July 17, 1956 F. F. CALGY 2,755,152

COMBINATION LEVEL AND SLOPING TABLE

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FIG. 1

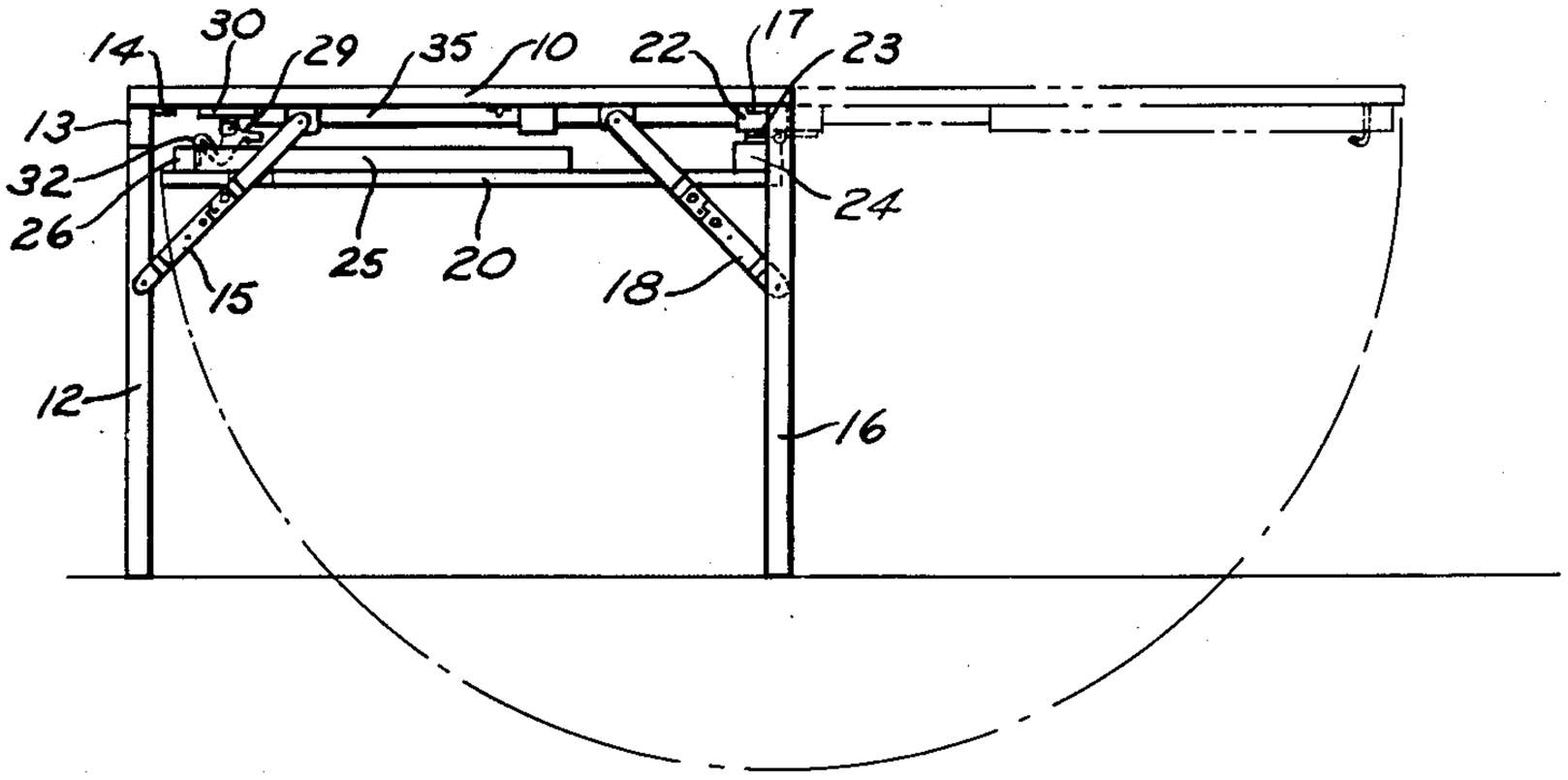
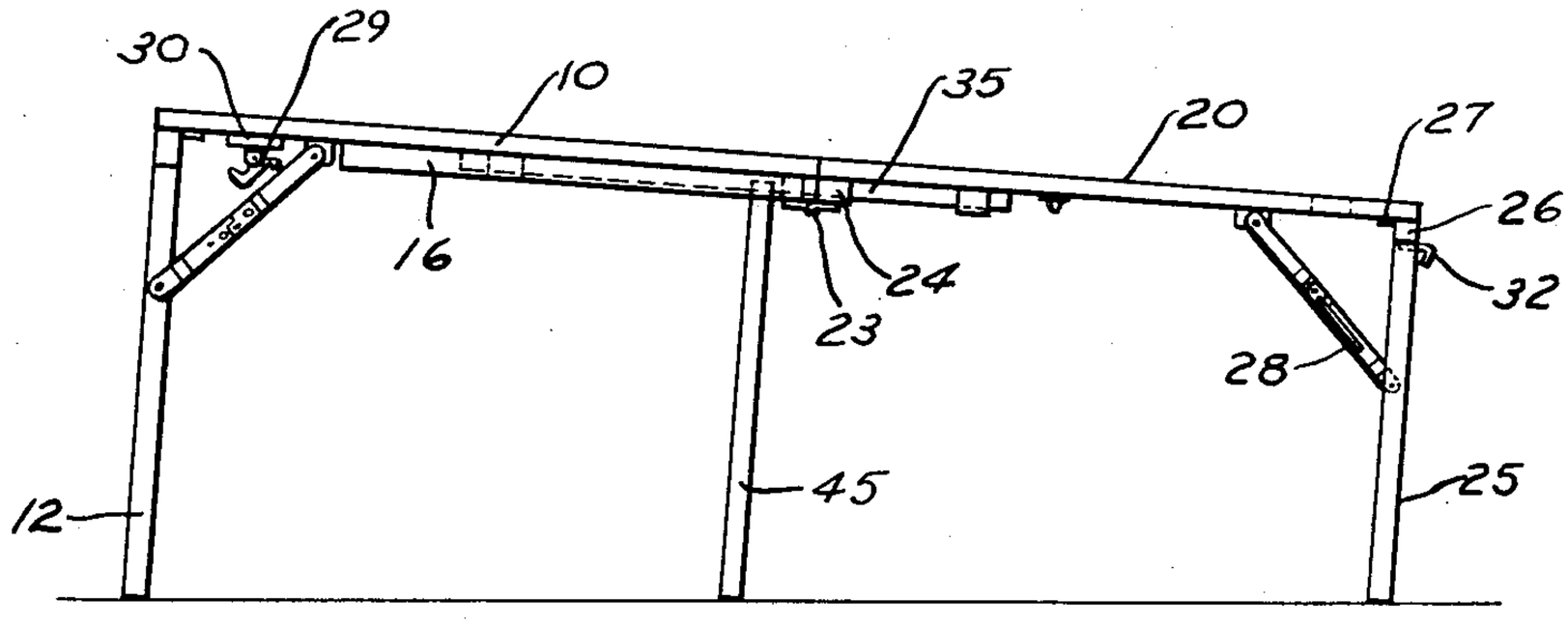


