Aug. 28, 1956 B. W. HENRIKSON ET AL 2,760,561

CHAIR STRUCTURE

Original Filed May 14, 1953 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1

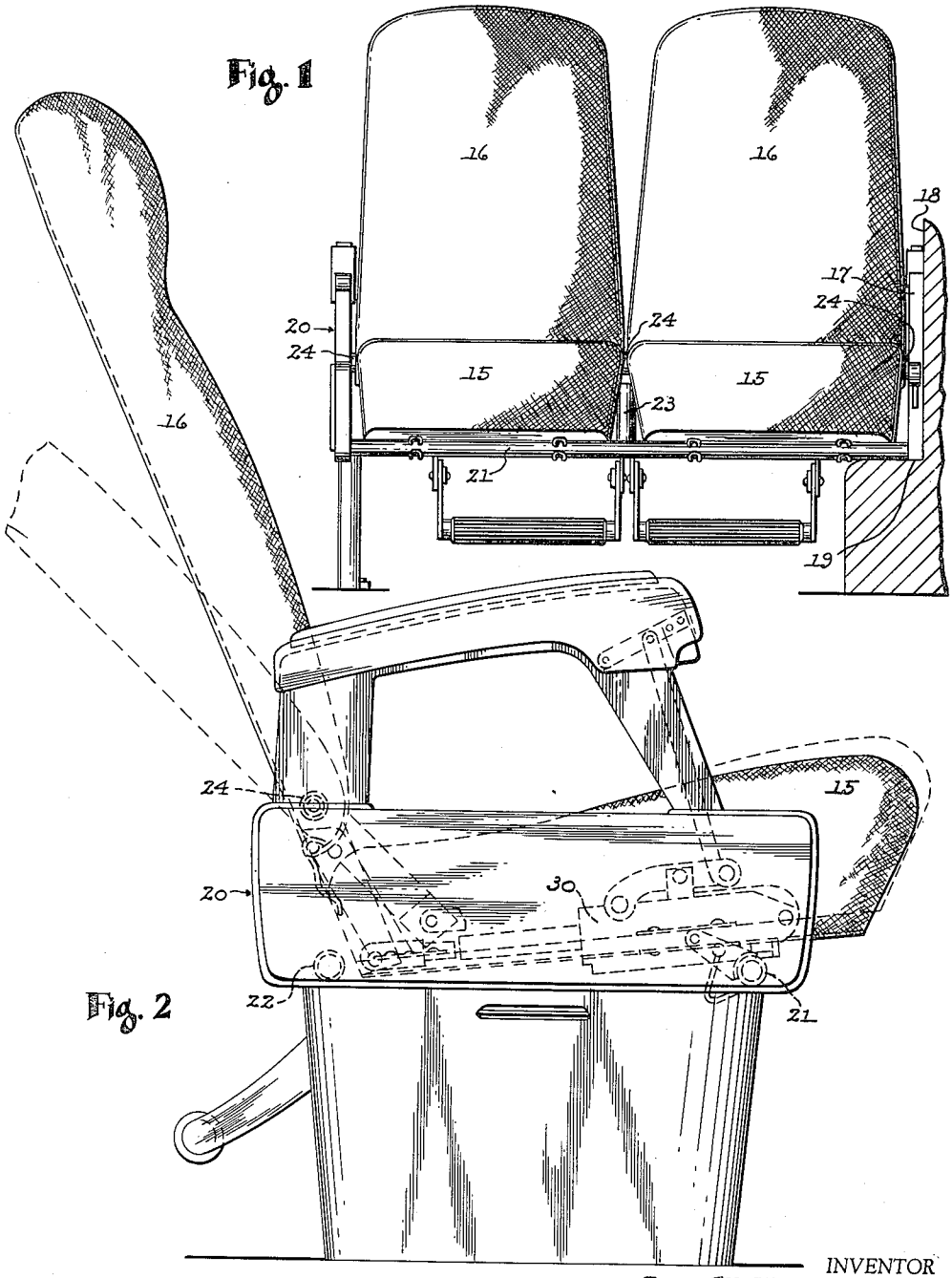


Fig. 2

WITNESS

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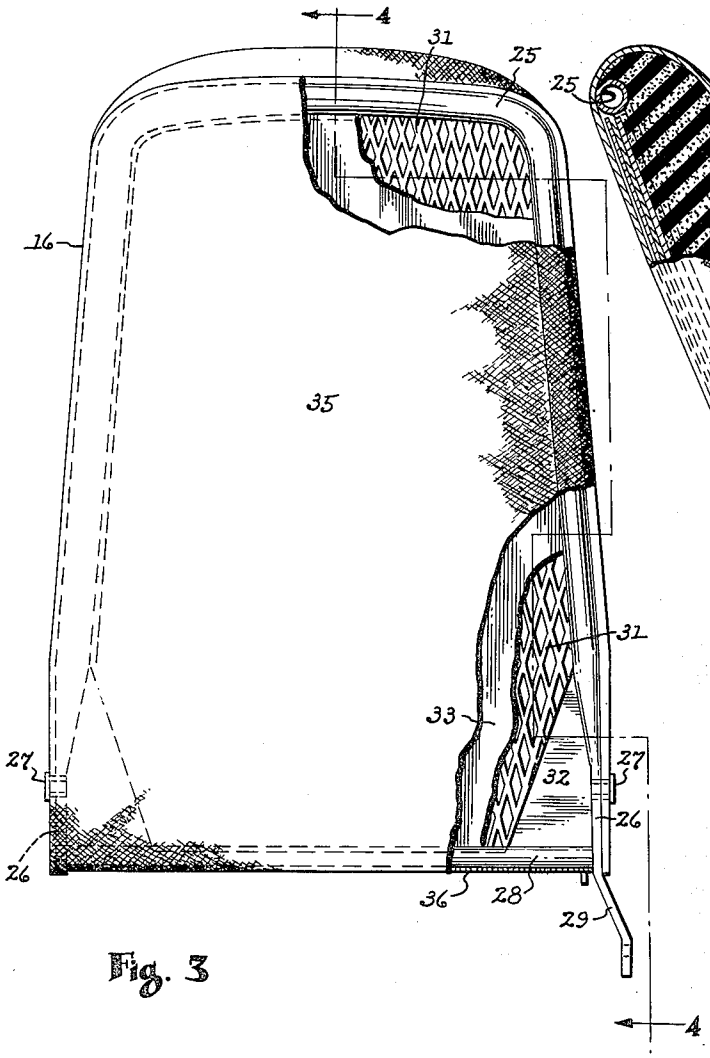


Fig. 3

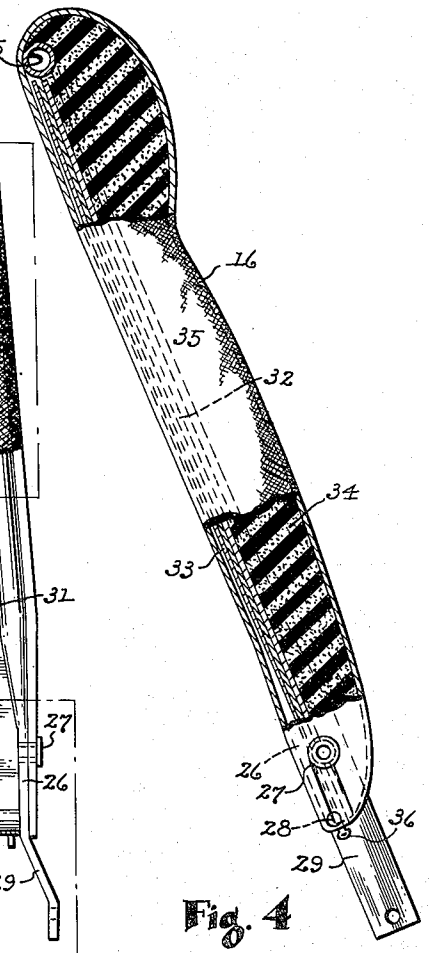


Fig. 4

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CHAIR STRUCTURE

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Application June 17, 1955, Serial No. 516,172

2 Claims. (Cl. 155—179)

The present invention relates to chair structures and more particularly to chair back construction. This application is a division of our co-pending application Serial No. 354,938 filed May 14, 1953.

