Oct. 24, 1950 F. C. MAURER 2,526,623

RECLINING CHAIR AND FOOTSTOOL

Filed Nov. 5, 1946 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

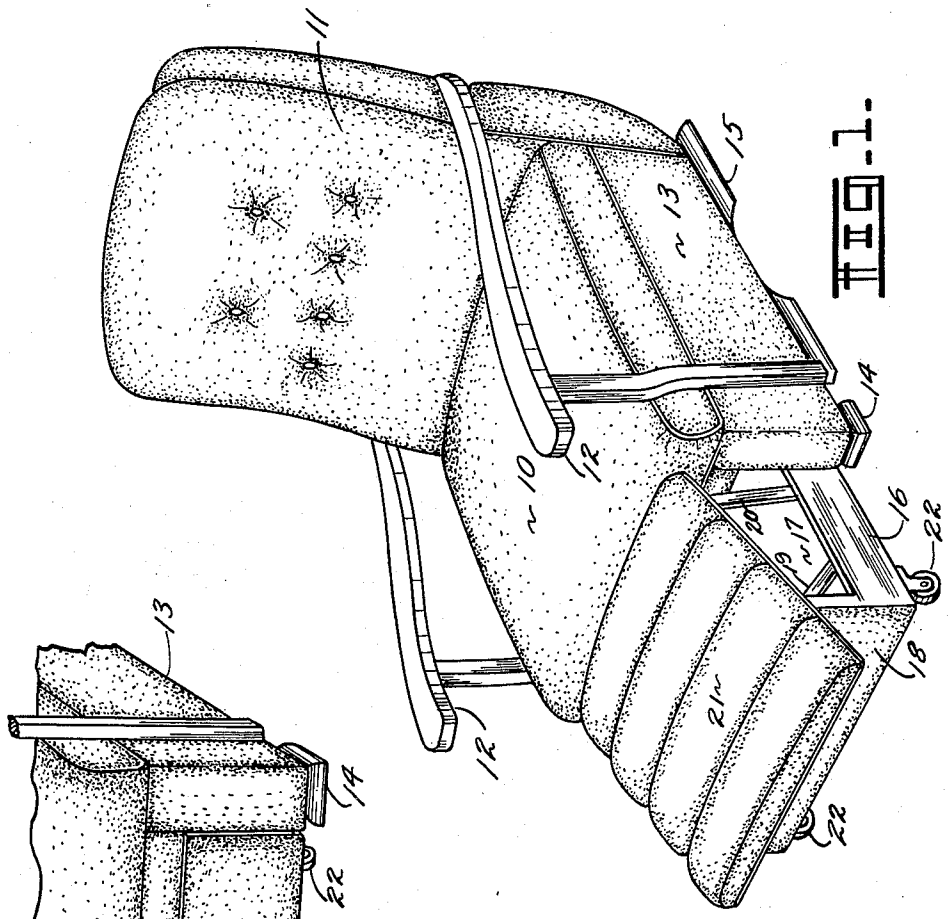


FIG. 1.

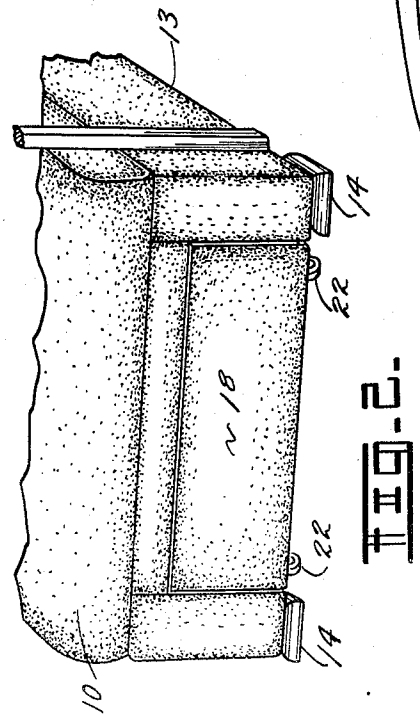


FIG. 2.

