March 29, 1955 C. L. HODGIN 2,705,179

DETACHABLE CONNECTED TABLES WITH INTERLOCKING MEANS

Filed March 5, 1954

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1

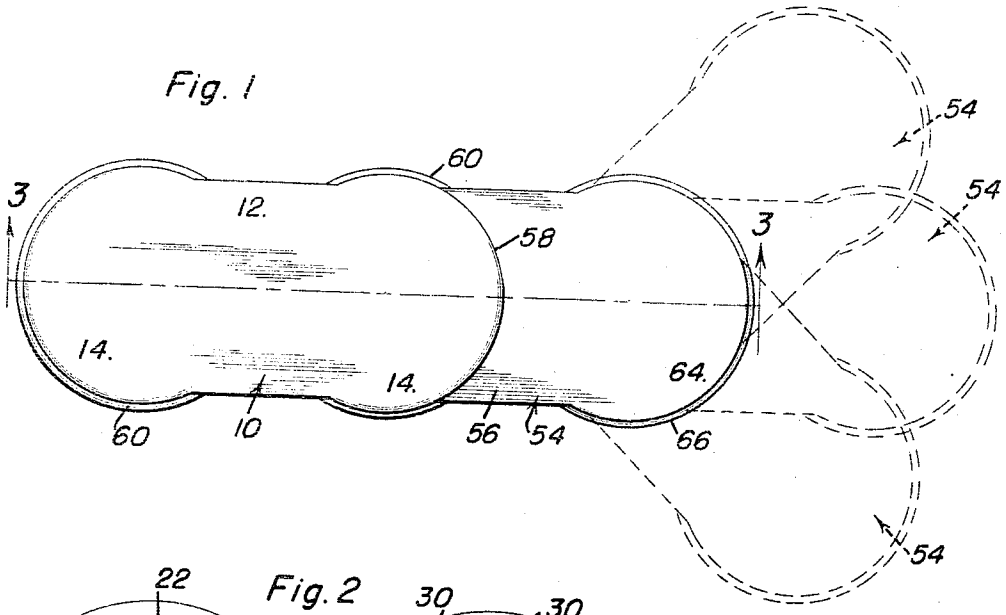
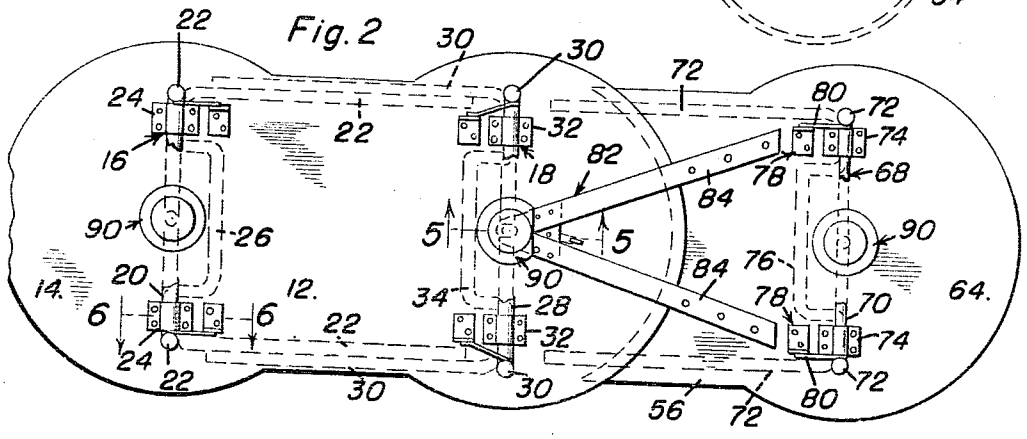


