E. C. AMSDEN.

UNIVERSAL TABLE.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 3, 1920.

1,394,526. Patented Oct. 25, 1921.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

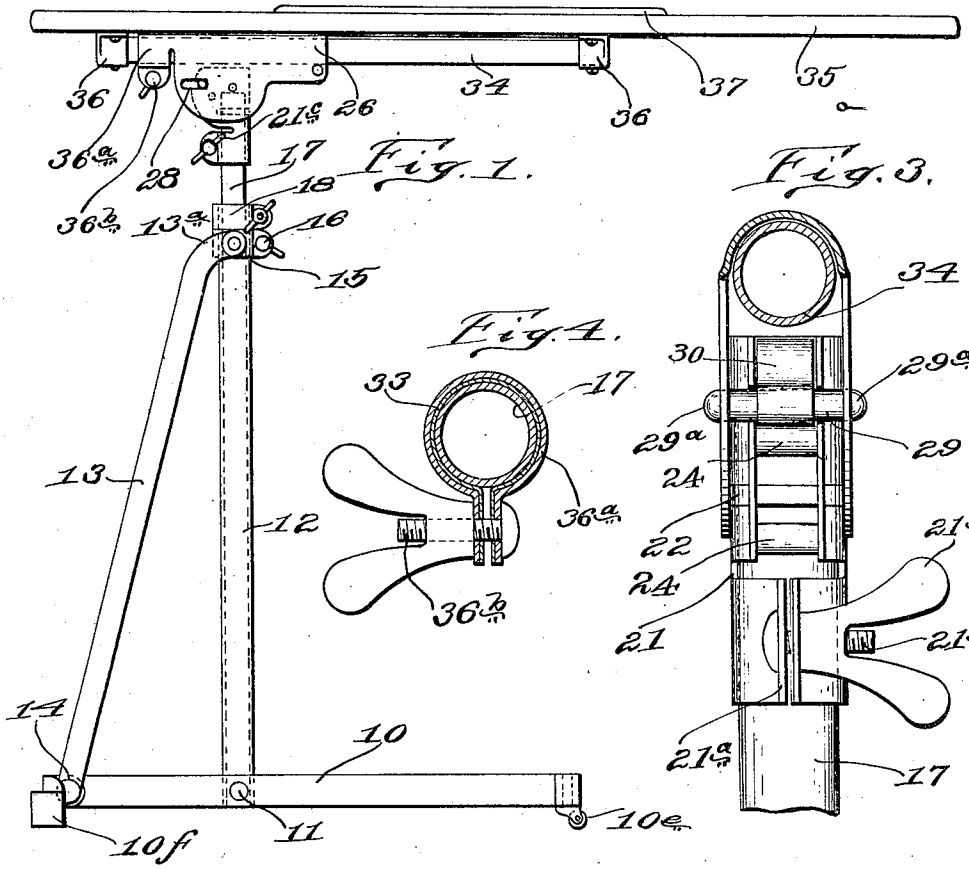



Fig. 1.




Fig. 4.




Fig. 3.

