

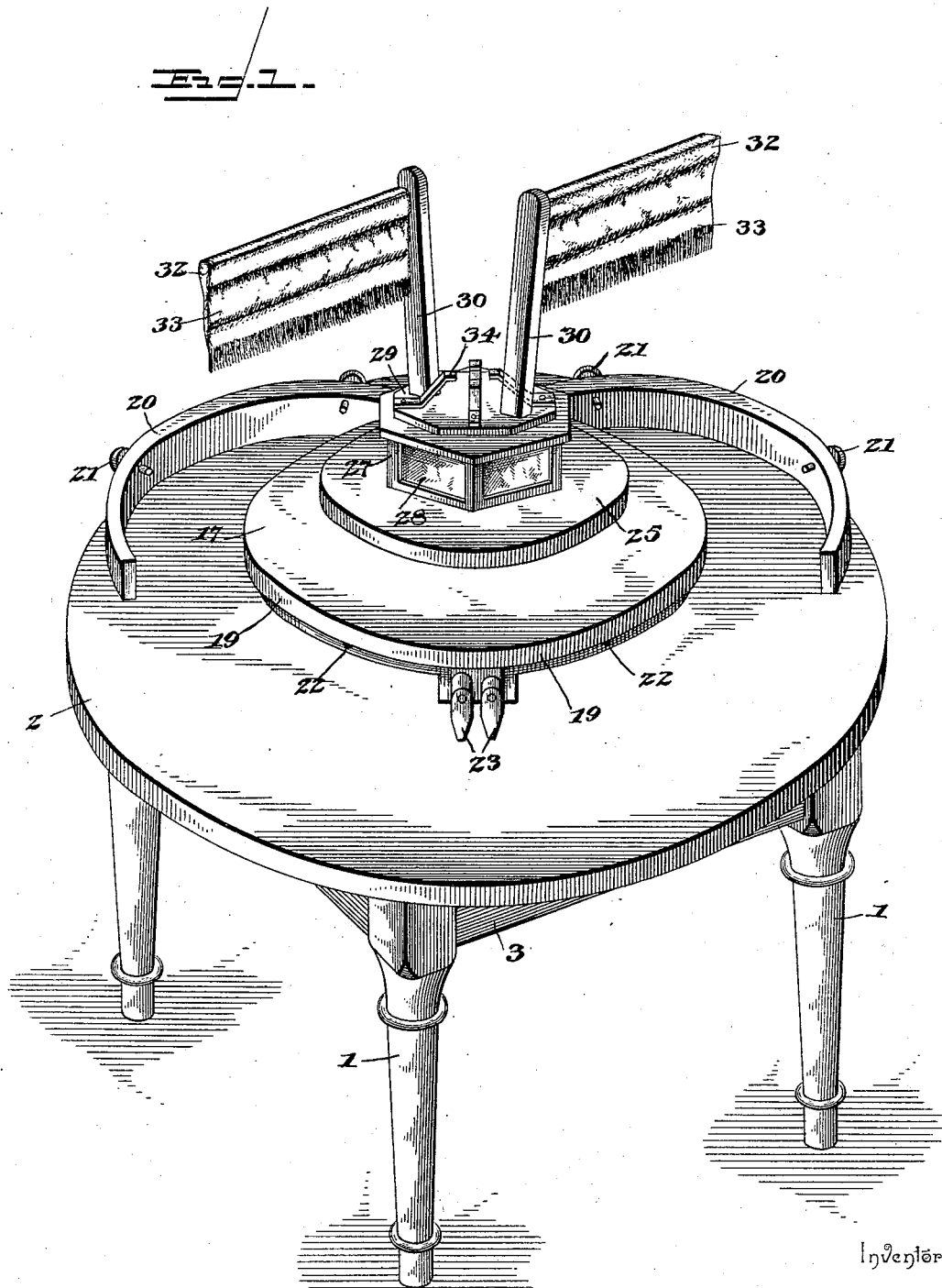
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. R. CUMMINGS.
SELF WAITING TABLE.

No. 524,056.

Patented Aug. 7, 1894.



Inventor

Woodson R. Cummings,

By *his* Attorneys.

