Aug. 28, 1945. C. ASHMUSEN 2,383,837

FOLDABLE ARTICLE OF FURNITURE

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Fig. 1.

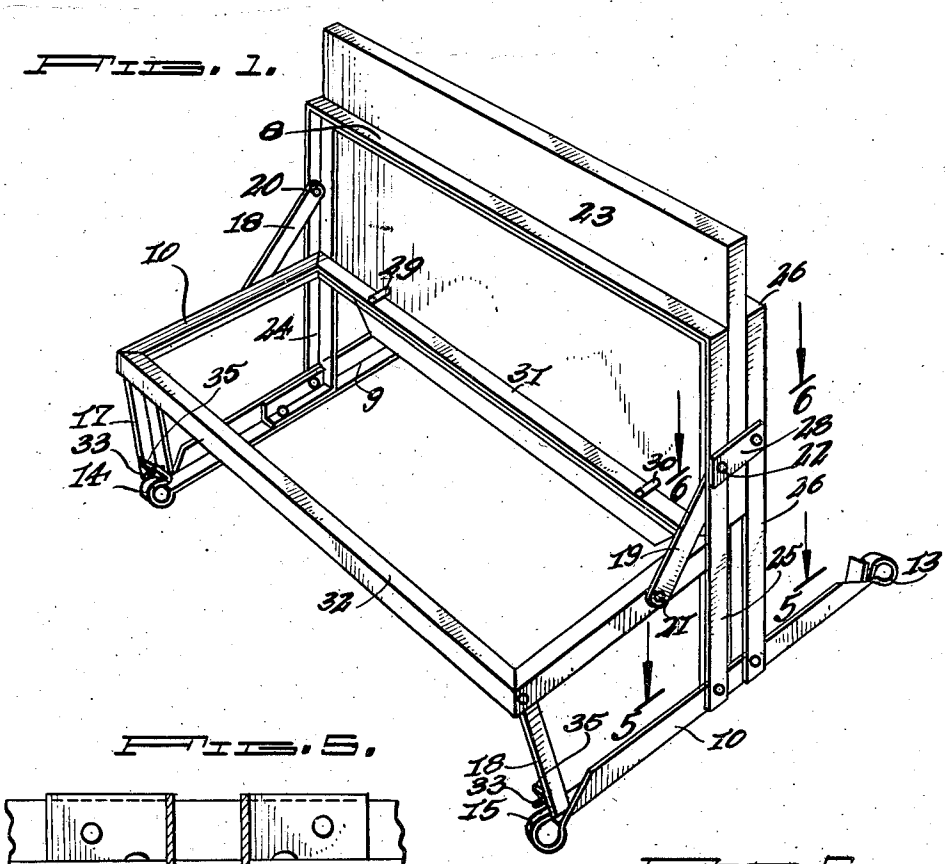


Fig. 5.

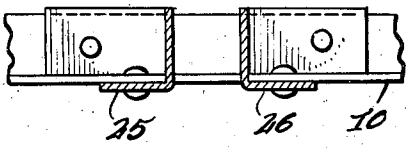


Fig. 6.

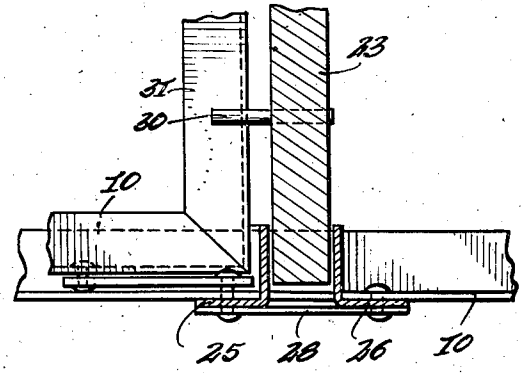
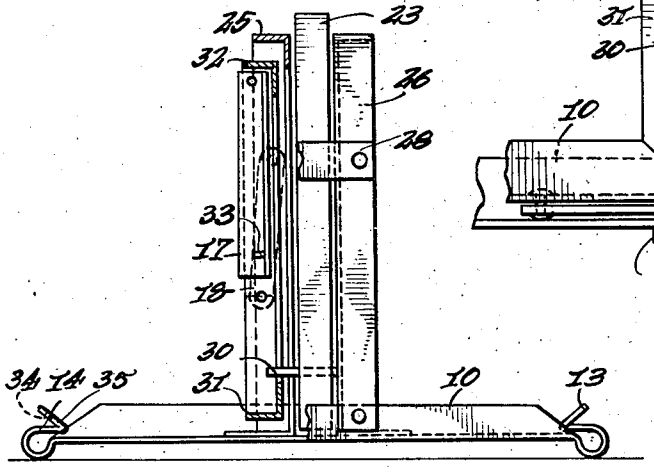


