

July 16, 1935.

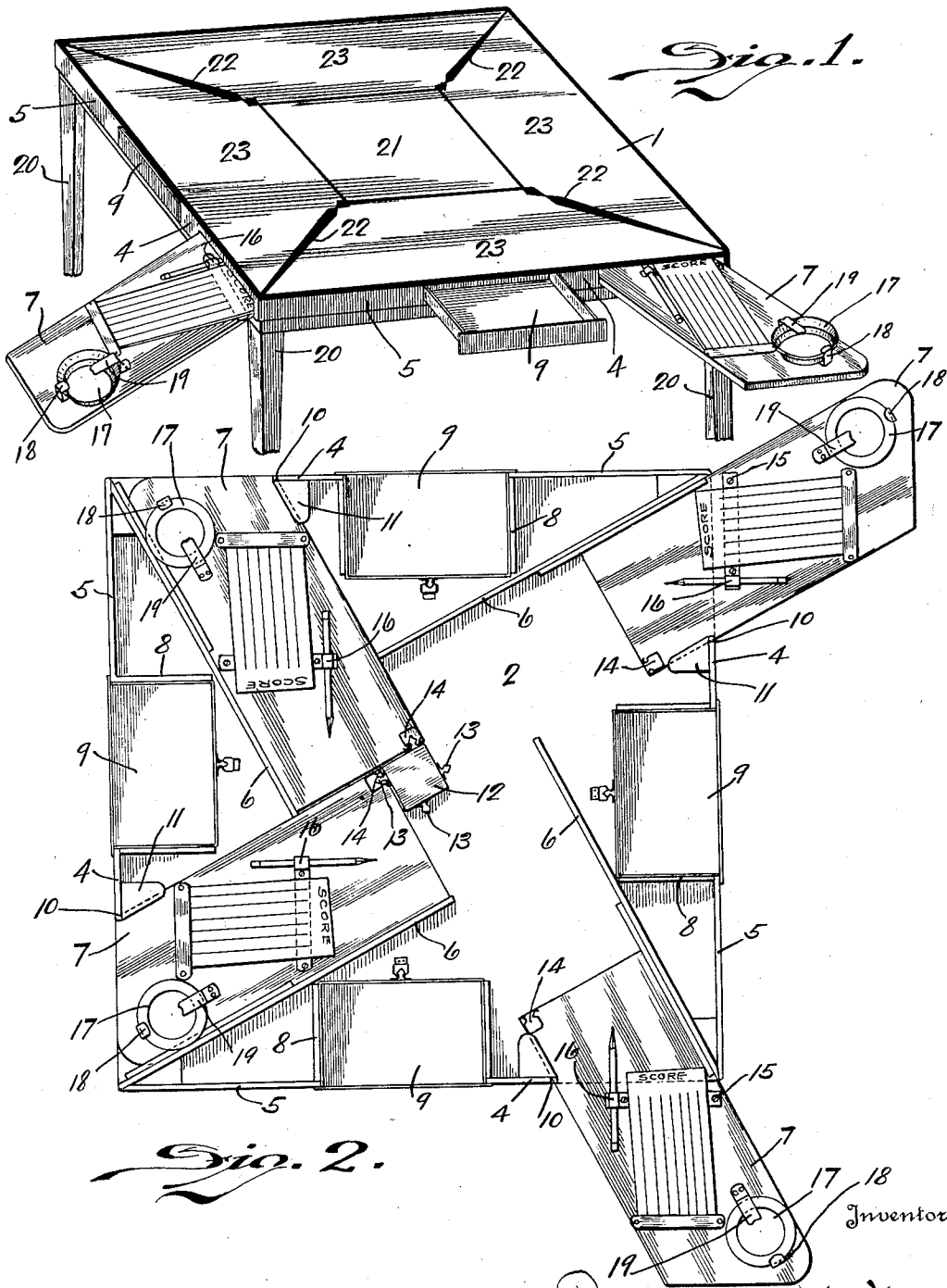
R. W. MARTIN

2,008,078

GAME TABLE

Filed Sept. 15, 1930

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



Inventor
Rodney W. Martin
by J. L. Walker, attorney

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

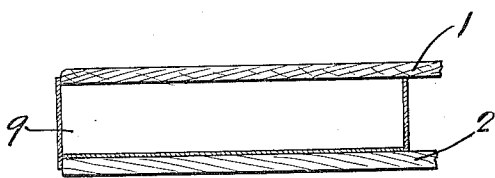


Fig. 1a.

