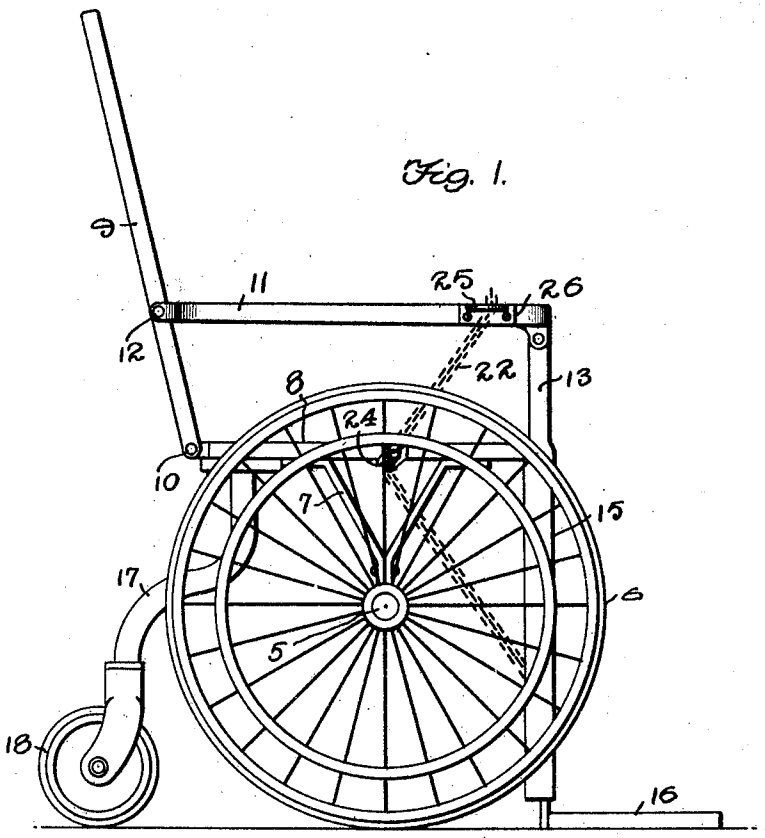
May 1, 1928. 1,668,493

W. C. DAWES

WHEELED INVALID CHAIR

Filed June 25, 1925 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.



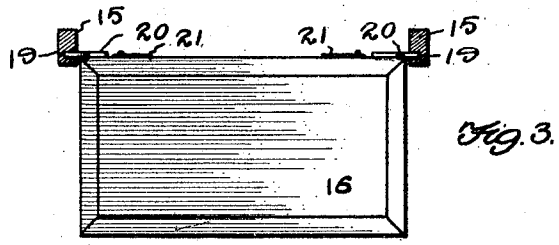


Fig. 3.

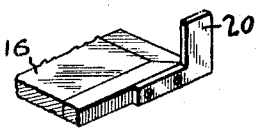


Fig. 4.

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Witnesses
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Fig. 2.

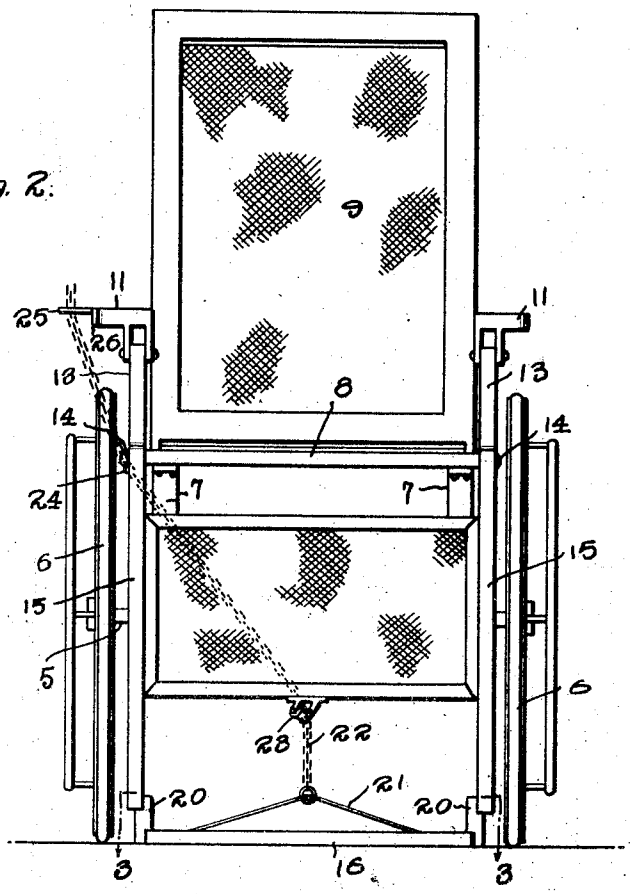
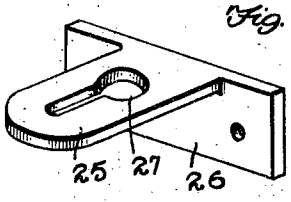


Fig. 5.



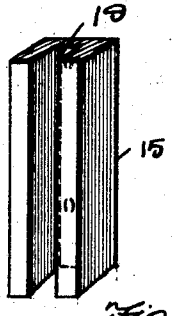


Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLARD C. DAWES, OF BOZEMAN, MONTANA.

WHEELED INVALID CHAIR.

