Jan. 12, 1943. R. D. OVERHOLSER 2,307,897

INFANT'S COMMODE

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Fig. 1.

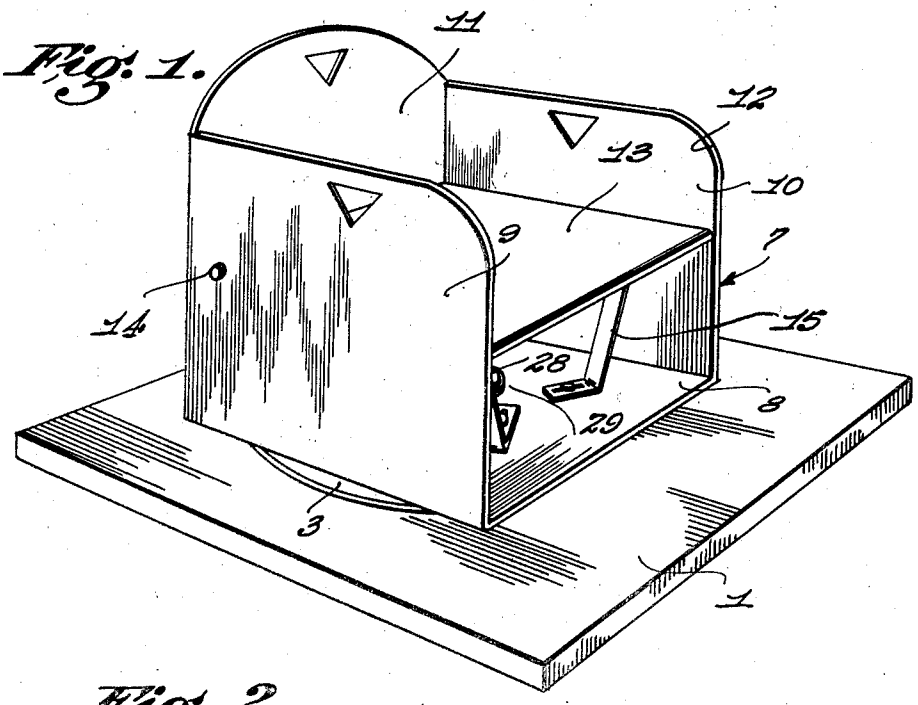
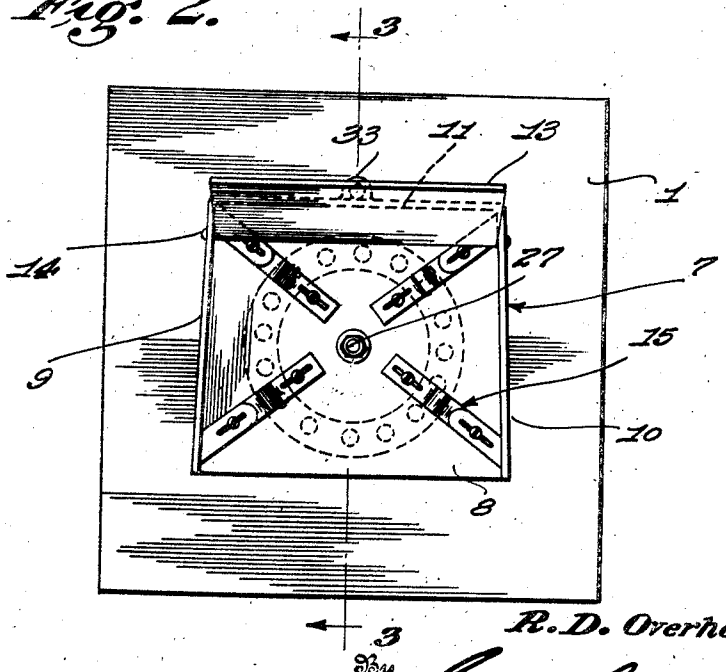


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 3.

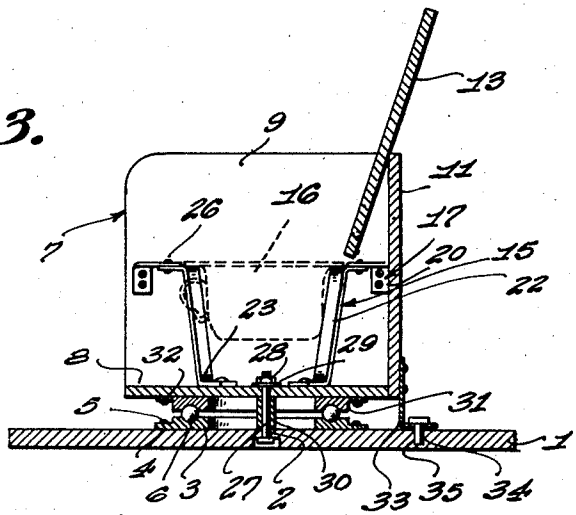


Fig. 4.