FIG. 2



INVENTOR

FRANCES F. CALGY

BY Cushman, Darby & Cushman

ATTORNEYS

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FIG. 3

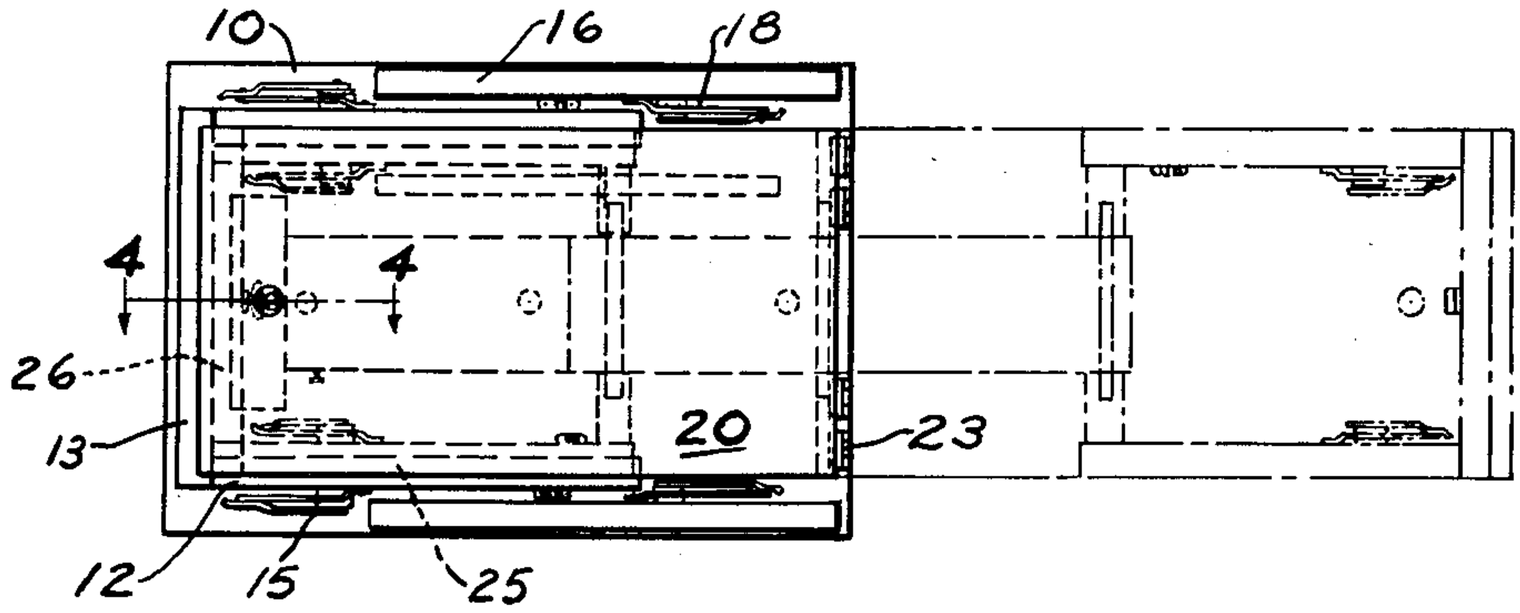


FIG. 4

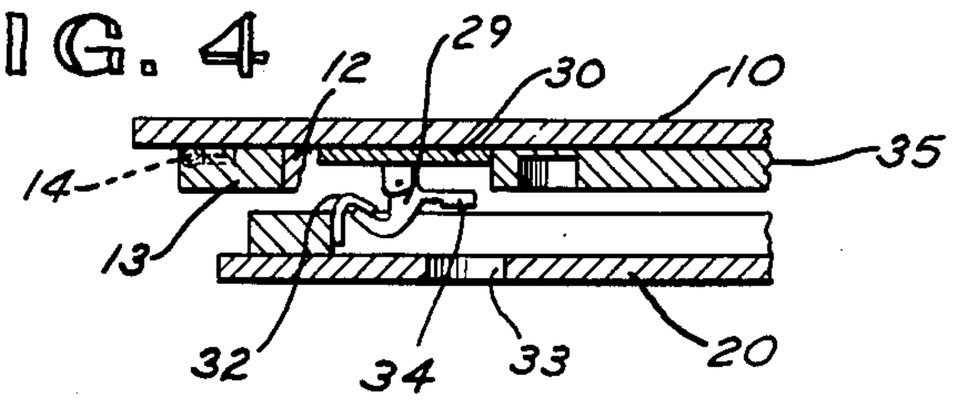
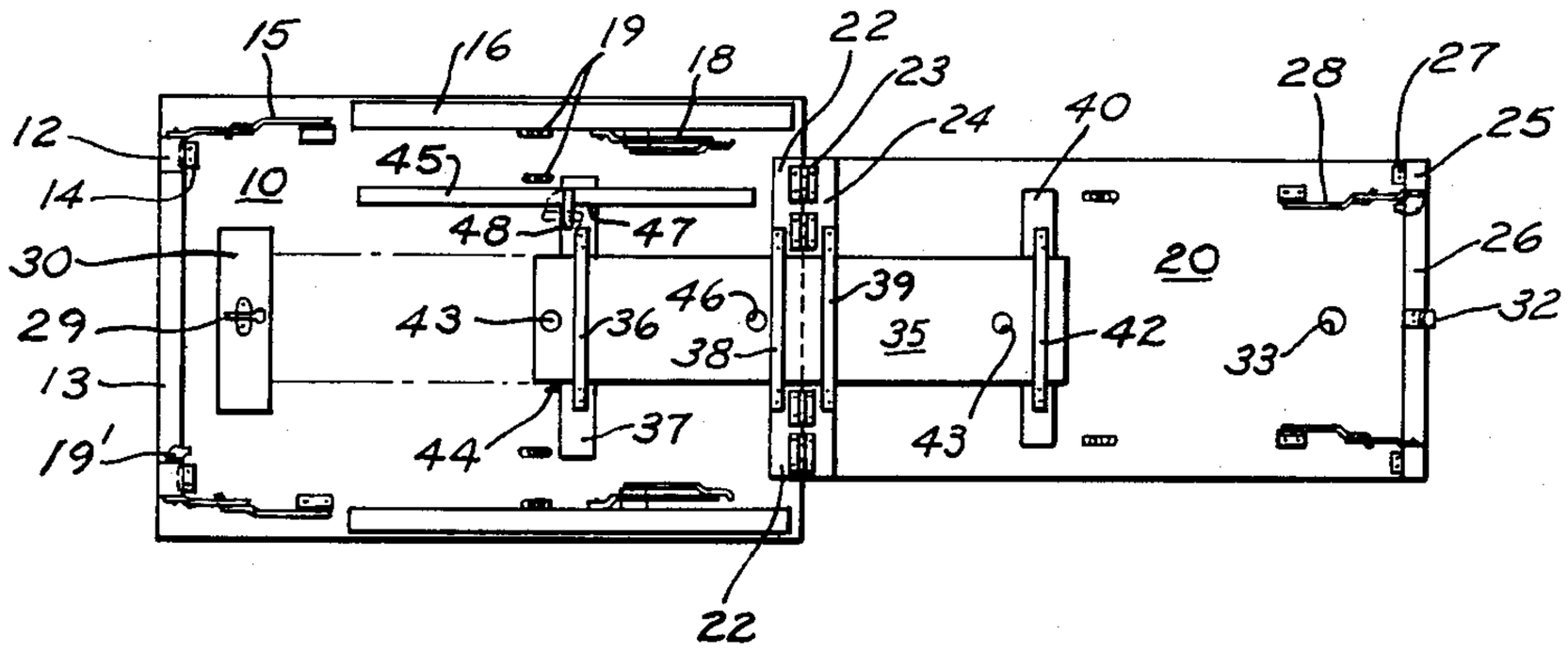


