

FIG. 114.—Writing Table with Drawer Open.

The form of writing table shown in Fig. 114 is becoming popular. It cannot be overfilled by papers and other matter not actual correspondence. In this respect it is desirable for the living room or reception hall or a small size is very appropriate in a spare guest room. The top always remains as a table top,

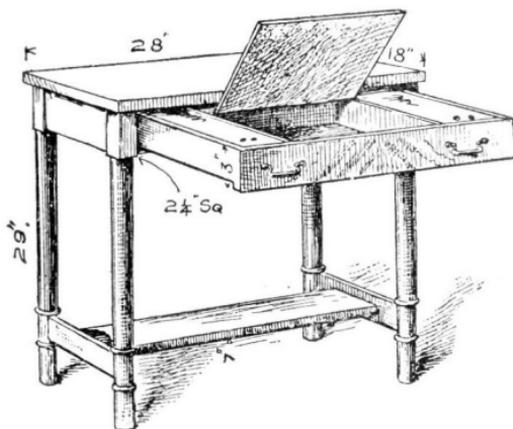


FIG. 114.—Writing Table with Drawer Open.

the writing being confined to the center tablet panel flush with the top of the drawer when drawn out to a set stop. Under this panel is the larger compartment for paper and envelopes, while on either side of the partition are compartments full size or subdivided, as the fancy dictates, into a small space for loose pens, a long till for pen holders and pencils, while at the back end either at the right or left of the center writing tablet a fixed division should be made for a square glass or some appropriate form of ink well.

For neatness of finish, which should be in marked evidence on such a piece of furniture, the tablet and other divisions having been made of $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. paneling, the walls should be fitted with a scant $\frac{1}{8}$ -in. material of the same or another kind of wood. The width of this paneling should allow for the $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. thickness of top or till covers and form a rabbet for these to set upon. Us-

ally such a table is made in mahogany and the drawer compartments in that wood also. The oak tables should have mahogany drawer divisions also, as this wood is very desirable for small work and a good after-finish. In this form of writing table the sides of the drawer must be of the full length permitted by the interior of the table frame, but the drawer itself must be made to withdraw only to a certain fixed stop or check provided for the purpose. This is to avoid an overbalance when the drawer is being used as a writing bed. Some tables made are provided with a concealed counterweight, but this is unnecessary if the table frame is of a substantial pattern and the drawer stop is properly located.

The apparent waste space of the rear end of the entire drawer readily suggests a private drawer or compartment secretly ac-

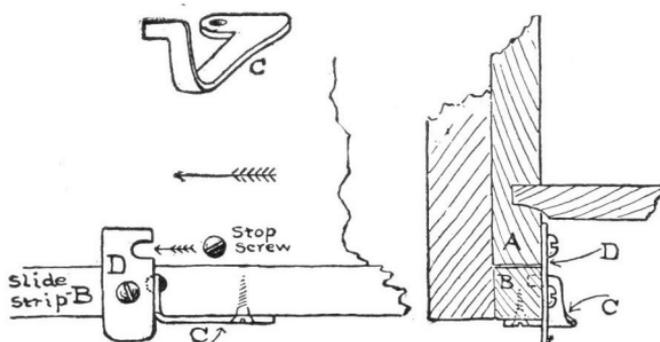


FIG. 115.—Details of Checking Device.

cessible by throwing off the check or stop, which can be controlled by a simple mechanical device of an elbow joint or spring push button variety placed entirely out of view at one or both sides under the drawer and somewhat to the rear. The drawer operates as an ordinary drawer, and the check is never used except when it is desired to use the private compartment.

A checking device which is at present in satisfactory use is illustrated in Fig. 115 of the drawings. Here the plate D is held in checking position by the stop screw properly located as shown. It is thrown forward when it is desired to pull out the entire drawer. This is done by swinging out under the drawer slide

the shaped metal piece D. This when erect with the drawer stop screw pulled against it prevents further withdrawal.

In making such a piece of furniture there is opportunity for personality in the design as well as in ingenious devices which will characterize the article and give it increasing value.