

Oct. 28, 1941.

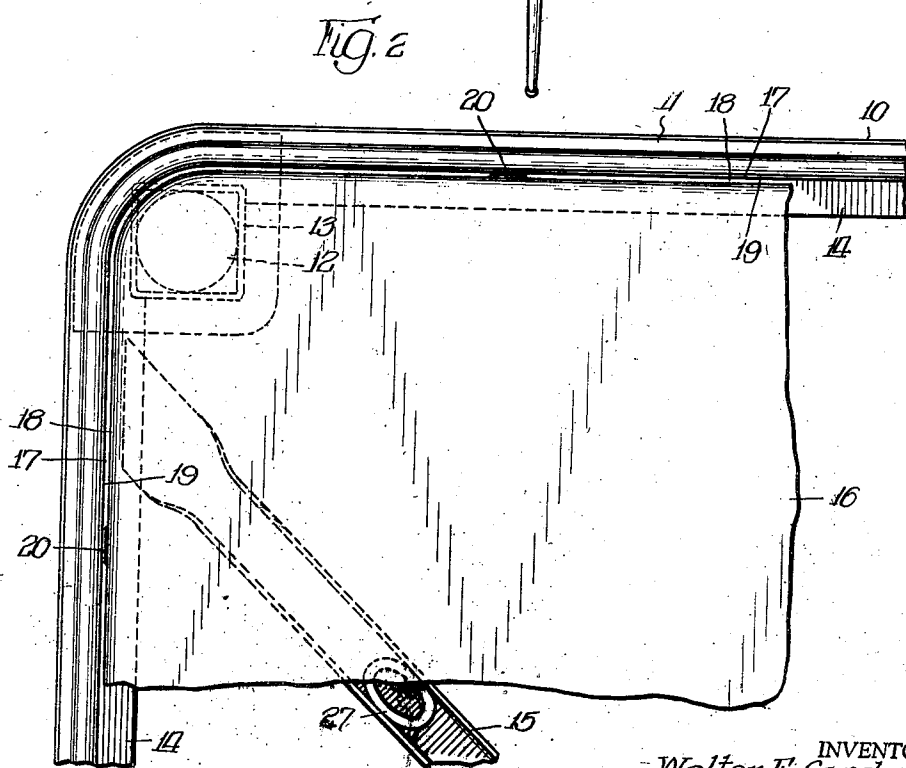
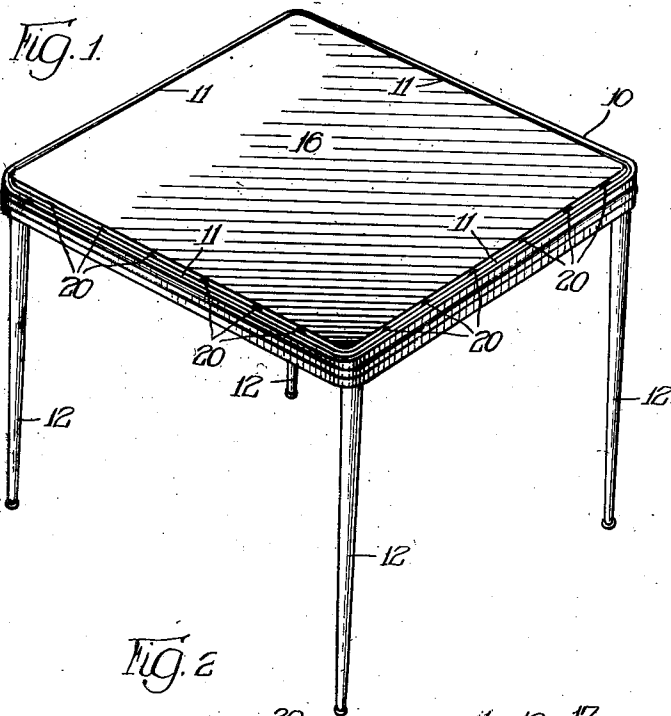
W. E. CORDUAN ET AL

2,260,934

TABLE

Filed Oct. 19, 1938

3 Sheets-Sheet 1



INVENTORS
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Gustav E. Corduan,
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Oct. 28, 1941.

