United States Patent [19]

Thomas

[11] **3,829,908**

[45] **Aug. 20, 1974**

[54] **KNOCK-DOWN COMMODE DEVICE**

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[73] Assignee: **Temco Products, Inc.,** Passaic, N.J.

[22] Filed: **Apr. 9, 1973**

[21] Appl. No.: **349,052**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **4/1,** 4/116, 4/134, 211/148, 297/134, 297/217

[51] **Int. Cl.** ... **A47k 11/02,** A47b 45/00, A47c 9/00

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 4/1, 89, 110, 111, 114, 4/115, 116, 134, 135, 138, 141, 186, 252 R; 297/134, 130, 217, 420, 440, 445; 211/148; 248/188.5, 408

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A knock-down commode device which may be packaged for shipment in a fraction of the dimensions of a conventional commode device, effectuating substantial savings in shipping costs and thus in the cost of the commode to the ultimate user. The commode may be shipped in knock-down form and may pursuant to the invention, be readily and sturdily assembled, without use of any special tools or skills. The commode device comprises a basic unit to receive the commode chamber, which may be packaged therewith and extension members to be connected to the commode unit to form therewith a complete commode of longer leg length. The commode of the invention is rugged and durable and is designed to be long lasting, safe, reliable and trouble free in use.

4 Claims, 6 Drawing Figures

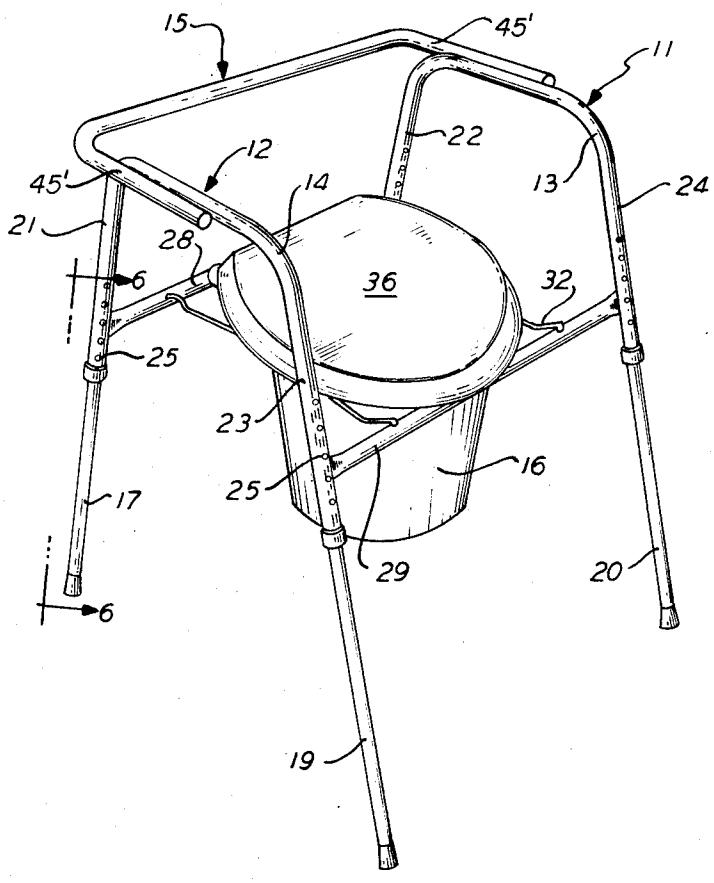


FIG. 1

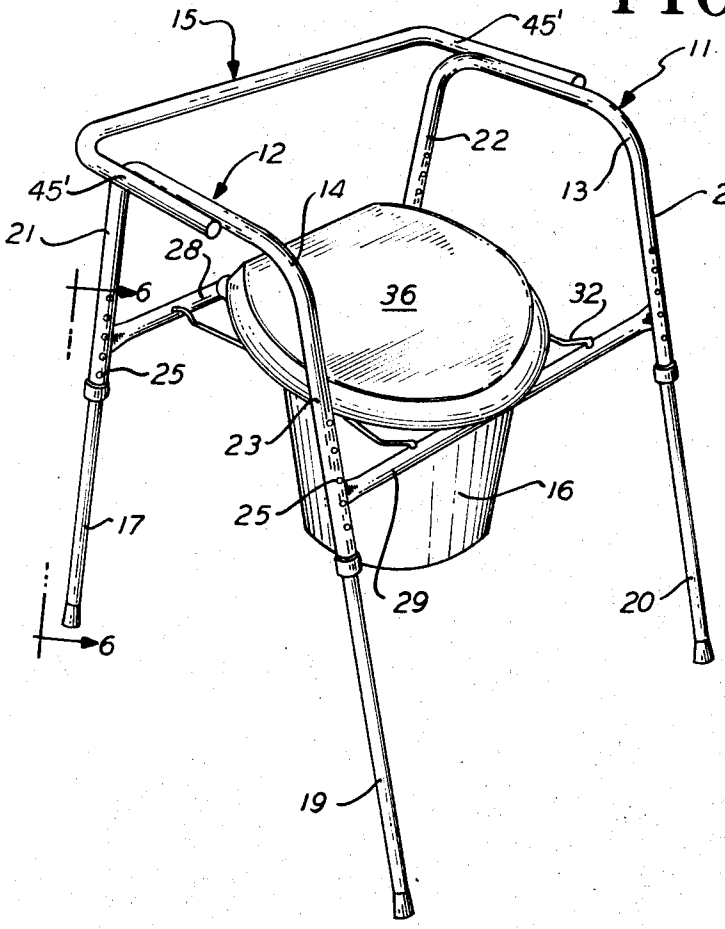

15
45'
11
12
22
45'
14
13
24
21
28
6
36
32
25
23
16
25
17
29
20
6
19

FIG. 2

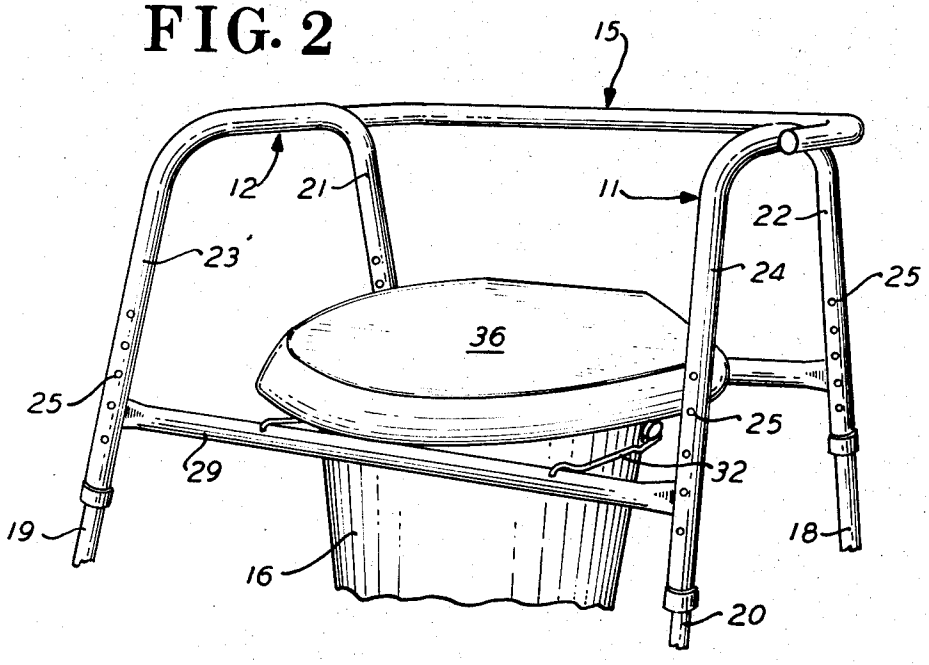

15
12
21
11
22
23'
24
25
36
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25
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32
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18
16
20

