Aug. 17, 1954 N. C. STANTON 2,686,559

CORNER BRACKET FOR CHAIRS

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FIG. 1.

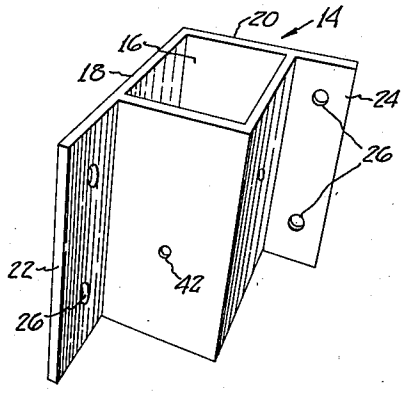


FIG. 4.

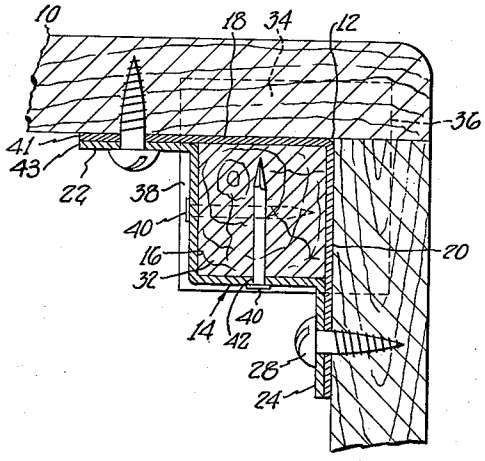


FIG. 2.

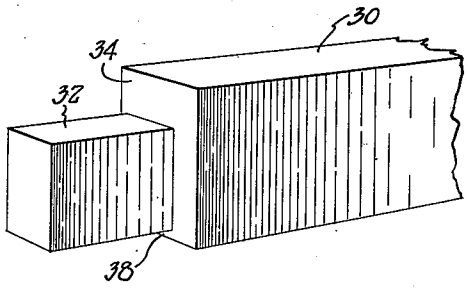


FIG. 5.

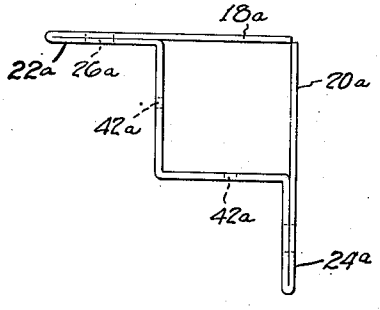
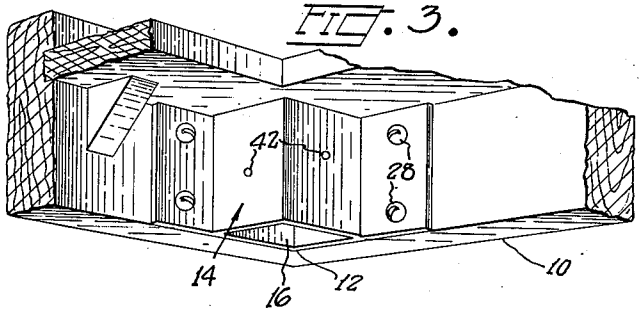


FIG. 3.



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CORNER BRACKET FOR CHAIRS

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2 Claims. (Cl. 155—196)

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This invention relates to a chair of novel construction and method of making the same.

It is the primary object of the invention to provide an easy mounting means for the chair leg, so that a chair may be packaged and shipped in knocked-down condition and assembled at the point of destination with the use of facilities ordinarily available in the home kit of tools, while at the same time providing a leg joint which is permanent, rigid, and as substantial as the best factory assembled chair. A related object is to provide a chair leg joint construction such that a broken or damaged leg may quickly and easily be replaced by a person not particularly skilled in furniture repair.

Another object of the invention is to provide a means of mounting chair legs which provides a joint with the chair bottom equal or superior to the joints of the prior art and in which assembly can be made considerably faster than by the methods known to the prior art. Still another object of the invention is to provide a novel construction for joining a chair leg to the seat supporting framework.

The above and still further objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from a study of the following specification, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein like reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, and wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the leg mounting bracket as forged, cast, or extruded, all in one piece;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of a chair leg designed for engagement with the bracket;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the underside of the chair bottom showing the bracket assembled in an inside corner of the skirting and ready for insertion of the leg from the bottom;

Figure 4 is a transverse section through the chair skirting showing a modified type of bracket, one manner of securing the bracket to the skirting, and the vertical abutting relation of the leg to the bracket and the skirting; and

Figure 5 is a plan view of a modified form of the bracket made from a single piece of sheet metal.

Referring to the drawings, the novel method of chair construction will be seen to comprise a chair skirting framework 10 of wood and made in more or less conventional design and manner forming an inside corner 12 which ordinarily is a right angle, although the invention is applicable to the mounting of chair legs to the skirting

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framework wherein the skirting forms angular corners other than right angles, or even to curved contours. A tubular metal bracket 14 is provided for mounting in said inside corner, as shown in Figures 3 and 4; said bracket having a socket portion 16 and side walls 18 and 20 angularly disposed to each other to complementally engage the sides of the inside corner of the skirting framework. The walls of the tubular bracket have flange extension portions 22 and 24 provided with bores 26 for receiving screws 28, or bolts, nails, or other fastening devices, for attaching the bracket to the skirting framework. The bracket thereby serves to hold together the intersecting skirting portions forming the corner and thereby strengthens the skirting framework. The bracket is mounted preferably so that its lower end lies substantially in the plane of the lower edge of the skirting framework.

