Oct. 30, 1934. W. GREEN ET AL 1,979,152

COLLAPSIBLE FOOT REST

Filed March 7, 1932 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

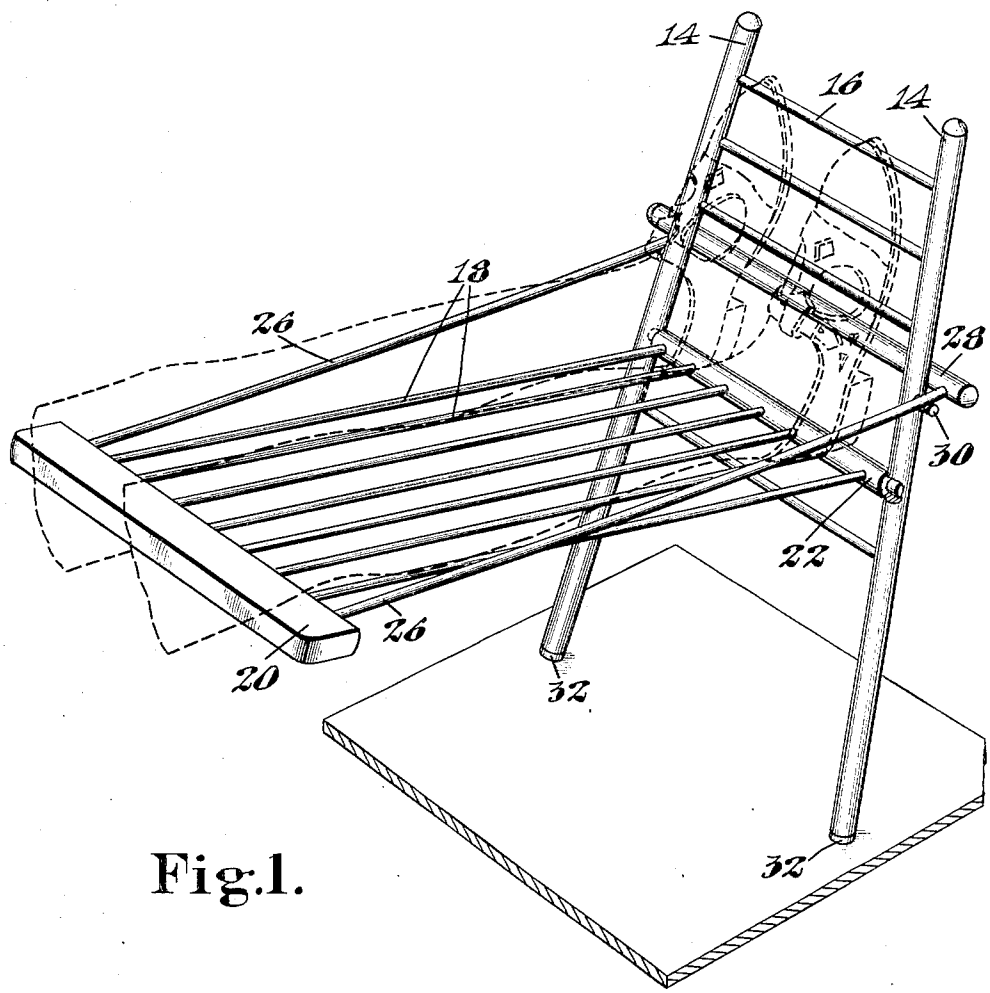


Fig.1.

INVENTOR.
William Green and
Robert B. Alguire
by Kenway & Witter, attys.

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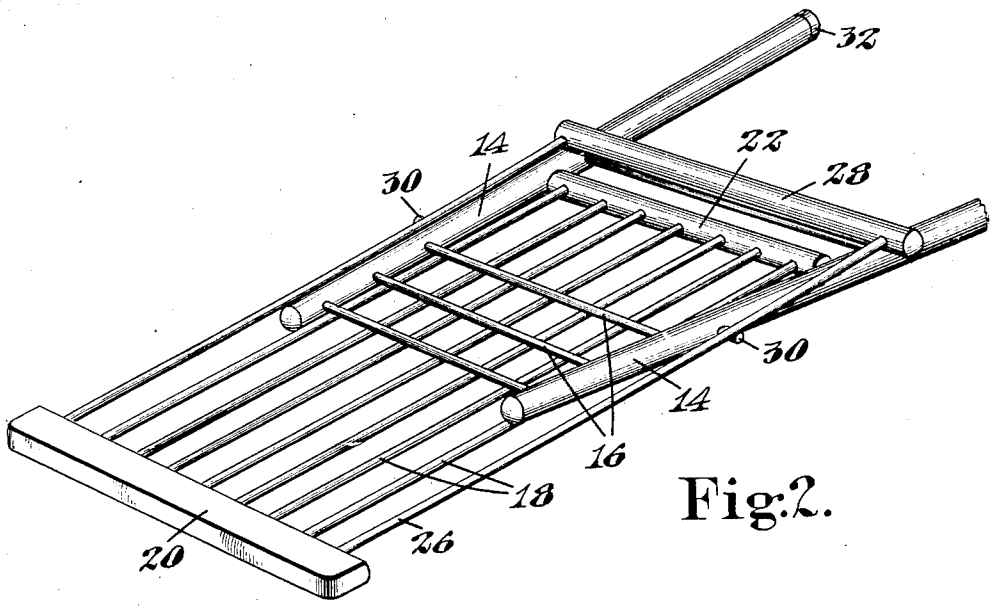


