Feb. 23, 1960 N. FIDEL 2,925,854

ADJUSTABLE RECLINING COUCH

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FIG. 3

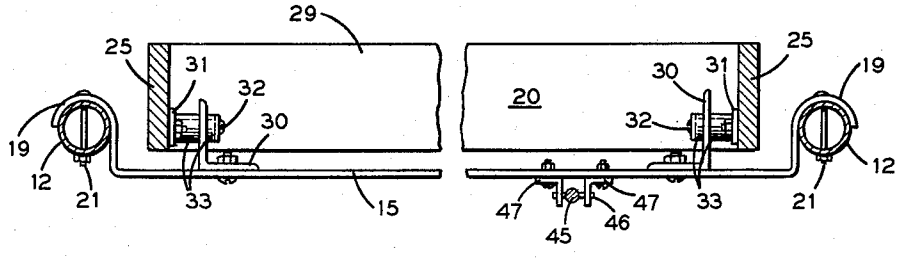
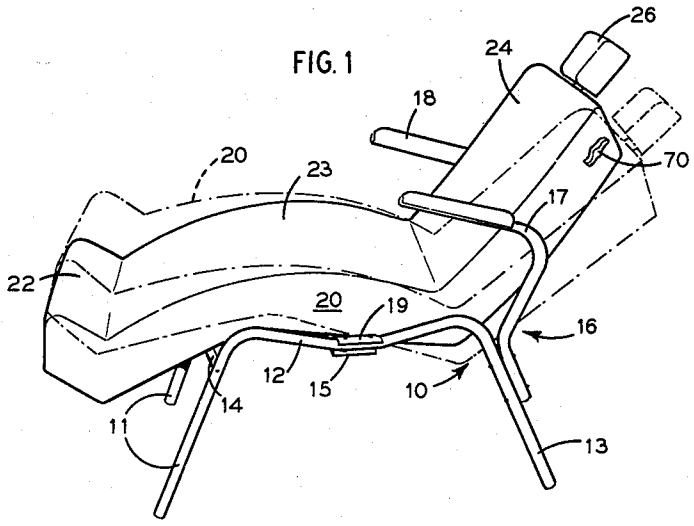


FIG. 1



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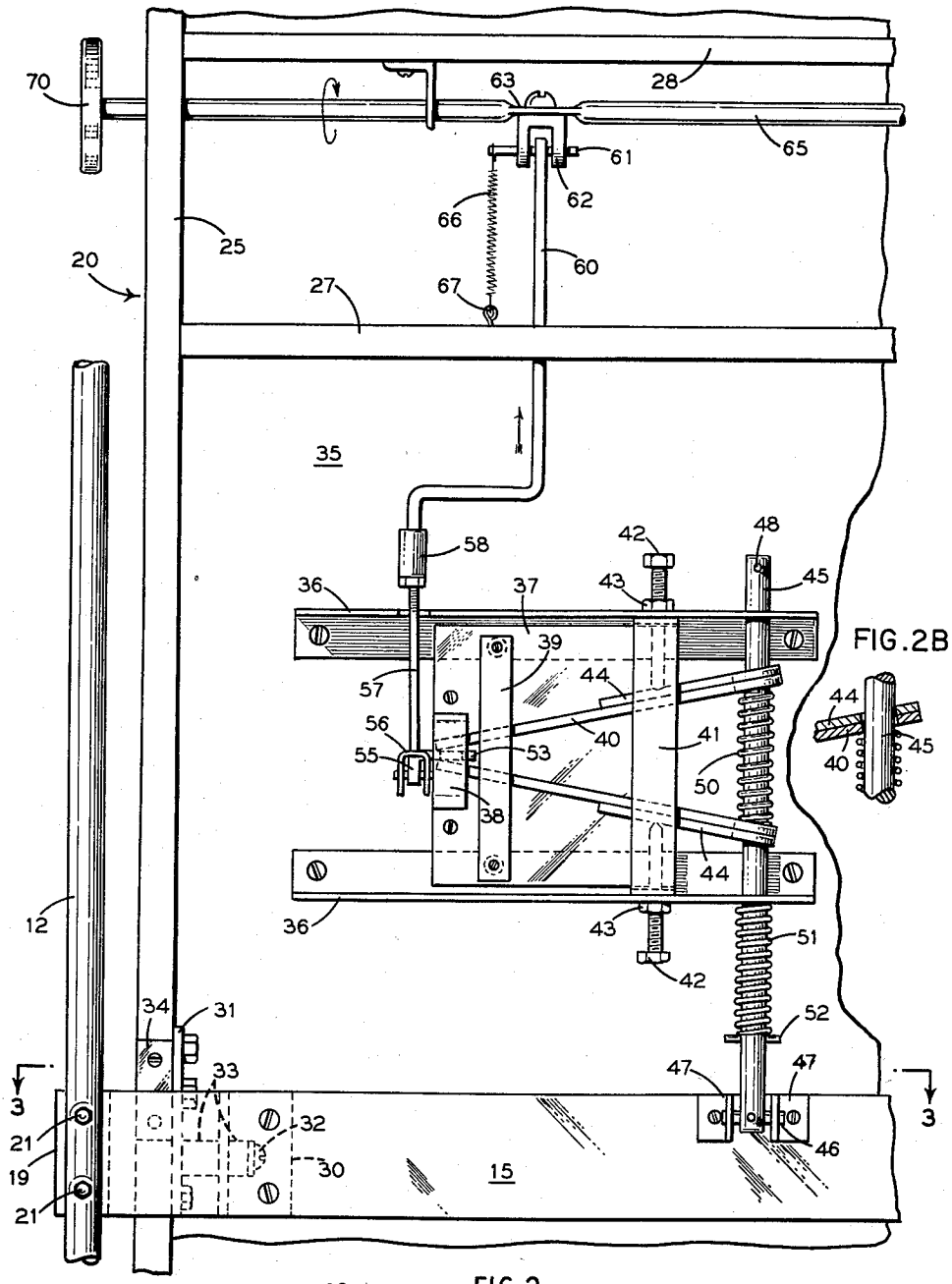


