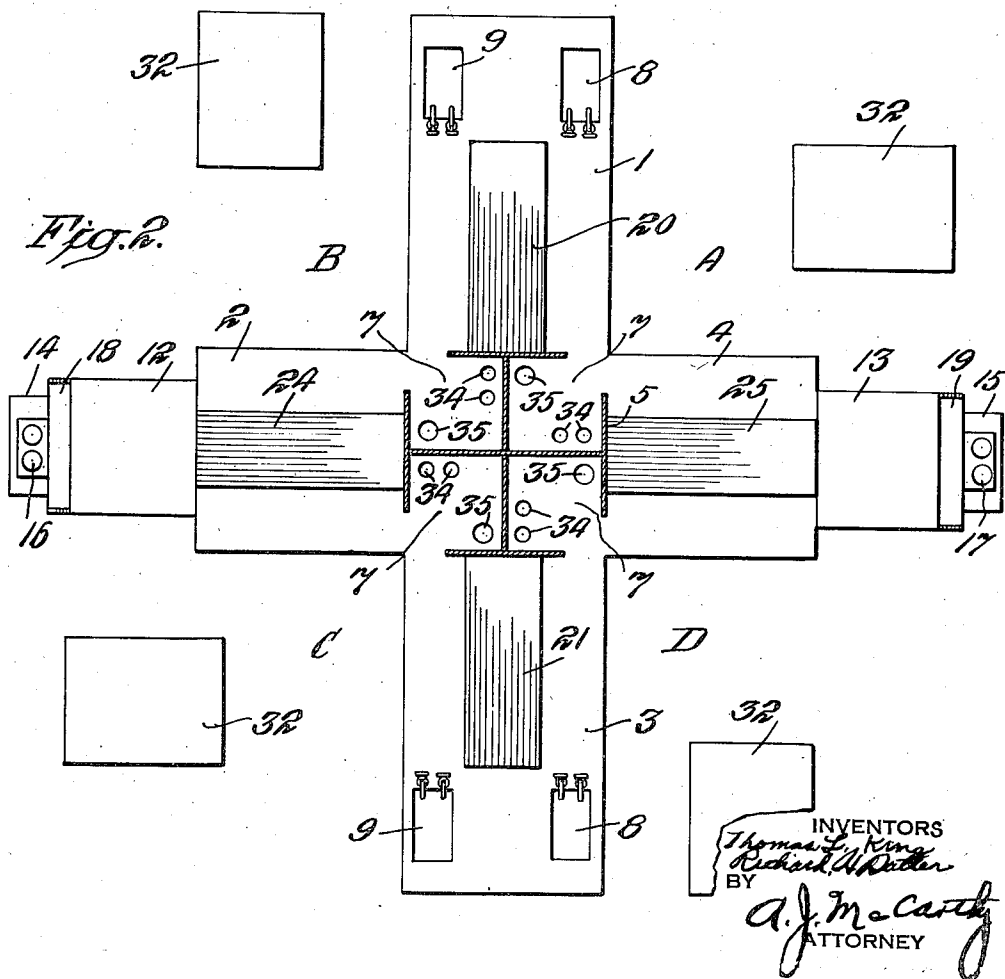
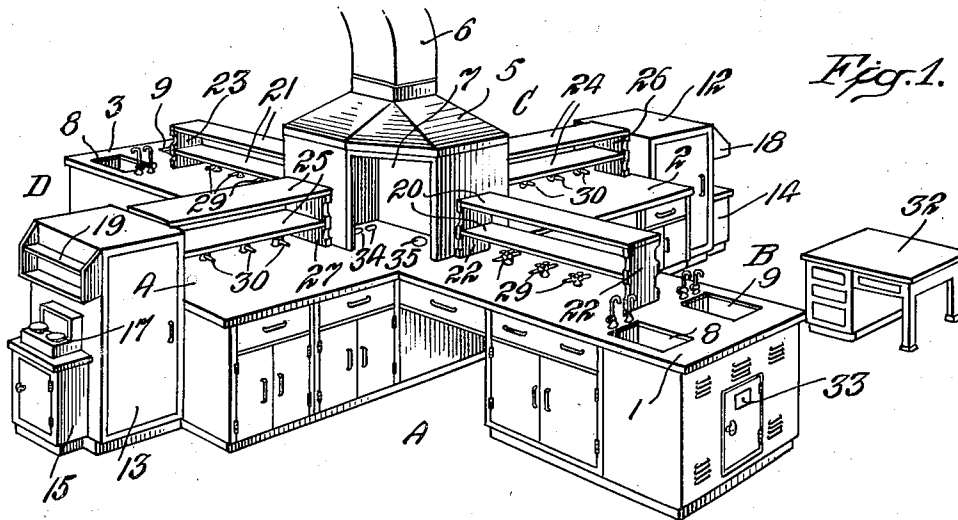