Fig:2.

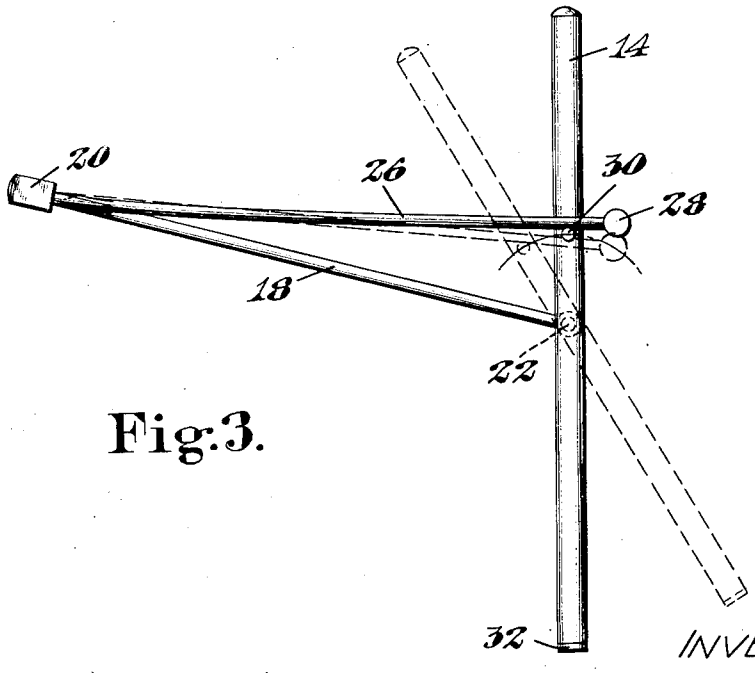


Fig:3.

INVENTOR.

William Green and
Robert B Alguire.

by Treanor & White. Attys

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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COLLAPSIBLE FOOT REST

William Green and Robert B. Alguire, Glens Falls, N. Y.; said Alguire assignor to said Green

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5 Claims. (Cl. 155—169)

This invention relates to folding or collapsible foot rests. Its object is to provide a foot rest of this type which is strong and simple in construction, attractive in appearance and of relatively light weight, readily collapsible into a convenient folded condition and as readily adjustable into an open or operative condition for use. In securing this object, we have constructed a novel foot rest of few parts which may be individually produced at low cost and conveniently assembled. These comprise an upright portion, a rest or shelf portion pivotally connected thereto and including or being associated with a tension member or members which serve to determine positively the relationship of the parts when the device is in operative condition.

The tension member may take the form of a bail or a pair of bails connected to one of the said portions and cooperating with the other portion to hold the two portions either in their operative position or their closed position, the bail preferably being of a resilient nature and so mounted that it not only serves to hold the two portions in either of their extreme positions but furthermore functions automatically to move them resiliently to such positions from an intermediate or neutral point. Thus the device is normally held in the open or closed position and in the latter the whole assembly forms a substantially flat and conveniently carried unit. Furthermore, when the device is in use the bail retains the parts by tension in their proper position, the weight of the feet of the user on the shelf portion being transmitted through the bail or bails to the upright portion and balanced against the pressure of the toes upon the upper part of the upright portion.

These and other features of the invention will be best understood and appreciated from the following description of a preferred embodiment thereof, selected for purposes of illustration and shown in the accompanying drawings, in which

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of my improved foot rest in use;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the foot rest in collapsed position; and

Fig. 3 is a side elevation showing the foot rest with its parts in the neutral position.

