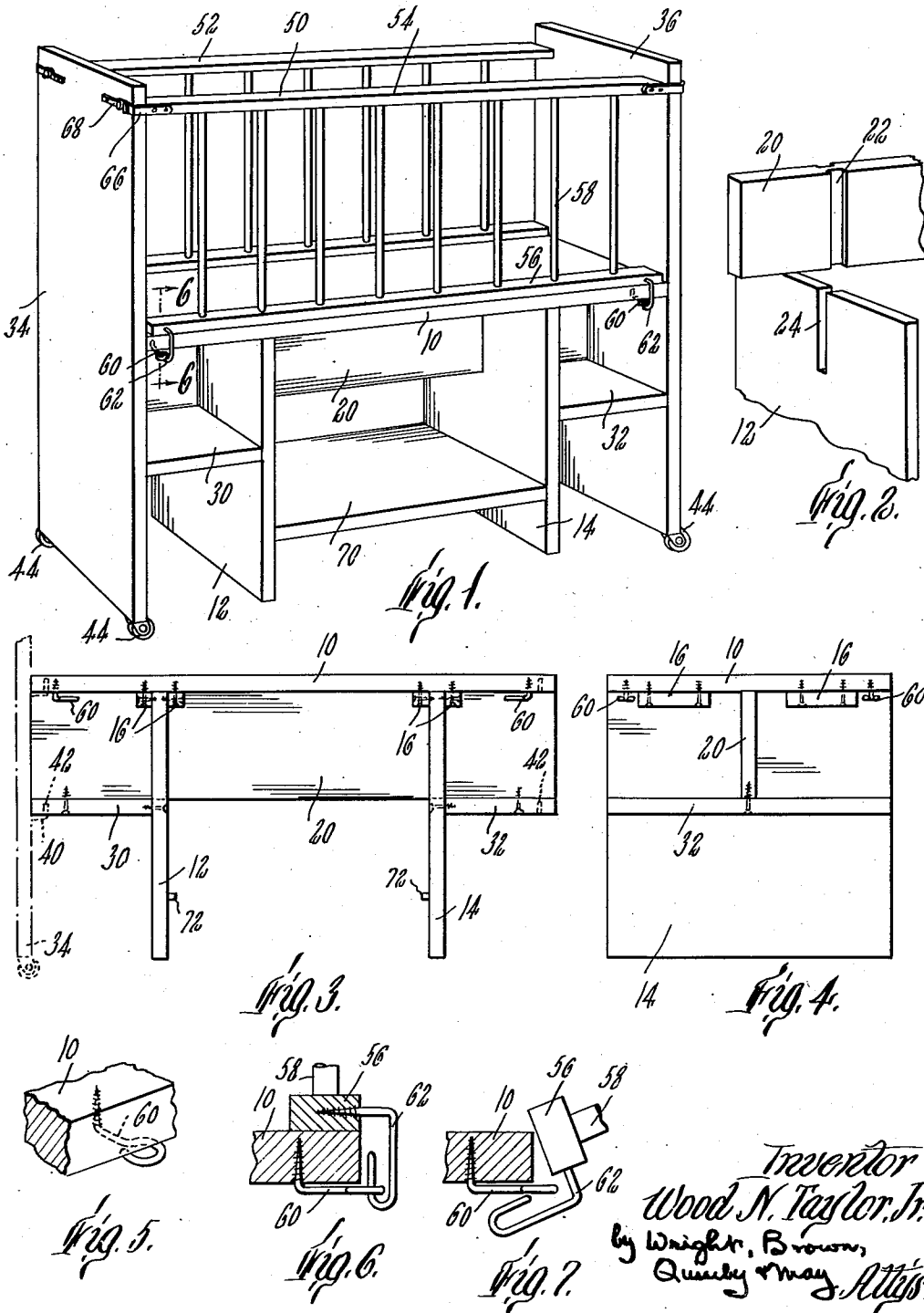


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CONVERTIBLE CRIB AND TABLE

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CONVERTIBLE CRIB AND TABLE

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This invention relates to an article of furniture which can be used alternatively as a crib or a table. A crib is often a necessary article of furniture in a growing family but its term of usefulness as such is only for limited periods. It is an object of the present invention to provide a crib so constructed that it can be partly or wholly made useful in other ways after it has served its purpose as a crib.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a crib equipped with convenient shelves for holding articles useful in the care of an infant.