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LABORATORY EQUIPMENT
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INVENTORS
Thomas L. King
Richard A. Butler

BY
A. J. McCarthy
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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LABORATORY EQUIPMENT

Thomas L. King, New York, N. Y., and Richard H. Butler, Westfield, N. J., assignors to Merck & Co., Inc., Rahway, N. J., a corporation of New Jersey

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This invention relates to laboratory tables for chemists and has for its object to provide a new and improved structure of this type which occupies less floor space than ordinary work tables of similar capacity and is superior thereto from the standpoint of convenience and utility.

The invention resides in constructing a laboratory table in the form of a cross, preferably having four branches, the axes of which form right angles. This construction enables a number of chemists to work in semi-private bays with all necessary facilities within or adjacent to their individual stations, thus eliminating the traditional inconveniences, time losses and extra steps which are characteristic of conventional straight-line work tables.

At the intersection of our cruciform structure we provide a single fume hood, with individual access points for each chemist, resulting in considerable economy of space. Each branch of the cross constitutes a work table, and, when a chemist is assigned to each of the four angular bays formed by the cross, it will be evident that each chemist may work on the two branch tables which extend at right angles to each other at his individual station.

Each branch of the cruciform table may be provided with shelves for reagents, test samples, etc., and with all the facilities necessary to an up-to-date laboratory. For example, one straight bar of the cross may have a sink or sinks at each end, each such sink or bank of sinks being accessible to the workers on opposite sides of said bar; while the intersecting bar of the cross may be provided with suitable compartments for clean glassware, etc., and with equipment for weighing samples. The special shape of the laboratory table, furthermore, makes it possible to provide an individual writing desk for each chemist in each angular area of the cross, with resulting economy of space.

Another advantage of our laboratory table is that it enables each working bay to be supplied with gas, steam, compressed air, electric current, etc., from a minimum number of outlets and with the utmost convenience. Thus, while in some cases we prefer to provide all of the branch tables with similar service outlets, it is possible in other cases to equip alternate branches of the cruciform structure with different banks of outlets so that the laboratory workers in all four bays will be provided with increased facilities without unnecessary duplication of fixtures, as hereinafter described.

the invention will be apparent from a consideration of the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a chemical laboratory table embodying the invention; and

Fig. 2 is a plan view thereof, with the central fume hood shown in section.

The chemists' laboratory table shown in the drawing is in the general shape of a Greek cross, having four branches 1, 2, 3 and 4 which form right angles and thus provide four semi-private bays or stations A, B, C and D for individual chemists. The branches 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the cross constitute flat-topped work tables which are mounted on suitable stands at a convenient elevation from the floor.

On the center of the laboratory table, at the intersection of the branch tables 1, 2, 3 and 4, there is mounted a single fume hood 5 having an exhaust pipe 6 and provided with individual fume compartments and access openings 7 which face the angular junction points of the respective branch tables. The openings 7 may be provided with suitable windows or doors if desired.

In the embodiment illustrated, the branch tables 1 and 3, which constitute one straight bar of the cross, are each provided adjacent their outer ends with a pair of sinks 8 and 9 equipped with suitable hot and cold water taps. One such sink is thus accessible to each of the chemists stationed at the four working bays A, B, C and D.

The branch tables 2 and 4, which constitute the other straight bar of the cross, are secured at their outer ends to cabinets 12 and 13, respectively, which extend above the working surface of the table. The cabinets 12 and 13, which may be used for storing clean glassware or for any other suitable purpose, are each partitioned into two compartments and are provided with doors on opposite sides providing access to the respective compartments from each of the working stations A, B, C and D. Smaller cabinets 14 and 15, supporting suitable balances 16 and 17 for weighing samples, are placed at the ends of but not secured to the respective cabinets 12 and 13. Cabinet 14 and balance 16 are readily accessible to stations B and C, while cabinet 15 and balance 17 are easily accessible to stations A and D. Shelves 18 and 19 for dry reagents are secured to the respective glassware cabinets 12 and 13 above the balances 16 and 17.

