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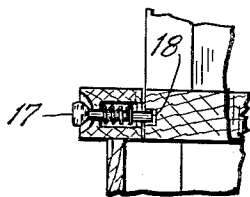
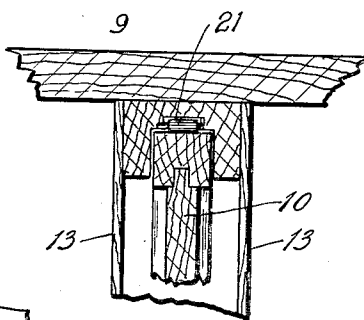
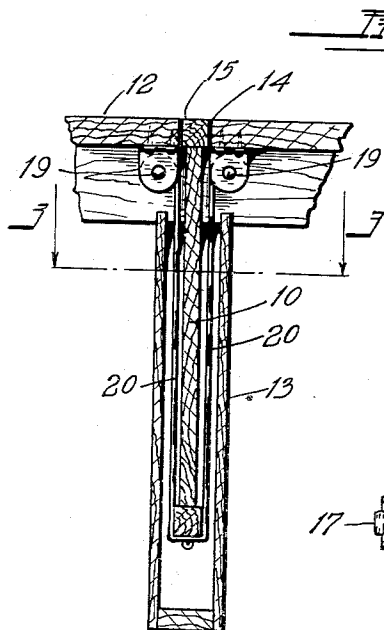
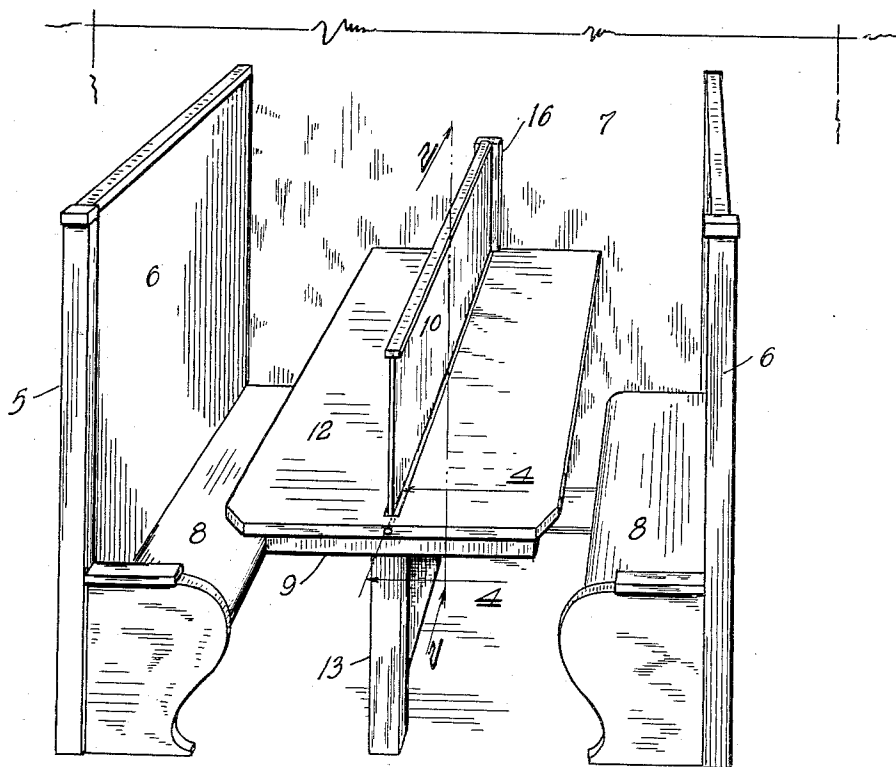
H. POTASHNIK

