July 8, 1924. 1,500,524

W. E. PHILLIPS

ARMREST

Filed May 11, 1923 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

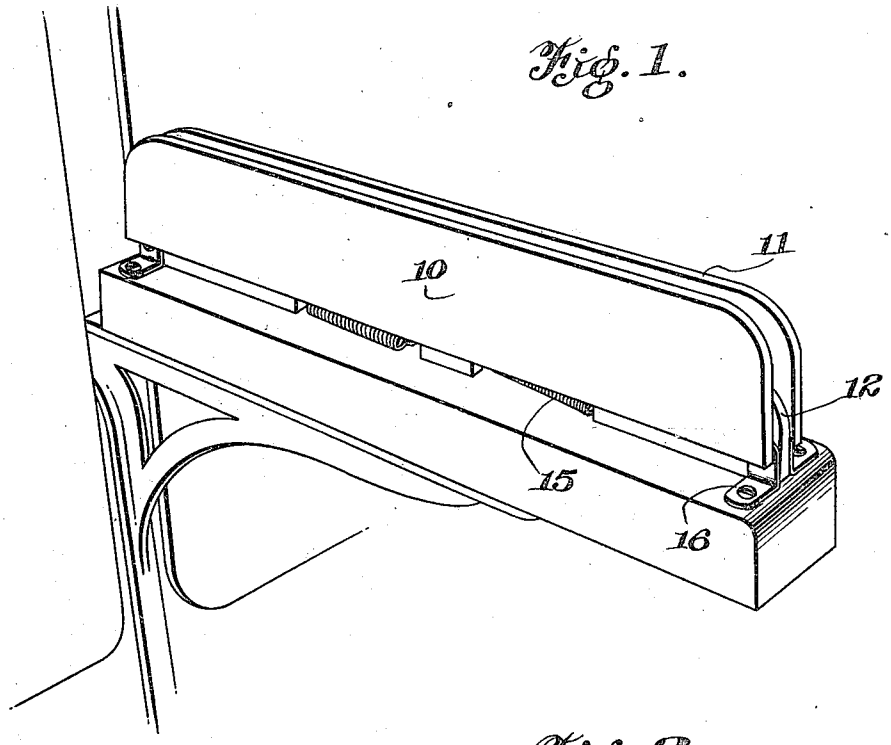

Fig. 2.

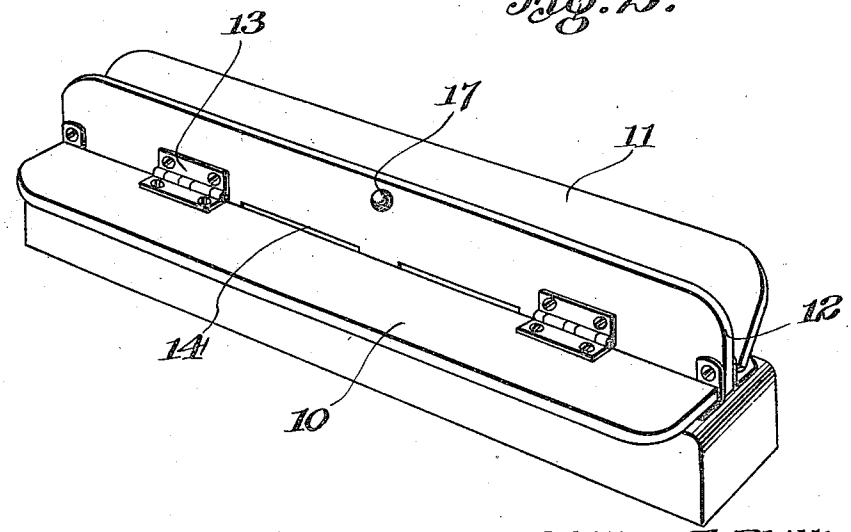

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Fig. 3.

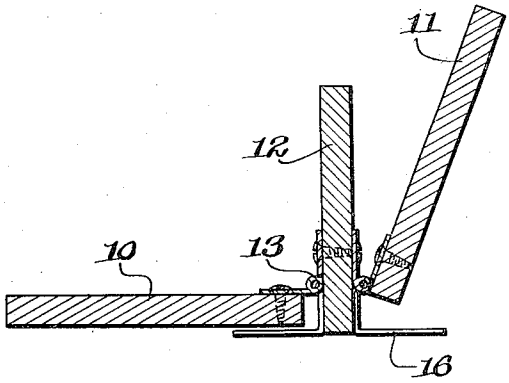


Fig. 4.