Application filed June 25, 1925. Serial No. 39,571.

This invention relates to improvements in wheeled invalid chairs, and has more particular reference to an improved foot rest or foot supporting means for chairs of this kind.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a wheeled invalid chair with a foot rest which may be readily raised or lowered whereby the invalid or user of the chair may readily get into or out of the same with safety.

Wheeled invalid chairs now in common use are provided with foot rests which are permanently secured in a position so as to lie some distance above the floor or ground over which the chair is moved. These foot rests form an obstruction which makes it quite difficult for an invalid to get into or out of the chair with safety as, in getting into or out of the chair, the latter tends to tilt or roll away from the user.

A specific object of the invention, therefore, is to provide a wheeled invalid chair with a foot rest which may be lowered into contact with the ground so that the invalid may readily get into the chair, and to provide simple and efficient means for then elevating the foot rest and holding it elevated in proper position to support the feet of the user when the chair is moved.

With the above general objects in view, and others that will become apparent as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel form, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, shown in the accompanying drawings and claimed.

In the drawings, wherein like reference characters indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views,

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a wheeled invalid chair constructed in accordance with the present invention,

Figure 2 is a front elevational view of the device shown in Figure 1,

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken substantially upon lines 3—3 of Figure 2,

Figure 4 is a fragmentary perspective view showing a corner portion of the foot rest with an attached guide arm,

Figure 5 is an enlarged perspective view of the keeper plate for the foot rest raising chain, and

Figure 6 is an enlarged fragmentary perspective view of one of the foot rest guiding posts.

Referring more in detail to the drawings, the present invention is herein shown as applied to a wheeled invalid chair including a transverse axle 5 upon the ends of which are journaled the usual forward main supporting wheels 6, suitable upwardly projecting supports 7 being mounted upon the axle 5 and having the usual seat member 8 secured to the upper ends thereof whereby the seat 8 is supported in a horizontal position between the wheels 6 and above the axle 5. The chair herein shown also embodies a swinging back rest 9 which is hinged at its lower end as at 10 to the rear end of the seat member 8 so that the inclination of the back rest may be varied, and arm rests 11 have their rear ends hinged as at 12 to the sides of the back rest 9, said arm rests being hinged at their forward ends respectively to the upright members 13 which are hinged intermediate their ends as at 14 (Figure 2) to the sides of the seat member 8 at the forward end of the latter. Adjustment of the back rest 9 thus causes inclination of the members 13, and the latter terminate in posts 15 below the pivots 14, which posts depend from the seat member 8 and usually have the foot rest 16 rigidly attached to the lower end portions thereof. The usual leg 17 is rigid with and depends from the central part of the rear end of the seat member 8 and has a swiveled caster wheel 18 at its lower end adapted to engage the floor or ground for preventing rearward tilting of the chair and facilitating guiding of the same.

In accordance with the present invention the depending posts 15 are provided with longitudinal guide ways 19 upon the inner sides thereof as clearly shown in Figures 3 and 6, and rigidly secured to the rear corner portions of the foot rest 16 are upwardly projecting arms 20 having laterally projecting portions slidably fitting in the guide ways 19 whereby the foot rest 16 may be raised or lowered and will be effectively guided when so moved. By reason of the fact that the arms 20 project upwardly, the posts 15 may terminate a distance above the floor or ground and still insure proper association of the foot rest 16 with the posts 15 when said foot rest is lowered into engagement with the floor or ground as shown

clearly in Figures 1 and 2. When the foot rest is thus lowered into engagement with the floor or ground it is evident that the chair will not readily tilt forwardly and that the foot rest will not present an obstruction such as will prevent the user of the chair to readily get into the same or out of the same.

Attached to the rear portion of the foot rest 16 is a member 21 having the lower end of a chain 22 secured to the central portion thereof, and the chain 22 passes around suitable guides 23 and 24 to a point adjacent the outer side of one of the arm rests 11 where it is associated with a keeper of the form more clearly shown in Figure 5. This keeper includes a plate 25 provided upon its inner end with a depending apertured flange 26 for facilitating rigid attachment of the plate to the outer edge of the arm rest, and formed in the plate 25 is a slot 27 the inner portion of which is of sufficient size as to permit free movement of the chain 22 therethrough, the outer portion of the slot 27 being restricted so that when the chain is slid laterally into this restricted portion it is effectively held against longitudinal movement through the plate 25. Thus, when the chain 22 is pulled upwardly for elevating the foot rest 16 to the desired height, and is then slid laterally to to engage its adjacent portion in the restricted portion of the slot 27, the foot rest 16 will be effectively maintained in the desired elevated position. Obviously, the foot rest may be released and allowed to fall by gravity by simply moving the chain laterally to a point coincident with the enlarged inner portion of the slot 27.

From the foregoing description it is believed that the construction and operation as well as the advantages of the present invention will be readily understood and appreciated by those skilled in the art.

Minor changes may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

What I claim as new is:

In a wheeled invalid chair of the character described, including a seat, a pair of spaced posts at the front of said chair depending beneath the seat and each having a groove in the inner face thereof, a foot rest, a pair of substantially L shaped brackets, each having one portion thereof secured to the rear edge of said foot rest at one end thereof and having the other portion projecting beyond the adjacent end and engaging in a groove for sliding movement therein, and flexible foot rest operating and supporting means for shifting said foot rest vertically between said legs.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILLARD C. DAWES.