1,992,903

BOOTH

Filed April 1, 1932

3 Sheets-Sheet 1



INVENTOR,
Hyman Potashnik
BY Rolland & Stratton

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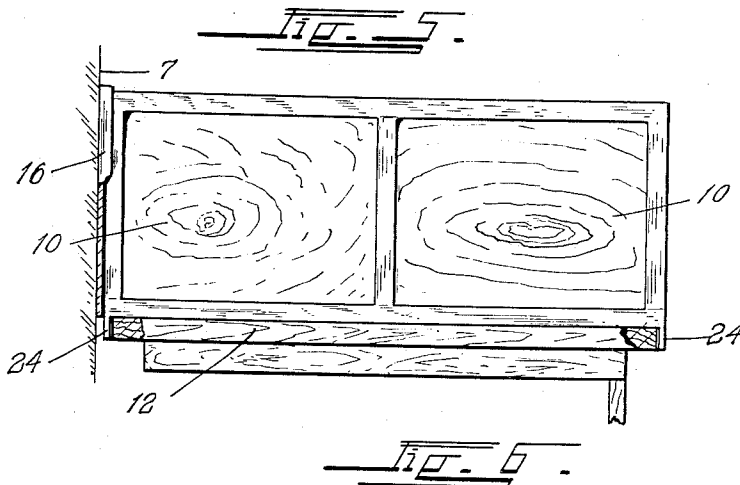
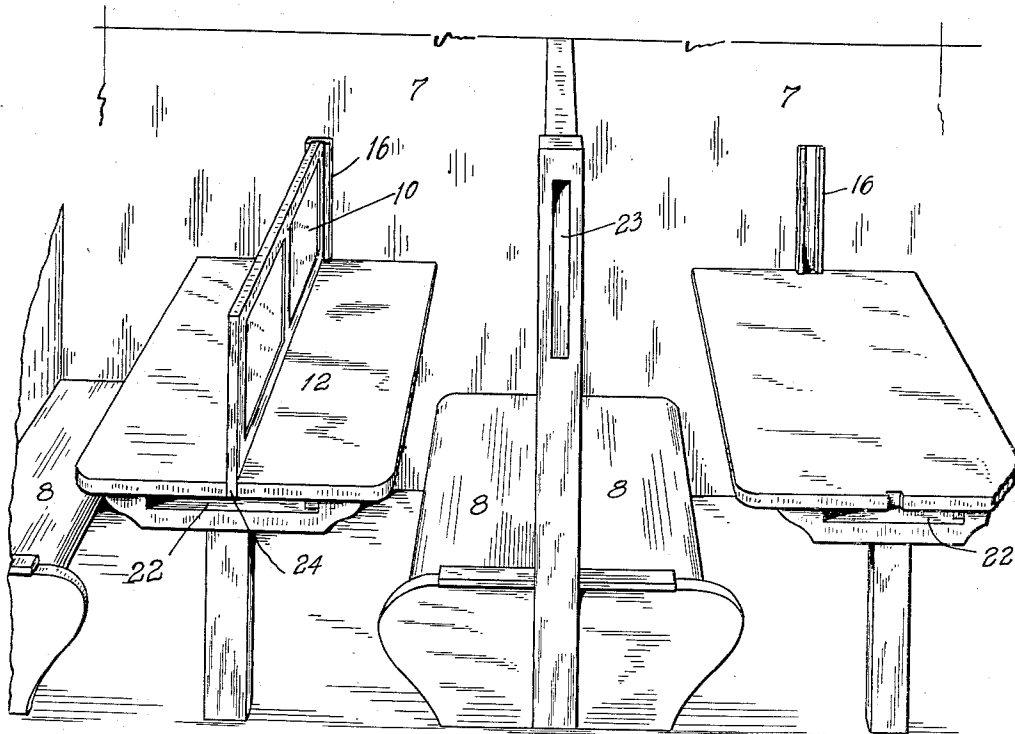
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BOOTH