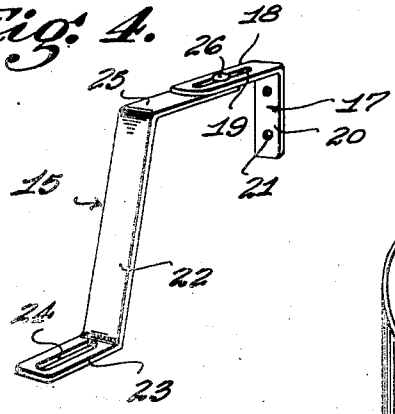


Fig. 5.

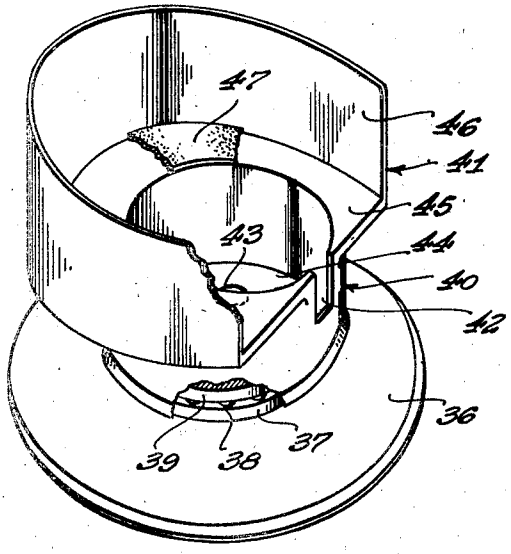
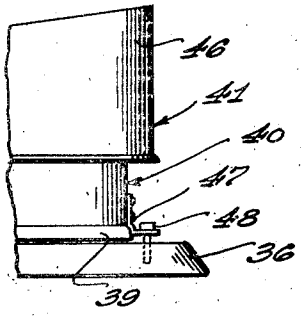


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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INFANT'S COMMODE

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Application April 5, 1940, Serial No. 328,133

2 Claims. (Cl. 155—31)

This invention relates to an improved infant's commode and seeks, as one of its principal objects, to provide a device of this character which will include a chair having a support for a chamber or receptacle, and means for rotatably mounting the support, so that a child occupying the chair may turn the chair in any direction desired without disturbing his position on the chair and without danger of tipping over said chair.

Another object of the invention is to provide an infant's commode of such construction that it may be used as a play chair when not being used as a commode.

A further object of the invention is to provide an infant's commode which will embody bearings, together with cooperating bearing races, so that the chair may be swung with the utmost facility upon the base employed.

As a further object, the invention provides an infant's commode which may be used as a high chair by simply employing a detachable tray and placing the device on a kitchen chair.

Another object of the invention is to provide a chair of this character which may be adapted for use in an automobile by simply using a strap for preventing the child from falling out of the chair.

Another object of the invention is to provide an infant's commode employing improved chamber supporting means.

Still another object of the invention is to provide an infant's commode which will employ means for locking the chair against rotation when it is desired to do so.

Other objects of the invention not mentioned hereinbefore will become apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of my application:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved infant's commode.

Figure 2 is a top plan view thereof.

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

Figure 4 is an enlarged perspective view of one of the chamber supports employed.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of a modified embodiment of the invention, the view being partly broken away.

Figure 6 is a detail side elevation showing the locking means employed with the embodiment of Figure 5.

Referring now more particularly to the accompanying drawings, wherein similar reference numerals will be seen to designate like parts throughout the various views, the numeral 1 indicates the base of my improved infant's commode. The base 1 is rectangular or any other desired configuration, and is preferably formed of wood. In this connection, it should be understood that any desired material may be employed for the construction of the device although wood has been specified. The base shown in Figure 1, is square and is provided at its center with an opening 2 which is recessed from the under side of the base.

Mounted on the base 1, in surounding relation to the opening 2, is a bearing race 3, preferably formed of cast metal. The bearing race is provided with a relatively thin flange 4 through which extend fastening devices 5. As may be clearly seen in Figure 3 and in dotted lines in Figure 2, the opening 2 is located axially of the bearing race 3. Mounted to rotate freely in the bearing race and disposed in spaced relation about the circumference of said race, are ball bearings 6.

Associated with the base 1 is the seat of my improved infant's commode. The seat is indicated generally by the numeral 7 and, as heretofore stated, is preferably formed of wood. The chair 7 includes a bottom wall 8, side walls 9 and 10, and a rear wall 11. The side walls are shown with curved forward upper edges 12 so that a child will have smooth rounded surfaces upon which to rest his arms. It should be understood that the chair 7 and base 1 may be decorated to conform with the decorations in a nursery or in any other pleasing and attractive manner.

The chair 1 includes a lid 13 which is of substantially rectangular contour and extends throughout the horizontal area of the chair above the bottom wall 8 thereof and above the chamber supporting means to be described hereinafter. Hinge bolts 14 extend through the side walls of the chair near their corresponding rear end portions and serve to mount the lid 13 for swinging movement.

