My invention relates to a combination suitcase and card table of the type disclosed in my issued Patent No. 1,329,699, and has for its general object to improve upon the construction shown of that patent. An object of my invention is to provide a combination suitcase and card table which is of simple, durable and inexpensive construction.

A further object is to provide an arrangement in which the interlining of the suitcase serves to form pockets to conceal the foldable legs which convert the suitcase into a card table.

Another object is to provide a substantial bracing structure for said pockets.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a novel construction whereby the legs are securely supported, said means being arranged to allow the necessary pivotal movement of the legs to guard the legs against catching in the lining of the suitcase during such pivotal movement to give lateral support to the legs when they are in their upstanding position and to be concealed also beneath the lining of the suitcase so that the interior of the suitcase will present an unbroken lined surface.

With these and other objects in view, my invention consists in the construction, arrangement and combination of the various parts of my device, whereby the objects contemplated are attained, as hereinafter more fully set forth, pointed out in my claims, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of the device converted into a card table.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the device with the legs folded, the cover of the suitcase being raised and parts of the lining being broken away to illustrate the construction.

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal, sectional view taken on the line 3-3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a transverse, sectional view taken on the line 4-4 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a detail, sectional view of adjacent portions of the suitcase and a leg, the latter being shown in its upstanding position.

In a suitcase of the type under consideration, there are several problems to be dealt with. One is that of concealing the legs within the suitcase when they are in folded position. Another is that of giving substantial support to the legs both in folded and extended position. I have found that it is possible to utilize a construction which is very similar to the ordinary suitcase, a body or frame structure of substantial material covered by the usual cover material on the outside and provided with a lining of fabric or the like for the inside and that this lining may be arranged to form the pockets which receive the legs in their folded positions.

In the accompanying drawings I have used the reference character A to refer generally to the body of the suitcase, the reference character B to refer generally to the cover thereof, and the reference character C to indicate the legs.

The body A has a frame structure comprising the bottom wall 10, the side walls 11, and the end walls 12, which are of cardboard or composition boarding or some such suitable stiffening material as is ordinarily used in the construction of suitcase cases.

The side and end walls 11 and 12 are covered by a sheet of covering material 13, which may or may not be formed in one piece with the bottom covering 14, (shown in the drawings, as integral with the side wall covering.)

Between the side walls 11 and the bottom wall 10 are longitudinally extending openings 15, which extend the entire length of the suitcase, as may be noted from an inspection of Fig. 3. The bottom covering 14 is secured to the bottom wall 10 and extends beyond the side extremities of the bottom wall 10 so as to form the flaps 16 adapted to cover the openings 15. The flaps 16 are provided with fastener links 17, adapted to coact with the links 18, secured to the side walls 11 near the lower extremities thereof.

It will be understood that the covering 14 may be of fabric, leather or other flexible material.

The usual construction is observed in the cover B and therefore no detailed description thereof is given. The cover is hinged as at 19 to the body A and fasteners 20 are provided...
to secure the cover in closed position. A handle 21 is provided for the suit case. Corner brackets 22 of ordinary construction are provided for the cover and body of the suit case.

The interior of the suit case is provided with a lining 23 of heavy fabric, stiffened by treatment with some composition such as varnish or the like and covering both side walls and bottom of the suit case. Pockets 24 are formed in the fabric lining 23 to receive the legs C in their folded position. A steel rib 25 is inserted between the lining 23 and the bottom and side walls 10 and 11, respectively, and follows the contour of the pockets 24, bracing them against collapsing. Although only one rib 25 has been shown in the drawings, it will be understood that as many may be used as may be necessary to properly support the fabric covering of the pockets 24.

It will be understood that although the word "fabric" is used in connection with the lining 23, that other materials might be employed such as leather or even sheet metal.

The upper edges of the lining 23 may be covered in the usual manner by the downturned edges 26 of the outer covering 18.

In the corners of the suit case body at the ends thereof are secured transverse blocks 27, which are spaced at their ends from the side walls 11 in order to receive the upper ends of the legs C.