Fig. 2.



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FIG. 3.

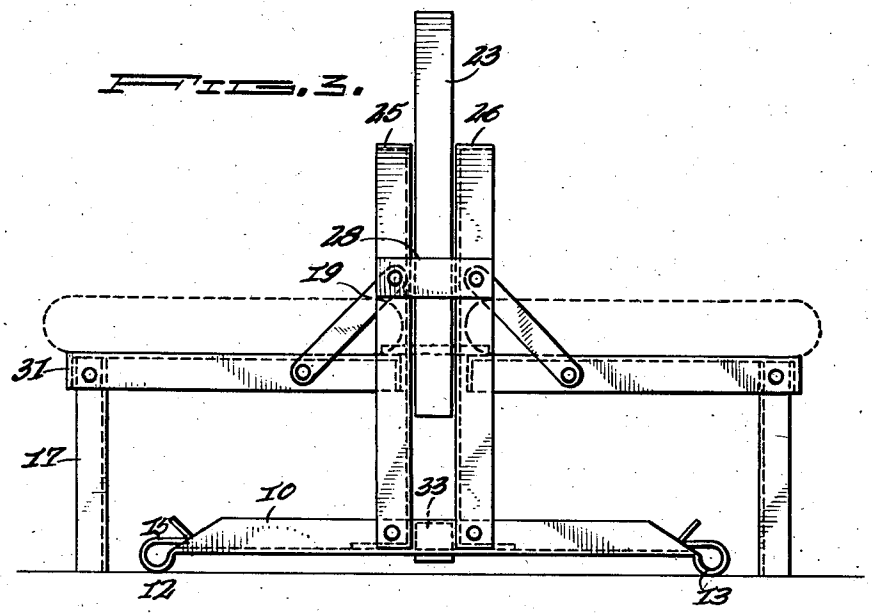


FIG. 4.

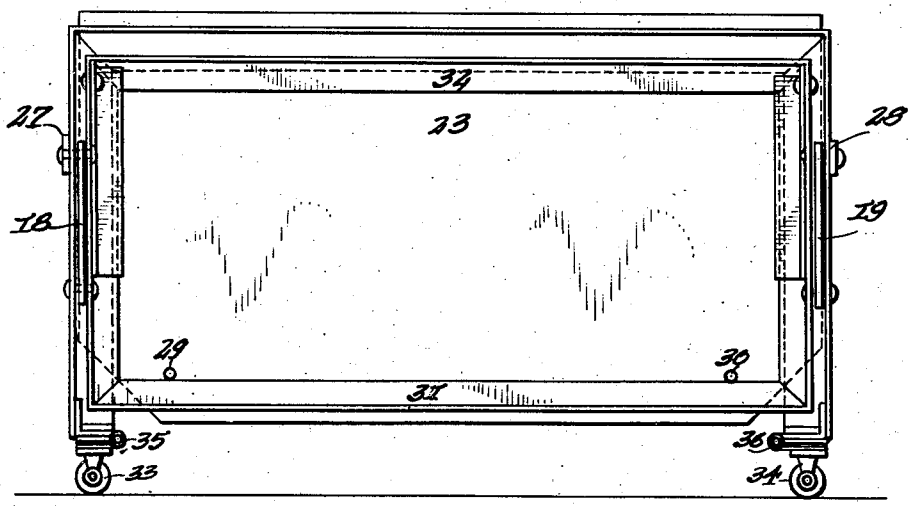
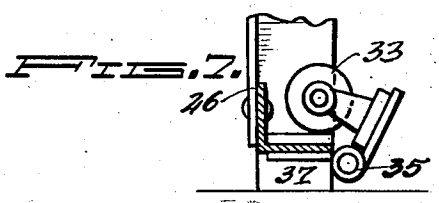


