

"TABLE CLOCK"

The present invention relates to a table clock.

Table clocks have previously been proposed in which the angle of the front face of the time indicating portion of the clock can be changed. This could be done by means of a rod which was movable back and forth through the timepiece, the rod being provided at each of its ends with a spherical support member. In a table clock of this type, the angle of the front face of the time indicating portion can be changed as follows.

The front face is made substantially erect by positioning the timepiece adjacent to the front end of the rod and by standing the clock on its bottom portion with the support member positioned at the rear end of the rod. The front face of the clock is inclined at the maximum angle so that it faces upwardly when the timepiece is positioned near the rear end of the rod. The front face of the time indicating portion can be turned downwardly by standing the clock on its bottom portion with the support member positioned at the front end of the rod.

However, although the clock described above may have the angle made by its front face varied, the range of variation of this angle is not large.

According, therefore, to the present invention,  
there is provided a table clock comprising a support  
rod one end of which is engageable with a support surface  
and the other end of which carries a timepiece, the  
5 support rod slidably passing through a support plate  
one portion of which is engageable with the support  
surface, whereby the table clock may be mounted on the  
support surface with the support rod and support plate  
in engagement therewith and at an angle to each other  
10 so that the timepiece may be supported thereby above the  
support surface in a plurality of different positions.

The table clock of the present invention may thus be  
capable of having the angle of the front face of its  
time indicating portion varied and may act as a form  
15 of interior decoration.

In the table clock of the present invention, the  
position of the timepiece above the support surface  
or the angle of inclination made by the time indicating  
portion of the timepiece can be changed as desired  
20 by sliding the support plate along the support rod.

Preferably, the timepiece is fixed to the support  
rod so that it cannot move axially of the latter.

The support rod preferably passes through a  
non-central portion of the support plate.

25 Preferably the end of the rod which is engageable

(11)

with the support surface is provided with a counterweight.

The counterweight is preferably spherical.

The support plate may be circular.

5 The timepiece may be fixed to the support rod  
adjacent at a 12 o'clock position of the timepiece.

The invention is illustrated, merely by way of  
example, in the accompanying drawings, in which:-

U Figure 1 is a front view of a table clock according  
to the present invention, showing how it may be mounted on a  
10 support surface in a number of different positions, and

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the table clock of the  
present invention.

Referring to Figure 1, a table clock according to the  
present invention comprises a support rod 1 which is  
15 provided with a threaded portion 1a at its distal end,  
the proximal end of the support rod 1 being engageable  
with a support surface 6, e.g. the top of a table or  
other piece of furniture. The threaded portion 1a passes  
through a dial 2a (see Figure 2) of a timepiece 2 at a  
20 position thereof which is located above a graduation number  
"12" on the clock face of the dial 2a. A nut 3 is screwed  
onto the threaded portion 1a so as to engage the upper  
side of the timepiece 2 whose lower side abuts a shoulder  
(not shown) on the support rod 1, whereby the timepiece 2  
25 is prevented from sliding axially of the support rod 1.

The support rod 1 slidably passes through a circular support plate 4, so that the support plate 4 can be moved along the support rod 1, one portion of the support plate 4 being engageable with the support surface 6. Thus the table clock may be mounted on the support surface 6 with the support rod 1 and support plate 4 in engagement therewith so that the timepiece 2 may be supported above the support surface 6 in a plurality of different positions. If the support rod 1 were passed through the circular support plate 4 at its centre, the timepiece 2 could be turned freely by rotating the support plate 4.

In such a case, however, the angle of inclination of the timepiece 2 could not be changed to any substantial extent. Such a structure, moreover, may also make the timepiece switch (not shown) rather unstable.

In order to obviate this problem and support the timepiece stably, the support rod 1 passes through the support plate 4 at a non-central position thereof, as shown in Figure 2. The stability with which the timepiece 2 is supported can be increased by securing a counterweight 5 at the proximal end of the support rod 1. It is possible to avoid damage to the support surface 6 on which the clock is mounted, if the shape of the counterweight 5 is made spherical.

In consequence, the timepiece 2 can be mounted above the support surface 6 in a position in which it is supported



in a slanting position by means of the support rod 1 and the support plate 4 which engage each other at an angle so as to form support legs, as shown by the solid lines of Figure 1. As shown by the dotted lines of Figure 1, however, the position or the angle of inclination of the time indicating portion of the timepiece 2 can be changed as desired by moving the support plate 4 along the support rod 1.

In the case of the table clock described above, it is possible to change the position or the angle of inclination of the timepiece 2 to a large extent. It also has a unique shape which enables it to act as an attractive interior decoration.



### C L A I M S

1. A table clock comprising a support rod one end of which is engageable with a support surface and the other end of which carries a timepiece, the support rod slidably passing through a support plate one portion of which is engageable with the support surface, whereby the table clock may be mounted on the support surface with the support rod and support plate in engagement therewith and at an angle to each other so that the timepiece may be supported thereby above the support surface in a plurality of different positions.
2. A table clock as claimed in claim 1 in which the timepiece is fixed to the support rod so that it cannot move axially of the latter.
3. A table clock as claimed in claim 1 or 2 in which the support rod passes through a non-central portion of the support plate.
4. A table clock as claimed in any preceding claim in which the end of the rod which is engageable with the support surface is provided with a counterweight.



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5. A table clock as claimed in claim 4 in which the counterweight is spherical.

6. A table clock as claimed in any preceding claim in which the support plate is circular.

5 7. A table clock as claimed in any preceding claim in which the timepiece is fixed to the support rod adjacent a 12 o'clock position of the timepiece.

U 8. A table clock substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as shown in the accompanying drawings.

10 9. A table clock comprising: a support pole; a timepiece secured at the distal end of said support pole in such a manner that it is prevented from sliding in the axial direction of said support pole; and a support plate through which said support pole slidably passes