FIG. 5



INVENTOR
FRANCES F. CALGY

BY Cushman, Darby & Cushman

ATTORNEYS

United States Patent Office

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COMBINATION LEVEL AND SLOPING TABLE

Frances F. Calgy, Gallatin, Tenn.

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3 Claims. (Cl. 311—52)

This invention relates to tables, and in particular to a combination, multi-purpose table.

Inclined or sloping tables and platforms have been highly recommended by medical authorities for healthful relaxation, beauty aid and general physical benefit, it being found that reclining rest with the feet elevated slightly above the level of the head aids circulation and generally contributes to physical well-being. Many devices have been proposed for such purpose, but few present day households can accommodate large, unwieldy pieces of furniture adapted for only occasional and specialized use.

It is a principal object of the present invention to provide a combination, convertible multipurpose table, adapted for use as a level work table of convenient size, and also as an extended inclined platform large and strong enough to accommodate a reclining person.

A further object of the invention is to provide a combination level work table and inclined rest platform which may be completely folded to compact size, for ease of transportation and storage.

Another object of the invention is to provide a combination work table and sloping rest platform of simple and durable construction, readily adapted for manufacture from commonly available, inexpensive materials and standard parts. Further objects will be in part evident and in part pointed out hereinafter.

The invention and the novel features thereof may best be made clear from the following description and the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of an exemplary embodiment of the invention, set up and arranged as a common work table of convenient size;

Figure 2 is a side elevational view of the table of Figure 1, converted however into an extended, sloping rest platform;

Figure 3 is a bottom plan view of the device, completely folded for storage;

Figure 4 is a sectional view, on enlarged scale, taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 3 and illustrating means for detachably engaging the extension table section in stowed, out of the way position beneath the main table section, and

Figure 5 is a bottom plan view of the device set up as a sloping rest platform conforming generally to the configuration of Figure 2, and illustrating optional support means.

Referring to the drawings in detail, the exemplary embodiment includes a square or rectangular main table section **10**, supported at one end thereof by a pair of legs **12**. The legs **12** may be joined as a unit by crosspiece **13**, which is hinged to the underside of the table section at **14** to permit inward folding. A conventional folding lock bracket **15** may extend between each leg and the table section, to determine and limit the extended position of the legs and prevent inadvertent folding thereof.

