May 3, 1949. J. A. ALEXANDER 2,468,856

COMBINED TABLE AND DESK FOR CHILDREN

Filed Oct. 9, 1944 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

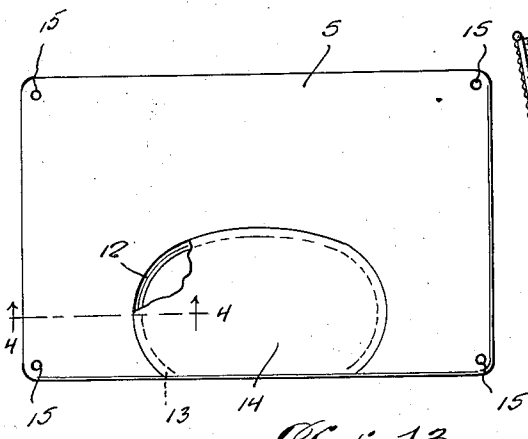


Fig. 2.

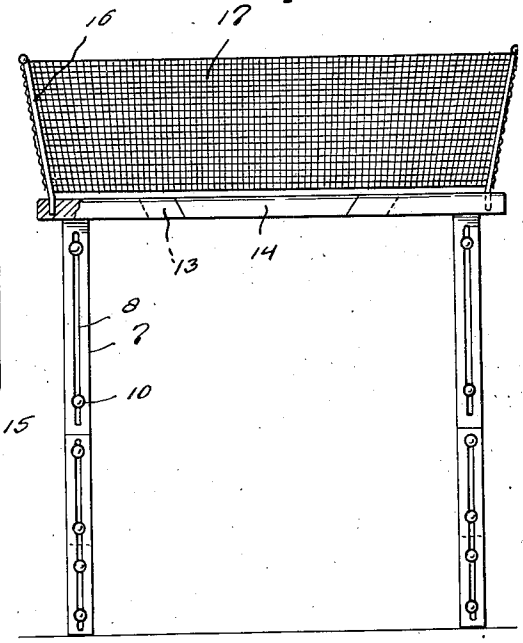


Fig. 13.

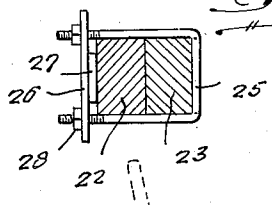


Fig. 3.

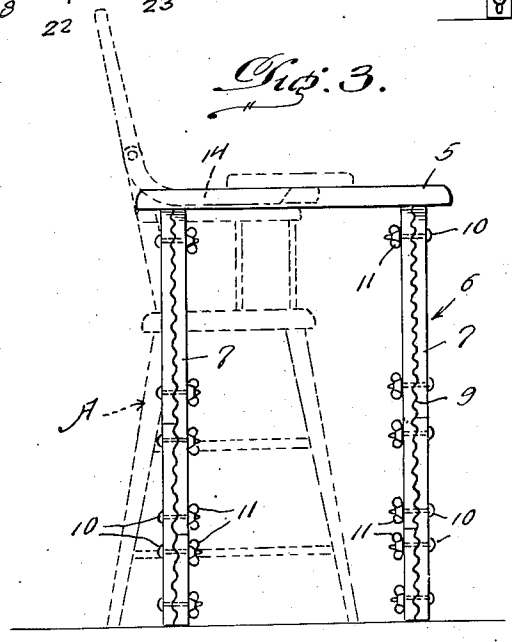
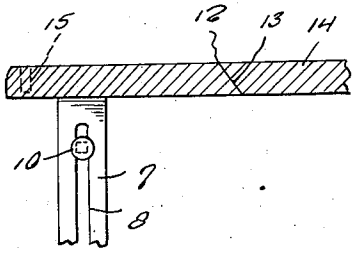


Fig. 4.



Inventor
John A. Alexander,

By McMorrow & Berman
Attorneys

May 3, 1949. J. A. ALEXANDER 2,468,856

COMBINED TABLE AND DESK FOR CHILDREN

Filed Oct. 9, 1944 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 5.

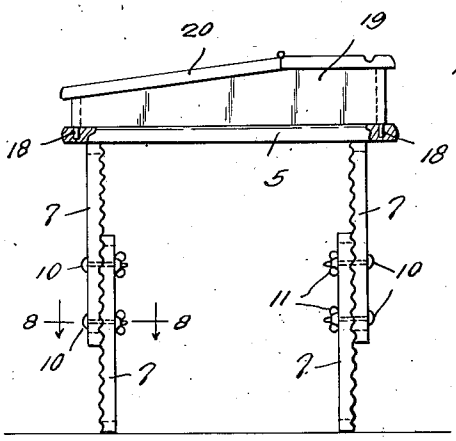


Fig. 6.