Fig. 2



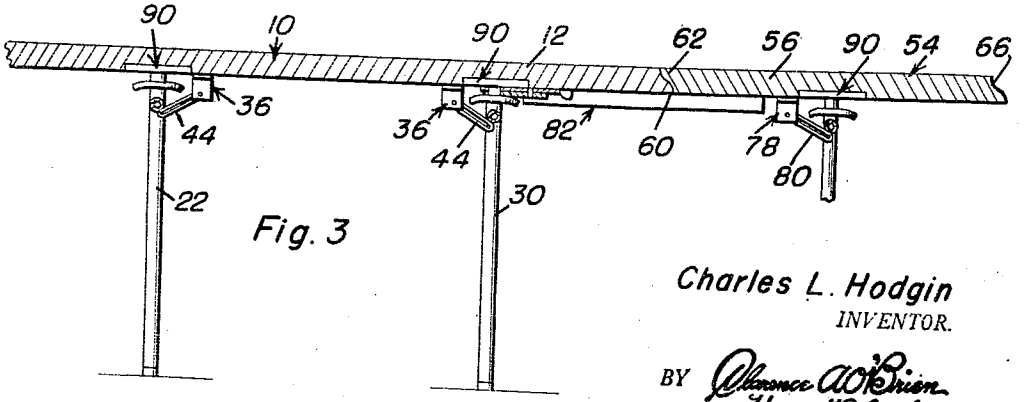


Fig. 3

Charles L. Hodgin
INVENTOR.

BY Clarence A. O'Brien and Harvey B. Jacobson
Attorneys

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Fig. 4

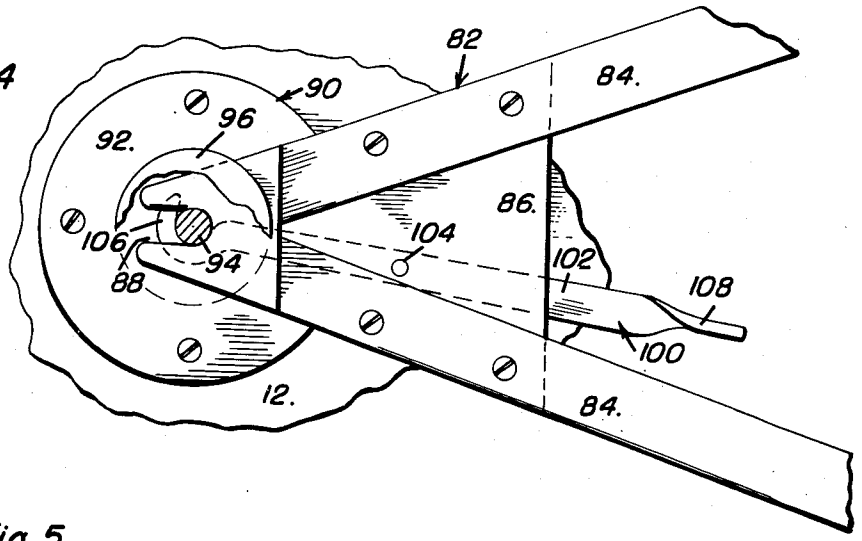
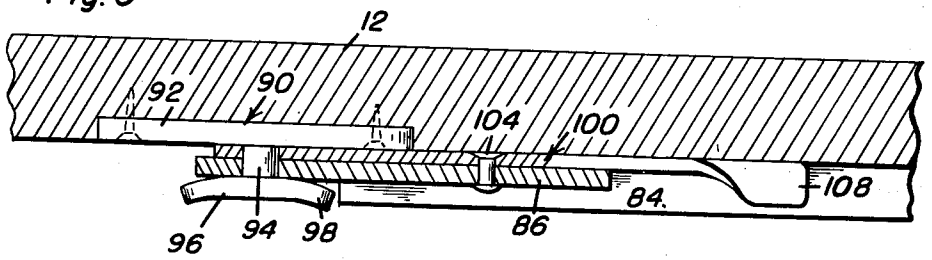


Fig. 5



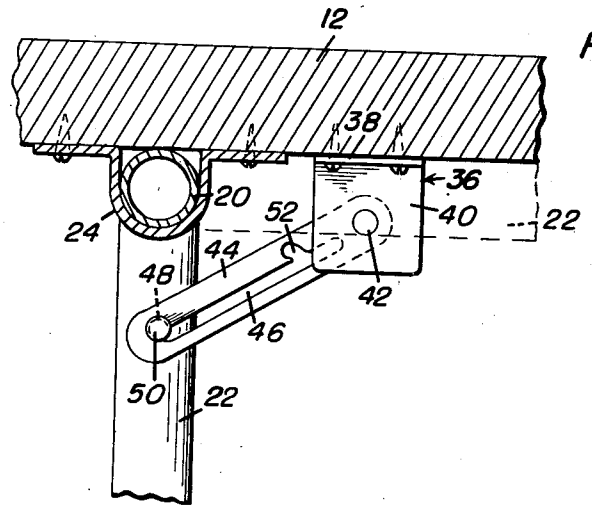


Fig. 6

Charles L. Hodgin
INVENTOR.

