March 6, 1928. 1,661,987

L. M. ARNOPOL

TABLE PAD

Filed Nov. 21, 1925

Fig. 1.

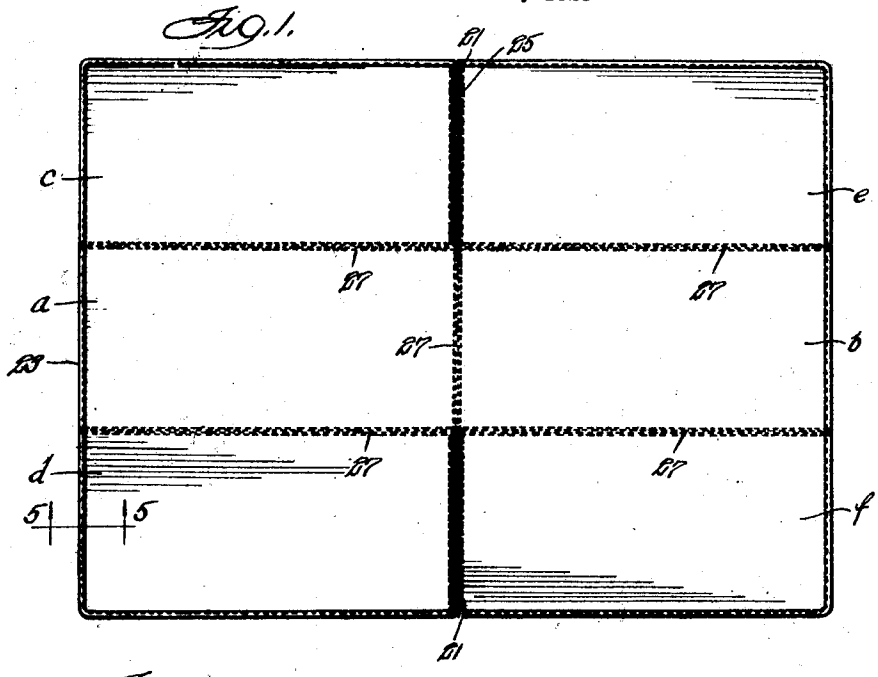



Fig. 2.

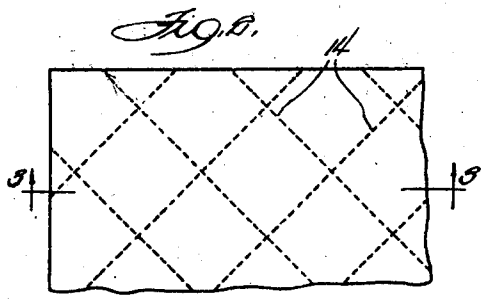



Fig. 3.

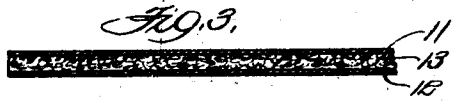



Fig. 4.

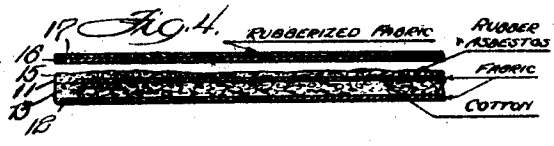
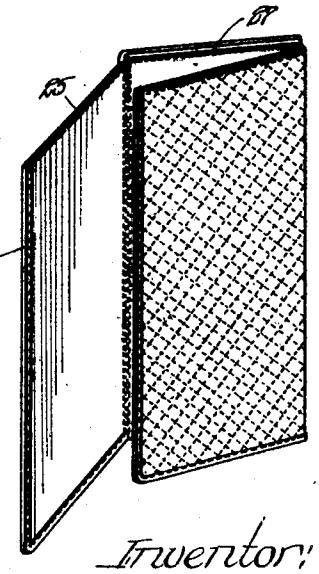



Fig. 5.




Fig. 6.




Witness:

Inventor:

Louis M. Arnopol

By Williams, Bradbury, McCaleb & Hinkle Attys.


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Patented Mar. 6, 1928. 1,661,987

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS M. ARNOPOL, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## TABLE PAD.

Application filed November 21, 1925. Serial No. 70,454.

My invention relates to table pads, for covering the surface of dining room tables, kitchen tables, and for like household uses.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a table pad which will serve as a heat insulating medium and as a water proof medium for protecting the table top from liquids, hot dishes, etc.