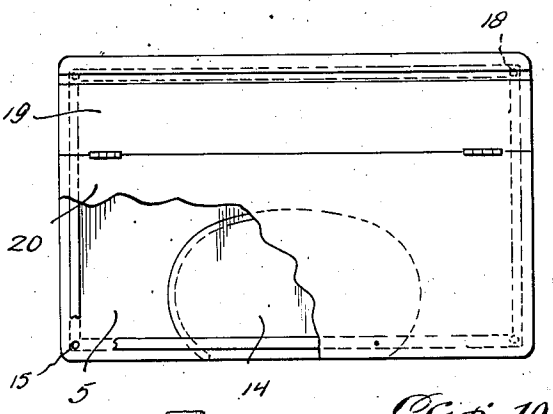


Fig. 7.

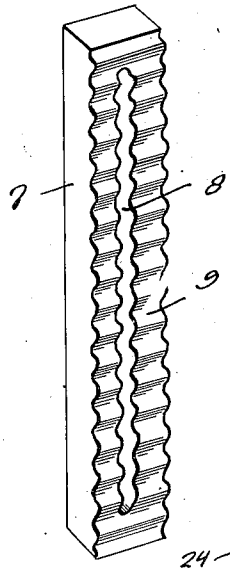


Fig. 8.

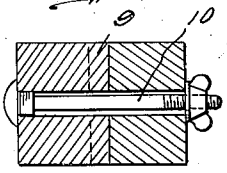


Fig. 9.

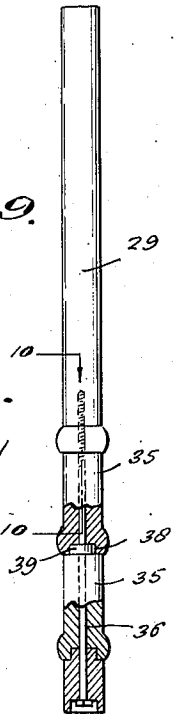


Fig. 10.

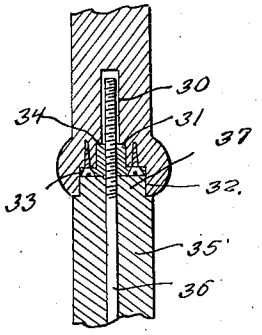


Fig. 11.

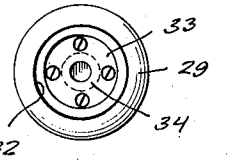
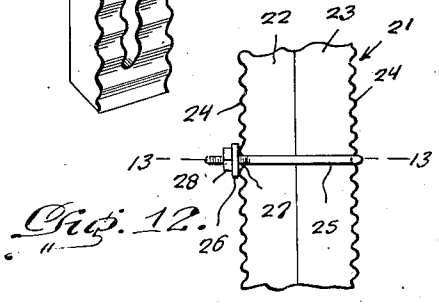


Fig. 12.



Inventor
John A. Alexander,

By McMorrow & Berman
Attorneys.

Patented May 3, 1949 2,468,856

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,468,856

COMBINED TABLE AND DESK FOR CHILDREN

John A. Alexander, Berkeley, Calif.

Application October 9, 1944, Serial No. 557,864

1 Claim. (Cl. 311—3)

1

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in convertible furniture, the principal object being to provide a piece of child's furniture which can be converted from time to time to be used by a child through a considerable span of years.

Another important object of the invention is to provide an article of furniture having legs which can be readily adjusted to increase the height of the piece of furniture whenever desired.

A further object of the invention is to provide a piece of child's furniture in the form of a work table which can be conveniently converted into a desk.

Another important object of the invention is to provide a child's work table having a cut-out portion for receiving the upper portion of a high chair.

Various other important objects and advantages of the invention shall become apparent to the reader of the following description.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 represents a top plan view of the table top with a portion of the insert broken away.

Figure 2 is a front elevational view of the work table with the fence in place and a portion of the table broken away, to disclose the manner of mounting the fence.

Figure 3 is a side elevational view of the work table.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary detailed sectional view taken on line 4—4 of Figure 1.

Figure 5 is a side elevational view of the table, converted into a desk, and with parts broken away.

Figure 6 is a top plan view of the desk with a portion of the top broken away to disclose the work table and its insert.

Figure 7 is a perspective view of one of the sections of the legs shown in Figure 5.

Figure 8 is a section taken on line 8—8 of Figure 5 (enlarged).

Figure 9 is a side elevational view of a modified form of adjustable leg with portions in section.

Figure 10 is a fragmentary longitudinal sectional view taken on line 10—10 of Figure 9.

Figure 11 is an end elevational view looking at the socket end of one of the sections shown in Figure 9.

Figure 12 is a fragmentary side elevational view showing modified leg construction.

Figure 13 is a transverse vertical section taken substantially on the plane of the line 13—13 of Figure 12.

Referring to the drawings, wherein like numerals designate like parts, it can be seen that numeral 5 denotes a child's work table top supported by leg structures generally referred to by numeral 6. Each of the leg structures 6 is made up of a plurality of parallel, interlapping leg sections 7, each having a longitudinal slot 8 therein. The opposed sides of the sections 7 are undulated, as at 9, and these undulated surfaces mesh in the manner shown in Figure 3, and are held together by bolts 10 passing through the slots of complemental sections 7 and held in place by wing nuts 11.

2

Obviously, the leg structures 6 can be readily adjusted from the low desk height shown in Figure 5 to the tall height shown in Figure 3, where the table top 5 is used in conjunction with a high chair A.

