UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SELF-LEVELING TABLE.

1,287,565.


To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER ZIKO, a citizen of the United States, resident of Waskish, county of Beltrami and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Self-Leveling Tables, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in tables and particularly to those types adapted to be used on shipboard in which the oscillation of the vessel causes tipping of the table top.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a table having means by which the top is so supported as to at all times remain substantially level.

A second object is to provide seats combined with the table so that users of the same may avoid the vicissitudes and disagreeable movement which may be imparted by the rocking or other movement of the ship.

These and other like objects are attained by the novel construction and combination of parts hereafter described and shown in the accompanying drawings, forming a material part of this disclosure, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a table made in accordance with the invention.

Fig. 2 is a fragmental top plan view of the same.

Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a similar view taken in another plane on line 4—4 of Fig. 3, and

Fig. 5 is a broken perspective view illustrating the operative elements by means of which the table is maintained level.

The platform is here shown to consist of longitudinally disposed beams 10, joined by cross-strips 12, upon the former of which are rigidly mounted standards 14, in the upper rounded ends of which is mounted a shaft 15, upon which is pivotally suspended supports 16, having rigidly engaged at their lower ends transverse bars 17, upon which rest cross-bars 18, the same being preferably finished with beveled upper ends 19, carrying at their centers other standards 20.

Mounted in the upper ends of the standards 20 are the extending ends 22 of a single cross-bar 23, while engaged thereon, adjacent to the standards 20, are swinging supports 24, having secured at their lower ends longitudinal bars 30, a bucket-shaped container 31 carried by the bars 30 being adapted to hold weights 32, the bucket acting, when weighted as a pendulum, which, by its gravity, causes the supporting elements to swing upon the longitudinal connections 22 and 15, maintaining the axial center of the buckets substantially perpendicular.

Secured upon the top of the transverse bars 30 are cross-bars 34, connected at their ends by the members 35 and forming the frame-work of a platform 36, which carries the side and end elements 33 and 39 respectively, of a box-like structure, inclosing the mechanism described, and covered by a plate 40, the same serving as the table top.

Also supported by the platform 36 are seats 42, provided with backs 43, which are maintained at a convenient distance from the table top 40 and which, like the table, are held level by the pendulum effect of the weights contained in the container 31.

In order for waiters or others to conveniently reach the platform 36, obliquely disposed plates 45, having a beveled outer edge 46 are supported at their respective ends by hooks 47, the same engaging with eyes 48 in the manner of a hinge, the eyes protruding from the end elements 34 of the platform 36.

From the foregoing, it will be evident that a self-leveling structure has been clearly disclosed upon which food may be served, or which may be used for any other desired purpose, and in addition, seats are provided which will remain fixed with relation to the table top through the action of the weighted pendulum at all times, irrespective of any rolling or other motion, which may be communicated to the platform 10.

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

In a self-leveling table, the combination with a heavily weighted pendulum, a support for said pendulum, connections between
said support and said pendulum whereby the latter is free to move in any direction under the force of gravity, a platform operatively engaged with said pendulum, a hollow casing secured to said platform enveloping said supporting mechanism, a top for said casing, said top being adapted to operate as a table, a plurality of seats on said platform, and means for mounting said platform at the ends thereof.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

WALTER ZIKO.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C."