Another object of the invention is to provide a table pad which will have these characteristics and which will still be very pliable and flexible in its entirety. This pliability or flexibility is a very desirable attribute and which has not been obtainable in table pads of the prior art. The present pad is sufficiently flexible to drop over the edges of the table, substantially like a table cloth. Hence, the present pad need not be cut to size as is necessary with most table pads now on the market but to the contrary may be sold in standard sizes in department stores.

A further object of the invention is to provide a table pad which will be reversible for increasing the general utility of the pad, one side of the pad having a rubberized or water-proofed surface, and the other side having a soft fabric surface. The rubberized surface is generally uppermost when the pad is used as a water-proof and heat-proof protecting medium under a table cloth, while the soft fabric side affords an attractive surface for playing cards, etc. This soft fabric surface can be made of a pleasing color and can be ornamented more or less.

A further object of the invention is to provide a table pad which can be folded up into a small flat bundle without injury to the pad. This is accomplished by a unique method of defining folding lines along which the pad will fold without cracking, and by providing a novel arrangement of slits which avoid heavy folds where several plies of the material occur in the folding of the pad.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent in the following description of a preferred embodiment of my invention. In the drawing illustrating this embodiment:

Figure 1 is an elevational view showing the pad extended out flat, as viewed from the rubberized side.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary elevational view on a larger scale of the quilted body portion of the pad showing the quilt stitching.

Figure 3 is a sectional view, as for instance on the plane of line 3—3 of Figure 2, the relative thicknesses of the several plies being magnified for clarity of illustration.

Figure 4 is a similar view illustrating the two succeeding steps of applying the heat insulating material and outer rubberized sheet.

Figure 5 is a sectional view through one margin of the pad, as for instance on the plane of line 5—5 of Figure 1 illustrating the taped edges of the completed pad, and

Figure 6 is a perspective view showing the pad partly folded.

The main body portion of the pad comprises two fabric sheets 11 and 12 and an intervening layer 13 of cotton batting or equivalent material for giving a soft cushioned thickness to this main body portion. These three plies are all joined together at a multiplicity of points so that there can be no relative shifting between these plies, this being preferably accomplished by quilt stitching through the several plies. This quilt stitching is represented by the several rows of diagonal cross stitching 14 in Figure 2.

One side of this quilted body portion is then coated or smeared over with a mixture having high heat resisting properties, indicated at 15 in Figure 4. I have developed a mixture which I find advantageous for this use consisting of approximately 50% of ground asbestos and 50% of commercial rubber compound. These proportions may be varied, but I have found the above mixture in the proportions stated to give the desired properties in the pad. The asbestos component has high heat resistance for preventing the transfer of heat through to the quilted body portion or vice versa, while the rubber component serves as a good binding medium and as a fair heat insulator as well. Instead of coating or smearing this mixture on the fabric sheet 11, it might be made up as a ply or sheet for direct application as a unit to the fabric surface 11.

Over the outer surface of this layer or ply of heat insulating material 15 is superposed a sheet of water-proof fabric 16 having a rubberized outer coating 17; or a sheet which has been water-proofed by impregnation or by coating with any preferred material or compound. This outer rubber


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coating is preferably of relatively light color, such as white, so that it will give a light colored back ground under a thin tablecloth.

The completed assembly, as described above, is then passed between vulcanizing rolls which operate to vulcanize the sheets 16 and 11 firmly together with the layer 15 of rubber and asbestos therebetween. A portion of the rubber in the intervening layer 15 of rubber and asbestos compound becomes impregnated in the fabric surfaces 11 and 16, thus serving firmly to bind these two plies of fabric together, the asbestos component of the mixture or compound remaining as a heat resisting strata between the two plies of fabric.

Two oppositely located slits 21 are now cut into the sides of the vulcanized pad, these slits being of a depth to leave a central uncut panel of a width substantially equal to the depth of each slit. The unfinished edges of the pad are then faced as shown in Figure 1. The outer margins are preferably faced by a narrow tape 23 which embraces the edges and folds over on the upper and lower sides of the pad, being secured thereto by stitching 24 which passes entirely through the pad. The opposing edges of each slit 21 are preferably faced by overcasting or buttonhole stitching 25. The edges of these slits may be faced with tape if desired similar to the outer edges, but inasmuch as the pad folds along the line of these slits, I prefer to use the stitched or looped facing and thereby avoid any objectionable thickness of material along this fold line. This also avoids any ridges in the central portion of the pad when laid flat.