Longitudinal banks of shelves 20 and 21 are mounted centrally above branch tables 1 and 3, their ends being supported by uprights 22 and 23

These and other features and advantages of

which are mounted on the branch tables as shown in Fig. 1. Similar longitudinal banks of shelves 24 and 25 are mounted centrally above the branch tables 2 and 4, the ends of said shelves being supported by uprights 26 and 27, respectively. It will be observed that these shelves, which may be used for supporting reagents, test samples, etc., are readily accessible to the workers stationed at each of the four working bays of the laboratory table.

In the embodiment illustrated, the branch tables 1 and 3 are each provided with a bank of outlets 29 for gas, etc., here shown to be three in number, which are arranged in longitudinal alignment beneath the respective shelves 20 and 21, centrally of said branch tables 1 and 3 so as to be equally accessible from either side thereof, and the branch tables 2 and 4 are each provided with a like number of outlets 30 arranged beneath the respective shelves 24 and 25.

If desired, the banks of outlets 29 and 30 may be alike in character, for example one outlet of each bank may be connected to a source of compressed air, while another may be for gas and the third for steam, so that each branch table is provided with the same facilities. On the other hand, the outlets 30 of branch tables 2 and 4 may be of a different character from the outlets 29 of tables 1 and 3, for example the outlets 30 may be for supplying electric current, vacuum, etc. With this latter arrangement it will be evident that the laboratory workers stationed at all of the working bays A, B, C and D will each be within easy reach of both banks of outlets 29 and 30, and all of said outlets may be provided with double taps so that they may be used simultaneously by the workers on both sides of the respective branch tables.

The lower portions or stands supporting the branch tables 1, 2, 3 and 4 may be provided with suitable drawers and closets for the storage of laboratory equipment, as illustrated in Fig. 1. The arrangement may be such that each working bay is provided with the same facilities and equipment, or the equipment may be varied if desired. The special shape of the laboratory table also permits an individual writing desk 32 to be stationed in each angular area of the cross, with resulting economy of space.

Waste chutes 33 may be provided at the ends of branch tables 1 and 3 beneath the sink sections, and the backs of the various cupboards are preferably provided with removable panels permitting access to the plumbing. The various fume compartments of hood 5 may be provided with steam bath openings 34 designed to fit standard equipment, and with small drains 35 for disposing of substances giving off noxious vapors. A push button, not shown, is provided beneath the edge of each branch table for summoning laboratory helpers.

The foregoing convenient arrangement of all the apparatus and equipment in the cruciform structure, which insures equal accessibility to the chemists in each working bay, eliminates the traditional inconveniences, time losses and extra steps which are characteristic of straight-line work tables.

Although one particular embodiment of the invention has been shown and described for purposes of illustration, it will be evident to those skilled in the art that various changes and adaptations may be made therein without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

The invention claimed is:

1. A laboratory table for chemists comprising a plurality of connected branch tables arranged in the form of a cross providing a plurality of working bays in the angular areas between the respective branch tables, and a fume hood mounted in the center of said table at the intersection of the branches of the cross, said hood having individual access openings facing the respective working bays formed by said branch tables.

2. A laboratory table for chemists comprising four branch tables arranged in the form of a cross providing four working bays in the angular areas between the respective branch tables, a fume hood mounted in the center of said table at the intersection of the cross, and individual fume compartments in said hood having separate access openings facing the respective working bays formed by said branch tables.

3. A laboratory table for chemists comprising four branch tables arranged in the form of a right-angled cross providing four working bays in the angular areas between the respective branch tables, a fume hood mounted in the center of said table at the intersection of the cross, and individual fume compartments in said hood having separate access openings facing the respective working bays formed by said branch tables.

4. A laboratory table for chemists comprising four branch tables arranged in the form of a right-angled cross providing four working bays in the angular areas between the respective branch tables, a fume hood mounted in the center of said table at the intersection of the cross, individual fume compartments in said hood having separate access openings facing the angular junction points of the respective branch tables, and banks of outlets mounted centrally on each of said four branch tables in position to be accessible from both sides thereof, the outlets on each branch table being similar to the outlets on the corresponding aligned branch table and being of a different character from the outlets on the intersecting branch tables.

THOMAS L. KING.
RICHARD H. BUTLER.