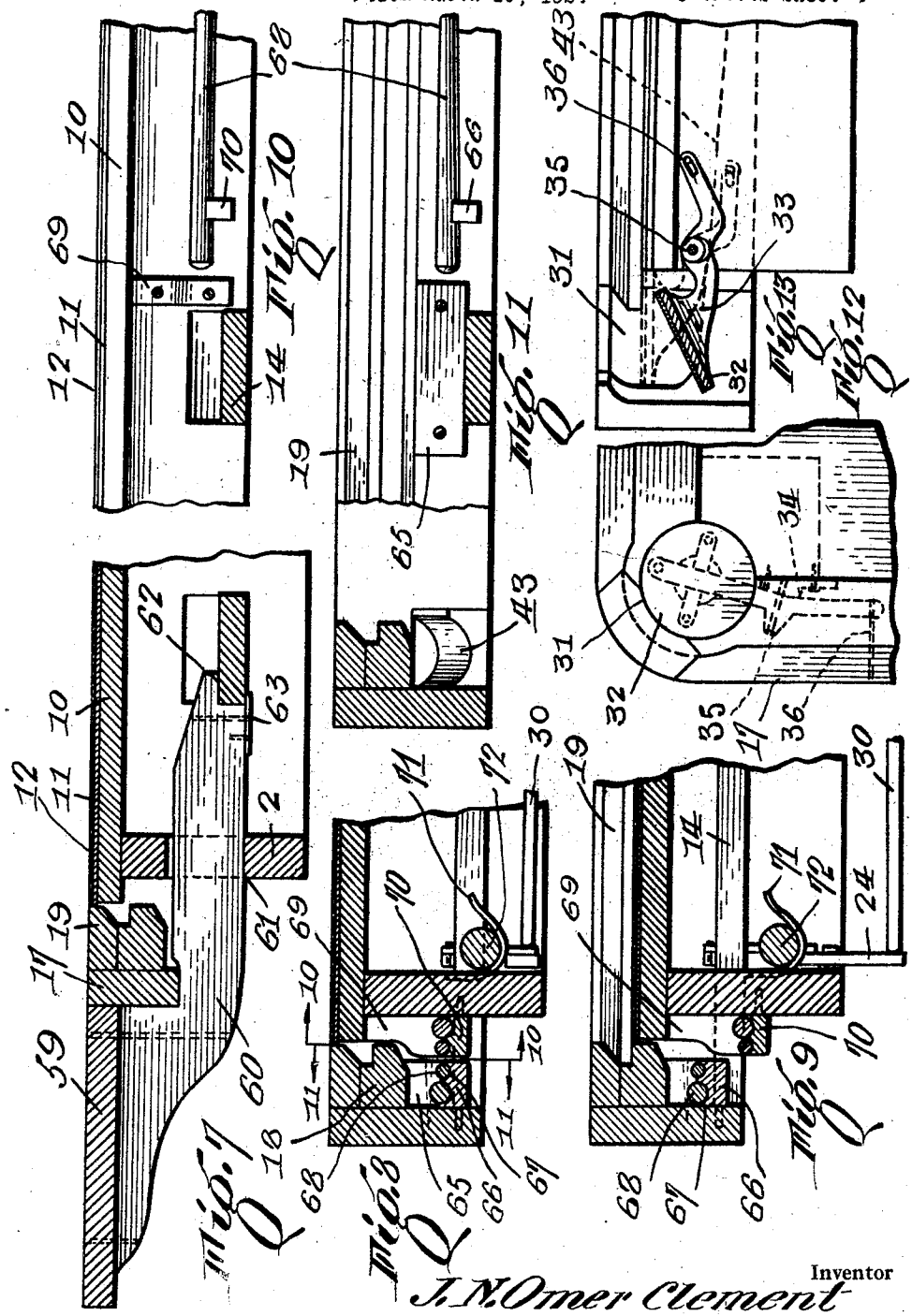
Attorney

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J. N. O. CLEMENT

COMBINATION DINING AND BILLIARD TABLE

Filed March 10, 1924 3 Sheets-Sheet 3



Inventor

J. N. Omer Clement

By William Clinton

Attorney

Patented June 2, 1925. 1,540,316

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH N. O. CLEMENT, OF THREE RIVERS, QUEBEC, CANADA.