Each leg comprises a tapered shaft, as shown, having at its upper end a longitudinal slot 28, receiving a pin 29, which is extended through the side walls 10 and through the block 27. A pin 30, extended through the bifurcated portions of the leg, closes the upper end of each slot 28. The leg has a rounded corner 31 to allow it to pivot about the pin 29 and clear the end wall 12.

It may now be noted that the leg is so arranged relative to the end wall that one of the bifurcations of the leg slides snugly between the pin 29 and the wall 12, being thereby constrained to engage the wall 12 when it is slid upwardly to the position shown in Fig. 5. The wall 12 thereby serves to lock the leg against movement in either direction about the pin 29 when it is in the position shown in Fig. 5.

It may further be noted that the blocks 27, in conjunction with the side walls 11, form a socket to receive the upper end of the leg C, to brace the leg against lateral movement. The block 27 further serves the function of supporting the lining 23 over the spaces between the ends of the block and the side walls 11, thereby forming covered sockets for the legs and supporting the linings so that the legs will not become caught in the lining or be interfered with by the lining in their movement toward or from the position shown in Fig. 5.

The lining will aid in supporting the leg against pivotal movement around the pin 29 when in the position shown in Fig. 5.

It may now be noted that the pocket 24 and the block 12 form a somewhat continuous ledge or shoulder around the interior of the suit case, which gives a finished appearance to the suit case interior, completely concealing the mechanism of the legs.

Some changes may be made in the construction and arrangement of the parts of my invention without departing from the real spirit and purpose of my invention, and it is my intention to cover by my claims, any modified forms of structure or use of mechanical equivalents, which may be reasonably included within their scope.

I claim as my invention:

1. In a combination suit case and table, a receptacle body including side walls, end walls and a bottom wall of relatively thin material, said bottom wall having longitudinal openings separating it from the side walls, a lining of thin sheet material secured to the side walls throughout a portion of their height and spaced therefrom near the bottom wall to form longitudinally extending leg receiving pockets communicating with said longitudinal openings, a reinforcing rib secured to the side walls intermediate the ends thereof between the side walls and the lining, extending from side to side of the body between the bottom wall and the lining, and provided with arched portions following the contour of the pockets and supporting said pockets, a block secured to the body in the interior of an end corner thereof, extending transversely of the body and spaced from the side walls thereof to form sockets, and legs hingedly mounted in said sockets, braced against lateral movement with the ends of the block and with the side walls, and adapted to move through said longitudinal openings.

2. In a combination suit case and table, a receptacle body including side walls, end walls and a bottom wall of relatively thin material, said bottom wall having longitudinal openings separating it from the side walls, a lining of thin sheet material secured to the side walls throughout a portion of their height and spaced therefrom near the bottom wall to form longitudinally extending leg receiving pockets communicating with said longitudinal openings, a reinforcing rib secured to the side walls intermediate the ends thereof between the side walls and the lining, extending from side to side of the body between the bottom wall and the lining, and provided with arched portions following the contour of the pockets and supporting said pockets, a block secured to the body in the interior of an end corner thereof, extending transversely of the body and spaced from the side walls thereof to form sockets, and legs hingedly mounted in said sockets on pins.
supported by the block, braced against lateral movement with the ends of the block and with the side walls, and adapted to move through said longitudinal openings.

5. In a combination suit case and table, a receptacle body including side walls, end walls and a bottom wall of relatively thin material, said bottom wall having longitudinal openings separating it from the side walls throughout a portion of their height and spaced therefrom near the bottom wall to form longitudinally extending leg receiving pockets communicating with said longitudinal openings, a reinforcing rib secured to the side walls intermediate the ends thereof between the side walls and the lining, extending from side to side of the body between the bottom wall and the lining, and provided with arched portions following the contour of the pockets and supporting said pockets, a block secured to the body in the interior of an end corner thereof, extending transversely of the body and spaced from the side walls thereof to form sockets, pins supported by said block, extending into the sockets and positioned substantially above the lower edges of the adjacent portions of the end walls and legs, provided at their upper ends with longitudinal slots receiving said pins, whereby the legs may slide upwardly longitudinally to positions braced against lateral or hinging movement, and may slide downwardly to positions where they may swing about said pins.

Signed this 9th day of July, 1928, in the county of Thurston and State of Nebraska.

FRANK GUNCHICK.