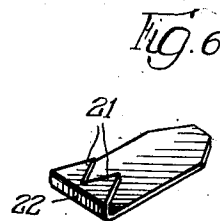
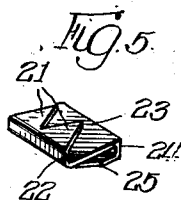
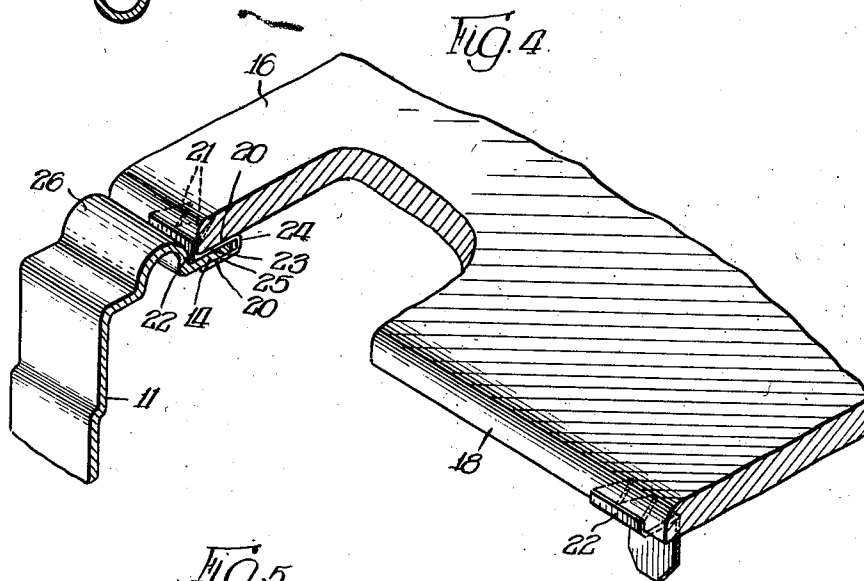
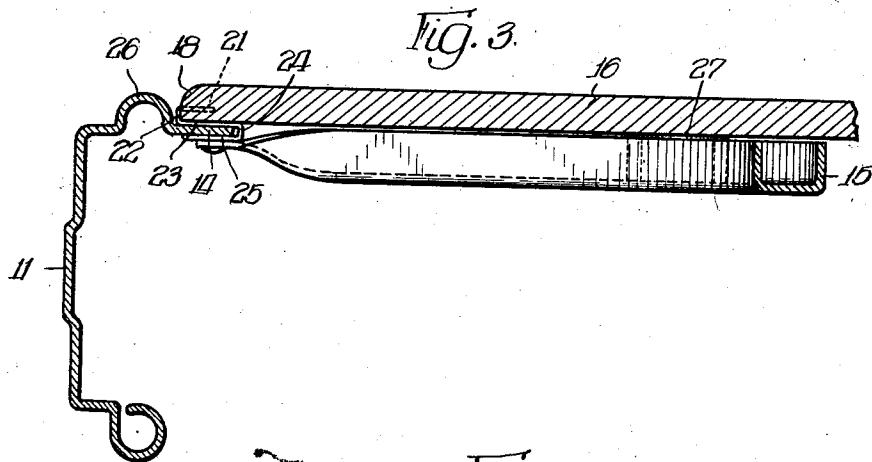
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TABLE