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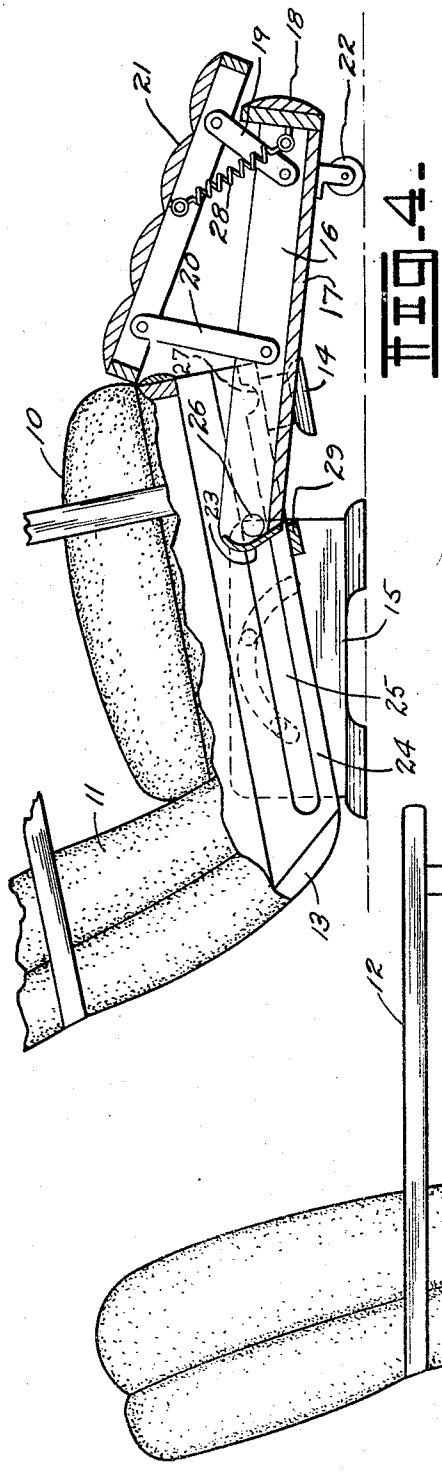


FIG. 4.

FIG. 5.

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RECLINING CHAIR AND FOOTSTOOL

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3 Claims. (Cl. 155—170)

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This invention relates to chairs and more particularly to reclining chairs and the combination therewith of footstool means.

The principal object of the invention is the provision of a reclining chair and footstool combination.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a reclining chair having a portion thereof movably positioned and forming an adjustable footstool.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a reclining chair having a footstool integrally formed therewith and adjustable with the reclining action of the said chair.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a reclining chair and a combination footstool and magazine rack pivotally and movably affixed thereto.

The reclining chair and footstool combination shown and described herein relates generally to reclining chairs and more particularly those in which separate base members are employed upon which the reclining chairs are positioned for tilting operation. As is known, this type of reclining chair pivots on the separate base portion and thereby causes the front section of the chair to be elevated with respect to a supporting surface at such time as the chair is tilted backwardly. It is further known that this type of reclining chair is usually commercially sold in conjunction with a footstool commercially called an Ottoman and that the footstool is of greater than normal height so as to compensate somewhat for the elevated front edge position of the chair at such time as it is in reclining position.

The present invention relates to an improvement in the chair and footstool combination in that the footstool is formed integrally with the chair and affixed thereto by pivotal means and also capable of reciprocal travel with respect to the chair and particularly in and out from in under the seat cushion thereof. The chair and footstool combination automatically provides a footstool, the top portion of which will be in the proper and most comfortable position for the use of the person sitting in the chair as it automatically rises and falls with the elevating or lowering of the front edge of the chair.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein disclosed can

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be made within the scope of what is claimed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective elevation of the reclining chair and footstool combination showing the chair in non-reclining position.

Figure 2 is a perspective detail of the front portion of the reclining chair and footstool combination shown in Figure 1 and illustrates the footstool in retracted position.

Figure 3 is a side elevation of the reclining chair and footstool with parts broken away and parts in cross section and illustrates the reclining chair and footstool in non-elevated position.

Figure 4 is a side elevation of the reclining chair and footstool with parts broken away and parts in cross section and illustrates the reclining chair in elevated position.