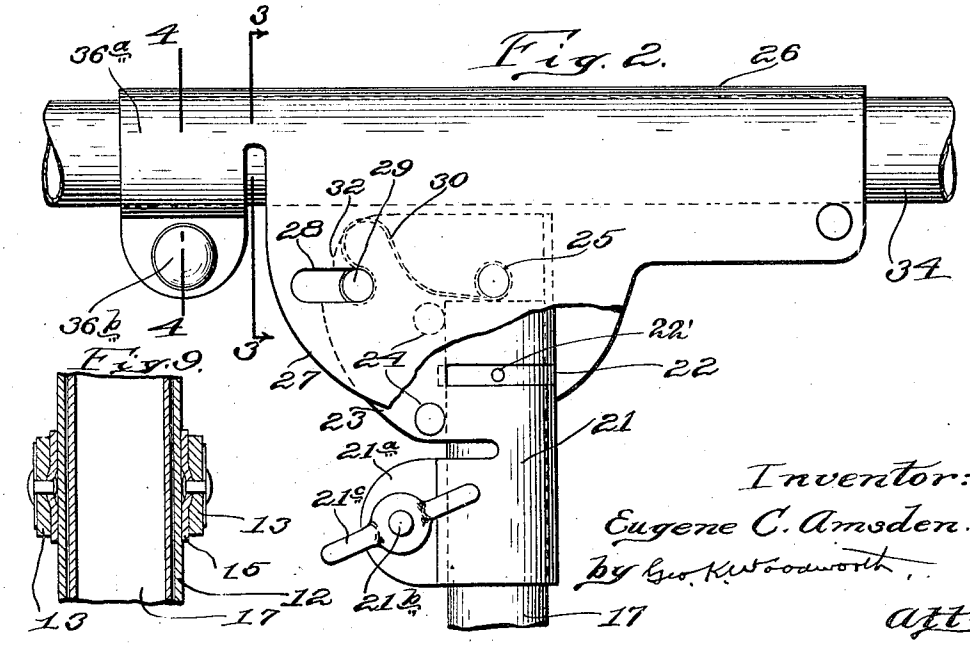



Fig. 2.

Fig. 9.

Inventor:
Eugene C. Amsden.
by Geo. K. Woodworth.
Atty.

E. C. AMSDEN.

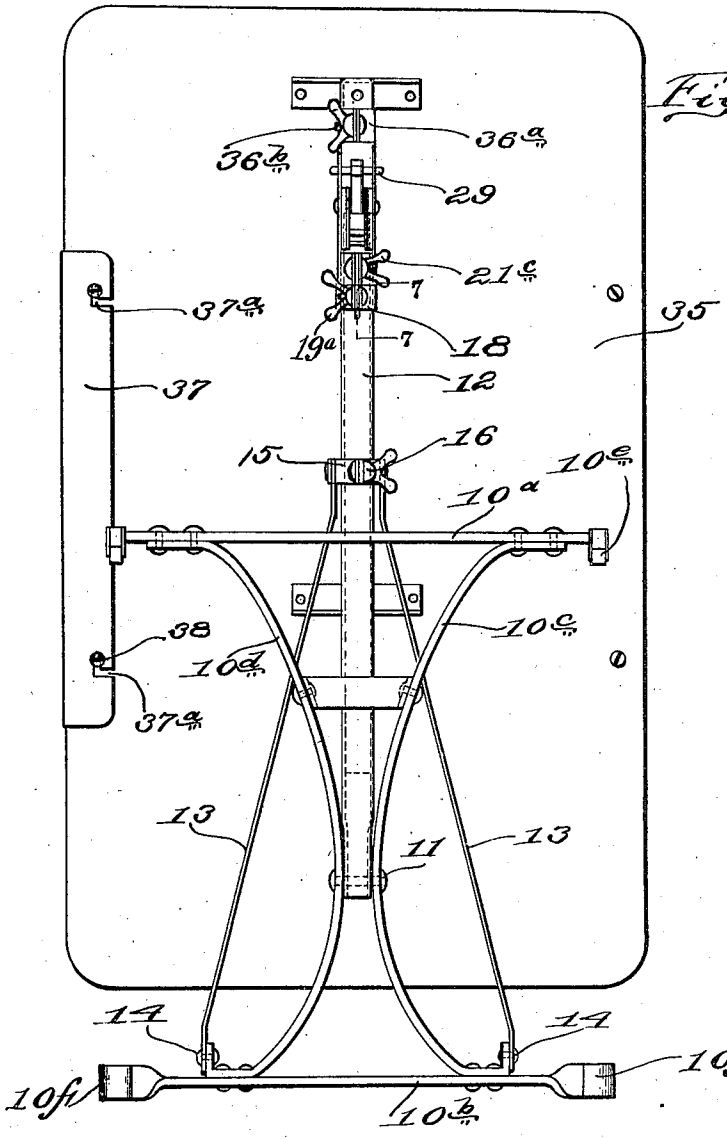
UNIVERSAL TABLE.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 3, 1920.

1,394,526. Patented Oct. 25, 1921.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 5.



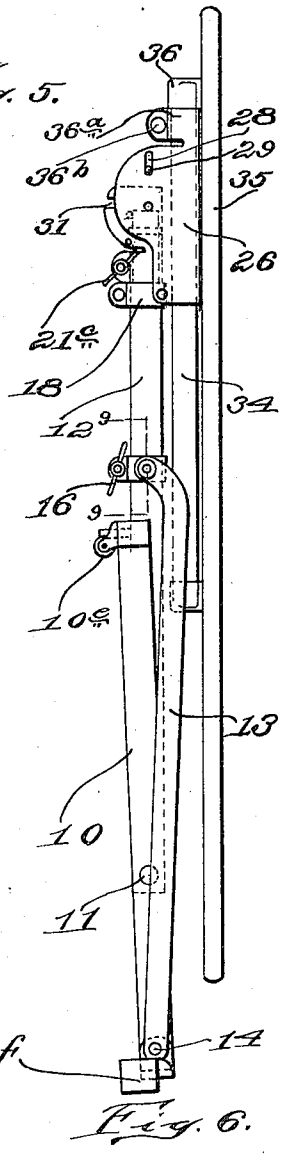




Fig. 6.