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3 Sheets-Sheet 2



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2,260,934

TABLE

Filed Oct. 19, 1938

3 Sheets-Sheet 3

Fig. 7

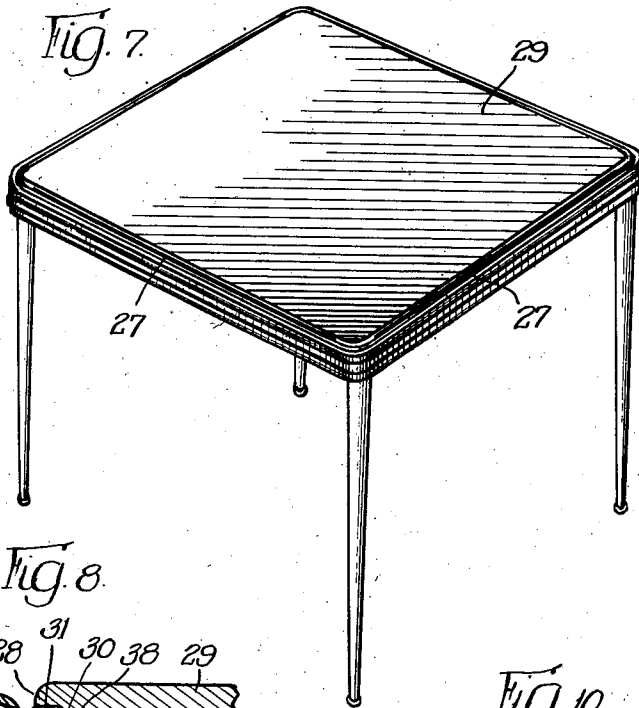


Fig. 8

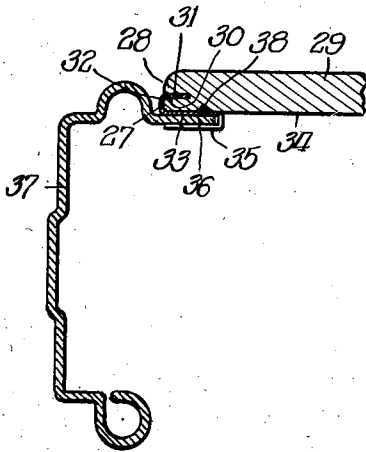


Fig. 10

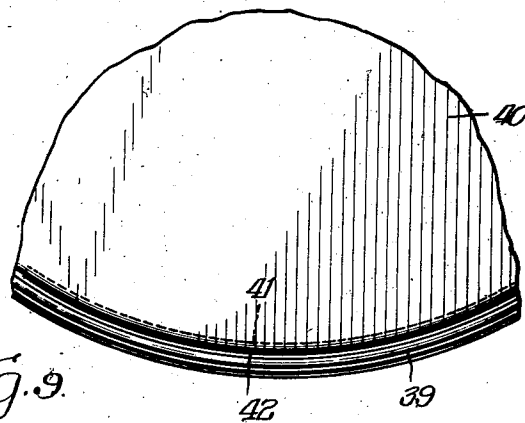
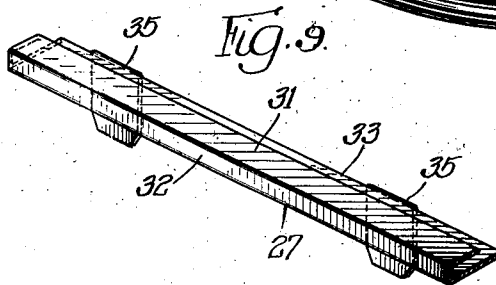


Fig. 9



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,260,934

TABLE

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Application October 19, 1938, Serial No. 235,910

5 Claims. (Cl. 311—108)

This invention has to do with card tables of the type in which a sheet of thin but relatively stiff material, such as the pressed wood product known as "Masonite" is used to form the top.

There has been a persistent demand in the trade for inexpensive card tables provided with tops of this type, but heretofore no manufacturer has been able to offer a satisfactory card table with such a top at a low enough price to find a ready market, owing to the difficulties and expense involved in mounting the top. In mounting a top of this kind it has been the practice, either to cover the top sheet with a padding beneath which regular attaching rivets are concealed, or countersink the edges of the top sheet and overlie the countersunk edges with narrow finishing strips which are in turn secured in some fashion to the edges of the frame, or channel out the sides of the frame and fit the edges of the top sheet into them, securing the sides of the frame together after fitting them about the top sheet. These practices and others of a similar character have kept the cost of tables of the type under consideration comparatively high.

The purpose of this invention is to provide an improved card table of the type described in which the top sheet is fastened in position in an inexpensive, attractive and entirely satisfactory manner.

Other more specific objects and advantages will be apparent to those skilled in the art upon a full understanding of the improved table structure. Several illustrative embodiments of the invention are presented herein, but it will of course be appreciated that the invention is susceptible of incorporation in still other structurally modified forms coming equally within the scope of the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a card table provided with a top sheet mounted in accordance with the invention;

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary plan view of one corner of the top of the table;

Fig. 3 is a vertical section through one edge of the table;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one edge of the table, with various portions and parts broken away;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one of the attaching clips;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the same clip before having the tongue on the bottom thereof

bent into engagement with the bottom of the ledge on the frame of the table;

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of another card table, showing a somewhat modified way of attaching the top sheet in accordance with the invention;

Fig. 8 is a vertical section through one edge of the table shown in Fig. 7;

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of one of the attaching strips used with the top sheet shown in Figs. 7 and 8; and

Fig. 10 is a fragmentary plan view of one side of a round card table, with the round top sheet of the table mounted in accordance with the invention.