I provide means for supporting a chamber or receptacle within the chair, which means includes chamber supporting members 15, preferably four in number. The chamber supporting members are disposed diagonally with respect to the bottom walls and cooperate to support a chamber or receptacle, shown in dotted lines at 16. The chamber supporting members 15 are of identical construction so that it is thought a description of one will suffice for all. A typical chamber supporting member is shown in perspective in Figure 4 of the drawings, and is formed of flat sheet metal or metal strap. The

supporting member is of two-piece construction and includes an inverted L-shaped bracket 17 which has an upper arm 18 formed with a longitudinal slot 19. The bracket 17 also includes a vertical arm 20 formed with openings 21 through which are passed fastening devices for securing the bracket 17 in place on one of the side walls of the chair. The supporting member also includes a body member 22 which is of offset formation. The body member includes a base portion 23 formed with a longitudinal slot 24 through which is passed a fastening device for securing the body member to the bottom wall 8. The body portion 22 also includes an upper portion 25 which carries a headed stud 26, said headed stud passing through the slot 19. It will now be understood that by shifting the body portions 22 of the supporting members 15 toward or away from each other, the supporting means may be adapted for receiving chambers or receptacles of different sizes.

It is desired to call attention to the fact that the headed studs 26 on the upper portions 25 of the supporting members 15 at the front of the chair will provide support for the forward end of the lid 13, so that said lid will be limited against further downward movement and will effectively cover the chamber 16.

The chair 7 is pivotally mounted on the base 1 by means of a pivot bolt 27 which extends upwardly through the opening 2 and through the center of the bottom wall 8 of the chair. The bolt 27 is threaded at its upper end to receive a nut 28, a washer 29 being disposed between the nut and the upper surface of the bottom wall 8 for protecting said wall. A spacing sleeve 30 surrounds the bolt 27 and extends between the upper surface of the base 1 and the undersurface of the wall 8 of the chair 7. A bearing race 31 is fastened to the under side of the wall 8 by means of fastenings 32. The bearing race is located axially with respect to the bolt 27 and cooperates with the bearings 6 in the race 3. It will now be understood that the chair 7 is mounted so that it may be turned with the utmost ease on the base 1. It should also be noted that, if desired, the race 31 may be dispensed with and the under surface of the wall 8 provided with a circular groove to receive the bearings 6. This construction is somewhat simpler than that shown in Figure 3 and, also, somewhat cheaper to manufacture. It is thought, however, that it would not be as durable in use.

Means is provided for locking the chair on the base 1 should it be desired to prevent a child from spinning or otherwise rotating the chair. This locking means includes a bracket 33 which is of L-shaped configuration and is mounted on the rear wall 11 of the chair 7 at the lower edge of said rear wall. The bracket 33 is formed with an opening in its horizontal portion through which extends a plug 34, said plug extending into a socket 35 in the base 1.

Referring now to the modification of the invention as shown in Figures 5 and 6 of the drawings, the numeral 36 indicates a base preferably formed of pressed sheet metal. The base is shown as being of circular shape although it should be understood that said base may be of any other outline. The base 36 is pressed to define a bearing race 37. If desired, the bearing race may be a separate part and may be suitably secured to the base 26. Bearings 38 are located in the bearing race and are adapted to cooperate with the bearing race 39 carried by the lower portion of the body 40 of a chair 41. The body 40 is preferably of circular shape and is provided with a slot 42 to receive the handle of a chamber, if necessary. A pivot bolt 43 extends through the bottom wall 44 of the body 40 and through the base 36 for pivotally mounting the chair 41. At the upper end of the body 40 the chair is enlarged to define a seat portion 45, at the outer edge of which rises a curved back 46. Mounted on the body 40 is a bracket 47 through which extends a locking plug 48. The locking plug may be inserted through the bracket and into the base 36 for locking the chair 41 against rotation when rotation thereof is not desired.

The body 40 receives a chamber therein so that a child may sit on the chair portion 45 above the chamber. When the plug 48 is removed, the child may rotate the chair 41 on the base 37 without danger of tipping said chair and spilling the contents of the chamber.

As shown fragmentarily at 57, the seat portion may be covered with a pad so that a soft cushion for the child's buttocks will be provided.

As will be noted, the base 1 is relatively large with respect to the size of the chair so that a child, occupying the chair, may engage his feet with the upper surface of the base and by moving his feet, rotate the chair with respect to the base.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:

1. In an infant's commode, a chair including a bottom wall, a rear wall and side walls, chamber supporting means carried by the chair and including supporting members on the bottom wall and side walls and cooperating with each other for defining a support for a chamber, each of said supporting members including a base portion and a bracket, said base portion and bracket being relatively adjustable, said supporting members being adaptable for receiving chambers of various sizes.

2. In an infant's commode, a chair including a bottom wall, a rear wall and side walls, chamber supporting means carried by the chair and including supporting members on the bottom wall and side walls and cooperating with each other for defining a support for a chamber, said supporting members being adjustable for receiving chambers of various sizes, said supporting members each being of two-piece construction and including a body member and a bracket engaged with said body member, said body member having a slotted base portion at one end and a headed stud at the opposite end thereof, said slotted base portion being connected with the bottom wall, and said bracket having a slotted arm to receive the headed stud and having a vertical arm attached to a side wall.

ROSS D. OVERHOLSER.