

Aug. 12, 1952

H. R. SHAMPAINE
PHYSICIAN'S EXAMINING TABLE WITH
PAPER ROLL MOUNTING STRUCTURE

2,606,801

Filed March 23, 1949

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1

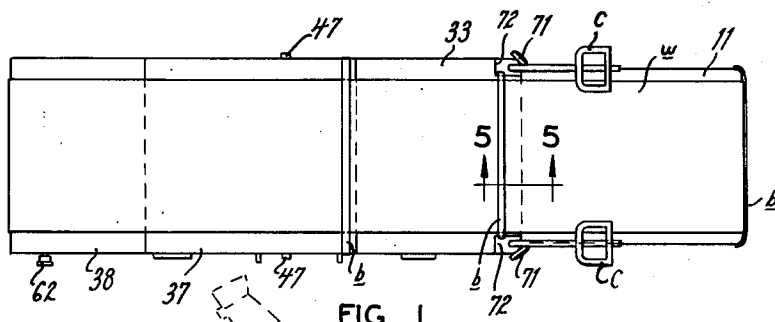


FIG. 1.

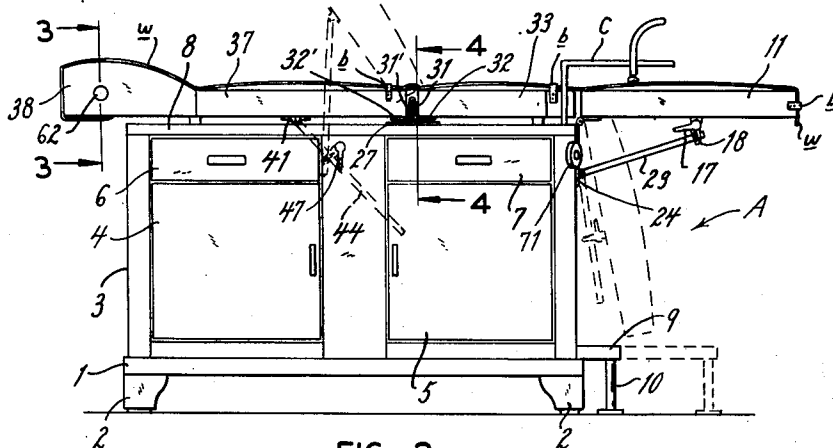


FIG. 2.

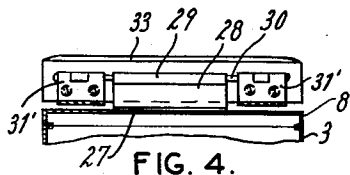


FIG. 4.

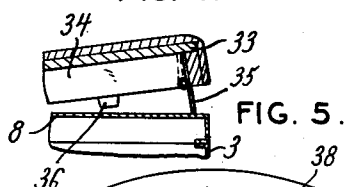


FIG. 5.

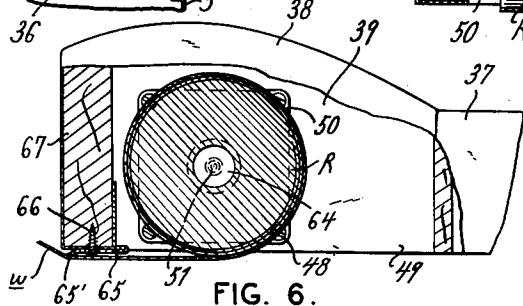


FIG. 6.