FIG. 7.



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FOLDABLE ARTICLE OF FURNITURE

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Application April 21, 1944, Serial No. 532,045

3 Claims. (Cl. 5—174)

This invention relates to a foldable article of furniture.

An object of the present invention is the provision of a foldable article of furniture which on being unfolded will provide protection from drafts or sunshine and will secure privacy.

A particular object is the provision of a folding bed suitable for use in institutions, field hospitals and the like, which as it is being unfolded will raise a shield and secure sufficient privacy to the occupant of the bed.

Other objects of the present invention will become apparent in the course of the specification.

In accomplishing the objects of the present invention it was found advisable to provide a frame adapted to receive a bed which is pivoted thereto through two arms, and a vertical shield slidable in said frame which is brought into operating position automatically by the moving of the bed from its folded position into its unfolded position.

The invention will appear more clearly from the following detailed description when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, showing, by way of example, preferred embodiments of the inventive idea.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a bed embodying the present invention, in unfolded position, with the screen up.

Figure 2 is an end view, partially in section, of the bed in folded position, with the screen down.

Figure 3 is an end view of a pair of beds in unfolded position, showing the pivoted legs bearing on the ground.

Figure 4 is a front view of a bed in folded position, showing an alternative construction of feet having hinged casters capable of being swung into non-operating position.

Figure 5 is a horizontal section along the line 5—5 of Figure 1.

Figure 6 is a horizontal section along the line 6—6 of Figure 1.

Figure 7 is an enlargement of one of the casters shown in Figure 4, showing the caster in non-operating position.

In a bed shown in Figures 1, 2, 3 and 4, an upright rectangular, substantially flat frame structure 8 comprising rectangular component frames 25, 26, joined by spanners 27, 28, is supported by beams 9, 10, with its length parallel to the ground. The parts are preferably of angle iron, as illustrated. The beams 9, 10, terminate in feet comprising knobs 13, 14, 15, and lips 35 extending upward from a point immediately inward of the knobs on the beams, the lips 35 having holes 34 formed therein. Rectangular platform 11 is pivoted to component frame 25 by straight flat links 18, 19 and pivots 12, 20, 21, 22, and is thereby foldable into the frame, as in Figures 2 and 4, and unfoldable therefrom as in Figures 1 and 3. Legs 17, 18 are pivoted to the outer corners of platform 11, and bear at their lower ends pins 33.

A channel 24 extends between the spaced component frames 25, 26, and in this channel the shield 23 is vertically slidable. Pins 29, 30 in shield 23 engage the inner side member 31 of platform 11. It will be noted that inner side member 31 is lower when the bed is folded than when it is unfolded due to pivots 12 and 21 being located intermediate inner side member 31 and outer side member 32. The bed thus has a low outline when folded as well as having the unfolded platform at regular bed height.

In operation, starting with the platform and shield in folded position as shown in Figure 4, pressure exerted downwardly and outwardly on outer side member 32 of platform 11 causes platform 11 to unfold and to raise shield 23 by the upward motion of inner side member 31 transmitted through pins 29 and 30. The lower ends of pivoted legs 17, 18 are then rested on beams 9, 10, inwardly of the knobs 14, 15 as shown in Figure 1 and locked in position by the pins 33 engaging the holes 34 in the lips 35, and the assembly can be slid from place to place on knobs 13, 14, 15, etc. Alternatively the pivoted legs 17, 18 can be rested on the ground perpendicularly as in Figure 3. If it is desired to use the bed without raising the shield, starting with the platform folded as in Figure 4 the lower side member 31 of platform 11 is moved outwardly, disengaging pins 29, 30 and the bed unfolded as above.