BY Clarence A. O'Brien and Harvey B. Jacobson
Attorneys

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2,705,179

DETACHABLE CONNECTED TABLES WITH INTERLOCKING MEANS

Charles L. Hodgin, Carrizozo, N. Mex., assignor of one-half to Petty's General Merchandise, Carrizozo, N. Mex., a partnership consisting of Ralph Petty and Vernon Petty

Application March 5, 1954, Serial No. 414,397

3 Claims. (Cl. 311—4)

This invention relates in general to improvements in furniture construction and more specifically to an improved table construction.

While there has been devised many types of expansion tables which permit the enlargement of the area of the main table, the arrangement and adjustability of such table constructions have been very limited and have much to be desired.

It is therefore the primary object of this invention to provide an improved table construction which includes a main table and at least one auxiliary table, the table construction being of a nature whereby the size thereof is limited only by the space in which the auxiliary tables may be positioned as they extend from the main table.

Another object of this invention is to provide an improved table construction which includes a main table and at least one auxiliary table, the auxiliary table being so connected to and partially supported by the main table whereby it may be disposed at a desired angle to the main table to conform to the particular surroundings.

Another object of this invention is to provide an improved table construction which includes a main table and an auxiliary table, the tables being provided with interlocking connecting means which permits the tables to be quickly and easily connected to each other and removed therefrom.

A further object of this invention is to provide an improved flexible table construction which may be made of any length and which may curve around corners, columns or other obstacles to utilize the available space in any room or hall.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the table construction which is the subject of this invention and shows a main table having connected thereto an auxiliary table, and possible positions of a second auxiliary table being shown in dotted lines;

Figure 2 is an enlarged fragmentary bottom plan view of the table construction of Figure 1 showing the general details thereof, forward positions of supporting legs for the main table and the auxiliary table being shown in dotted lines;

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary longitudinal sectional view taken substantially upon the plane indicated by the section line 3—3 of Figure 1 and shows the arrangement of the tops of the main table and the auxiliary table and the manner in which the auxiliary table is connected to the main table;

Figure 4 is an enlarged fragmentary bottom plan view showing the specific details of the connection between the auxiliary table and the main table;

Figure 5 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken substantially upon the plane indicated by the section line 5—5 of Figure 2 and shows the details of a connecting pin carried by the underside of the main table top with respect to a support arm of the auxiliary table; and

Figure 6 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken substantially upon the plane indicated by the section line 6—6 of Figure 2 and shows the details of the manner in which a supporting leg is pivotally attached to the underside of a table top.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, it will be seen that the table construction which is the subject of this invention includes a main table which is referred to in general by the reference numeral **10**. The main table **10** includes a top **12** which is elongated and which has arcurate enlarged end portions **14** of constant radius and straight parallel sides between said end portions.

In order that the main table **10** may be properly supported, carried by the underside thereof are leg assemblies **16** and **18**. The leg assembly **16** includes a transverse portion **20** and a pair of integral legs **22**. The transverse portion **20** is pivotally connected to the underside of the top **12** by a pair of straps **24** secured to the underside of the top **12** and overlying the transverse portion **20** adjacent its intersection with the legs **22**. The transverse portion **20** is provided with an offset intermediate part **26** for a purpose to be described in more detail hereinafter.