For a more complete understanding of the invention, reference may be had to the following description thereof, and to the drawing, of which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an article of furniture embodying the invention;

Figure 2 is a fragmentary perspective view of two of the parts of the article of furniture shown in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a side elevation of the portion of the article of furniture which can serve as a table, one of the end boards for the crib being shown in dotted lines;

Figure 4 is an end elevation of the table shown in Figure 3;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary perspective view of a portion of the table platform showing one of the fastener elements;

Figure 6 is a section on the line 6-6 of Figure 1;

Figure 7 is similar to Figure 6 showing parts in a different position.

The article of furniture illustrated on the drawing comprises a horizontal rectangular table top 10 which, as indicated in Figure 3, may be supported by two vertical wall members 12 and 14 extending transversely with respect to the platform 10 and spaced inwardly from the respective ends thereof. These wall members preferably but not necessarily extend from one side of the platform 10 to the other and are secured to the underside of the platform by any suitable means such as an adhesive and/or fastening elements. Reinforcing blocks 16 are shown but are not essential.

In order to stiffen the structure and prevent the vertical members 12 and 14 from rocking or working loose, I preferably frame these members with a longitudinally extending joist 20 which, as shown, runs from one end of the platform 10 to the other along the longitudinal median of the under face of the platform. As indicated in Figure 2, the joist 20 intersects the

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wall members 12 and 14 with mortised joints, the joist being suitably grooved as at 22 to fit snugly in a notch 24 in each of the wall members. Spaced below the end portions of the platform 10 are horizontal shelves 30 and 32. Each shelf is preferably secured to the lower edge of the joist 20 and extends from one of the wall members to the vertical plane containing the adjacent end edge of the platform 10. The shelves 30 and 32 are also secured to the wall members 12 and 14 respectively to stiffen the structure as a whole. The structure thus far described is suitable for use as a table or desk, the shelves 30 and 32 being convenient for the reception of books, papers or the like.

In order to convert the table into a crib, two end boards 34 and 36 are provided, these boards being preferably detachably connected to the ends of the table. Each end board abuts the adjacent end edge of the platform 10 and an edge of the adjacent shelf beneath the platform. Suitable connecting elements may consist of L-shaped brackets 40 secured to the inner face of each end board. The brackets have upstanding lugs 42 adapted to fit in small holes or bores in the bottoms of the platform 10 and the shelves 30 and 32. The brackets 40 may be in the form of simple L-shaped screw threaded hooks, four such hooks being provided for each end board, the lower two hooks entering holes in the adjacent shelf, the upper two hooks entering holes in the platform 10 near the end abutted by the end board. The bottom edges of the end boards 34 and 36 are preferably in a common plane with the bottom edges of the board members 12 and 14 so that all four of these members can be employed as supports for the crib. However, if preferred, casters 44 may be mounted at the lower corners of the end boards in which case the end boards support the entire weight of the crib.