Figure 3 shows a duplex bed, similar in all respects to the bed of Figures 1 and 2 except that a second platform 38 similar to platform 11 is pivoted to component frame 26.

Figure 4 shows an alternative construction comprising casters 39, 40, fastened to beams 9, 10, by hinges 35, 36 and fixed members 37 (Figure 7) extending downward from the beams substantially close to and parallel to the caster in operating position, but not reaching to the ground. This arrangement permits free movement of the assembly on the casters. The casters may be swung on the hinges into non-operating position as in Figure 7 and the members 37 then bear on the ground.

Advantages of the beds illustrated include:

Self contained shields, particularly useful where conventional curtains and curtain frames

are absent, as in emergency hospital facilities, or in use as an extra bed in the home.

The shield rises automatically as the bed is unfolded, and can stay down in its channels if so desired.

Ease of movement of the assembly, with provision for solid bearing on the ground where movement is not desired.

Sanitary construction. Bed vermin do not breed in movable joints and there are no unfilled holes or crevices.

Easy cleaning of the under surface of the bed when in folded position.

Mattress ventilation in semi-folded position of the bed.

Adaptability for use as a shelter or oxygen tent by placing a blanket, sheet, or shelter half over the bed and raised shield.

It is apparent that the illustrations shown above have been given solely by way of illustration and not by way of limitation, and that the above described articles are subject to wide variation and modification. All of such variations and modifications are to be included within the scope of the present invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A foldable article of furniture, comprising two upright frames, beams extending transversely to the lower ends of said frames and supporting said frames in spaced relationship to form a vertical channel between the frames, a shield vertically reciprocable in said channel and extending substantially above said frames in the unfolded position of the article of furniture, a rectangular platform, straight flat links connected to said platform intermediate its ends and pivotally suspending said platform from said frame to maintain the inner side of said platform adjacent the lower end of said shield, said platform being swingable into one of said frames into a folding position and out of that frame into an unfolded position, and means transmitting the swinging motion of said platform to said shield to reciprocate the latter.

2. A foldable article of furniture, comprising an upright frame structure having a vertical channel formed therein, at least two beams extending transversely to the lower end of said frame structure and supporting said frame structure, a shield vertically reciprocable in said channel and extending substantially above said frame structure in the unfolded position of the article of furniture, a rectangular platform, straight flat links connected to said platform intermediate its ends and pivotally suspending said platform from said frame to maintain the inner side of said platform adjacent the lower end of said shield, said platform being swingable into said frame into a folding position and out of the frame into an unfolded position, means transmitting the swinging motion of said platform to said shield to reciprocate the latter, each of said beams comprising a foot portion having a ground-engaging knob and a substantially upwardly extending lip; and legs pivoted to said platform, each of said legs being swingable in the unfolded position of said platform from a position of engagement with the ground to a locking position in engagement with a separate lip.

3. A foldable article of furniture, comprising an upright frame structure having a vertical channel formed therein, at least two beams extending transversely to the lower end of said frame structure and supporting said frame structure, a shield vertically reciprocable in said channel and extending substantially above said frame structure in the unfolded position of the article of furniture, a rectangular platform, straight flat links connected to said platform intermediate its ends and pivotally suspending said platform from said frame to maintain the inner side of said platform adjacent the lower end of said shield, said platform being swingable into said frame into a folding position and out of the frame into an unfolded position, means transmitting the swinging motion of said platform to said shield to reciprocate the latter, each of said beams comprising an end portion, a plurality of casters, means swingably attaching a separate caster to each end portion to enable the caster to swing from an operative ground-engaging position to a raised inoperative position, and a separate fixed supporting member carried by each end portion and extending above the ground when said casters are in their operative positions.

CHRISTIAN ASHMUSEN.