FIG. 3

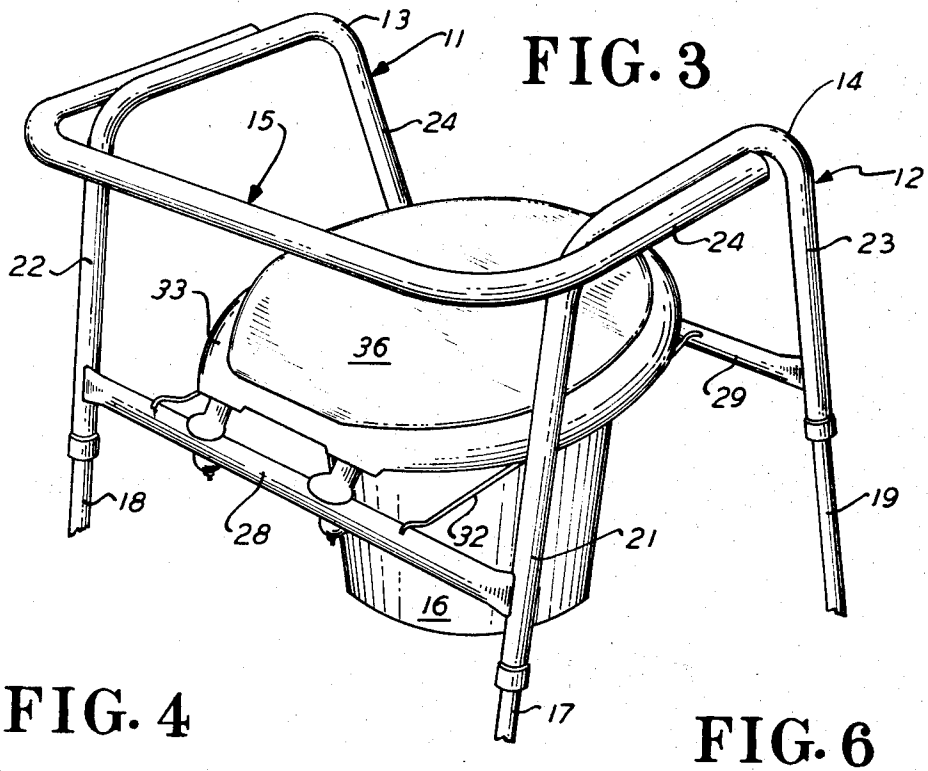


FIG. 4

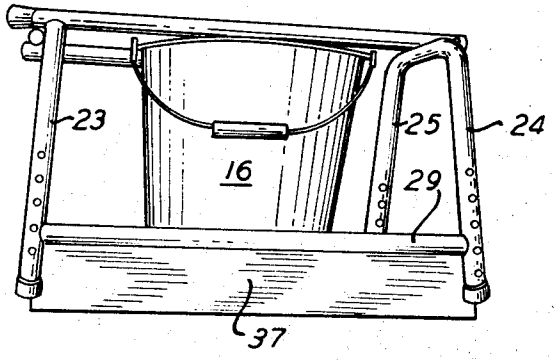


FIG. 5

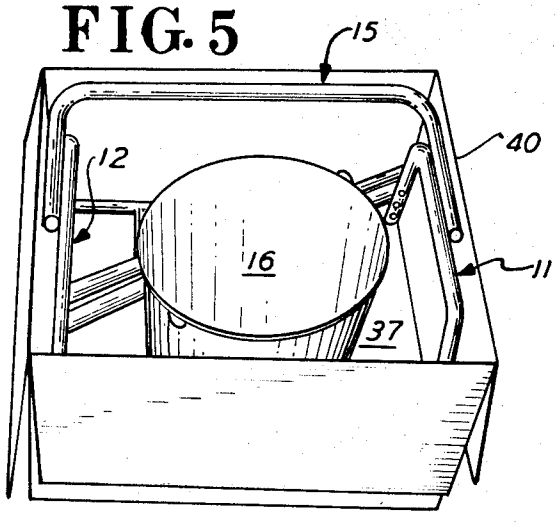
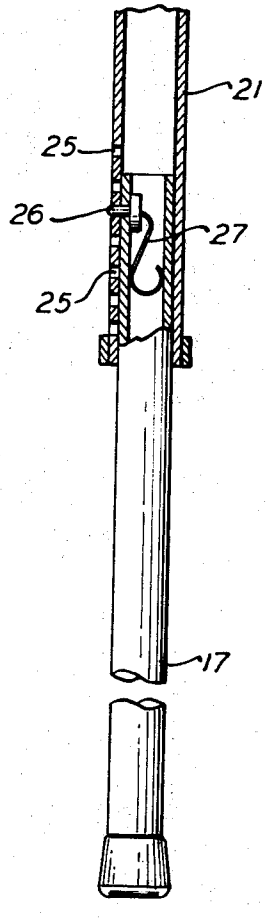


FIG. 6



KNOCK-DOWN COMMODE DEVICE

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates generally to commode devices as used in hospitals and homes; such devices are conventionally of substantial dimensions adding, greatly to the cost of the commode to the user due to the high cost of shipping such large objects. Providing a commode of foldable form for shipment might seem the obvious answer to the problem but foldable commodes would not provide the rigidity and stability vital to the safe use of the commode. Commode users are often physically disabled and rely upon the commode structure to provide support for the user in approaching, using and leaving the commode. The present invention overcomes the problem by providing a novel structure of inherent rigidity which may be shipped knocked-down in cartons of small dimensions at a fraction of the cost of shipping conventional, fully dimensioned commodes; novel means are further provided in the commode of this invention for assembly thereof to adjust the length of the legs of the commode to conform to the specific requirements of the user.

DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

In the Drawings:

FIG. **1** is a front perspective view of a commode structure of the invention, shown in assembled form,

FIG. **2** is another front perspective view thereof,

FIG. **3** is a rear perspective view thereof,

FIG. **4** is an elevational view of the base unit of the commode device of the invention shown in knocked down form for shipment,

FIG. **5** is a perspective view thereof, shown packaged in a carton for shipment, and

FIG. **6** is an enlarged, partly fragmentary, elevational view, taken at line **6—6** of FIG. **1.**

In accordance with a preferred mode, the invention comprises a base unit **11** having a forwardly opening frame **12** comprising side members **13, 14** and a rear member **15,** means for supporting the commode chamber **16** in the commode base unit, and means to enable connection of leg extension members **17–20** to the base unit **11.** The commode base unit above described may be packaged, as shown in FIG. **4** and **5** in a carton **40** having dimensions substantially smaller (and thus far less costly to ship) than is required for shipping the much larger conventional commode devices. Assembly of the commode to long length may be achieved, pursuant to the invention, without the use of any special tools, by connection of extension leg members **17–20** to the short leg portions **21–24** of the base unit to form therewith precisely the length desired by the user. Such means may comprise provision of a plurality of apertured portions **25** in the leg portions of the base unit **11,** to be selectively engaged by latch means such as (FIG. **6**) pins **26** spring urged as at **27** on the extension leg members, to selectively engage the desired particular one of the series of apertures **25** on the commode base unit leg members to provide the selected overall desired length for the leg members of the commode (FIG. **1**).

As shown in FIG. **6** the extension leg members **17–20** and the short leg portions **21–24** of the base unit may be of complementary tubular or other form at the free ends thereof for interconnected slidable telescopic or other relative engagement, and latched together at the selected position desired. The rear member **15** of the base unit may (FIG. **1**) be a U-shaped bar secured to and having leg members **45', 45'** which may be connected to the frame side members **13, 14** by any suitable means to hold the side members in parallel spaced relation. Rods **28, 29** may be positioned intermediate members **13, 14** and connected thereto by any suitable means to further maintain them in said desired spaced parallel relation and a wire frame grid **32** may be secured to said rods to form a support for the chamber **16.**

The base unit **11** is (FIGS. **4** and **5**) a fraction of the dimensions of the commode (FIG. **1**) assembled for use pursuant to the invention and is thus readily knocked-down for shipment with the commode seat **33,** which may be hingedly or otherwise connected to the bar **28** (FIG. **1**) and the cover **36,** closed and placed in a holder **37** (FIG. **4**) forming, with the other base unit parts, a very compact, small-dimensioned base unit package with which (FIG. **5**) the extension leg members **17–19** may be packaged in the small carton **40** for shipment.

While the present invention has been particularly described in terms of specific embodiments thereof, it will be evident, in view of the present disclosure, that numerous variations of the invention may be made, within the inventive concept and disclosures herein. Accordingly, the invention should be broadly construed within the scope and spirit of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A knock-down device for supporting a commode, said device comprising a pair of inverted U shaped side frame portions, each side frame portion comprising a pair of depending, short leg receiving portions and a portion interconnecting said leg receiving portions; and a back portion interconnecting said side frame portions and maintaining said side frame portions in parallel relation, an elongated member interconnecting the forwardly disposed leg receiving portions opposite said back portion and a second elongated member interconnecting the rearwardly disposed leg receiving portions adjacent said back portion, means extending between said elongated members for supporting said commode; extension leg members and means for separably coupling said leg members to said leg receiving portions; whereby said leg members may be separated from said leg receiving portions to allow packaging of said device in a carton having one minimal dimension measured by the length of said short leg receiving portions.

2. A device as in claim **1** wherein the opposite end portions of said elongated members are located adjacent the lower ends of said leg receiving portions.

3. A device as in claim **1** wherein said back portion comprises a U shaped member having parallel leg portions, and means connecting said leg portions to the portions interconnecting the leg receiving portions of said side frame portions.

4. A device as in claim **1** wherein said leg members and said leg receiving portions includes means telescopically and adjustably related to each other, and coating latch means on said leg members and said leg receiving portions for retaining said leg members and leg receiving portions in adjusted relation to each other.

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