Witnesses

E. H. Stewart
J. H. Riley

C. A. Snow & Co.

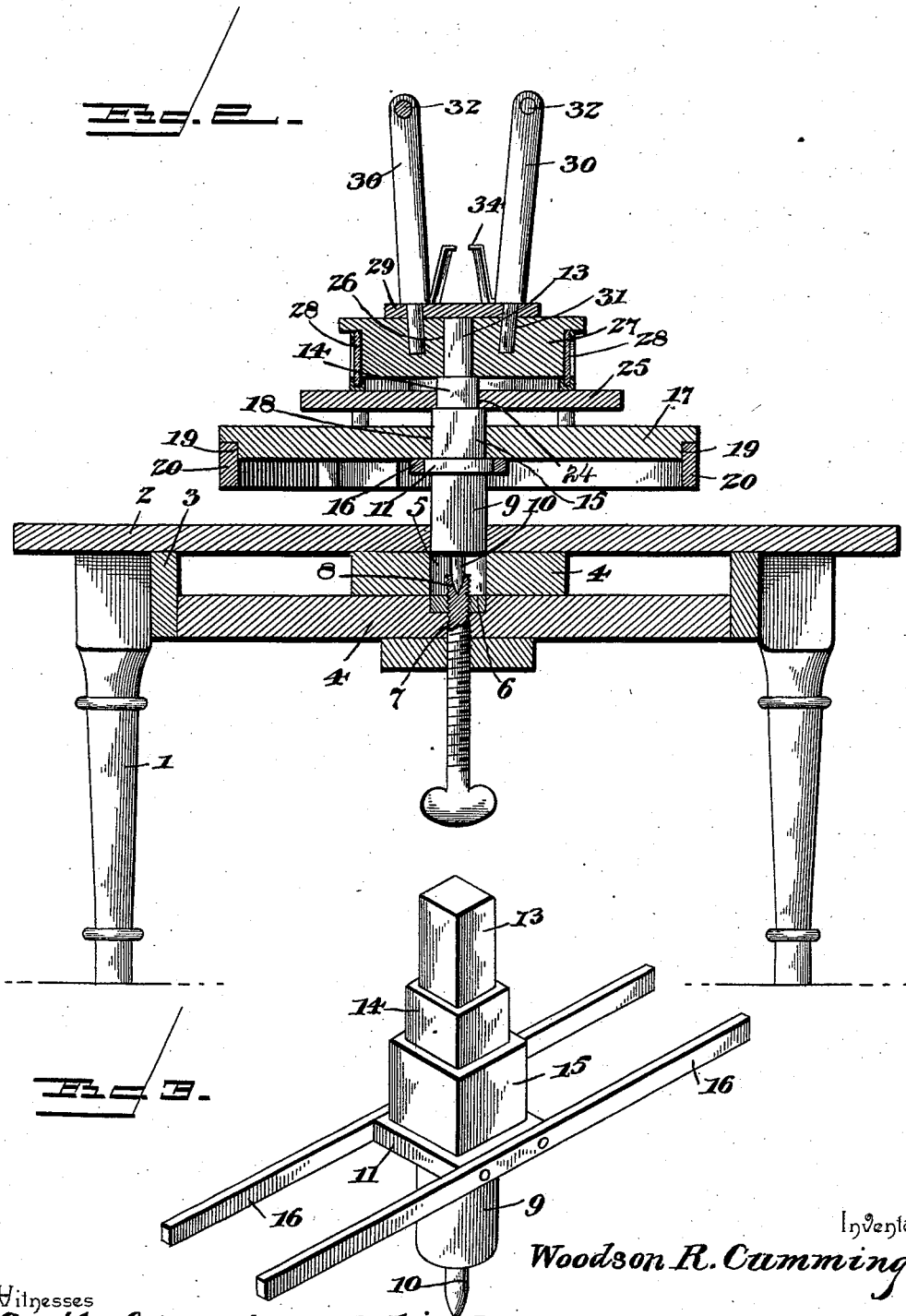
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WOODSON R. CUMMINGS, OF CRITZ, VIRGINIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-THIRD TO
WILLIAM K. VIA, OF SAME PLACE.

SELF-WAITING TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 524,056, dated August 7, 1894.

Application filed January 30, 1894. Serial No. 498,502. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WOODSON R. CUMMINGS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Critz, in the county of Patrick and State of Virginia, have invented a new and useful Self-Waiting Table, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in tables, and has particular reference to that class thereof known as self-waiting tables, wherein a center-piece revolves above an ordinary stationary table.

The objects of my invention are to provide such a table, which by reason of its construction is capable of serving, in addition to its usual function, that of a safe or storage place for dishes, food, &c., when said table is not in use, and thus save the necessity of carrying dishes and food to and from cupboards or other storage places, and have them accessible at the table. Furthermore, to provide for a convenient and safe support of a lamp; and for a brushing off of flies from the articles of food supported by the table.

With these objects in view the invention consists in certain features of construction hereinafter specified and particularly pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a self-waiting table embodying my invention, the curved doors of the compartment being swung open. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse sectional view of the table. Fig. 3 is a detail in perspective of the swiveling post.

Like numerals of reference indicate like parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In the practice of my invention I arrange upon suitable supporting legs 1 a preferably circular table-top 2, the same being stationary, and I connect the legs 1 by side pieces 3 and angularly disposed cross pieces 4. These cross pieces 4, together with the top 2, are provided with a central circular perforation 5, and the lower cross-piece has a nut 6 let into its upper side. Threaded in the nut 6 is an adjusting-screw 7, which may be operated by hand or by a suitable crank mechanism, as desired. This screw is provided in its upper end with a conical cavity 8.

9 designates a cylindrical shaft which takes

into the perforation 5 of the table-top 2, and at its lower end is provided with a bearing-point 10, which takes in the cavity of the adjusting-screw. Above the cylindrical portion 55 the shaft 9 is provided with a flange 11, and above said flange is successively reduced to form rectangular portions 13, 14 and 15. Cleats 16 are secured to the opposite sides of the flange 11 and support a circular disk-section 60 17, which is provided with a central rectangular opening 18 that fits the lower rectangular portion 15 of the shaft 9.