While the present pad is very pliable and will drop down over the edges of a table like a tablecloth, nevertheless there is a possibility of wrinkling and cracking the rubberized material in making a sharp fold in the pad incident to folding it up into a small bundle. I have obviated this possibility by sharply defining lines of folding for the pad along which the pad will tend to fold and without cracking the rubberized material. This is obtained by extending superposed lines of stitching across the pad coincident with the desired lines of folding. As indicated at 27 in Figure 1, each line of folding is thus defined by machine stitching five or six times along the same line. This makes the pad thinner and more compact along these lines and affords a break line which enables the rubberized material to fold sharply without cracking.

The stitching is preferably performed with the presser-foot of the machine engaging the rubberized side of the material so that the down stroke of the stitching needle and the engagement of the presser-foot will compress or crease the rubberized side slightly into the body of the material along these lines of stitching. This results in the pad having a natural tendency to fold inwardly to bring the rubberized sides into contact. These lines of stitching may be arranged for any preferred manner of folding; in Figure 1 the stitching divides the pad into six panel areas consisting of the two central panels *a* and *b* and the two pairs of lateral panels *c*—*d* and *e*—*f*. The central transverse line of stitching 27 extends between the ends of the two slits 21—21 and forms a central line of folding. The pad is folded by turning in both lateral flaps across the rubberized side of the adjacent central panel and then folding the two halves of the pad back along the central line of stitching 27. The provision of the two slits 21—21 avoids thick folds of the material and any drawing of these outer side portions in making this last fold.

The rubberized or water-proofed surface of the pad is usually uppermost in the general utility of the pad when employed as a heat-proof and water-proof protecting medium below a tablecloth. The rubberized outer coating 16 and the heat-proof ply 15 thoroughly protect the absorbent body portion of the pad and the table surface from hot dishes placed on the tablecloth or from any liquids spilled thereon.

The opposite side 12 of the pad is an attractive color such as green or brown, and the quilted stitching 14 on this opposite side lends an attractive design or finish to the pad. It will be understood that this side of the pad is turned uppermost as for playing cards, or when a soft finished surface is desired for any other reason.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. In a table pad, pliable in its entirety, the combination of a quilted body portion, a rubberized sheet on one side of said body portion and a plastic mixture of rubber and asbestos vulcanized between and with said rubberized sheet and said quilted body portion.

2. In a table pad, a quilted body portion comprising two plies of fabric with a ply of cotton batting therebetween, said three plies being secured together by quilt stitching, a layer of heat resisting material consisting of asbestos and rubber compound applied to one surface of said main body portion, and a rubberized sheet of fabric superposed on said heat resisting material, said main body portion, said heat resisting material, and said rubberized fabric being vulcanized together.

3. In a table pad, the combination of a quilted body portion, a rubberized sheet of fabric on one side of said body portion, a ply of heat resisting material vulcanized


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between said quilted body portion and said rubberized sheet, a pair of slits cut in opposite sides of said pad in substantial alignment with each other, a line of stitching joining said slits, and two parallel lines of stitching extending transversely to said first named line of stitching and co-operating therewith to divide said pad into six panel areas for folding.

4. A pliable laminated structure comprising a waterproof fabric having a rubberized outer coating, an insulating layer of a mixture of rubber and asbestos and a cotton batting body portion all vulcanized together.

5. A pliable laminated structure comprising a water-proof fabric, a layer of a mixture of rubber and a heat insulating material and a quilted body portion all vulcanized together.

6. In a table pad the combination of a layer of cotton quilting having a plurality of closely spaced lines of stitching to hold the cotton evenly distributed, a layer of rubber superposed upon said stitching and a layer of cement binding the whole together.

7. In a table pad the combination of a pair of layers of fabric with a layer of cotton batting between the same, a plurality of closely spaced lines of stitching fastening said cotton batting between said layers of fabric and a layer of rubber superposed upon said stitching and fabric and vulcanized under pressure into intimate connection therewith.

8. In a table pad the combination of a pair of layers of fabric with a layer of cotton batting between the same, a plurality of closely spaced lines of stitching fastening said cotton batting between said layers of fabric, a layer of cement upon said fabric and a layer of rubber superposed upon said stitching and fabric and vulcanized under pressure into intimate connection therewith.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name this 19th day of November, 1925.

LOUIS M. ARNOPOL.


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