At the other end of the table section **10** is provided a pair of legs **16**, also hinged at **17** to the underside of the table section for inward folding, and each provided

with a folding lock bracket **18**. The legs **12** and **16** are of equal length, whereby they may support the table section **10** as a level work surface, corresponding substantially in size and height to a conventional card table and equally versatile in use. As illustrated in Figures 3 and 5, the legs **16** are desirably offset laterally relative to the legs **12**, so that all four legs may be simultaneously folded flush against the underside of the main table section. In the exemplary embodiment, the legs **16** are positioned adjacent the side edges of the table section, and the legs **12** positioned inwardly thereof. Suitable latches **19** (Figure 5) may be mounted on the underside of the main table section to detachably retain the legs **12** and **16** thereagainst, as by the engagement of bayonet fittings **19'** suitably positioned on the legs, to prevent inadvertent unfolding thereof.

An extension table section **20** is pivotally engaged to that end of the main table section supported by legs **16**. As best shown in Figures 1 and 5, transversely separated spacer blocks **22** are secured to the underside of table section **10** adjacent that end, and hinges **23** are engaged to the spacer blocks, the common hinge line of the hinges **23** being thereby disposed in general alignment with the end edge of table section **10**, but somewhat below the lower surface thereof. Hinges **19** are engaged also to similar spacer blocks **24**, attached to the underside of the extension table section **20** adjacent its inner end. In order to clear the legs **16**, the extension table section **20** is appreciably narrower in width than the main table section **10**. The extension table section may be equal in length or may be slightly shorter in length than the main table section.

At its outer end, the extension table section **20** is provided with a pair of legs **25**, which may be joined as a unit by a crosspiece **26**. This leg unit is hingedly engaged to the underside of the extension table section at **27**, and may be provided with lock brackets **28** corresponding in structure and function to the lock brackets **15** and **18**. The extension table section legs **25** are shorter than the main table section legs **12** and **16**, by for example four inches.

The extension table section **20** may be detachably secured in folded position below the main table section, as by means of a spring latch **29**, conveniently mounted on the underside of a block **30** fastened to the underside of the table section **10**. To cooperate with the spring latch **29**, a small hook **32** may be fastened to the crosspiece **26** of the extension table section leg unit. As best shown in Figures 1 and 4, when the extension table section is folded up below the main table section, the hook **32** is adapted to engage the spring latch **29**, which thereupon serves to retain the extension table section in such position. To provide for ready release of the extension table section, it may be apertured at **33**, to permit insertion of a finger to engage and displace the release lever **34** (Figure 4) of the spring latch, whereby the latch may be pivoted out of engagement with hook **32** and the extension table section thereby released for swinging movement away therefrom.

As illustrated in Figure 1, the main table section may be set up on its extended legs **12** and **16**, with the extension table section **20** folded under and retained therebeneath by the spring latch **29**. So set up, the main table section may be utilized as an ordinary level work table, card table or the like. If desired, the extension table section **20** may be released from the stowed position illustrated in Figure 1, by reaching through the aperture **33** thereof to release the spring latch **29**, and pivoted downwardly and outwardly 180° to the dotted line position of Figure 1 whereat it may be supported and utilized as an extension of the level table. The so added extension surface may be con-

venient for sewing or the like, but obviously cannot support great weight without overbalancing.

The combination table may be readily and quickly converted from the level small table configuration of Figure 1 to an extended sloping table adapted to accommodate a reclining person, as illustrated in Figure 2. For such conversion, the extension table section **20** is first released and opened to the extended position shown in dotted lines in Figure 1, in the manner previously described. The extension table section legs **25** may then be extended at right angles to the extension table section, and locked by means of lock brackets **28**. The main table section legs **16** may be released by unlocking the associated lock brackets **18**, and then folded inwardly and upwardly against the underside of the main table section. The extension table section legs **25** being shorter than the main table section legs **12**, the resultant configuration is an inclined, extended table or platform, six feet or more in length, supported at both ends by legs and entirely suitable for support of a reclining person in head low position.