As is clearly shown in Figure 1, the table top 5 has a cut-out 12 opening through one longitudinal edge of the table top in order to receive the upper portion of a high chair, as in the manner shown in Figure 3. The usual tray of the high chair may fit over the table top, as shown in Figure 3, so that articles thrown off the tray by the child will simply fall onto the surface of the table top 5. Of course, the tray of the high chair may be swung back. The edge of the table top 5 at the cut-out portion 12 is beveled so as to support the beveled edge 13 of a substantially ovate-shaped insert 14. Obviously, the insert 14 is disposed in the position shown in Figure 4 when the table top 5 is to be employed apart from a high chair.

The four corners of the table top 5 are formed with recesses 15 for receiving outwardly inclined posts 16 which support a net or fence 17 which preferably extends along the front and sides of the table top 5 and behind the chair A, where the ends can be tied together. This fence serves to prevent displacement of toys and other items a child may be playing with while sitting at the table.

The sockets or recesses 15 are also employed for receiving depending studs 18 which depend from the four corners of a desk box 19 having an open bottom and a hinged lid 20.

As shown in Figure 6, the desk box 19 is disposed over the table top 5 with the insert 14 in place, whereby the top and insert provide a bottom for the compartment of the desk 19.

Of course, the legs shown in conjunction with the converted desk (see Fig. 5) are shortened over the height of the table when used in conjunction with a high chair, as shown in Figure 3.

A modification of the adjustable leg structure is shown in Figure 12, and generally referred to by

numeral 21. The leg structure 21 consists of a pair of adjustable leg sections 22, 23 having smooth opposed sides and transversely grooved outermost sides 24. Numeral 25 denotes a U clamp, the bight portion of which engages in the grooves 24 of one section, while a cross bar 26 having a longitudinal rib 27 engages in the grooves of the complemental section and nuts 28 are provided on the threaded plate portions of the U clamp 25 to hold the parts firmly in the adjusted position shown in Figure 12.

Figures 9, 10 and 11 disclose another leg structure, this consisting of an elongated section 29 having an elongated bore 30 in the lower end thereof. This merges with a counter-bore 31 and the counter-bore in turn is stepped up to a larger bore 32.

Against the shoulder between the bores 31, 32 is secured the flanges 33 of an internally threaded bushing 34 which fits in the counter-bore 31.

A plurality of connectable short sections 35 are employable with the long section 29, and each of the short sections 35 has a bore therethrough for receiving an elongated connecting rod 36. The uppermost short leg section 35 has a reduced extension 37 fitting snugly in the bore 32.

Each short section 35 has a recess in the lower portion thereof, denoted by numerals 38, for receiving the reduced end portion 39 of the underlying short section 35. As can be seen in Figure 10, the connecting rod 36 extends upwardly through the short section 35 and screws the plug 34. Obviously, these short legs can be added or removed to determine the height at which the table top 5 is to be placed.

Obviously, the elevated structure shown in Figure 3 will be used by small children of the high chair age. As the child becomes older, the insert 14 is placed in the position, as shown in Figures 1 and 4, and if desired, glued or otherwise secured in that position. The child may then use the fence 17 while he or she is playing with toys on the table top.

When the child becomes of school age, the desk box 19 may be set over the table top and the child then has a desk within which to keep school papers and other items.

Obviously, when these various changes are made, adjustment of the adjustable leg structures will be required.

While the foregoing specification sets forth the invention in specific terms, it is to be understood that numerous changes in the shape, size and materials may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed hereinafter.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

In a child's article of furniture, the combination with a table top having side edges, of a plurality of sockets formed in said top around marginal portions thereof, a vertically-extending closed frame having an open bottom, depending studs on said frame and detachably seating in said sockets whereby said top comprises a bottom for said frame, and a hinged top for said frame.

JOHN A. ALEXANDER.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
23,379	Lochman	Mar. 29, 1859
135,392	Wilson	Jan. 28, 1873
292,657	Kirkpatrick	Jan. 29, 1884
367,309	Meredith	July 26, 1887
451,755	Clark	May 5, 1891
581,127	McCorkle	Apr. 20, 1897
1,090,752	Quackenbush	Mar. 17, 1914
1,286,629	Herzog	Dec. 3, 1918
1,313,330	Pocock	Aug. 19, 1919
1,353,728	Dence	Sept. 21, 1920
1,398,318	Courehene	Nov. 29, 1921
1,407,405	Girard	Feb. 21, 1922
1,437,670	Mazoch	Dec. 5, 1922
1,652,465	Weinstein	Dec. 13, 1927
1,990,869	Joyce	Feb. 12, 1935
2,129,384	Ralston	Sept. 6, 1938
2,161,657	Hansburg	June 6, 1939
2,161,658	Hansburg	June 6, 1939
2,291,373	Button	July 28, 1942
2,346,919	Hillenbrand	Apr. 18, 1944
2,386,721	Sedita	Oct. 9, 1945

FOREIGN PATENTS

Number	Country	Date
276,909	Great Britain	Sept. 8, 1927
778,597	France	Mar. 18, 1935