A portion of the periphery of the disk-section 17 is removed, forming semi-annular recesses 19, at diametrically opposite sides of which the periphery is left intact, as shown. Hinged to the opposite ends of the recesses 19 and of greater width than the recesses are curved doors 20 which are provided at intervals with knobs 21, whose shanks project through the doors and are adapted to engage removably with sockets 22 formed in the bottoms of the recesses 19. Turn-buttons 23 are pivoted to that portion of the periphery of the disk-section left intact and are adapted to engage over the free ends of the doors 20 and thus lock the same against opening. The disk-section 17 is of less diameter than the stationary table-top 2, so that a space remains 80 upon the latter uncovered by the former and serves to support the plates and other table furnishings or articles that are located before the guests. By raising and lowering the disk-section 17, which may be accomplished 85 through the medium of the adjusting-screw 7, it will be seen that this section 17 may be made stationary and in any event the combining of the section 17 with the top 2 produces an intermediate compartment, access 90 to which is had through the doors 21. The doors being opened the dishes and other table furnishings that are necessarily employed may be conveniently stored in the compartment, so that it is unnecessary to carry them 95 back and forth between the table and the cupboard, or other usual receptacle, whereby I save time and labor in setting the table or returning the furnishings to their places.

The rectangular portion 14 of the shaft 9 100 is received by a corresponding opening 24 formed in a disk-section 25 which is of less

diameter than the section 17 and consequently exposes sufficient surface of the latter to receive the edibles with which the table is supplied.

5 The upper rectangular end 13 of the shaft 9 fits in a socket 26, which is formed in the under side of a polygonal section 27, whose diameter is less than the disk-section 25, and the several sides of this polygonal section are
10 preferably provided with mirrors 28, by which the edibles contained on the section 25 are reflected, as are also the table-articles, thus improving the general effect of the table. The polygonal section 27 is preferably sur-
15 mounted by a cap or crown-piece 29, from diametrically opposite sides of which there project vertical posts 30, the lower tenoned ends of which are mortised, at 31, in the said cap or crown-piece. Horizontal arms 32 extend
20 in reverse directions from the upper ends of the posts and support fly-brushes 33, so that as the table revolves bringing various edibles into position the fly-brushes serve to clear the table of flies.

25 A series of inverted L-shaped spring prongs 34 are located upon the cap or crown-section 29, and are designed to embrace the base or bowl of a lamp, so as to secure the same against being accidentally upset and for sup-
30 porting the lamp in a position where it will shed its light on all parts of the table.

As before stated the usual fixtures, such as the plates, knives, cups, saucers, &c., are de-
35 signed to be supported by the table-top 2, which is stationary, while the edibles, such as meats, vegetables, &c., are supported by the rotatable sections 17 and 25, and other dishes, such as relishes, may be supported by the sec-
40 tion 27. All of the sections 17, 25 and 27 revolve with the shaft 9, so that access to all parts of the several sections may be had by any person at the table, and it will also be seen that by an adjustment of the set-screw the entire revolving portion of the table may
45 be lowered upon the table-top 2, and thus be rendered stationary.

From the foregoing description in connection with the accompanying drawings, it will be obvious that I have provided a very hand-
50 some table, wherein convenience and simplicity are embodied, in that it permits of all of the edibles being brought to a point opposite any person seated at the table, the re-

volving being accomplished preferably by the knobs with which the doors are at inter- 55
vals supplied and wherein a compartment is formed for the placing of the table furnishings or articles, and also such edibles as may be left over or are to be reused at the next meal. 60

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In a self-waiting table, the combination with the circular base and its support, of a superimposed revoluble section, the same 65
combining with the base to produce an intermediate compartment, and a door for closing the compartment, substantially as specified.

2. In a self-waiting table, the combination with a fixed table-top and its support, of a revoluble section arranged above the same and combining therewith to produce an interme- 70
diate compartment, doors for the compartment, and means for raising and lowering the section, substantially as specified. 75

3. In a self-waiting table, the combination with a fixed table-top and its support, of a superimposed revoluble disk-section having the lower portion of its periphery removed at opposite sides of opposite diametrical 80
points, and the remaining portions left intact, the curved doors hinged to one of those portions left intact, and fastening devices carried by the opposite portion, substantially as specified. 85

4. In a self-waiting table, the combination with a fixed table-top and its support, of a superimposed revoluble disk section having the lower portion of its periphery removed at opposite sides of opposite diametrical 90
points, and the remaining portions left intact, the curved doors hinged to one of those portions left intact, turn-buttons arranged on the remaining portion left intact, and the knobs arranged at intervals upon the doors and hav- 95
ing shanks extending through the same and removably engaging sockets formed in the bottoms of the recesses in the periphery of the disk, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as 100
my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WOODSON, R. CUMMINGS.

Witnesses:

KING VIA,
A. M. SCALES.