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3 Sheets-Sheet 2



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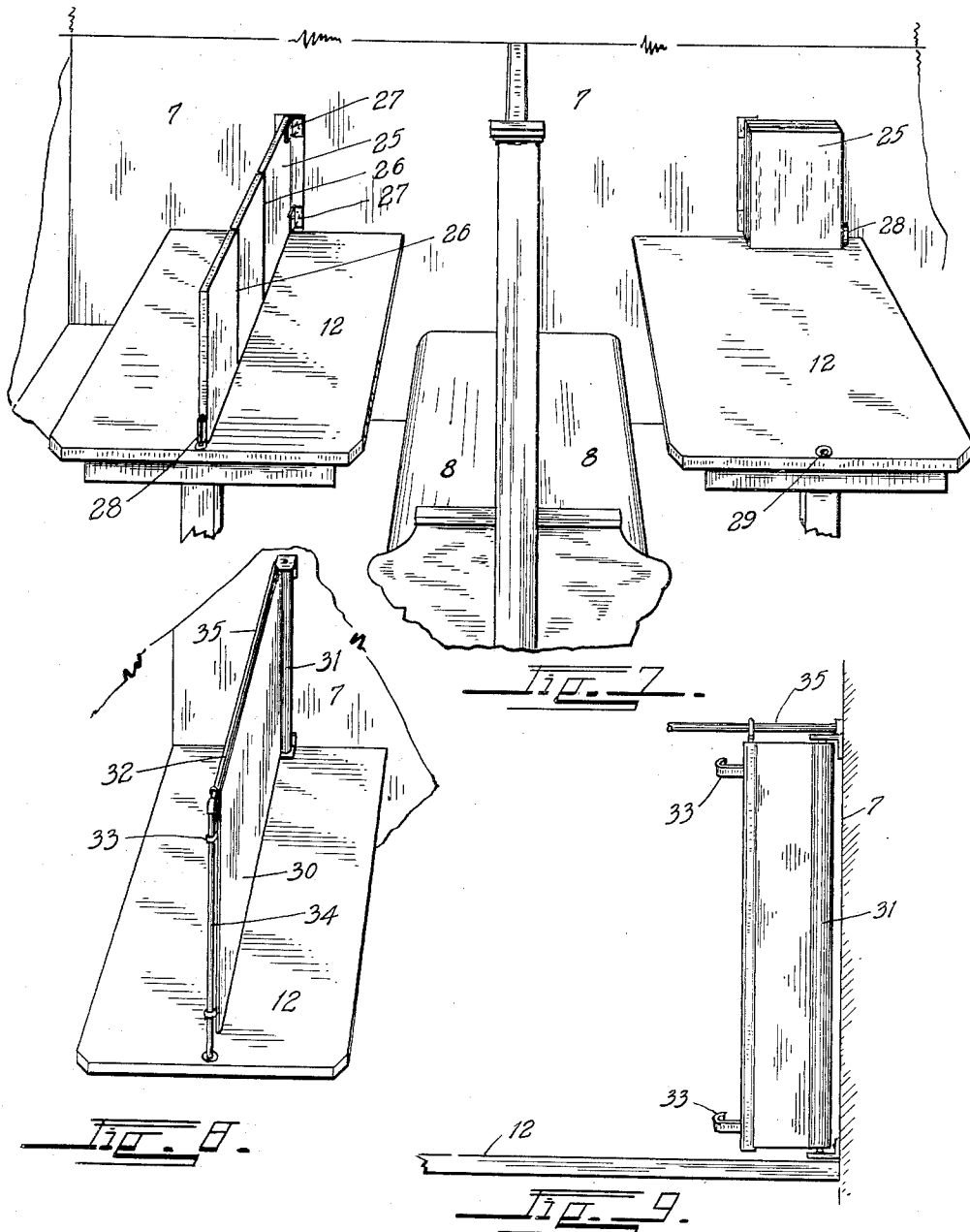
H. POTASHNIK

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BOOTH

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3 Sheets-Sheet 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,992,903

BOOTH

Hyman Potashnik, Denver, Colo., assignor to
Capitol Store Fixture Company, Denver, Colo.