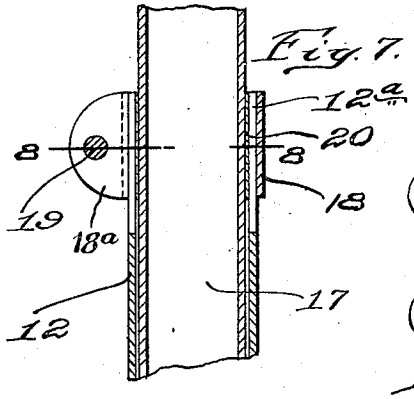



Fig. 7.

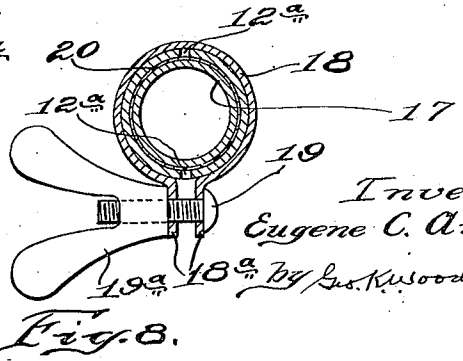



Fig. 8.

Inventor:
Eugene C. Amsden
by Geo. K. Woodworth
Atty.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EUGENE C. AMSDEN, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## UNIVERSAL TABLE.

1,394,526. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 25, 1921.

Application filed August 3, 1920. Serial No. 401,007.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EUGENE C. AMSDEN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Allston, (Boston 34,) in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Universal Tables, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to tables capable of universal adjustment, *i. e.*, angularly in different planes and in a rectilinear direction both vertically and horizontally, though the invention in certain aspects is not limited to a table involving all of these adjustments. One principal object of the invention is to provide a universally adjustable table that is also constructed and adapted for folding of its top and base into substantial parallelism alongside one another so that the table occupies very little space when not in use. A further object is to provide a table having combined with the usual attributes of universally adjustable tables, a capability of endwise sliding adjustment of the table top with reference to its base and supporting post so that the supporting post or standard may be located either approximately underneath the longitudinal center of the table top or adjacent one end thereof at will. A still further object is to provide an adjustable table of the type stated having a capability of pivotal adjustment around a single supporting post or standard. By reason of these supplemental and additional adjustments and the features of construction incidental thereto, the present table is adapted for general table uses as well as for a bedside table and like uses where a substantial overhang of the table top from its supporting standard is requisite and desirable. The foregoing and other objects and advantages of the invention will more fully appear from the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the distinctive features of novelty will be thereafter pointed out in the appended claims.

Referring to the drawings:

Figure 1 is an elevation showing a table embodying the invention set up and ready for use in one of its positions of adjustment and wherein it is adapted for bedside table use. Fig. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary elevation showing a portion of the universal mounting of the table top. Fig. 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2 looking in the direction of the arrow. Fig. 4 is a section on line 4—4 of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a bottom plan view showing the table folded or collapsed. Fig. 6 is an edge view of the table collapsed as shown in Fig. 5. Fig. 7 is an enlarged sectional detail on line 7—7 of Fig. 5. Fig. 8 is a sectional detail on line 8—8 of Fig. 7. Fig. 9 is a sectional detail on the line 9—9 of Fig. 6.