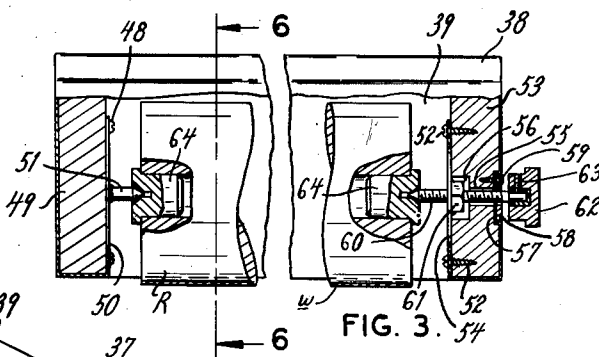


FIG. 3.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2

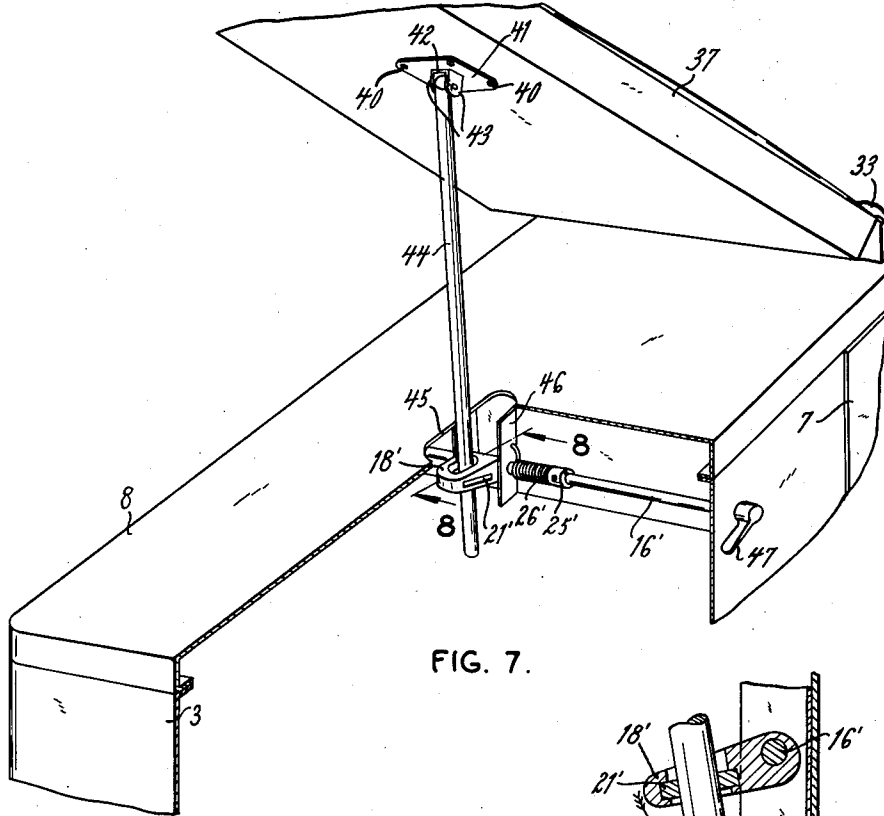


FIG. 7.

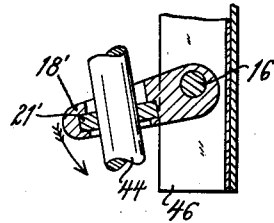


FIG. 8.

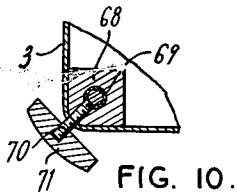


FIG. 10.

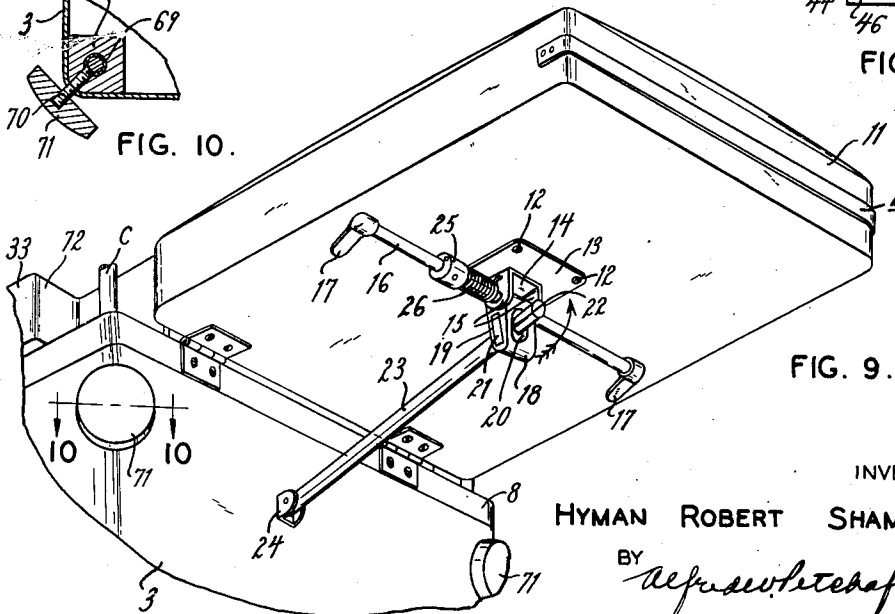


FIG. 9.