COMBINATION DINING AND BILLIARD TABLE.

Application filed March 10, 1924. Serial No. 698,314.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH N. O. CLEMENT, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at Three Rivers, Province of Quebec, Canada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combination Dining and Billiard Tables; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

The present invention pertains to a novel table which may be used either as a dining table or for playing billiards.

The object of the invention is the provision of a device of this character which may readily be converted to either use. In the accomplishment of this object, the top of the table proper is finished with a surface suitable to the playing of billiards. The top is surrounded by a cushion frame which may be supported so that the tops of the cushions lie in the same plane with the top of the table, in which position the device may be used as a dining table. A suitable mechanism is provided for raising the cushion frame so that the cushions bear the proper relation to the table top for the playing of billiards.

The corners of the top are formed with recesses adapted to serve as pockets. Associated with these recesses are plugs for closing them when the device is to be used as a dining table. These plugs are pivotally connected to the table frame and are further connected to the cushion frame, as a result of which they are automatically moved into and out of the pocket recesses as the frame is lowered or raised. Intermediate the corner pockets the sides of the table carry trays for receiving the balls driven into the pockets. The trays are placed in communication with the pockets by means of suitable chutes.

The invention is fully disclosed in the following description and in the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device with the cushions lowered;

Figure 2 is a similar view showing the cushions raised;

Figure 3 is a section through the lower end of one of the legs;

Figure 4 is a section through the top of the table;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary longitudinal section showing the cushions lowered and an additional section inserted;

Figure 6 is a similar view showing the cushions raised;

Figure 7 is a fragmentary longitudinal section showing an extension applied to one of the ends;

Figure 8 is a fragmentary transverse section showing the cushions lowered;

Figure 9 is a similar section showing the cushions raised;

Figure 10 is an elevation on the line 10—10 of Figure 8;

Figure 11 is an elevation partly in section on the line 11—11 of Figure 8;

Figure 12 is a fragmentary plan view at one of the corners; and,

Figure 13 is a side elevation corresponding to Figure 12 with the corner piece and end rail removed.

Reference will now be had to these views by means of like characters which are employed to designate corresponding parts throughout.

The table comprises a substantially rectangular frame consisting of side boards 1 and end boards 2 supported on legs 3 at the corners. The lower end of each leg contains an internally threaded sleeve 4 which receives a screw 5 having a head at its external end. The lower end of the screw is engaged by a castor bearing 7 which rests on the head and carries a castor wheel 8. The screw is provided with a knurled disc 9 so that its position within the sleeve may be adjusted. By means of such devices provided with each leg, the table can be levelled to compensate for any irregularities in the floor upon which it rests.

The boards 1 and 2 support a table top which comprises a body 10 of hard wood. Upon this is laid a covering 11 of asbestos fibre which serves the function of the slate of a billiard table of usual construction. Obviously slate may be employed instead of the asbestos fibre. The layer 11 is covered with felt cloth 12 in the usual manner.

The side boards 1 are each formed with a plurality of recesses 13, and cross bars 14 are passed through the alined recesses of both boards. In the lower ends of the

recesses are fixed supporting blocks 15 for a purpose pointed out below.

The table frame 1, 2 is surrounded by a similarly shaped cushion frame consisting of longitudinal or side rails 16 and transverse or end rails 17. At the corners of the said frame are disposed rounded inserts 16′ of a more durable material which is better suited as a backing for the pockets referred to below. The inner surfaces of these rails are engaged by strips 18 upon which are supported the cushions 19. The inner edges 20 of the cushions form a rectangle equal in size to the rectangle formed by the outer edges of the table top so that engagement between these members is attained when the cushions are lowered as shown in Figures 5 and 8. In this position the tops of the cushions lie in the same plane as the table top.