The primary objects of the invention are to provide an improved back construction for chairs of the reclining type commonly installed in motorbusses, railway cars, airplanes and other vehicles; to provide a chair back from which the covers may readily be removed for cleaning; and in general to provide such a chair back construction which is sturdy, comfortable, lightweight, attractive in appearance and reasonably economical in manufacture.

An illustrative embodiment of the invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a front elevational view of a reclining chair structure installed in a vehicle and provided with individual seats and backs for two passengers, mounted on a common supporting frame;

Figure 2 is an enlarged side elevational view of the same;

Figure 3 is a rear elevational view of a chair back of the structure, shown per se with portions thereof broken away; and

Figure 4 is a vertical sectional view of said chair back taken on line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Referring now in detail to these drawings wherein like parts are designated by the same numerals in the several views, the chair structure there shown generally comprises a supporting frame on which two individual chairs each having a seat **15** and back **16** are mounted for independent reclining movements. The supporting frame comprises a wall standard **17** which is secured to the side wall **18** of the vehicle in which the structure is installed and which rests on a shoulder **19** of said side wall, an end standard **20** disposed at the aisle side of the chair structure, front and rear horizontally disposed tubular supporting bars **21** and **22** respectively, and a tubular center brace **23** extending rearwardly from the front bar **21** to the rear bar **22** and thence upwardly (see Figure 1). These parts of the supporting frame are all secured together as by means of welding.

The chair backs **16** are pivotally mounted on horizontally aligned bearing studs **24** secured to the wall standard **17**, the end standard **20** and the upper end of the center brace **23**. Referring now particularly to Figures 3 and 4, each chair back is built upon a generally rectangular tubular metal frame consisting of an inverted U-shaped tubular frame member **25**. The lower ends of the legs of said member **25** are flattened as at **26** and provided with socket bearing members **27** which receive the studs **24** for pivotally mounting the chair backs on the supporting frame.

Below the socket bearing members **27** the flattened lower ends of the frame member **25** are connected by a horizontal rod, tube or bar **28** welded thereto. Each chair back's frame member **25** has a further downward extension **29** at that side of the back nearest a standard **17** and **20**, which extension **29** is pivotally connected to a recliner latch mechanism one of which is generally designated **30** and shown somewhat diagrammatically in dotted lines in Figure 1. The latch mechanism for each chair back is housed in the adjacent standard **17** or **20** and serves to secure the back in selected reclined position. However, inasmuch as the specific form of latch mechanism is not a part of the present invention, it is not shown nor described herein in specific detail.

Referring again to Figures 3 and 4, each chair back **16** has a sheet of expanded metal **31** secured to and enclosed by the tubular rectangular frame of the back, said sheet **31** being secured as by welding to the frame's members **25** and **28**. Sheets **32** and **33** of heavy cardboard are secured by suitable adhesives to the front and rear surfaces respectively of the metal sheet **31**. A foam rubber cushion **34** is disposed over the front surface of the sheet **32** and secured thereto, and a pre-sewn upholstery cover **35** in the form of an envelope is then applied over this entire assembly. A slide fastener **36** closes the mouth of the upholstery envelope at the bottom of the back, and it will be seen that this upholstery cover can easily be removed for cleaning. The resulting chair back is thus convenient in use, light in weight and attractive in appearance.

While but one specific embodiment of the invention has been herein shown and described, it will be understood that numerous details thereof may be altered or omitted without departing from the spirit of the invention as the same is defined by the following claims.

We claim:

1. A chair back comprising: a generally rectangular tubular frame; a sheet of expanded metal secured to and enclosed by said frame; a foam rubber cushion disposed over the front surface of the expanded metal sheet and the frame and secured thereto; an envelope of upholstery material enclosing the frame, the expanded metal and the foam rubber cushion; and means for opening and closing the mouth of said envelope.

2. A chair back comprising: a generally rectangular tubular frame; a sheet of expanded metal secured to and enclosed by said frame; a foam rubber cushion disposed over the front surface of the expanded metal sheet and the frame and secured thereto; an envelope of upholstery material enclosing the frame, the expanded metal and the foam rubber cushion; and a slide fastener for opening and closing the mouth of said envelope.

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