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2,606,801

PHYSICIAN'S EXAMINING TABLE WITH
PAPER ROLL MOUNTING STRUCTURE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 311—10)

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This invention relates in general to certain new and useful improvements in physician's examining tables.

Most physicians today, who are engaged in private practice and maintain private offices, employ some kind of examining table or chair on which patients may be placed for purposes of general diagnostic examinations. Because the requirements of medical diagnosis make it necessary to place the patients in various different positions as circumstances of the case may necessitate, it is essential that the table be readily and simply adjustable to various positions, ranging from a chair simulative position to a horizontal flat table-like position. It is also frequently necessary in the practice of general medicine to examine patients in various states of undress and, therefore, it is extremely desirable, both from the point of view of sanitation as well as personal taste, to cover the examining table with a sheet or other similar drape, so that the exposed parts of the patient's body will not come directly in contact with the table itself. Otherwise, there is danger of communication of diseases from patient to patient and, furthermore, many patients would object if required to sit or recline upon a table which might previously have been occupied by another.

Finally, most doctors' offices are subdivided into relatively small examining rooms wherein space is at a great premium. It is, therefore, essential that the examining table be constructed as compactly as possible and be provided with a maximum amount of storage space for instruments, dressings, and supplies.

It is, therefore, the primary object of the present invention to provide a physician's examining table which is sturdy, compact, and economical in design so as to occupy the smallest necessary amount of space in the physician's office and, at the same time, provide adequate storage space for instruments, dressings, and supplies.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a physician's examining table having incorporated therein unique means for storing a substantial supply of paper sheeting which may be quickly and conveniently drawn over the surface of the table to protect the exposed portions of a patient's body from direct contact with the surface of the table.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a physician's examining table which may be readily, quickly, and conveniently adjusted to various positions, ranging from a chair-like position to a table-like position, and is capable of

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being securely locked in, or released from, any such position of adjustment by a relatively simple and yet durable locking means.

With the above and other objects in view, my invention resides in the novel features of form, construction, arrangement, and combination of parts presently described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings (two sheets)—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a physician's examining table constructed in accordance with and embodying the present invention;

Figure 2 is a side elevational view of the physician's examining table of the present invention;

Figures 3 and 4 are fragmentary sectional views taken along lines 3—3 and 4—4, respectively, of Figure 2;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary sectional view taken along line 5—5 of Figure 1;

Figure 6 is a fragmentary sectional view taken along line 6—6 of Figure 3;

Figure 7 is a perspective view, partly broken away and in section, of the examining table illustrating in more detail the locking mechanism employed in conjunction with the back section;

Figure 8 is a fragmentary sectional view taken along line 8—8 of Figure 7;

Figure 9 is a fragmentary perspective view of the examining table illustrating in more detail the locking mechanism employed in conjunction with the leg section; and

Figure 10 is a fragmentary sectional view taken along line 10—10 of Figure 9.

Referring now in more detail and by reference characters to the drawings, which illustrate a preferred embodiment of the present invention, A designates a physician's examining table comprising an oblong-rectangular base 1 supported at its four corners from the floor by means of short legs 2. Mounted upon, and extending upwardly from, the base 1 is a rectangular cabinet 3 preferably subdivided into two door-closed cabinet sections 4, 5, and provided adjacent its upper end with two drawers 6, 7. The cabinet 3 is surmounted at its upper end with a fixed horizontal top member 8.

Slidably mounted in the righthand side wall of the cabinet 3 (reference being made to Figure 2), and extending horizontally over the top of the base 1, is a short sliding platform 9 provided at its projecting ends with legs 10 and adapted to be pulled in or out, as desired, to provide a foot-rest or step.

Hingedly mounted upon, and extending outwardly from, the transverse end margin of the

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top member 8 above the platform 9 is an upholstered oblong-rectangular leg section 11 adapted to swing from the horizontal position shown in full lines in Figure 2 to the downwardly hanging, substantially vertical position shown in dotted lines in Figure 2. Rigidly mounted centrally upon the under face of the leg section 11, as by means of screws 12, is a bracket plate 13 provided upon its under face with a U-shaped bracket 14 having spaced parallel depending ears 15. Rotatably mounted in and extending through the ears 15 is a rock shaft 16 extending equidistantly outwardly on opposite sides of the bracket 14 and terminating at its ends a short distance inwardly from the side margins of the leg section 11, being at such ends rigidly provided with radially projecting actuating handles 17. Pinned to the rock shaft 16 intermediate the ears 15 is a radially projecting lock housing 18 provided transversely with a passage 19 which extends transversely therethrough in a direction approximately parallel to the longitudinal axis of the rock shaft 16. Formed in and extending through the housing 18 in a direction approximately at 90° to the direction of the passage 19 is a relatively large clearance aperture 20. Slipfitted into the passage 19 is a rectangular locking plate 21 centrally provided with a circular aperture 22 sized for snugfitting slidable engagement with a support rod 23 which extends freely through the clearance aperture 20 and, at its lower or inner end, is pivotally secured in a small U-shaped pintle bracket 24, which is, in turn, suitably secured upon the side wall of the cabinet 3.