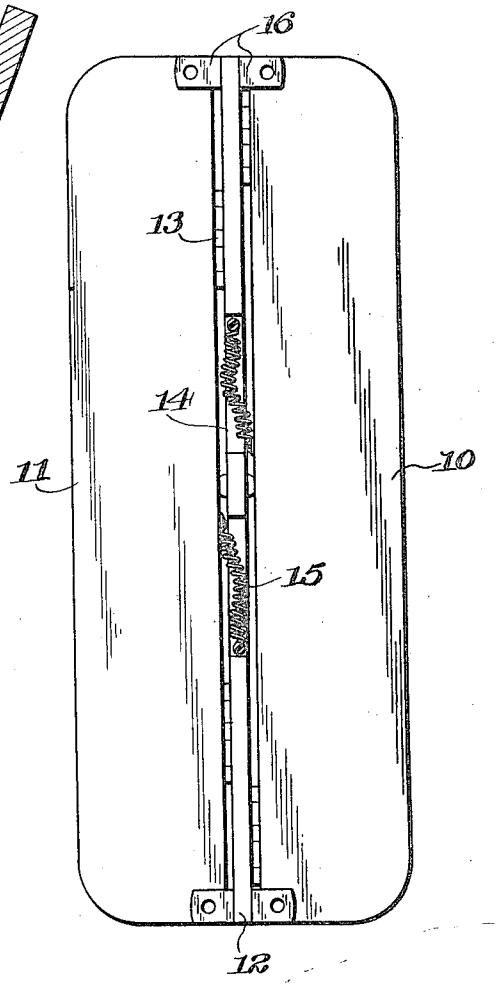
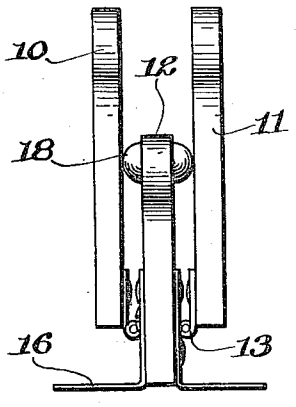


Fig. 5.



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Patented July 8, 1924. 1,500,524

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM E. PHILLIPS, OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA.

ARMREST.

Application filed May 11, 1923. Serial No. 638,299.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. PHILLIPS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jacksonville, in the county of Duval and State of Florida, have invented new and useful Improvements in Armrests, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object the provision of an arm rest for theater chairs, the invention being designed to provide an arm rest for the occupants of adjacent chairs, which rests can be singly used, and automatically elevated to an inactive position when the arm is removed from said rest.

Another object resides in the provision of a device of this character which can be manufactured and sold at a nominal cost, and attached to theater chairs in present day use, in a quick and convenient manner, the device also including a partition between the arm rests, so that the arms of the occupants of adjacent chairs will not come in contact.

The nature and advantages of the invention will be better understood when the following detailed description is read in connection with the accompanying drawings, the invention residing in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts as claimed.

In the drawings forming part of this application, like numerals of reference indicate similar parts in the several views, and wherein:

Figure 1 is a view showing the manner in which the device is mounted on the chair.

Figure 2 is a view showing one of the arm rests extended for use and the other partly extended.

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

Figure 4 is a plan view showing both arm rests extended.

Figure 5 is an edge elevation of the arm rests removed from the chair and the parts in normal position.

The device forming the subject matter of the present invention essentially embodies two arm rests indicated at 10 and 11 respectively, the device as above stated being primarily intended for use on theater chairs, so that the arms of the occupants of adjacent seats can be comfortably supported. It might here be stated that not only the arm rests 10 and 11, but the partition 12 arranged between these rests can be constructed from any suitable material, and also vary in size and configuration without departing from the spirit of the invention. The arm rests 10 and 11 are hingedly mounted as at 13 upon opposite sides of the partition 12 adjacent the lower edge thereof, and which edge is cutaway at spaced points as at 14 to accommodate resilient elements 15, preferably in the nature of coiled springs which function when they normally maintain the arm rests 10 and 11 in parallelism with the partition 12. The partition is provided with attaching clips 16 which can be secured to the arm of the chair by any suitable fastening elements, occupying the position shown in Figure 1. The lower edge of the partition 12 projects a slight distance beneath the corresponding edges of the arm rests 10 and 11 for this purpose, and when the arm rests are swung from their normally vertical position to a horizontal active position they lie substantially flush with the lower edge of the partition 12, with the screws arranged in the cutaway portion above referred to. Manifestly either arm rest can be lowered to a horizontal position for use independently of the other arm rest, and should both of the arm rests be used at the same time, by the occupants of the adjacent chairs, the partition 12 prevents the arms of the respective parties from butting or contacting each other. The weight of the arm of the user holds the arm rest lowered, and just as soon as the arm is removed, the arm rest automatically swings upwardly to its normally vertical position. The opposite sides of the partition 12 is provided with cushions 18, preferably in the form of rubber buttons or the like which prevents the arm rests from being brought into contact with the partition 12 and consequently eliminating any noise resulting from such contact, and also serves to hold the arm rests suitably spaced apart so that they can be conveniently taken hold of when it is desired to lower either of the arm rests.

While it is believed that from the foregoing description, the nature and advantages of the invention will be readily apparent, I desire to have it understood that I do not limit myself to what is herein

shown and described and that such changes may be resorted to when desired as fall within the scope of what is claimed.

Having thus described the invention, I claim:

1. A chair attachment comprising a vertical wall adapted to be secured to the arm of a chair, an arm rest hingedly mounted on said wall and adapted to be swung from a normal and vertical position to a horizontal position for use, and means for automatically returning the arm rest to its normal position when the arm is removed from said rest.

2. A chair attachment comprising a vertical wall, arm rests hingedly mounted on either side of the wall and normally arranged parallel therewith, said rests being capable of independent movement and adapted to be arranged in a horizontal position for use, and means for automatically returning the arm rest to normal position when the arm is removed therefrom.

3. A chair attachment comprising a vertical wall adapted to be mounted on the arm of the chair, arm rests hingedly mounted on either side of the wall, yieldable means normally holding the arm rests in parallelism with the wall, and allowing either or both of said arm rests to be lowered to a horizontal position for use, and a cushion element for each arm rest, said elements being supported on the opposite sides of the wall for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILLIAM E. PHILLIPS.