Referring more specifically to the drawings by reference characters, the foot rest comprises an upright or main portion and a shelf or rest portion. The upright portion, as illustrated, is constructed of two slightly divergent posts 14 connected by transverse rungs or braces 16. The rest portion is preferably of like construction and comprises a plurality of rods or dowels 18 having their outer ends inserted in a rectangular bar 20 and their inner ends fastened in a bar 22, this bar being disposed between and pivoted at its ends to the posts 14 of the upright portion at an intermediate point.

Also carried by one of the portions and cooperating with the other is a bail comprising two slide rods 26 connected at their outer ends by a bar 28. In the drawings the bail is illustrated as carried by the bar 20 of the rest portion and cooperating with the posts 14 of the upright portion. The rods 26 are of a resilient nature and are rigidly fastened in the bar 20 along with the rods 18 so that they tend normally to lie in the same plane with the rods 18. The free end of the bail extends over and embraces the upper part of the upright portion, the bar 28 engaging the posts 14. At points above the bar 22 the posts 14 are provided with projecting stops or studs 30 which engage the side rods 26 and deflect them upwardly out of the plane of the rods 18 of the rest portion, thus maintaining the rods 26 always in a stressed condition. The bottom end of the posts 14 are preferably equipped with friction members 32 of rubber or the like and are thereby prevented from skidding on the floor when the rest is in use.

The foot rest is shown in its open or operative position in Fig. 1 and in its folded or collapsed position in Fig. 2. In changing the device from one condition to the other, the upright portion is moved into a neutral position, as shown in full lines in Fig. 3, wherein it extends at right angles to the flexible side rods 26 of the bail member and so deflects them to a maximum distance from the plane of the rods 18. It will be apparent that as the upright portion is carried beyond this point in either direction the spring pressure of the bail member upon the studs 30 will tend to swing the upright member toward either its folded condition or its fully opened and operative position. The spring action of the bail, further, tends to hold the two portions of the foot rest in their operative relation, since in moving from this to the neutral position the bail is further lifted and its tension increased. On the other hand, the bail is still maintained under tension when the foot rest is collapsed and thus serves to prevent the device from swinging open when picked up or carried from one place to another. Thus the device is normally and automatically caused to assume one or the other of its two conditions and is

by the same means resiliently held in such position.

When the foot rest is in use the weight of the feet and legs upon the rest portion is sustained by the upright portion which, therefore, tends to tilt forwardly since its feet are prevented from slipping or skidding outwardly. This tendency to tilt, however, is balanced by the pressure of the user's toes against the upper part of the upright portion and this, in turn, is balanced by the pull of the bail member tending to lift the free end of the rest portion beneath the user's knees. The result of these balanced forces and weights is to render the whole foot rest extremely adaptable and cause it to follow various changes in the position of the user and fully to support his feet and legs. In operative position the upright portion is slightly inclined away from the user.

Having thus described, what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A collapsible foot rest, comprising a main portion adapted to stand in an upright position on the floor, a rest portion connected thereto, the two portions being collapsible into a folded position or adjustable into an operative position wherein the rest portion is supported on the main portion and at an angle thereto, and means including a resilient bail carried by one portion and cooperating with means on the other portion to hold positively the portions against relative movement beyond operative position and resiliently against collapsing movement.

2. A foot rest comprising an upright member, a shelf pivotally connected at one end thereto at an intermediate point of the upright member and arranged to be horizontally disposed, a resilient bail secured to the free end of the shelf and embracing the upright member, and stops on said upright member and engaged by the bail for maintaining the bail always flexed out of the plane of the shelf.

3. A foot rest comprising an upright member, a shelf pivotally connected at one end thereto and comprising a plurality of dowel rods inserted in a cross bar at the free end of the shelf and secured at their other ends in the shelf, and a bail comprising resilient dowel rods similarly inserted in said cross bar at one end and maintained at all times bowed out of the plane of the shelf, the other end embracing the upright member and engaging means thereon.

4. A foot rest comprising a main portion adapted to stand in an upright position of the floor, a shelf pivotally connected at one end thereto and comprising a row of dowel rods inserted in a cross bar at the free end of the shelf and secured at their other ends in the shelf, and a bail comprising resilient dowel rods disposed on opposite sides of said row, independently connected at one end to said cross bar and maintained at all times in a bowed and stressed condition, the other end embracing the upright member and engaging means thereon.

5. A foot rest comprising an upright member, a shelf pivotally connected at one end thereto at an intermediate point of the upright member, a spring bail connected rigidly to the shelf at its outer end and embracing the upright member, and stops in the sides of the upright member holding the free end of the bail above the point of pivotal connection of the shelf.

WILLIAM GREEN.
ROBERT B. ALGUIRE.