Pinned to the rock shaft 16 in outwardly spaced relation to one of the ears 15 is a collar 25 to which is rigidly secured one end of a spiral spring 26 concentrically disposed around the portion of the rock shaft 16 lying between the collar 25 and the adjacent ear 15 and fixed at its other end to the ear 15 for normally biasing the rock shaft 16 and the lock housing 18 in the direction shown by the arrow in Figure 9. Rigidly mounted upon the upper face of the top member 8, approximately one-third of the distance inwardly from the leg section 11, is a transversely extending T-shaped hinge support 27 having an upstanding web member 28 provided at its upper margin with a horizontally extending tubular sleeve 29. Projecting horizontally through the sleeve 29 is an elongated hinge pin 30 extending outwardly at both ends through the eyes of pairs of downwardly depending plate hinges 31, 31', which are integrally provided on their lower margins with laterally extending flanges 32, 32', respectively. Secured by screws or any other conventional means to the hinge plates 31 and flanges 32 thereof, and extending forwardly to fill substantially the entire space between the hinge support 27 and the leg section 11, is an upholstered oblong-rectangular seat section 33 of substantially box-like construction in the provision of a downwardly opening hollow recess 34. Suitably mounted upon the seat section 33 in normally concealed relation within the recess 34 is a hinge-like leg bar 35 which may be shifted downwardly to the position shown in full lines in Figure 5 to support the seat section 33 in forwardly and upwardly inclined relation to the top member 8 or may be swung upwardly into the position shown in dotted lines in Figure 5 to permit the seat section 34 to swing downwardly into horizontal position and come to rest upon short rubber cushions 36.

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Similarly secured to the hinges 31' and flanges 32' thereof, and extending rearwardly over the top member 8, is a back section 37 integrally including a rearwardly projecting pillow-like head section 38 which extends for a substantial distance rearwardly beyond the cabinet 3 and is of hollow box-like construction to provide a downwardly opening chamber 39. Secured centrally upon the under face of the back section 37, as by means of screws 40, is a bracket plate 41 rigidly provided upon its under face with a bracket 42 having spaced parallel depending ears 43 for pivotally engaging a support rod 44 which extends downwardly through a relatively large oblong aperture 45 in the top member 8 and thence through a lock housing 18' and locking plate 21', substantially identical in all respects to the previously described lock housing 18 and locking plate 21. The lock housing 18' is pinned to a rock shaft 16' which is journaled in a bracket 45 suitably mounted upon the under side of the top member 8. The rock shaft 16' is substantially similar to the previously described rock shaft 16 and extends outwardly at its opposite ends through the side walls of the cabinet 3, being on such extended ends provided with actuating handles 47. Pinned to the rock shaft 16' in outwardly spaced relation to the bracket 46 is a collar 25' for receiving one end of a coiled spring 26' which is fastened at its other end to the bracket 46, the collar 25' and spring 26' also being substantially similar to the previously described collar 25 and spring 26. The spring 26' is coiled about the rock shaft 16' in such a direction as to bias it downwardly in the direction of the arrow as shown in Figure 8.

Secured, as by means of screws 48, upon the inner face of one side wall 49 of the chamber 39 is a flat trunnion plate 50 centrally provided with an outwardly extending horizontal trunnion pin 51, which is ground off at its outer end to a relatively sharp point. Similarly secured by means of screws 52 upon the under face of the opposite side wall 53 of the chamber 39 is a second trunnion plate 54. The side wall 53 is horizontally drilled in an area approximately aligned with the center of the plate 54 in the provision of a passage 55, which is counter-bored at its opposite ends to provide an inner clearance chamber 56 and an outer clearance recess 57, the latter being designed to receive an escutcheon washer 58 held therein by screws 59. Rotatably bearing in, and extending through, the escutcheon washer 58 is an adjustable trunnion 60, which projects loosely through the passage 55 and is threaded through a nut 61 located with the clearance chamber 56 and welded to the back face of the trunnion plate 54. At its inner end, the trunnion 60 projects horizontally inwardly into the chamber 39 and in axial alignment with the trunnion 51 and is at its innermost end ground off substantially to a point. At its outer end, the trunnion 60 projects outwardly beyond the escutcheon washer 58 and is provided with a manipulating knob 62 held in place thereon by a set screw 63.