The embodiment of the invention shown in Figs. 1 to 6 inclusive will first be described. The table is provided with a square frame 10, but the invention is equally applicable to tables having polygonal, round, or oval frames. The sides 11 of the frame 10 are of pressed sheet metal construction, and may be of any desired cross section. The legs 12 of the table are attached to the inner sides of the corners of the frame 10 by means of brackets 13. As the legs 12 and the brackets 13 have nothing to do with the improvement which forms the subject matter of this particular invention, they will not be described in detail.

The inner edges of the sides 11 of the frame are provided with downwardly offset ledges 14, and these ledges 14, together with some diagonally arranged cross braces 15, form the supporting means for the top proper, which top consists of a plain sheet 16 of thin but relatively stiff material. The top sheet 16 is preferably made of "Masonite" in about a $\frac{1}{8}$ " thickness, but can be made of any kind of equivalent pressed wood, fibre board, or even good grade cardboard of the same or either greater or less thickness. The sheet 16 is cut to fit the area defined by the continuous four-sided ledge 14 about the inner edge of the frame, with the corners of the sheet preferably rounded following the rounded corners of the ledge, and with a little clearance preferably left at 17 between the edges 18 of the sheet and the base 19 of the ledge to allow for some expansion of the sheet.

At regular intervals along each of the side edges 18 of the sheet small sheet metal fastening clips 20 are located. These clips are approximately S-shaped in cross section and are provided at their upper ends with two or more horizontally projecting teeth 21 which are pressed into the side edges 18 of the sheet 16, preferably

just below the center of such edges. From the teeth 21 the clips 20 extend first downwardly at 22 against the edge 18 of the sheet, then horizontally at 23 back against the lower surface of the sheet on top of the ledge 14, then downwardly again at 24 in slightly spaced relation to the edge of the ledge 14, and then horizontally again at 25 into clinched engagement with the bottom of the ledge 14, all as clearly shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

The teeth 21 of the clips penetrate the side edge 18 of the top sheet at points well below the upper surface of the sheet and yet far enough above the lower surface to afford a firm and secure anchorage for the clips and avoid any appreciable de-lamination of the sheet at the locations of the clips. The upper surface of the sheet 16 is preferably disposed somewhat above the level of the adjoining top portions 26 of the sides of the frame, and the side edges 18 of the sheet are preferably rounded off above the points at which the fastening clips 20 penetrate the same. The upper ends of the clips 20 are preferably located about even with or slightly below the level of the portions 26.

With this improved construction the top sheet 16 will be anchored securely to the ledge 14 about the inner edge of the frame. Any normal amount of expansion or contraction of the sheet 16 can take place without causing any buckling of the sheet, since the fastening clips 20 will permit some movement of the edges of the sheet toward or away from the raised portions 26 of the sides of the frame. In applying the sheet 16, it will be appreciated that the clips 20 can be pressed into the edges 18 of the sheet and thereafter bent back into interlocking engagement with the bottom of the ledge 14 at but very little expense.

The diagonal cross braces 15 which assist in supporting the sheet 16 are sheet metal members of preferably upwardly opening U-shaped cross section which are flattened out at their ends and welded to the frame 10. These cross braces 15 may be set slightly below the lower surface of the sheet 16 and may contain rubber supporting members 27, in the form of short cylindrical sections of ordinary rubber tubing, which supporting members are compressed at the time of application of the sheet 16, between the bottoms of the channels in the cross braces 15 and the lower surface of the sheet 16, thereby exerting a small but appreciable upward pressure on the sheet sufficient to eliminate all the ordinarily present top noises.