By referring to the drawings and Figures 1 and 2 in particular it will be seen that a reclining chair is illustrated and comprises a cushioned seat portion 10, a cushioned back portion 11, arms 12 and a base 13. The cushioned seat portion 10, the back portion 11, the arms 12 and the base 13 form an integral unit having a pair of legs 14 at the front corners of the base 13, the whole of which is mounted for tilting or reclining movement on a secondary base 15. The secondary base 15 comprises a pair of spaced floor engaging members having arcuate slots therein in which pairs of pivots (a pair on each side of the base 13 of the chair) engage so as to control the tilting motion of the chair with respect to the secondary base 15. This construction is known in the art and is illustrated in Patent No. 2,137,923, issued November 22, 1938.

In the present disclosure a chair of this general nature is combined with a footstool which comprises a frame 16 including a bottom 17 and having a relatively higher front piece 18 positioned thereon. The frame 16 has two pairs of arms 19 and 20 pivoted thereto which in turn support at their uppermost ends a cushioned top 21. The cushioned top 21 is pivoted to the uppermost ends of the pairs of arms 19 and 20 and is thereby capable of movement with respect to the frame 16 and the front piece 18. The cushioned top 21 is so positioned by the pairs of arms 19 and 20 that it will rest upon the upper edge of the relatively higher front piece 18 when it is elevated and moved forward as shown in Figure 1 of the drawings. The same pivoting action on the part of the

pairs of arms 19 and 20 enables the cushioned top 21 to be moved downwardly into the area defined by the frame 16 so that the frame 16 and its front piece 18 may be moved into position beneath the chair as shown in Figure 2 of the drawings. In order to facilitate this movement, a pair of casters 22 are positioned beneath the forward end of the frame 16.

By referring now to Figure 3 of the drawings it will be observed that the rearmost portion of the frame 16 is diagonally formed, as indicated by the numeral 23 to conform with the angular contour of the rear section of the chair base 13 when the footstool portion is in retracted position. The rear portion of the footstool is supported in the chair base 13 by means of a pair of oppositely disposed guide members 24 which define channels 25. The rear portion of the frame 16 of the footstool is provided with a pair of sidewardly extending brackets 26 which register with and slidably engage the channels 25 formed in the guides 24. As the guides 24 are attached to or formed in the base 13 of the reclining chair structure, they are subject to inclination at such time as the chair is tilted, as shown in Figure 4 of the drawings. Thus, the rearmost section of the footstool and that portion thereof comprising the frame 16 and the brackets 26 are automatically elevated at such time as the brackets 26 are in engagement with the front portions of the channels 25 in the guides 24 and the chair is elevated.

The angle of inclination and the relative positioning of the cushioned top 21 of the footstool is controlled by the relation of the footstool to the chair as well as by the pairs of arms 19 and 20 by which the cushioned top 21 is affixed to the frame 16 of the footstool. It will thus be seen that several alternate positions of the cushioned top 21 and hence the usable portion of the footstool are possible due to the two factors controlling its position.

The chair, when level, as shown in Figures 1 and 3 of the drawings, maintains the footstool in level position when it is retracted or extended, as shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3 of the drawings. The cushioned top 21 may be left in lower position, as shown in Figure 3 of the drawings, and be usable in connection with the footstool as a low footstool or cushion or it may be elevated, as shown in Figure 1, and moved into forward position so as to overlie the upper edge of the front piece 18 of the footstool. In this position the rearmost edge of the cushioned top 21 will lie on approximately the same plane as the cushioned seat 10 and form, in effect, an extension thereof and thus form a comfortable lounge chair.

When the reclining chair, as an integral unit, is tilted backwardly, as shown in Figure 4 of the drawings, the guides 24 and the channels 25 are automatically inclined as they are positioned upon the inner surfaces of the base 13 of the chair and the rear portion of the footstool is automatically raised so as to maintain the relative positioning of the rear portion of the cushioned top 21 of the footstool with the cushioned seat 10 of the chair. In this connection it will be observed that a spring 28 is connected between the inner portion of the front piece 18 and the bottom of the cushioned top 21 and normally biases the cushioned top 21 into elevated relation, as shown in Figures 1 and 4 of the drawings, and tends to move the frame 16 of the footstool inwardly into the chair as the cushioned top 21 moves into overlying position with respect to the front piece 18 of the footstool.

