This invention relates to booth tables, and more particularly to a booth table support providing lateral swinging of the outer end of the table to facilitate entry into and egress from the booth.

The majority of restaurants, drugstores and cafeterias now utilize wall booths in which a narrow table extends horizontally outward from the building wall and two benches are disposed one along each side of the table. In order to provide comfortable seating at the table, the benches must be so close to the table as to render it difficult for an attendant to enter and leave the booth.

It is, therefore, among the objects of the present invention to provide a table support which will provide a limited swinging movement of the outer end of the table so that the table can be moved to one side or the other to permit a person to comfortably enter or leave the booth at the side of the table opposite to that toward which the table is moved, which support is effective to rigidly support the table from a building wall and to readily lock the table in normal position midway between the two benches of the booth, is simple and durable in construction, and which is positioned entirely above the floor and does not project into the space below the table or interfere in any way with the occupants of the booth.

Other objects and advantages will become apparent from a consideration of the following description and appended claims in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a booth showing in dotted lines a table support illustrative of the invention;

Figure 2 is an end elevational view of the booth shown in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a vertical, medial cross sectional view of the booth, taken substantially on the line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a transverse cross sectional view of the booth table and support, taken substantially on the line 4—4 of Figure 3;

Figure 5 is a top plan view of a bearing plate constituting an operative component of the assembly;

Figure 6 is a perspective view of a slotted batten also constituting an operative component of the assembly; and

Figure 7 is a perspective view of a modified form of table-supporting wall bracket.

With continued reference to the drawings, the booth, generally indicated at 10, is disposed along a building wall 11 and includes two spaced-apart, substantially parallel benches 12 extending outwardly from the wall substantially perpendicular thereto, and a table and support assembly, generally indicated at 13, mounted on the wall 10 between the two benches 12 and extending outwardly from the wall between the benches.

The table itself is a generally rectangular, somewhat elongated, flat body 15 which may be formed of wood, metal, a synthetic resin plastic or other material, or any desired combination of such materials, and is supported on an L-shaped wall bracket, generally indicated at 18.

The bracket 18 may be formed of suitable sheet metal and is of channel-shaped cross-section having a continuous web 16 and lateral flanges 17 extending, one along each edge of the web. The bracket has a short leg 19, the web portion of which is apertured to receive screws or bolts 19 by means of which the bracket is secured to the building wall 11, and has a longer leg 20 extending below the table substantially centered relative to the width of the table. The flanges 17 are tapered along both of the legs 19 and 20 from the contour of the two legs, that is, the location at which the bracket is bent to provide the two legs 19 and 20 disposed substantially perpendicular to each other.

A flat bearing plate 21 having a centrally-apertured, substantially circular intermediate portion 22 and two oppositely-extending, substantially rectangular projections 23 is secured to the upper surface of the table 14 near one end of the latter by suitable means, such as screws, extending through suitable apertures provided in the bearing plate and projecting outwardly therefrom. A bolt 24 is received in the central aperture of the bearing plate and projects outwardly therefrom from the table 14 and is rotatably received in an aperture provided in the web portion of the bracket leg 20 adjacent the wall-attached leg 18. The outer end of this bolt is externally screw-threaded and receives a pair of locking nuts 25 and a spring washer 26 disposed between these nuts and the under surface of the web 18 to hold the bearing plate in firm contact with the outer surface of the bracket web.

A batten, generally indicated at 27, and particularly illustrated in Figure 6, is secured to the under surface of the table 14 transversely of the latter and adjacent the outer end of the bracket leg 20. This batten may conveniently comprise a channel member 28 and a flat bar 29 held in spaced relationship relative to the web of the channel member by spacers 30 interposed between the channel member and the bar at the ends thereof. The space between the web of the channel member 28 and the bar 29 provides a longitudinally-extending slot 31, and apertures 32 are provided one in each end of the batten for the reception of suitable screws or bolts by means of which the batten is secured to the under surface of the table.