FIG. 2

FIG. 2B

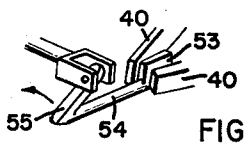


FIG. 2A

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2,925,854

ADJUSTABLE RECLINING COUCH

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Application July 29, 1957, Serial No. 674,712

1 Claim. (Cl. 155—116)

This invention relates to an adjustable reclining couch of general applicability but particularly suitable for use in a beauty parlor or like establishment.

The operations performed in beauty parlors and similar establishments include, among other things the washing, drying and setting of the hair. During the hair washing operation, the customer's head is placed in a special wash basin, particularly during raising of the hair. This requires a suitable seat or body support having a back whose top edge is at the general level of the basin, and which comfortably supports the body when the head is lowered to the basin level.

During the setting and drying operations, the customer is in an at least partially upright position with the head elevated beneath a drier. This requires a type of chair or couch support differing from the type required for the washing and rinsing operation.

In accordance with the present invention, a novel contoured couch is provided which is simply and easily adjusted to and locked in any position between one in which the user's head is elevated substantially and one in which the body is substantially horizontal.

More particularly, the couch comprises a preferably tubular and light-weight metal supporting frame on which a contoured couch body is pivotally mounted for pivotal movement about a transverse axis intermediate the ends of the body. Novel releasable latch means are provided for holding the couch body in any adjusted position, remote operating means being provided to readily release the latching means for adjustment of the couch body to a new position.

For an understanding of the invention principles, reference is made to the following description of a typical embodiment thereof as illustrated in the accompanying drawing. In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation view of an adjustable contoured reclining couch embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is a partial bottom plan view of the couch illustrating the latch means and its operating mechanism;

Fig. 2A is an enlarged perspective view of part of the operating mechanism;

Fig. 2B is a section view illustrating the mechanism in a locked position; and

Fig. 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings, the couch comprises a preferably tubular and light-weight metal support frame **10** and a contoured couch body **20**. Frame **10** comprises a pair of side members having front legs **11**, elevated intermediate portions **12**, and rear legs **13**. A cross brace **14** interconnects front legs **11**. A U-shape brace **16** interconnects rear legs **13** and has arm portions **17** on which are arm rests **18**.

Elevated sections **12** of frame **10** are interconnected intermediate their ends by a relatively elongated flat metal plate **15** having ends bent up at right angles and curved downwardly, as at **19**, to conformingly engage sections **12** to which these ends are bolted as at **21**. Plate **15** forms a support for body **12** and for part of the releasable latching means.

Couch body **20** includes a foot rest **22**, a seat section **23**, and a back section **24**. A head rest **26** is adjustably mounted on back section **24**. The couch body has a wooden frame including side rails **25** interconnected at spaced intervals by transverse braces such as **27**, **28** and **29**.