The leg assembly **18** is somewhat similar to the leg assembly **16** and includes a transverse portion **28** which terminates at its ends in legs **30**. The transverse portion **28** is pivotally connected to the underside of the top **12** by a pair of spaced straps **32** which underlie the transverse portion **28** intermediate its intersection with the legs **30** and which are secured to the underside of the top **12**. The transverse portion **28** includes a central offset part **34** for a reason to be set forth in more detail hereinafter. It will be noted that the leg assembly **18** differs from the leg assembly **16** only in that the transverse portion **28** is longer than the transverse portion **20** so that the legs **30** may be disposed outwardly of the legs **22** when they are in their folded position, as illustrated by dotted lines in Figure 2.

As is best illustrated in Figures 2 and 6, disposed adjacent the straps **24** are L-shaped brackets which are referred to in general by the reference numeral **36**. Each L-shaped bracket **36** includes an upper horizontal flange **38** which is secured to the underside of the top **12** and a depending vertical flange **40**. Pivotally connected to the vertical leg **40** by a pivot pin **42** is a leg brace **44**. The leg brace **44** is provided with a longitudinally extending slot **46** which terminates at its end in an offset portion **48**. Positioned within the offset portion **48** when the legs **22** are in table supporting position is a pin **50** carried by the associated leg **22**. The slot **46** is provided adjacent its opposite end with an offset portion **52** which receives the pin **50** to retain the legs **22** in a folded position.

Although the bracket **36** and the brace **44** have been described only relative to one of the legs **22**, it is to be understood that an identical bracket and a similar brace is provided for each of the legs **30**.

The table construction also includes at least one auxiliary table which is referred to in general by the reference numeral **54**. The auxiliary table **54** includes a top **56** which has an arcuate recessed end portion **58**. The arcuate recessed end portion **58** is of the same curvature as the end portions **14** of the top **12** so that the end portions **14** may be selectively received therein. In order that the tops **12** and **56** may be conveniently interlocked, the peripheries thereof are bevelled as at **60** and **62**, respectively, as is best illustrated in Figure 3. The opposite end of the top **56** includes an arcuate end portion **64** which is also of a constant radius. The end portion **64** is identical in outline to the end portions **14** and includes a bevelled periphery **66** so that other auxiliary tables **54** may be connected to the auxiliary table **54** which is connected to the main table **10**.

In order that the auxiliary table **54** may be partially self-supporting, there is provided a leg assembly which is referred to in general by the reference numeral **68**. The leg assembly **68** includes a transverse portion **70** which has connected integrally thereto at the outer ends thereof legs **72**. The transverse portion **70** is pivotally connected to the underside of the top **56** by a pair of spaced straps **74** which are secured to the underside of the top **56** and which underlie the transverse portion **70** adjacent its intersection with the legs **72**. The intermediate part **76** of the transverse portion **70** is offset for a purpose to be described in more detail hereinafter.

In order that the legs **72** may be selectively retained in folded and table supporting positions, there is provided

adjacent each of the straps **74** a bracket **78**. The bracket **78** is identical with the bracket **36** and has pivotally connected thereto a brace **80** which is identical with the brace **44**.

In order that the auxiliary table **54** may be removably supported by the main table **10**, there is provided a brace arm assembly which is referred to in general by the reference numeral **82**. The brace arm assembly **82** includes a pair of brace arms **84** which extend outwardly from the underside of the top **56** beyond the recessed end portion **58** and converge at their outer ends. The outer ends of the support arms **84** are connected together by a generally triangular plate **86**, as is best illustrated in Figure 4. The triangular plate **86** is provided at its outermost apex with a notch **88**.

Carried by the main table **10** and secured to the underside of the top **12** at the exact center of each of the end portions **14** is a pin assembly which is referred to in general by the reference numeral **90**. The pin assembly **90** includes an upper mounting flange **92** which is recessed in the underside of the top **12** and suitably secured thereto. Carried by the mounting flange **92** is a depending pin **94**. Formed integral with the pin **94** and disposed in spaced parallel relation with respect to the mounting flange **92** is a supporting flange **96**. The supporting flange **96** has a downturned periphery **98** to facilitate the positioning of the apex of the plate **86** in overlying relation thereto with the pin **94** being received in the notch **88**.