The outer end of the bracket leg 20 is provided with an outwardly-extending tongue 33 received in the slot 31 of the batten and with a downwardly-extending apertured lug 34 dis-
posed inwardly of the tongue and substantially at right angles thereto. The batten is apertured adjacent its mid-length location, as indicated at 35, to receive a latch bolt, and a latch bolt 36 is slidably mounted in the batten and engageable in the aperture of the lug 34 to releasably lock the batten in position. The lug 34 is mounted in the table in its normal position in which it is substantially equally spaced from the two benches 12 of the booth.

A handle 37, in the form of a bell crank, is pivotally mounted on the under surface of the table adjacent the outer end of the latter and is pivotally connected to the outer end of the latch bolt 36 for retracting the latch bolt from the lug 34 so that the outer end of the table may be swung about the pivot bolt 24 to move the outer end of the table away from one or the other of the benches 12. The latch bolt is resiliently urged into engagement in the aperture of lug 34 by a suitable tension spring 38 operatively connected between the handle 37 and the under side of the table 14.

It will be noted that the bracket 15 rigidly supports the table 14 and the wall 11 and is disposed entirely above the floor upon which the booth is installed, and that no part of the table support projects downwardly into the space below the table to an extent such as to cause any interference with occupants of the booth. The table is easily movable, when unlatched, so that its outer end may be swung away from either of the benches to permit easy entry into and egress from the booth, and at the same time is firmly supported against any tiling or rocking movement, and, when latched, against any swinging movement so that there is no danger of any accidental movement of the table.

The bracket 15 has a curved bend between the two legs thereof and may be formed by well known forging or pressing methods to bend the flanges about the curved bend of the bracket. The modified bracket illustrated in Figure 7 has a substantially sharp, right-angled bend, and the ends of the flanges at the bend are mitered together. This modified bracket may be manufactured without expensive equipment by cutting and welding the necessary parts together, and may in some instances be cheaper or more convenient to manufacture than the bracket 15 described above. The modified bracket, generally indicated at 40, functions in exactly the same manner as the bracket 15 and is generally similar in construction, having a wall-attachable leg 41, a table-supporting leg 42 longer than the leg 41, an outwardly-extending tongue 43 at the outer end of the table-supporting leg, a shock-out, downwardly-extending, apertured lug 44 at the inner end of tongue 43, and a bolt-receiving aperture 45 in the web portion thereof adjacent the leg 41. The legs of the modified bracket are of channel-shaped cross-section, the lateral flanges being provided, in this case, as separate pieces welded or otherwise permanently secured to the web pieces of the bracket.

The invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential characteristics thereof. The present embodiments are, therefore, to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, the scope of the invention being indicated by the appended claims rather than by the foregoing description, and all changes which come within the meaning and range of equivalency of the claims are, therefore, intended to be embraced therein.

I claim:

1. A booth table support comprising an L-shaped bracket having one leg attachable to a building wall and its other leg extendable outwardly from the building wall to underlie and support a table, a bearing plate pivotally secured to said other bracket leg and bearing upon the upper surface of the latter adjacent said one leg, said bearing plate being attachable to the under surface of the table, a longitudinally-slotted batten being employed substantially at right angles to said tongue at the inner end of the latter, a generally rectangular, flat table, a bearing plate secured to the under side of said table adjacent one end of the latter, a bolt secured to and projecting outwardly from the center of said bearing plate, said clear leg of said bracket having in the web portion thereof an aperture rotatably receiving said bolt, a nut on the end of said bolt opposite said bearing plate, a spring washer on said bolt between said nut and the inner surface of the web of said other bracket leg for holding said bearing plate in firm contact with the outer surface of said web, a longitudinally-slotted batten secured to the under surface of said table adjacent the outer end of said other bracket leg and slidably receiving said tongue, said batten being transversely apertured adjacent the mid-length location thereof to receive a lock bolt, a lock bolt slidably mounted in said batten and engageable with said apertured lug, spring means resiliently urging said bolt into engagement with said lug, and a handle secured to the under side of said table adjacent the outer end of the latter and operatively connected to said bolt to retract said bolt from said lug.

ARTHUR F. BUDD.

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