Intermediate the ends of seat section **23**, side rails **25** have secured to their inner surfaces metal plates **31** having bolts **32** projecting inwardly therefrom. These bolts extend through the vertical legs of angles **30** secured to plate **15**, spacers **33** being disposed on bolts **32** on either side of angles **30**. Striker plates **34** are secured to the undersides of rails **25** just rearwardly of bolts **32**. Bolts **32** form a transverse pivoting axis for couch body **20** on frame **10**.

A substantial distance rearwardly of plate **15**, a pair of relatively elongated angles **36** are secured to the wooden base **35** of body **20** in longitudinally spaced, transversely extending relation. Between angles **36** is a plate **37** having secured thereto a bracket **38** and a cross strap **39** spaced from plate **37** intermediate its ends. A second cross strap **41** extends between the vertical legs of angles **36**. Bracket **38** and straps **39** and **41** act as positioning means for a pair of latching bars **40** which extend transversely of these elements.

Bars **40** pivot about the inner ends of adjusting studs **42** threaded through angles **36** and provided with lock nuts **43**. Bars **40** are reinforced adjacent their inner ends, as at **44**, and the inner ends are apertured to receive a rod **45**, the diameter of the apertures being slightly greater than that of rod **45**. This rod extends through apertures in angles **36** and its forward end has a pin **46** extending therethrough and pivotally connecting the forward end of the rod to angles **47** on the underside of plate **15**. The rear end of rod **45** carries a stop pin **48**. It will be noted that rod **45** is anchored against longitudinal movement relative to plate **15** and thus relative to frame **10** also.

A coil spring **50** on rod **45** between bars **40** biases the inner ends of the bars apart so that the bars are cocked relative to rod **45** so that the edges of the apertures in the bars bite into rod **45** and thus anchor the rod relative to angles **36**. A second coil spring **51** on rod **45** engages forward angle **36** and a pin **52** on the rod to bias angles **36** away from plate **15**.

The outer ends of bars **40** bear against opposite sides of a radial lug **53** on the end of the axle **54** of a crank **55** secured in bracket **38**. The arm of crank **55** is pivotally connected in a forked bracket **56** on the end of a rod **57** secured by a coupling **58** to a bent rod **60** extending through cross member **27**. The rear end of rod **60** has a pin **61** extending therethrough and through a forked bracket **62** secured to a flattened portion **63** of a cross shaft **65** extending through apertures in rails **25** adjacent the upper edge of back section **24**, and through an angle **64** secured to top cross member **28**. A light coil spring **66** is connected between pin **61** and an eye **67** secured in cross member **27**. Operating handles **70** are secured on the outer ends of shaft **65**.

Normally, bars **40** are biased to a position locking rod **45** against movement longitudinally of body **20**. To release the latching means, either handle **70** is turned. This pulls bent rod **60** rearwardly to pull rod **57** in the same direction. As a result, crank **55** is rocked so that lug **53** pushes the outer ends of bars **40** apart. This moves the inner ends of bars **40** toward each other so that the apertures in the bars loosely receive rod **45**. Couch body **20** may then be turned about its axis to a new adjusted position in which it is locked, by re-

cocking of bars 40 on rod 45, as soon as a handle 70 is released.

Thus, by merely turning either handle 70, the couch body may be readily and easily adjusted to a position in which the upper edge of back section 24 is lowered to the level of a hair washing basin, to a position in which back section 24 is upright, or to any position intermediate these two positions.

While a specific embodiment of the invention has been shown and described in detail to illustrate the application of the invention principles, it will be understood that the invention may be embodied otherwise without departing from such principles.

What is claimed:

An adjustable reclining couch comprising, in combination, a supporting frame including elevated tubular side members; a strap interconnecting said side members intermediate their ends; a contoured couch body, shaped to form a seat section and a back section pivotally supported on said strap for pivotal movement about an axis intermediate the ends of said seat section and extending transversely of said body in spaced parallel relation to said strap; an elongated rod having one end pivotally connected to said strap against longitudinal movement relative to the latter and extending longitudinally of said body through guide means on a body portion spaced a substantial distance rearwardly of said pivotal axis; a pair of bars pivoted intermediate their ends on said body portion between a pair of guide means and each having an aperture, in a corresponding end, somewhat larger than the cross-section of said rod; said rod extending through both apertures; means biasing the other ends of the bars toward each other to cock the bars so that the aperture edges grip said rod; and means at the upper end of said back section selectively operable to relatively separate such other ends of said bars to provide for free passage of said rod through said apertures to adjust the angular relation of said couch body to said supporting frame.

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