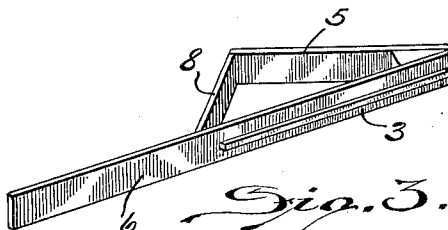


Fig. 3.

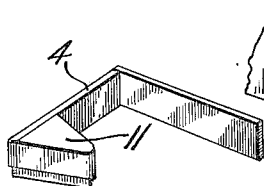


Fig. 4.

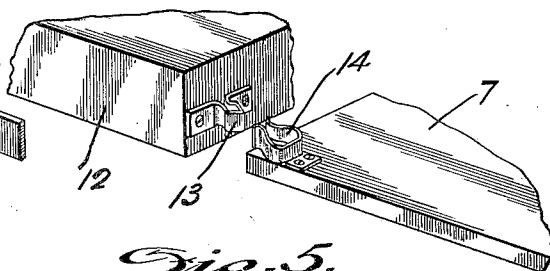


Fig. 5.

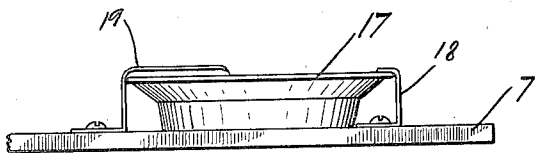


Fig. 7.

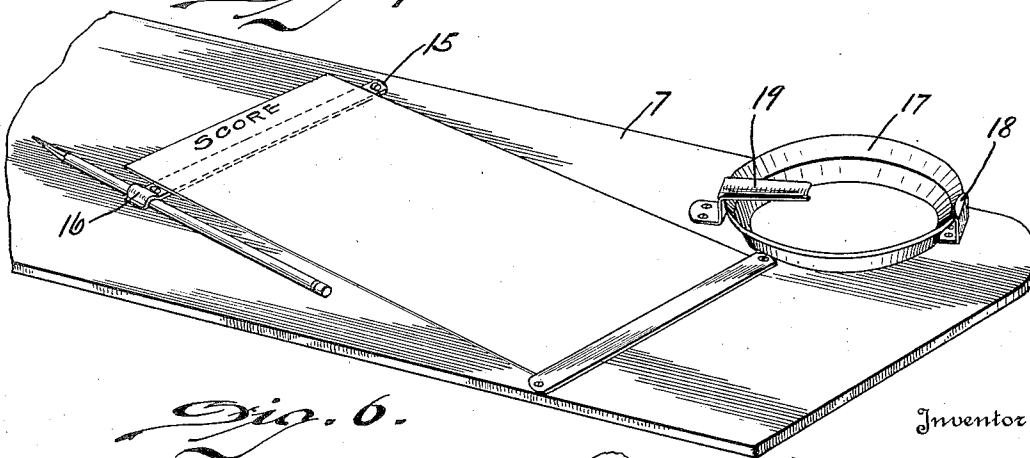


Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,008,078

GAME TABLE

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Application September 15, 1930, Serial No. 482,044

7 Claims. (Cl. 311-103)

This invention relates to tables of the type commonly designated as party tables or game and card tables, and more particularly to an arrangement of sliding drawers and leaves in the table top.

While such tables are ordinarily provided with folding legs, such construction is not essential to the present invention. The top of the present table is formed as a hollow housing to receive on each side a sliding drawer in which may be deposited game pieces or implements, supplies and the like, and also receiving at each corner a sliding leaf or shelf disposed diagonally relative to the table but offset relative to the corner of the table top. Upon each of these sliding leaves there is provided a score sheet and pencil holder and also a detachably mounted ash tray. These leaves are so disposed as to be conveniently accessible and yet afford maximum space at the table side for the player and not obstruct or interfere with his free movement.

The object of the invention is to simplify the construction as well as the means and mode of adjustment of such tables, whereby they will not only be cheapened in construction, but will be more convenient in use, of strong and sturdy construction and pleasing appearance, easily adjusted and unlikely to get out of order.

A further object of the invention is to provide angularly disposed slides retractable within the table top, which, when extended, will be most conveniently positioned for use as arm rests and easily accessible for entries upon a score sheet or deposit of ashes within an ash tray carried thereby.

A further object of the invention is to provide a relative arrangement of drawers and slides within the table top whereby drawers and slides of maximum size may be employed without interference with each other.

A further object of the invention is to provide improved detent means for temporarily holding the slides in their retracted position, and for limiting their withdrawal movement.

A further object of the invention is to provide improved form of score sheet and pencil holder and an improved mounting for detachable ash trays upon such reciprocatory slides, which may be retracted within the table top.