A chair leg 30 having an extension 32 at its upper end of smaller cross section than the cross section of the main body of the chair leg is provided, said extension being shaped to fit snugly and be received in the tubular socket 16. The chair leg is thus provided with a shoulder 34 adjacent the extension 32, so that when the extension is received within the socket 16 the shoulder 34 comes in vertical abutting engagement with the lower edge of the chair skirting as shown in dotted lines at 36 in Figure 4. It will thus be seen that the chair leg is rigidly supported with respect to the skirting framework both by engagement of the extension 32 in the tubular socket 16 and by the abutting engagement of the shoulder 34 with the skirting framework 10. The extension may have two of its sides flush with the corresponding sides of the chair leg, or it may be recessed a little from the two inner sides of the chair leg, as illustrated in Figure 2. In such construction, which is preferred, a narrow shoulder portion 38 will also come in vertical abutting engagement with the lower edge of the bracket, as illustrated in Figure 4, thereby providing still further rigidity of support. The chair leg may be secured in the tubular socket by means of nails 40, screws, or other fastening means received through the bores 42 in the walls of the tubular socket, although the leg may preferably be held in the socket solely by friction between the walls of the socket and the extension 32.

It will readily be appreciated that a method of chair construction is provided which will enable attachment of the chair legs to the seat supporting skirting without regard to the provision of notches, grooves, routed portions, etc. for com-

plementary engagement with ribs or other male-type structures, and without gluing or use of presses, thereby resulting in greater speed of manufacture and in consequent economy of production.

It will further be appreciated that such means of construction lends itself to the manufacture of chairs whereby the legs need not be attached at the factory, but the chair may be shipped knocked down and the legs assembled in position and secured in place at the place of use, thereby resulting in many advantages such as saving in freight rates and shipping space. The above advantages are obtained without sacrifice of rigidity or permanence of construction, and in fact, rigidity and permanence of construction will often be increased over that obtained by the construction methods of the prior art.

Replacement of the chair leg can easily be accomplished by removing the nails 48 or other fastening means and withdrawing the leg and inserting a new one, or if this should prove too difficult, the entire bracket may be removed and a new bracket and a new leg inserted.

It will be understood that the metal bracket with its tubular socket may be formed in various ways. It may be formed as an integral unit by a forging, casting, or extrusion process. It may be formed from an angle iron and a second angle iron having reverse angle side portions, as illustrated in Figure 4. The two members 41 and 43 are then preferably welded together at their abutting surfaces, although they may merely be held in engagement with each other by the screws 28 for retaining the bracket member to the skirting. This latter method can be effectively employed for use in tightening the engagement of the tubular socket with the chair leg extension 32, which may be desired due to drying and seasoning of the wood, by constructing extension 32 of slightly larger cross-sectional dimensions than the corresponding cross-sectional dimensions of the tubular socket. With such a construction, the screws 28 can be tightened from time to time as the wood shrinks, to draw the inside walls of the member 43 into closer engagement with the extension 32.

The metal bracket may also be shaped from a single strip of metal such as sheet metal or the like as shown in Figure 5 by reverse and right angle bends. The strip of metal is first bent back upon itself in a reverse bend to form a laterally extending flange portion 22a and a socket wall portion 18a. The strip of metal is then bent at two successive right angles to form walls of the socket for receiving the chair leg extension 32. Another right angle bend is made away from the socket portion, and the remaining portion then bent back upon itself to form a second laterally extending flange 24a disposed at right angles to the first flange 22a and to meet the starting end of the strip and form the socket wall 20a. The doubled portions of the strip forming the laterally extending flanges 22a and 24a are provided with bores 26a for attaching the bracket to the framework of the chair. The inner walls of the socket have bores 42a to receive screws, nails, or the like, for fastening the chair leg to the bracket. Such a bracket construction has the advantage of economy of manufacture and is simple to assemble and is durable in use.

It is to be understood that the language and expressions which have been employed are used as terms of description only and not of limitation, and that the invention is not limited to the exact details of construction shown and described, for changes and modifications will readily occur to persons skilled in the art.

What is claimed is:

1. A bracket for mounting in the inside corner of a wooden chair skirting having a socket portion for receiving the extension of a chair leg, said bracket being formed of a strip of metal by bending the same adjacent one end back upon itself to form a flange, making a right angle bend and a second right angle bend to form a U-portion with the starting end of said strip, making a third right angle bend and bending the remaining portion of said strip back upon itself to form a second flange disposed at right angles to said first flange and to close said U-portion with the last of the length of said strip to form a socket.

2. A bracket for mounting in the inside corner of a wooden chair skirting for receiving the extension of a chair leg, said bracket comprising a single strip of metal having a reverse bend forming a first flange, first and second right angle bends forming walls of a socket, the strip of metal being then bent at a right angle to extend away from the socket and having a second reverse bend to form a wall of the socket and a second flange, said second flange being disposed at right angles to said first flange.

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