Suitable side rails 50 and 52 are provided to extend from one end board to the other above the side edges of the platform 10. Each of these side rails may consist of an upper bar 54, a lower bar 56 between which extend a series of vertical rods 58. Each side rail is preferably secured in place in such a way as to be readily released. As shown, each bottom bar 56 is hinged to the platform 10 by suitable fittings which permit the side rail to be swung down out of the way or to be swung back into its vertical position between the end boards. As illustrated in Figures 5, 6 and 7, a hinge element 60 may be mounted on the under face of the platform 10

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near each corner thereof, this fitting consisting of a screw eye having a screw threaded portion at right angles to the plane of the eye as indicated in Figure 5, this structure making it possible to swing the eye out of the way under the platform 10 or out into a projecting position wherein it can cooperate with a loop member 62 as shown in Figures 6 and 7. This loop member is secured to the lower bar 56, the loop being open so that its end can be hooked through the eye of the member 60 when the rail is inclined outward at about 60°. At this angle the loop 62 can readily be hooked through or disengaged from the eye 60. When the rail is upright or swung down to a horizontal or downwardly inclined position, the hinge elements 60 and 62 remain engaged. As indicated on the drawing, the loop 62 may be made of a piece of wire having a screw-threaded end extending into the lower bar 56 horizontally. The projecting portion bends down and extends to a point below the level of the eye 60. The end portion bends in a curve and extends upward through the eye. The members 60 and 62 thus act as a hinge but permit the parts to be disengaged if it is desired to remove the side rail entirely from the crib.

When the side rails are up, as shown in Figure 1, they may be fastened in place by any suitable fittings such as hasps 66 and hooks 68.

The shelves 30 and 32 provide convenient storage space for supplies which may be needed in the care of an infant occupying the crib. If additional shelf space is desired a detachable shelf 70 may be mounted between the wall members 12 and 14 on dowels or pegs 72 which project from these members.

When the infant has outgrown the crib, the end boards and side rails may be removed whereupon the remainder of the structure is ready for use as a table or desk. The end boards themselves may thereafter, if desired, be connected by shelves (not shown) so as to be made useful as parts of a set of shelves.

It is evident that various modifications and changes may be made in the details of the embodiment of the invention herein shown or described without departing from the scope thereof as defined in the following claims.

I claim:

1. An article of furniture comprising a horizontal platform, shelves spaced below the end portions of said platform, each shelf having an edge in a vertical plane containing an end edge of the platform, means securing said shelves to said platform, detachable vertical end boards abutting the end edges of said platform and shelves and projecting up above the level of the platform, and means detachably securing said end boards to said platform and shelves.

2. An article of furniture comprising a horizontal platform, shelves spaced below the end portions of said platform, each shelf having an edge in a vertical plane containing an end edge of the platform, frame members securing said shelves to said platform, detachable vertical end boards abutting said edges of the platform and shelves and projecting up above the level of the platform, and brackets on said end boards having upstanding portions entering said platform

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and shelves from below to support the platform and shelves.

3. An article of furniture comprising a horizontal platform, transverse vertical supporting members secured to the under side of said platform and spaced inward from the ends thereof, a horizontal shelf spaced below each end of said platform, the outer edge of each said shelf being in a vertical plane containing the corresponding end edge of the platform, and detachable vertical end boards abutting the end edges of said platform and shelves, said end boards having L-hooks on which said platform and shelves may rest.

4. An article of furniture comprising a horizontal platform, framing secured to the under side of said platform, said framing including two vertical members extending in parallel planes transversely with respect to said platform and spaced inward from the ends thereof, a central longitudinal joist extending from end to end of said platform and secured to the platform and to both said vertical members, and a shelf at each end secured to said joist and to the adjacent vertical member, each said shelf having its outer edge in a vertical plane containing an end edge of the platform, vertical end boards abutting the end edges of the platform and shelves, and means detachably securing said end boards to said platform and shelves.

5. An article of furniture comprising a horizontal platform, framing secured to the underside of said platform, said framing including two rectangular wall members arranged in vertical planes transversely with respect to said platform and spaced from each other and inward from the respective ends of said platform, a central joist extending from one end of the platform to the other and intersecting said wall members with mortised joints, and a horizontal shelf spaced below each end portion of the platform and extending from the adjacent wall member to a vertical plane containing the adjacent end edge of the platform, and a vertical end board detachably secured at each end of said platform, each said end board abutting end edges of the platform and adjacent shelf.

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