A further and important object of the invention is to provide a table top embodying assemblies of identical, interchangeable parts which facilitates standardization of manufacture.

With the above primary and other incidental objects in view, as will more fully appear in the

specification, the invention consists of the features of construction, the parts and combinations thereof and the mode of operation or their equivalents as hereinafter described and set forth in the claims.

Referring to the accompanying drawings wherein is shown the preferred, but obviously not the only, form of embodiment of the invention, Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a table in which the present invention has been embodied. Fig. 1A is a fragmentary sectional view of the table top. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the table top with the cover section removed therefrom. Figs. 3 and 4 are detail perspective views of spacer members to be interposed between the cover and bottom boards of the hollow top to afford compartments therein to receive the reciprocatory slides and drawers, and also to form the marginal rails of such top. Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view of the spring detent means for temporarily holding the reciprocatory slides in their retracted position. Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view of the adjustable slide with a score sheet and pencil holder and an ash tray mounted thereon. Fig. 7 is a slide elevation of the detachably mounted ash tray carried upon the reciprocatory slide.

Like parts are indicated by similar characters of reference throughout the several views.

The top of the table is of shallow, box-like construction comprising a cover board 1 of comparatively thin material preferably, though not necessarily, of ply-wood, and a similar bottom board 2. These spaced cover and bottom sections 1 and 2 are separated by intermediate spacer members 3 and 4, illustrated in detail in Figs. 3 and 4. The spacer element 3 is of triangular form, one side 5 of which forms a portion of the marginal rail of the table top, while the longer divergent side 6 forms one side of the receiving compartment for the sliding shelf or slide 7 and carries an overhanging guide or keeper stop 6'. The transverse portion 8 of such spacer member 3 forms a guide and one side of the receiving compartment for a sliding drawer 9. The second spacer element 4 which is located in spaced relation with the spacer element 3 completes the marginal rail of the table while the inwardly projecting portion 11 of such member is rabbeted at 10 to afford a complementary guide for the reciprocatory slide 7.

The reciprocatory slides 7 are disposed in diagonal relation with the margins of the table top but wholly at one side of the corner. That is to say, these slides are not exactly symmetrical with the table. There is a slide compartment on each 55

side of the table coincident with the corner of the table top. The slides are disposed in such compartment at an angle somewhat less than forty-five degrees, so that when fully extended beyond one side of the table they project but slightly beyond the complementary side forming the corner angle. The slides 7 reciprocate intermediate the guide bars 6 of the spacer members 3 and the guide blocks 11 of the spacer members 4.

Centrally disposed within the interior of the hollow table top is a rectangular block 12 common to all of the reciprocatory slides 7 and limiting their retractive movement. Secured to each side of this stop block 12 is a tapered detent head 13 of substantially arrow head shape to be engaged between a pair of spring fingers 14 carried by the corresponding slide 7. Normally the spring fingers 14 releasably grip the detent heads 13 to temporarily hold the slides in retracted position. However upon slight pulling effort, the spring fingers 14 are disengaged from the detent heads 13 and the slides may be withdrawn until the spring fingers 14 engage with the guide blocks 11 of the spacer elements 4 to limit the outward movement of the slide. It is to be noted that the detent fingers 14 are located closely adjacent to the side margins of the slides 7 in overhanging relation with the guide blocks 11, and that the detent heads 13 are located on the stop block 12 in positions to agree with such positions of the spring fingers 14.

By disposing the reciprocatory slides 7 in positions somewhat offset relative to the diagonal lines of the table head and at an inclination less than forty-five degrees, such slide when extended is disposed in the most convenient position to serve as an arm rest, and also to receive written records on the score sheets. At the same time the slide is inclined away from the person sitting at the table side in such relation as to afford maximum space.

Loosely secured to the top of the slide 7 is a piece of strap metal 15, one end of which is arched as at 16 to receive therebeneath a pencil. A score sheet can be slipped beneath the strap of metal 15 and thus removably held in position to receive the written scores. At the outer extremity of the reciprocatory slide 7 there is removably mounted an ash tray 17. This ash tray 17 is positioned between an upstanding finger 18 the upper end of which is reversely bent into hook-shape over the margin of the tray 17, and an elevated spring finger 19 secured to the slide 7 and overhanging the ash tray 17. This spring finger 19 is preferably of concave form to afford a rest for a cigar or cigarette.