The cross bars 14 extend outwardly through the side boards 1, and the side rails 16 are secured to these exposed ends as shown in Figures 8 and 9. Near the inner faces of the side boards 1 the cross bars 14 are formed with apertures 21 over which are laid bearings 22. Links 23 are passed through the apertures and have the one end thereof journaled in a bearing 22. To each block 15 is pivoted a crank or end lever 24 at a fixed point 25. The lower end of each link 23 is pivoted as at 26 to one of the members 24. All the members 24 disposed at a given side of the table are joined by means of a connecting rod 27 at the pivot points 28. The members 24 at one end of the table are provided with stems or extensions 29 which are connected by means of a cross bar 30, as shown in Figures 5, 6, 8 and 9. When the cross bar 30 is pulled downwardly in the direction indicated by the arrow applied to Figure 5, the extended members 24 are turned on their pivots 25, whereby the pivot points 26 are raised, as may be seen by a comparison of Figures 5 and 6. Consequently, the remaining members 24 are actuated in the same manner due to their interconnection by the rod 27. The links 23 are raised with the points 26, thus moving the cross bars 14 upwardly. Since the cushion frame 16—19 is supported by these bars, it is likewise raised to operative position with reference to the felt top 12. The levers 24 are limited in their raising movement by stop pins 24′ carried by the plugs 15.

Each corner of the table top is formed with a circular cavity 31 constituting a pocket when the device is used as a billiard table. In order to close the cavities when the rail frame is lowered, there are provided a plurality of plugs 32 each of which has an arm 33 extending from its lower surface. Bearing members 34 are secured to the end boards 2 and have the arms 33 intermediately pivoted thereto as indicated by the numeral 35 in Figures 12 and 13. The free ends of the arms each carry a pin 36 which is connected to an end rail 17, as shown in Figure 12. Due to this construction when the rail frame is raised, the pins 36 are likewise raised whereby the plugs 32 are lowered to the position shown in Figure 13, thus opening the corner pockets.

Each end rail 17 is raised as indicated by the numeral 37 in Figures 1 and 2 for the accommodation of a tray 38 which passes through an opening 39 formed in the corresponding end board 2. The inner end of each tray is formed with a groove 40 adapted to receive a corner of the adjacent cross bar 14 when the cushion frame is lowered, as shown in Figure 5. In this position the forward wall 41 of the tray engages the lower edge of the corresponding rail 17. When the cushion frame is raised, the forward wall 41 may be reached and drawn to the inclined position shown in Figure 6. A link 42 connecting the tray to the table top prevents the former from dropping out.

Each pair of corner pockets is placed in communication with the intermediate tray 38 by means of a pair of chutes 43, so that the balls 44 entering the pockets are delivered to the tray. Normally the weight of the balls is sufficient to bring the tray to the position shown in Figure 6 when the rail frame is released from contact therewith.

The longitudinal sides of the table may be provided with drawers 45 adapted to contain various accessories to the game.

In Figures 5 and 6 is shown a modification wherein the table is split transversely through the centre as at 46, and an additional section 47 inserted after the two original sections are separated. The additional section 47 comprises side boards 1′ upon which is laid a top 48 similar to that described with reference to Figure 4. Through the top are cut a pair of recesses 49 forming side pockets, one of which is shown in Figures 5 and 6. Each pocket is adapted to be closed by means of a plug 50 from the lower surface of which extends an arm 51 pivoted as at 52 to the adjacent board 1′. A slot 53 is cut through the extremity of the arm, and a pin 54 passes therethrough and also through a slot 55 cut through the adjacent board 1′. This pin is finally attached to the side rail 16 disposed adjacent the board 1′ through which it passes. Thus, when the cushion frame is raised, the inner ends of the arms 51 are likewise raised and the plugs are lowered to the position shown in Figure 6 whereby the pockets are opened. The boards 1′ serve to support a tray 56 which is engaged by the plugs when the latter are lowered, so that the balls driven into the pockets 49 are delivered to the tray.

The additional section 47 is held in place

with reference to the original sections by means of spring clips 57 provided at the contacting edges thereof. The additional section is further provided with legs 58 for support.

The table may be provided with end expansions of the type shown in Figure 7, so that the surface thereof may be enlarged for use as a dining table. In this position, the cushion rail 16—19 is adjusted so that the tops of the cushions lie in the same plane as the table top. The extensions each comprise a board 59 having an arm 60 extending from the lower surface. The end board 2 is formed with an opening 61 through which the arm is adapted to pass. The inner end of the arm is notched as at 62 for engagement with the end cross bar 14, and is also provided with a bearing plate 63 engaging the lower surface of the member 14.