Application April 1, 1932, Serial No. 602,527

3 Claims. (Cl. 155-124)

This invention relates to improvements in tables, and more particularly to improvements in tables of restaurants and other eating places.

It is an object of the invention to provide in association with a table, a partition which divides the table, so as to afford privacy to persons sitting at opposite sides thereof, and it is another object of the invention to provide for the above-stated purpose a partition which is movable or removable, so that, if so desired, the table may be used in the ordinary manner.

The invention is of especial use on tables of private booths found in many restaurants, where seats are provided at opposite sides of the table. It frequently occurs that two parties unknown to each other, are compelled to occupy the same booth, in which case they must sit opposite each other. Such close association of strangers is often embarrassing and annoying, and by dividing the table into two separated spaces by the use of the present invention, the booth is, so to speak, divided into two compartments and privacy is assured to both parties though seated at opposite sides of the same table.

In the accompanying drawings in the several views of which like parts are similarly designated,

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a restaurant booth, showing a preferred form of the present invention in its operative position,

Figure 2 is a section on the line 2-2 of Figure 1, showing the partition in its withdrawn position,

Figure 3 is a section taken on the line 3-3 of Figure 2,

Figure 4 is a fragmentary section along the line 4-4 of Figure 1,

Figure 5 is a perspective view of a booth, showing a modified form of the invention,

Figure 6 is a partially sectional face view of a partition of the form illustrated in Figure 5,

Figure 7 represents a partially broken perspective view of a restaurant booth showing another modification of the invention,

Figure 8 is a perspective view of a table top showing still another modified form of the invention, and

Figure 9 is a side view of the partition of the form illustrated in Figure 8, in a partially withdrawn position.

Referring first to Figures 1 to 4 of the drawings, the reference numeral 5 designates a booth of the type commonly found in restaurants and eating places in general.

The booth has as usual side walls 6 abutting against a wall 7 of the room, seats 8 projecting

inwardly from the side walls, and a table 9 between the seats. In some instances, the fixed seats shown in the drawings are replaced by movable chairs or benches.

The present invention comprises a partition 10 normally extending lengthwise of the table and dividing the top 12 thereof into two spaces. The partition is sufficiently high to conceal persons sitting on the opposite benches from each other's view, but it is preferably lower than the side walls of the booth, so that it may be easily handled, and so that a waiter at the end of the booth has ready access to the spaces at opposite sides of the partition.

It will be apparent that in this manner, the booth is divided into two separate compartments.

The partition is mounted to be lowered into a housing 13 extending lengthwise of the table beneath the top thereof. The top has a slot 14 through which the partition may move to its operative position, and the partition has at its upper edge a strip 15 of greater width, which, when the partition is in its withdrawn position, as shown in Figure 2, closes the slot, so that the table may be used as an entirety in the ordinary manner.

A grooved rail 16 extending vertically at the end of the table adjoining the wall of the room, guides the partition in its upward movement and holds it firmly in position, in cooperation with a spring-latch 17 applied in an opening at the outer edge of the table top, and adapted to enter an aperture 18 in the lower portion of the partition.

In order to facilitate the upward movement of the partition, sash-springs 19 of conventional construction are mounted beneath the table top, and flexible straps 20 connected at the bottom of the partition are fastened to wind upon the rotary drums of the springs. The springs per se are not a part of the present invention, and they may, if so desired, be replaced by weights as in ordinary window-structures.

It is to be noted that the partition is easily placed in the position in which it divides the table top, as shown in Figure 1, and that, in case it is desired to use the entire table, as for example, when one party of friends occupies the entire booth, the partition is readily withdrawn into its housing beneath the top of the table so that the entire top is cleared and free from obstructions. The movement of the partition may be further facilitated by the use of anti-friction rollers 21 at its vertical edges, which engage with the corresponding end surfaces of the rail, as shown in Figure 3.

In the form of the invention illustrated in Figures 5 and 6, the partition may be removed in its entirety to be stored, when not in use, in any convenient place, or in a specially provided recess.