In the manufacture of the table, the spacer units 3 and 4 are made in quantity and a series of such units are assembled in properly spaced relation by means of a suitable jig or locating fixture, and the cover and bottom boards 1 and 2 of ply wood or other suitable material are secured thereto. Each table requires a series of four of each of the spacer units 3 and 4, and a single centrally positioned stop-block 12. The slides 7 are all identical in shape and construction as are also the drawers 9. The table is thus readily adapted for economical, standardized manufacture. The table top embodying the reciprocatory slides and drawers is supported upon any suitable legs 20-20. Ordinarily these legs are attached for folding movement. This feature, however, forms no part of the present invention per se.

While not essential to the successful use of the

table, the table top is preferably divided by lines into a central rectangular playing space 21, the corners of which are diagonally connected with the table corners by diagonal lines 22, thus defining each player's space 23. This lining and division of the table top induces orderly playing and avoids confusion by tending to confine the action of each player to his allotted portion of the table.

From the above description it will be apparent that there is thus provided a device of the character described possessing the particular features of advantage before enumerated as desirable, but which obviously is susceptible of modification in its form, proportions, detail construction and arrangement of parts without departing from the principle involved or sacrificing any of its advantages.

While in order to comply with the statute the invention has been described by language more or less specific as to structural features, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the specific details shown, but that the means and construction herein disclosed comprise the preferred form of several modes of putting the invention into effect, and the invention is therefore claimed in any of its forms or modifications within the legitimate and valid scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. In a table of the character described, a rectangular hollow top divided into a plurality of slide compartments diagonally disposed one in each side of the table top and terminating substantially coincident with the corner angle of the top, sliding shelves mounted in said diagonally disposed slide compartments in positions divergent to the bisectors of the corner angles whereby when extended adjacent shelves will project at different angles to the intermediate side margin of the table top, a centrally disposed block within the table top common to all the sliding shelves forming a stop therefor when in retracted positions, spring catches for detachably connecting the sliding shelves with said stop block when in retracted positions, ash trays detachably secured to the sliding shelves and score sheet holders also carried thereby.

2. In a table of the character described, the combination with a rectangular table top, of a plurality of diagonally disposed slides extendible beyond the margin of the table top in inclined relation thereto, said slides being diagonally positioned in unsymmetrical relation to the corner angles of the table top and at one side thereof, a stop block centrally disposed relative to the table top and common to all the slides, interengageable detent means carried by the block and the respective slides for releasably holding the slides in retracted position, and guide means for the slides engaged by the portion of the detent means carried by the slides for limiting the outward movement thereof.

3. The combination with a rectangular table top, of a series of reciprocatory slides disposed in diagonal relation to the margin of the table top adjacent to but at one side of the corner angles thereof, and a series of triangular members secured to the table top with their angles coincident with the corner angles of the table top and with one side of each of said members substantially coincident with one margin of the table top, the opposite side of each of said triangular members forming a guide for one of said slides.

4. The combination with a table top, of a series of reciprocatory slides supported in spaced

relation below the top surface of the table top and movable from retracted position beneath the table top to extended position projecting beyond the margin thereof, and a plurality of pairs of substantially triangular guide members, disposed in spaced relation with each other with the angle of one triangular guide member of each pair disposed in substantially coincident relation with each corner of the table top and with one side of such member in substantially parallel relation with one side margin of such table top, the other guide member of each of said pairs of guide members being disposed in spaced relation with the first mentioned members and with one side thereof in substantially parallel relation with another side margin of the table top, said slides being mounted for to and fro motion between said guide members of the respective pairs by the adjacent sides of which they are guided in their to and fro motion.

5. The combination with a table top, of a series of reciprocatory slides supported in spaced relation below the top surface of the table top and movable from retracted position beneath the table top to extended position projecting beyond the margin thereof, and a series of frames of substantially right triangular form secured to the table top with their apices substantially coincident with the corner angles of the table top and

with their right angle sides disposed respectively in substantially parallel and perpendicular relation with one side margin of the table top, the opposite sides of the triangular frames being extended to form guides for the slides.

6. In a table of the character described, a rectangular table top and a plurality of reciprocatory slides mounted thereon for to and fro movement in diagonal relation with the table top, whereby when retracted each of said slides will lie wholly at one side of an adjacent corner of the table top and when extended such slide will project past said corner, adjacent slides projecting in different angular relation with the intermediate side margin of such table top.

7. A table of the character described including a rectangular top and a plurality of reciprocatory slides carried thereby, said slides being mounted for to and fro motion diagonally in relation with the table top contiguous to the corners of the table top, whereby when retracted each of said slides will lie in unsymmetrical diagonal relation wholly at one side of the corresponding corner of the table top and when extended will project past said corner and in unequal divergent relation beyond the contiguous side margins of such table top.

RODNEY W. MARTIN.