The height of the front portion of the cushioned top 21 of the footstool is directly dependent upon the position of the frame 16 of the footstool as several alternate positions of the cushioned top 21 are possible with respect to the frame 16. Thus, many and various relative positions of the chair, and particularly its cushioned seat 10 and the cushioned top 21 of the footstool, are possible so that almost every possible combination desired may be achieved.

The frame 16 of the footstool portion of the combination is adapted to maintain itself in completely extended position, as shown in Figure 4, by reason of a pair of corresponding depressions 27 formed in the front sections of the guides 24 and in the channels 25 so that the brackets 26 will register therewith when the frame 16 of the footstool is in fully extended position and thus serve to automatically maintain the fully extended position until the footstool portion of the combination is deliberately moved back into retracted position in the chair.

Means are also provided on the base 13 of the chair for retaining the footstool portion of the chair, and in particular the frame 16 and bottom 17 thereof, in stationary relation to the base 13 of the chair when the footstool portion is in fully retracted position therein. As best shown in Figure 4 of the drawings, this means comprises a transversely positioned support member 29 which underlies the guides 24 and is positioned immediately beneath the bottom 17 of the frame 16 of the footstool portion of the combination when the footstool portion is in retracted position. Thus, when the chair is tilted and the footstool portion has been previously moved into the base, it will automatically rise with the base as an integral unit of the chair. It is only when the chair is in level position and the supporting member 29 is in inoperative position with respect to the frame 16 and the bottom 17 of the footstool portion of the combination, that the footstool may be readily withdrawn or extended and its action in extended position will, of course, be controlled by the elevation of the chair affecting the rearmost portion of the footstool and its foremost portion remaining in contact with the supporting surface through the caster 22.

It will be seen that when the cushioned top 21 of the footstool portion of the combination is in elevated relation with respect to the bottom 17 and the frame 16 of the footstool portion, access is provided to the area defined by the frame 16 and the bottom 17 which forms a convenient location for magazines, books and the like.

It will thus be seen that a novel and efficient construction has been disclosed which combines a footstool with a reclining type chair and utilizes the combination for determining the relative positioning of the chair and the cushioned top of the footstool and at the same time enables a number of various positions to be achieved.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A tilting chair and a normally hidden footstool therefor, the said tilting chair including seat and back portions movably mounted on a base and maintaining their predetermined angular relationship, a chamber formed in the seat

portion of the said chair and open at the front of the said chair and having horizontal spaced parallel guide means at each side thereof, a transverse rod positioned through the said footstool near the rear portion thereof and the rod pivotally engaging the said guide means for slidable movement with respect thereto whereby the portion of the footstool adjacent the chair will be elevated when the chair is tilted.

2. A tilting chair and a normally hidden footstool therefor, the said tilting chair including seat and back portions movably mounted on a base and maintaining their predetermined angular relationship whereby the front edge of the seat is elevated when the back is tilted rearwardly, a chamber formed in the seat portion of the chair and open at the front of the said chair and having spaced parallel guide means at each side thereof, the said footstool including a tray normally positioned in said chamber and having projections formed on the sides thereof at the rear thereof pivotally engaging the said guide means for sliding movement with respect thereto so that the tray is movable out of the said seat portion, the said footstool including a vertically movable and tiltable top member, and means on said seat portion engageable beneath said tray when the same is positioned in the said chamber.

3. A tilting chair and a footstool normally hidden therein, the said tilting chair including an integrally formed seat and back portion movably mounted on a base whereby the front edge of the seat is elevated when the back is tilted rearwardly, a chamber formed in the seat portion of the said chair and open at the front

and having spaced parallel slots formed in the sides of the seat portion, the said footstool including a tray having casters on its foremost end and projections on its rearmost sides, the said projections pivotally engaging the said slots for slideable movement with respect to the seat portion of the said chair so that the said tray is movable in and out of the said chamber, the said footstool including a vertically movable and tiltable top member normally positioned in said tray, and means on said seat portion underlying said tray when the same is positioned in said chamber so that the entire footstool rises with the seat portion of the chair when hidden therein and when extending therefrom only the rear portion of the footstool rises when the front edge of the seat portion is elevated.

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