In the embodiment shown in Figs. 7 to 9 inclusive—which in some respects is considered an improvement over the above described embodiment—the individual fastening clips are dispensed with and continuous fastening strips 27 are employed along each of the side edges 28 of the top sheet 29. The side edges 28 of the sheet are milled out horizontally throughout substantially their entire lengths to provide fine narrow slots 30, and the fastening strips 27 are made up in the form of small channels. The upper flange 31 of each of the channel strips is inserted in the slot 30, with the bottom 32 of the channel against the lower portion only of the edge 28 of the sheet and with the lower flange 33 against the lower surface 34 of the sheet. At regular intervals the channel strip 27 is provided with downwardly extending tongues 35, which tongues are bent upwardly and outwardly into engagement with the bottom of the ledge 36 on the frame 37 to complete the assembly.

The channel strips 27 are preferably punch-pricked at intervals, in the lower flanges 33 thereof, as shown at 38 in Fig. 8, after the strips have been applied to the side edges 28 of the top sheet, and before the top sheet is assembled with the frame, whereby to prevent any outward movement of the strips relative to the side edges of the sheet during and after assembly with the frame.

In the embodiment illustrated in Fig. 10, the card table is provided with a round frame 39 and a round top sheet 40. In this embodiment the top sheet 40 is secured to the ledge 41 of the frame by means of a fastening strip 42. It may be identical with the fastening strip of the last described embodiment except for the necessary curvature imparted to the strip, the upper flange of the strip extending into a milled out slot in the edge of the top sheet in exactly the same way. Instead of employing a continuous fastening strip, it will of course be appreciated that individual fastening clips, like those illustrated in connection with the first described embodiment, might be employed.

The table structures herein illustrated and described have been referred to as card tables, but it will of course be appreciated that the term "card table" is intended to describe a type of table rather than a table limited to some particular use.

We claim:

1. In a card table, a frame provided about its inner edge with a downwardly offset ledge, a top sheet of thin but relatively stiff non-metallic material positioned on said ledge with the upper surface of the sheet disposed somewhat above the level of the adjoining portions of the frame, said sheet having horizontally extending slots milled into its side edges below its upper surface, and horizontally extending fastening strips positioned against the side edges of the top sheet, said strips being provided with horizontally extending flanges which fit within said slots and downwardly extending portions which interlock with said ledge.

2. In a card table, a frame provided about its inner edge with a downwardly offset ledge, a top sheet of thin but relatively stiff non-metallic material positioned on said ledge with the upper surface of the sheet disposed somewhat above the level of the adjoining portions of the frame, and a plurality of thin sheet metal clips which horizontally penetrate the side edges of the top sheet at points below the upper surface of the latter, extend downwardly around such edges over the ledge, and are then bent back against the under surface of the ledge.

3. In a card table, a frame of pressed sheet metal provided about its inner edge with a downwardly offset ledge, a top sheet of thin but relatively stiff non-metallic material positioned on said ledge with the upper surface of the sheet disposed somewhat above the level of the adjoining portions of the frame, the side edges of said top sheet being longitudinally slotted about midway between the upper and lower surfaces of the sheet, and a narrow channel strip of thin sheet metal positioned snugly against each of the side edges of the sheet about the lower extremities only of the side edges, with the upper flanges of the channel disposed within the slot in the side edge of the sheet and with the lower flange of the channel disposed against the lower surface of the sheet on top of the flange, said channel strip being provided at intervals with tongues which

are bent back under the ledge into vertically interlocking engagement with the latter.

4. In a card table, a round frame of pressed sheet metal provided about its inner edge with a downwardly offset ledge, a round top sheet of thin but relatively stiff non-metallic material positioned on said ledge with the upper surface of the sheet disposed somewhat above the level of the surrounding portion of the frame, and a narrow strip of thin sheet metal encircling the side edge of the sheet and positioned snugly against the same about the lower extremity only of the side edge, said strip being provided at its upper edge with portions which extend into the side edge of the sheet below the upper surface 15

of the sheet and being provided at its lower edge with portions which interlock with the ledge on the frame.

5. In a card table, a frame provided about its inner edge with a downwardly offset ledge, a top sheet of thin but relatively stiff non-metallic material positioned on said ledge with the upper surface of the sheet disposed somewhat above the level of the adjoining portions of the frame, and thin sheet metal members which horizontally penetrate the side edges of the top sheet between the top and bottom thereof and below the top of the frame and are secured to the frame.

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