Two such recesses have been shown in Figure 5, one being beneath the table top, as at 22, and one in the side wall of the booth, as at 23.

The partition is held in place in a slotted rail which, as before, is erected at the end of the table adjoining the wall of the room, and it is, moreover, provided with downwardly projecting cleats 24 which engage the edges of the table when the partition is in place.

In this form of the invention, the top of the table is unbroken and the space beneath the table is clear.

When the partition is not in use, it is bodily removed from the table and slid into one or another of the recesses. However, the recesses, though convenient, are not an absolute necessity, since the partitions may be stored in a place remote from the booth, or, if possible, beneath the seats of the same, in which case, a specially constructed booth-wall or table is not required.

In the form of the invention illustrated in Figure 7, the partition is flexible in that it may be folded against the end wall of the booth when not in use. The partition, to this end, is composed of sections 25 hinged together, as at 26, and the entire partition is hinged to the end wall of the booth, as at 27. A spring-catch 28 at the end section of the partition, may enter an aperture 29 in the table top at its end remote from the end wall, to fasten the partition in its operative position.

It is to be understood that a folding or collapsible partition of the type shown in Figure 7, may be constructed in different ways. For example, the sections may slide upon each other instead of folding upon each other, as in the form shown in the drawings, or the partition may be made of one flexible piece as in the form shown in Figures 8 and 9. Here the partition consists of a curtain 30 made of any suitable flexible material and connected with a spring-roller 31 erected at the end of the table adjoining the end wall of the booth.

A frame 32 extending over the table, lengthwise of the same, guides the partition, when unwound from the roller, and hooks 33 on the partition, engaging with an end-post 34 of the frame, hold the partition in its operative position.

The flexible partition may again be mounted in different manners. For example, the spring roller may be mounted on the horizontal member 35 of the frame extending lengthwise above the table, in which case the curtain is moved downwardly to its operative position.

Other variations in the form and arrangement of the partition, too numerous for individual mention, may be made without departing from the scope of the invention, which broadly consists in the provision of a partition, movable or

removable, rigid or flexible, which when in use, divides the space above a table top, into two separate sections or compartments.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A restaurant booth comprising an enclosure having an end wall and substantially parallel side walls, a table in the booth substantially parallel to the side walls and separated therefrom to provide spaces for persons seated at opposite sides of the table, and a demountable partition substantially midway of the sides of the table and extending upwardly from the upper surface of the table and from adjacent an end of the same to the end wall of the booth, whereby to divide the booth into two compartments, each including a half of the table, means on the end wall of the booth to position and support said partition, and means at the outer end of the table to secure said partition in place, seating means at a side of the same, and a side wall of the booth, the end wall of the booth being common to both compartments.

2. A restaurant booth comprising an enclosure having an end wall and substantially parallel side walls, a table in the booth substantially parallel to the side walls and separated therefrom to provide spaces for persons seated at opposite sides of the table, and a demountable partition substantially midway of the sides of the table and extending upwardly from the upper surface of the table and from adjacent an end of the same to the end wall of the booth, whereby to divide the booth into two compartments, each including a half of the table, means on the end wall of the booth to position and support said partition, and means at the outer end of the table to secure said partition in place, seating means at a side of the same, and a side wall of the booth, the end wall of the booth being common to both compartments, the booth having means for the non-obstructive storage of the partition, when removed to a non-dividing position with relation to the table.

3. A restaurant booth comprising an enclosure having an end wall and substantially parallel side walls, a table in the booth substantially parallel to the side walls and separated therefrom to provide spaces for persons seated at opposite sides of the table, and a demountable partition substantially midway of the sides of the table and extending upwardly from the upper surface of the table and from adjacent an end of the same to the end wall of the booth, whereby to divide the booth into two compartments, each including a half of the table, seating means at a side of the same and a side wall of the booth, the end wall of the booth being common to both compartments, the table having a pocket for the non-obstructive storage of the partition, when removed to a non-dividing position with relation to the table.

HYMAN POTASHNIK.