Means may be provided to positively engage the table sections when in extended copoplanar relationship, and rigidify the joint therebetween. Most simply, such means may include a rectangular support **35**, slidably retained immediately below the main table section by a slide strap **36** extending between side guides **37**, mounted on the under surface of the main table section. Preferably, the side guides **37** correspond in thickness to the support **35**, and are spaced from each other a distance corresponding closely to the width of the support. The sliding support is retained also by a slide strap **38** extending between the spacer blocks **22**, which may also correspond in spacing and thickness to the dimensions of the support, in order to properly serve the guiding function. The block **30** mounting spring latch **29** may function as a stop for the support **35** in retracted position, the support desirably being of such length as to extend from block **30** into slide strap **38**, but not beyond the confines of the main table section **10**.

The extension table section spacer blocks **24** are similarly spaced apart to serve as side guides for the sliding support, and may mount a slide strap **39** extending therebetween. At a position suitably spaced longitudinally from spacer blocks **24**, the extension table section may carry on its underside a pair of side guides **40** similar to the main table section side guides **37**, and provided with a similar slide strap **42**. On its underside, the sliding support **35** is provided with finger holds **43** adjacent each end thereof, and, as will be readily understood, when the extension table section is pivoted into planar alignment with the main table section, the support may be easily moved by means of its finger holds from retracted position against block **30** to a position engaging all four slide straps **36**, **38**, **39** and **42**, as clearly shown in Figure 5. The support **35** may be provided with a side pin **44** adapted to encounter one of the side guides **37**, to thereby limit the movement of the support in outward direction.

The heavy support **35** engaged by the slide straps of both table sections will materially strengthen and rigidify the joint therebetween, so that the extended table may firmly and securely support a reclining person, of any weight. In rare cases, it may be desirable to provide also a central support for the platform, extending to the floor. This may be simply provided by a suitably dimensioned rod **45**, adapted to seat in a socket **46** formed in support **35**, adjacent the center thereof (see Figure 5). Convenient stowage for the rod **45** when not in use may be provided in a cut-away portion **47** of one of the side guides **37**, and temporary retention of the rod in the cut-away portion may be insured by means of a pivotal dog **48**. When converted into an extended sloping platform, then, the table may be rigidified by sliding the support **35** from retracted position against block **30** to

the extended position shown in Figure 5, and the support rod **45** may be removed from cut-away portion **47** of the side guide **37**, and positioned in the support socket **46**, to extend therefrom to the floor as illustrated in Figure 2. So arranged, the device functions as an inclined reclining platform of exceedingly great strength.

The principal configurations of the table are illustrated in Figures 1 and 2. As a further important feature of the invention, the table may be folded into a compact package, for convenient storage or for transportation. From the configuration of Figure 2, this may be accomplished by removing rod **45** from socket **46**, and stowing the rod in the side guide cut-away portion **47** as shown in Figure 5. The main table section legs **12** may then be unlocked and folded inwardly against the underside thereof. By retracting the sliding support into engagement with the main table section block **30**, the extension table section is freed for folding. The extension table section legs **25** being then folded against the underside thereof, this section may be swingably rotated inwardly to the main table section, until its hook **32** is engaged by the spring latch **29**. The unit is then compactly folded into a package corresponding in length and width to the main table section, and of slightly greater thickness. The folded relationship of the device is illustrated in Figure 3.

As will be evident, the device may be readily constructed of wood, metal, laminated plastic or other common material, due consideration being given to strength and overall weight. It will thus be seen that there has been provided by this invention a structure in which the various objects hereinbefore set forth, together with many practical advantages, are successfully achieved. As various possible embodiments may be made of the mechanical features of the above invention, all without departing from the scope thereof, it is to be understood that all matter hereinbefore set forth or shown in the accompanying drawings is to be interpreted as illustrative, and not in a limiting sense.

I claim:

1. A combination table comprising a main table section, a pair of folding legs engaged to each end of said main section, said pairs of legs being laterally offset to permit simultaneous inward folding against the underside of said main section, an extension table section pivotally engaged to one end of said main table section, said extension section being narrower than said main section, means for detachably holding said extension section in stowed position beneath said main section, means engaged to said main section and adapted to engage and maintain said extension section in extended coplanar position and rigidify the joint therebetween, and a pair of folding legs engaged to the outer end of said extension section, said extension section legs being shorter than the legs of said main section.

2. A combination table as defined in claim 1, wherein said table sections are pivotally engaged on a transverse hinge axis disposed below the level of the underside of said main section.

3. A combination table as defined in claim 1, wherein said means adapted to rigidify the joint is provided with a socket to receive the end of a support post, and including means on the underside of said main section for stowing a support post when not in use.

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