In order that the support arm assembly **82** may be locked relative to the pin assembly **90**, carried by the plate **86** is a latch member which is referred to in general by the reference numeral **100**. The latch member **100** includes an elongated bar **102** which is pivotally connected to the upper side of the plate **86** intermediate the ends of the bar **102** by pivot pin **104**. One end of the bar **102** is provided with a hook **106** overlying the notch **88**. The hook **106** is selectively engageable around the pin **94** to retain the support arm assembly **82** in interlocking engagement with the pin assembly **90**. The opposite end of the bar **102** is provided with a twisted portion **108** which forms a finger-engageable part to permit the ease of pivoting the latch member **100** to a pin releasing position.

In view of the foregoing, it will be seen that the auxiliary table **54** is connected to the main table **10** by merely sliding the support arm assembly **82** underneath the associated end portion **14** of the top **12** and positioning the pin **94** in the notch **88**. Then by the use of the latch member **100** the auxiliary table **54** can be locked with respect to the main table **10**. Inasmuch as the pin **94** is disposed at the exact center of its associated end portion **14**, it will be seen that the auxiliary table **54** may be swung about the periphery of the end portion **14** in opposite directions until it engages one or the other of the sides of the main table top **12** so as to be disposed at a desired angle to the longitudinal axis of the main table **10** between limits of movement established by the sides of the main table top **12**.

Referring now to Figure 2 in particular, it will be seen that each of the end portions **14** is provided with a pin assembly **90**. Further, it will be seen that the end portion **64** of the auxiliary table **54** is provided with a pin assembly **90**. Due to the provision of the pin assembly **90** on the underside of the auxiliary table **54**, other auxiliary tables **54** may be secured to the first auxiliary table **54** to form further extensions of the main table **10**.

Inasmuch as it is desired to have the legs of the various tables in the centers of the end portions thereof, and since the pin assemblies **90** are also positioned in the centers of the end portions, in order that the legs may be pivoted to table supporting positions, it was necessary to offset the intermediate parts of the transverse portions of the leg assemblies as hereinbefore described.

Although the main table **10** has been illustrated as double ended with the end portions in alignment, it is to be understood that the invention is not to be so restricted. If desired, the main table **10** may have a top which may be Y-shaped, cruciform or of any other desired configuration so that auxiliary tables **54** may extend therefrom along various radiating lines. It is also to be understood that the auxiliary tables **54** may either be disposed in alignment or in a sinusoidal arrangement, as desired. Due to the particular construction of the main table **10** and the auxiliary tables **54**, it will be seen that they may be readily folded and that they require a minimum of space for storage purposes.

From the foregoing, the construction and operation of the device will be readily understood and further explanation is believed to be unnecessary. However, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction shown and described, and accordingly, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. A table construction comprising a main table and an auxiliary table, said main table being self-supporting, said auxiliary table being partially supported by said main table and having an auxiliary support, means releasably connecting said auxiliary table to said main table, said main table and said auxiliary table having interlocked tops, the top of said main table having straight parallel sides and an arcuate enlarged end portion of constant radius, the top of said auxiliary table having a matching recessed end portion whereby said auxiliary table may be swung in opposite directions around said end portion into engagement with one of said sides and into opposite limits of movement established by said sides, an opposite end portion of said auxiliary table top having an enlarged end identical with the end portion of said main table top whereby a second auxiliary table may be attached to said first mentioned auxiliary table.

2. A table construction according to claim 1, including means releasably connecting said auxiliary table to said main table, said means including a headed pin carried by an underside of a top of said main table, a support arm carried by said auxiliary table underlying said main table top and interlockingly engaging said pin above said head, and a releasable hooked latch on said auxiliary table engaging said pin.

3. A table construction comprising a main table and an auxiliary table, said main table being self-supporting, said auxiliary table being partially supported by said main table and having an auxiliary support, means releasably connecting said auxiliary table to said main table, said main table and said auxiliary table having interlocked tops, the top of said main table having straight parallel sides and an arcuate enlarged end portion of constant radius, the top of said auxiliary table having a matching recessed end portion whereby said auxiliary table may be swung around said end portion into engagement with one of said sides and into opposite limits of movement established by said sides, said means including a pin carried by an underside of a top of said main table, a support arm carried by said auxiliary table underlying said main table top and interlockingly engaging said pin.

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