10 indicates a table base which is preferably of skeleton form and shown as produced of transverse metallic end bars $10^a$, $10^b$, united by rivets or the like to oppositely bowed and spaced apart longitudinal bars $10^c$, $10^d$. Preferably one of the end bars, as shown the bar $10^a$, is equipped with casters $10^e$ while the other end bar $10^b$ has friction feet $10^f$ to rest upon the floor. The casters $10^e$ are preferably fitted to the bar $10^a$ for the reason as will presently appear, that this end of the base in certain adjustments of the table top bears the major proportion of the weight thereof. By thus providing casters under this end only of the base, the table is adapted to be moved over a floor with comparative ease and is held from too free a movement by the friction feet $10^f$. The reversally bowed bars $10^c$, $10^d$ have their point of narrowest proximity to each other relatively close to the end bar $10^b$ which may be termed the outer end of the table base. At this point a pivot pin 11 is passed through these bars serving as a pivot and support for a tubular column 12. Pivoted to the table base adjacent its outer end are braces 13, these braces being shown as engaged with pivot studs 14 borne by outturned extremities of the bars $10^c$, $10^d$. These braces converge from these pivot points to their other extremities where they are engaged with a split collar 15 slidingly mounted on the column 12 and equipped with a clamp screw 16 engaging ears projecting therefrom whereby said collar may be clamped rigidly to the column 12 when required. The top portions of the braces 13 are bent inward to engage the collar 15 as indicated at $13^a$ and the relation of these braces to the column 12 is such that when the column is upright with respect to the base 10, the collar 15 is located near the top of said column, while upon swinging the column 12 downward to folded position, the collar 15 will slide downward therealong until the braces 13 lie approximately alongside the column as shown in Fig. 6. The

tubular column 12 has slidingly fitted therein a post or standard 17 which preferably fits the same quite closely. The upper extremity of the column 12 is slitted as indicated at 12ª and is engaged by a split collar 18 equipped with projecting ears 18ª through which is passed a clamp bolt 19 adjustable by a wing nut 19ª to clamp the collar upon the top of the split top of the column and thus to clamp the standard 17 rigid with the column in any posiion of vertical adjustment. Preferably a wear bushing 20 which may be of fiber is interposed between the standard 17 and the column 12. The standard 17 may be of a length so that when telescoped with respect to the column 12 it extends through most of the length thereof. This standard has mounted for swiveling adjustment at its upper end a bracket 21 which may be produced from heavy plate metal. This bracket has a lower portion formed as a split clamp adapted to frictionally grip the standard, having for this purpose projecting ears 21ª which are engaged by a clamp bolt 21ᵇ having fitted thereon a wing nut 21ᶜ. Above this clamping portion the bracket is cut out to receive a ring flange projection 22 near the top of the standard and which being secured to the standard 17 by a pin 22′ provides a seat for the swiveling movement of the bracket on the standard. The upper portion of the bracket 21 is formed with spaced apart parallel wings 23 which are reinforced by studs 24 passed therethrough. This upper portion of the bracket directly over the standard 17 has fixed therein a pivot pin 25 on which is pivotally mounted a housing or support 26 for the table top. This housing is equipped with depending spaced apart wings 27 which fit at the outer sides of the wings 23. These wings 27 have longitudinally extended slots 28 therein in which is fitted a pin 29, the extremities of which extend a small distance outward from the wings as indicated at 29ª. This pin is normally held yieldingly at the inner end of the slot 28 by a leaf spring 30 which engages the same, and the other end of which may be anchored to the pivot stud 25. The wings 23 of the bracket 21 are equipped with notches 31 into which the pin 29 is adapted to engage when the housing 26 is horizontal. The wings 23 are formed with curving edges 32 leading to the notch 31 upon which edges the pin 29 is adapted to ride as the housing 26 is turned on its pivot 25 to bring it into horizontal position, whereupon the pin 29 when it comes into register with the notch 31 will be snapped thereinto by the spring 30 to hold the housing 26 locked in horizontal operative position. Preferably a fiber bushing 33 is interposed between the clamp collar portion of the bracket 21 and the standard 17. The housing or support 26 is equipped with a longitudinal sleeve seat for a stout rod 34 which is fixed underneath the table top 35 by means of lugs 36 and extends from a point adjacent one end of the table top somewhat past the longitudinal center of the top. This housing is equipped with a clamping sleeve portion 36ª having ears through which is passed a clamp bolt 36ᵇ equipped with a usual wing nut. The rod 34 preferably extends along the transverse center or median line of the table top which is thus adapted to be tilted or inclined in either direction transversely. An angle plate rest 37 may be provided which is adapted to be fitted to either side of the table top according to the direction in which the top may be inclined, and so that this rest will be applied to the lower edge of the top. For this purpose the rest is equipped with bayonet slots 37ª which are adapted to engage headed screws 38 fixed in the lower side of the top adjacent each of the side edges thereof. The table thus constituted is adapted to be folded into a very compact space by releasing the clamp 16 permitting the column 12 to be swung downward alongside the base 10, while the top 35 is swung into parallelism with the column 12 by disengaging the pin 29 from the notch 31. The table top may be angularly adjusted on the standard 17 as an axis by virtue of the swivel engagement of the bracket 21 with said standard, and may be set either horizontally or in different positions of adjustment about the horizontal axis constituted by the rod 34. In addition to the vertical adjustment provided by the sliding of the standard 17 in the column 12 the table top may also be adjusted longitudinally by sliding the rod 34 endwise in its socket in the housing 26, this latter adjustment permitting the table top to be slid so that the standard 17 is under one end portion thereof adapting the table for bedside or like uses, while when the rod 34 is slid to its other extreme of adjustment from that shown in Fig. 1 the standard 17 will be located approximately under the longitudinal center of the table adapting it for other and general uses. I am aware that the invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential attributes thereof, and I therefore desire the present embodiment to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, reference being had to the appended claims rather than to the foregoing description to indicate the scope of the invention.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A universal foldable table, comprising a base, a standard mounted for folding movement with respect thereto, and a table top mounted for folding movement with re-