The longitudinal rails 16 of the cushion frame are preferably provided with spaced brackets 65 supporting a rack 66 formed in its upper surface with grooves 67. The grooves are tapered to conform to the shape of cues 68 which they contain, and preferably the two grooves taper in opposite directions so that the handle of one cue may lie adjacent the tip of the other cue as shown in Figures 8 and 9.

To the outer surface of the longitudinal boards 1 may be attached similar brackets 69 supporting the rack 70 constructed in the same manner as the rack 66. Access to the racks may be obtained only when the cushion frame is raised, as shown in Figure 9. When the cushion frame is lowered, the cues cannot be reached, as is apparent from Figure 8.

The inner surface of the boards 1 carries a pair of brackets 71 adapted to support a roller 72 for smoothing the surface of the felt cloth 12. This member may be reached by passing the hands into the area determined by the table frame boards 1 and 2.

While specific embodiments of the invention have been illustrated and described, it is to be understood that various alterations in the details of construction may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention as indicated by the appended claims.

Having thus fully described the invention, what I claim as new and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:—

1. A combined dining and billiard table comprising a table frame, legs for supporting said frame, a top mounted on said frame, cross bars slidably mounted in said frame, a cushion frame supported on said cross bars, and means for actuating said bars.

2. A combined dining and billiard table comprising a table top, a cushion frame surrounding said top, means for adjusting said frame with reference to the top, said top having recesses cut in its corners, and movable plugs adapted to close said recesses, said plugs being operatively connected to the cushion frame.

3. A combined dining and billiard table comprising a table frame, legs for supporting said frame, a top mounted on said frame, cross bars slidably mounted in said frame, a cushion frame supported on said cross bars, means for actuating said bars, said top having recesses cut in its corners, and movable plugs adapted to close said recesses, said plugs being operatively connected to the cushion frame.

4. A combined dining and billiard table comprising a table frame, legs for supporting said frame, a top mounted on said frame, cross bars slidably mounted in said frame, a cushion frame supported on said cross bars, means for actuating said bars, and cue racks carried by said table frame and cushion frame.

5. A combined dining and billiard table comprising a table frame, legs for supporting said frame, a top mounted on said frame, cross bars slidably mounted in said frame, a cushion frame supported on said cross bars, means for actuating said bars, cue racks carried by said table frame and cushion frame, said top having recesses cut in its corners, and movable plugs adapted to close said recesses, said plugs being operatively connected to the cushion frame.

6. A combined dining and billiard table comprising a table frame, legs for supporting said frame, a top mounted on said frame, cross bars slidably supported in said frame, a cushion frame surrounding said top and supported on said cross bars, cam levers pivoted to said frame, link connections between said levers and cross bars, and means for actuating said levers.

7. A combined dining and billiard table comprising a table frame, legs for supporting said frame, a top mounted on said frame, cross bars slidably supported in said frame, a cushion frame surrounding said top and supported on said cross bars, cam levers pivoted to said frame, link connections between said levers and cross bars, connecting rods attached to said levers, extensions provided with a pair of said levers for actuating the same, and a connecting member between said extensions.

8. A combined dining and billiard table comprising a table frame, legs for supporting said frame, a top mounted on said frame, cross bars slidably supported in said frame, a cushion frame surrounding said top and supported on said cross bars, cam levers pivoted to said frame, link connections between said levers and cross bars, means for actuating said levers, and cue racks carried by said table frame and cushion frame.

9. A combined dining and billiard table comprising a table frame, legs for supporting said frame, a top mounted on said frame, cross bars slidably supported in said frame, a cushion frame surrounding said top and supported on said cross bars, cam levers pivoted to said frame, link connections between said levers and cross bars, means for actuating said levers, cue racks carried by said table frame and cushion frame, connecting rods attached to said levers, extensions provided with a pair of said levers for actuating the same, and a connecting member between said extensions.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

JOSEPH N. O. CLEMENT.

Witnesses:

YVETTE BÉLAND,

J. E. GUILLET.