Rotatably supported between the trunnions 51, 60, upon suitable spools 64 is a paper roll R, which is only slightly shorter in length than the overall width of the examining table A, so that a continuous web *w* may be pulled from the forward side thereof rearwardly over a spring steel strip 65 mounted by means of screws 66 in the transverse end wall 67 of the chamber 39 and is pro-

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vided with a downwardly presented sharpened cutting edge 65'. Tacked at their ends to the outwardly presented side faces of the back section 37, the seat section 33, and the leg section 11 are transversely extending elastic bands *b* for purposes presently more fully appearing.

In use, the paper web *w* may be pulled outwardly and thence upwardly and forwardly over the top of the cushioned head member 38, back section 37, seat section 33, and leg section 11 and threaded under the elastic bands *b*, by which it is held down, in the provision of a covering to protect the body of the patient.

If it is desired to raise the back section 37 upwardly into chair position, the handles 47 may be pushed upwardly to release the engagement between the support rod 44 and the locking plate 21', whereupon the back section 37 may be pushed manually upwardly to a position, such as that shown for instance in dotted lines in Figure 2. Thereupon, the handles 47 may be released, so that the lock housing 18' and the locking plate 21' may be urged downwardly under action of the spring 26' so as to rigidly grip the support rod 44. It should be noted in this connection that, as weight is brought to bear against the back section 37, the downward thrust upon the support rod 44 will tend to tighten the binding or gripping action of the locking plate 21'. Similarly, the leg section 11 may be swung downwardly to depending position, such as that shown in dotted lines in Figure 2, by lifting one of the handles 17 to release the engagement between the locking plate 21 and the support rod 23.

When the back section 33 and the leg section 11 are in chair-forming position, the platform 9 may, if desired, be pulled out to the position shown in dotted lines in Figure 2, so that the feet of the patient may rest comfortably thereon. If desired, the forward vertical corner posts 68 may be provided in their upper ends with tubular sleeves 69 opening upon the top of the table for slidably receiving conventional knee crutch members C, which are locked in any position of vertical adjustment by large sturdy set screws 70 extending threadedly through the corners of the cabinet 3 and externally provided with relatively large manipulating knobs 71, all as best seen in Figure 10. The seat section 33 is cut away at its forward corners, as at 72, to provide clearance for the knee crutch members C. In this same connection, it should be noted that the transverse width of the seat section 33 between its cut-away portions of the corners 72 is substantially equal to the width of the paper web *w*, so that the latter will lie between the knee crutch members C and will not in any way be interfered with by the latter.

It should be understood that changes and modifications in the form, construction, arrangement, and combination of the several parts of

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the physician's examining table may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without departing from the nature and principle of my invention as hereinafter claimed.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. Paper roll mounting means for a physician's examining table including a base with a top section hingedly mounted on the upper end of the base and projecting at one end over and beyond said base, being provided in such projecting portion with a downwardly opening recess, having spaced parallel side walls; said paper roll mounting means comprising a first pin rigidly mounted on the face of one of said side walls, a second pin threadedly mounted in and extending through the other side wall in coaxial alignment with the first pin and being provided on its outer end with a handle to facilitate manipulation thereof, and a paper roll rotatably suspended upon said pins.

2. Paper roll mounting means for a physician's examining table including a base with a top section hingedly mounted on the upper end of the base and projecting at one end over and beyond said base, being provided in such projecting portion with a downwardly opening recess having spaced parallel side walls; a first conically pointed pin rigidly mounted on the face of one of said side walls, a second conically pointed pin threadedly mounted in and extending through the other side wall in coaxial alignment with the first pin and being provided on its outer end with a handle to facilitate manipulation thereof, a paper roll rotatably suspended upon said pins, and a downwardly presented paper cutting member extending transversely across the rearward margin of the recess in rearwardly spaced relation to the paper roll so that the paper when pulled rearwardly from the roll will pass freely across said downwardly presented paper cutting member and thence upwardly across the end and upper face of the top section.

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