spect to said standard, the mounting of said top with respect to said standard being constructed and arranged to permit said top to be located with the standard approximately under the longitudinal center thereof or adjacent one end thereof at will, and also to permit angular adjustment of said top about a longitudinal median line thereof.

2. A universal foldable table, comprising a base, a standard mounted for folding movement with respect thereto, and a table top mounted for folding movement with respect to said standard, the mounting of said top being constructed and arranged to permit said top to be located with the standard approxiamtely under the longitudinal center thereof or adjacent one end thereof at will, and also to permit of swiveling adjustment of said top on said standard.

3. A universal foldable table, comprising a base, a standard and a table top mounted for folding movement with respect to one another and with means for locking them in operative position, said means comprising a spring-pressed stud asociated with the table top and arranged to snap into notches associated with the standard, and means permitting angular adjustment of the table top about the longitudinal median line thereof and also swiveling adjustment of the top about said standard as an axis, said standard having also provision for vertical adjustment with respect to the base.

4. A universal foldable table, comprising a base, a standard and a table top mounted for folding movement with respect to one another and with means for locking them in operative position, said means comprising a spring pressed stud associated with one of the folding members and arranged to snap into notches associated with the other, and means permitting angular adjustment of the table top about the longitudinal median line thereof and also swiveling adjustment of the top about said standard as an axis, said standard having also provision for vertical adjustment with respect to the base.

5. A universal foldable table, comprising a base, an upright standard and a table top mounted and connected for folding movement with respect to one another, and equipped with means for releasably locking them in operative position, said top having a mounting adjustable to permit it to be located with the standard approximately under the longitudinal center thereof, or adjacent one end thereof at will.

6. A universal foldable table comprising a base, a standard having its lower end pivotally-connected to said base at a point intermediate the ends thereof, a brace having its lower end pivotally-connected to said base near one end thereof, the upper end of said brace embracing said standard, means for clamping the upper end of said brace to said standard, a table top pivotally-connected to the upper end of said standard, means whereby the vertical position of said table top may be adjusted, and means permitting the swiveling adjustment of said table top with respect to said standard without altering the vertical position of said table top.

7. A universal foldable table comprising a base, a standard mounted for folding movement with respect thereto, a table top, a rod mounted on the under side of said table top and located in the longitudinal median line thereof, a housing embracing said rod, means for clamping said housing to said rod, a bracket embracing said standard, means for clamping said bracket to said standard and means pivotally-connecting said bracket and said housing.

8. A universal foldable table comprising a base, a standard mounted for folding movement with respect thereto, a table top. a rod mounted on the under side of said table top and located in the longitudinal median line thereof, a housing embracing said rod, said housing having spaced parallel wings, means for clamping said housing to said rod, a bracket embracing said standard, said bracket having spaced parallel wings, means for clamping said bracket to said standard, means pivotally-connecting said bracket and said housing, a stud mounted in said housing and having its ends projecting through slots in the wings thereof, and a spring mounted in said housing and tending to force said stud against the inner ends of said slots, the wings of said bracket being provided with notches arranged to receive said stud.

9. A universal foldable table comprising a base, a standard mounted for folding movement with respect thereto, a bracket embracing said standard, means for clamping said bracket to said standard, a table top pivotally-connected to said bracket, an annular slot in said bracket, a collar in said slot and means attaching said collar to said standard.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 16th day of July, 1920.

EUGENE C. AMSDEN.