Sept. 2, 1930. E. M. SQUIRES 1,774,950

THEATER SEAT

Filed April 1, 1929

FIG. 1.

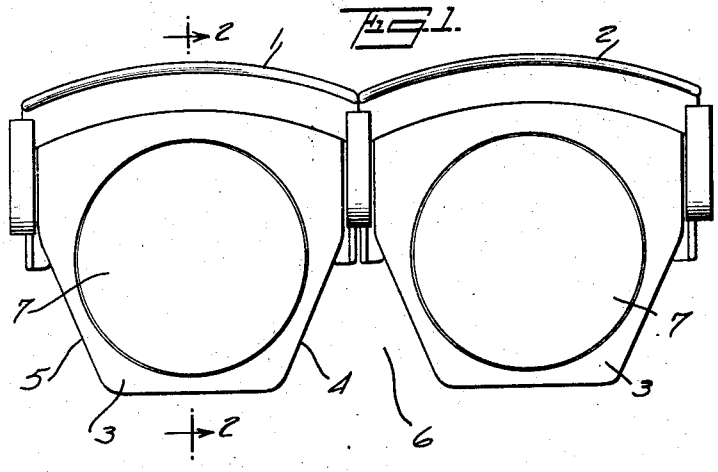


FIG. 2.

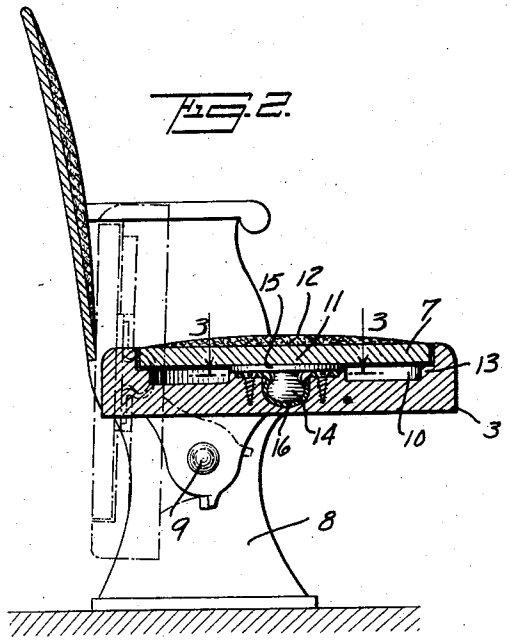
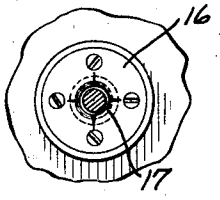


FIG. 3.



WITNESSES

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Patented Sept. 2, 1930 1,774,950

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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THEATER SEAT

Application filed April 1, 1929. Serial No. 351,641.

This invention relates to an improved seat, particularly for large halls (theaters), the object being to provide a construction wherein a person may move somewhat to one side without leaving the seat in order that another person may pass.

Another object of the invention is to provide an improved seat for theaters or auditoriums, the structure including a support having chamfered corners and a rotatable center, whereby a person may swing around to one side without rising in order to let another person pass.

A further object, more specifically, is to provide a seat wherein the center portion rotates as the person turns, the rotating part being capable of removal at any time.

In the accompanying drawings,—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of two seats constructed according to the present invention;

Figure 2 is a sectional view through Figure 1 on the line 2—2, the same being on an enlarged scale;

Figure 3 is a detail fragmentary sectional view through Figure 2 on the line 3—3.

Referring to the accompanying drawings by numerals, 1 and 2 indicate identical seats arranged side by side. In a theater or other auditorium there are usually rows of seats similar to seats 1 and 2, and when some of the seats are occupied it is difficult for a person to pass. It is customary at present for people to stand up in order to allow others to pass. This obstructs the view of anyone sitting in the rear and also discommodes the sitters.

In the present invention means have been provided whereby persons sitting in the seats may merely swing their legs to one side and thus present a free passage for a person, as shown particularly in Figure 1. The seat section 3 is cut away or chamfered at points 4 and 5, whereby the space 6 is left. When a person desires to pass the seats a person sitting in seat 1, for instance, will swing into the space 4, and the person sitting in the space 2 will swing his legs into a similar space at the right, as shown in Figure 1. This swinging action is assisted by the fact that the seat section 2 is supplied with a rotatable section 7. Seat section 3 is hingedly supported on suitable supports 8, the hinges 9 being of any desired or preferred structure. Hinge structure 9 is adapted to permit the seat section 3 and parts carried thereby to be swung to one side in the usual manner and as indicated in Figure 2. Seat section 3 is provided with a recess 10 in which most of the rotating section 7 fits, said rotating section being preferably provided with a suitable base board 11 and a covering or padding 12. The seat section 3 is provided with an annular offset or shoulder 13 on which the outer part of the base board 11 rests, while the center is supported by a ball-shaped member 14 preferably formed integral with plate 15. Plate 15 is secured to section 7 by screws or other desired means, while the head or ball 14 is adapted to fit into the socket or cup 16. This socket or cup is formed substantially identically with an ordinary socket of a snap fastener, so that the resilient sections 17 will permit the head or ball 14 to move into and out of the socket. The parts are so proportioned that most of the weight of section 7 is carried by head 14, though the annular shoulder 13 acts to prevent any noticeable tilting of the section while permitting the section to freely rotate. In case the seats 1 and 2 are occupied and a person desires to pass, the occupants merely swing their legs to the right or left into the space 6 and then the person may readily pass. The occupants of the seats then swing their legs back into a desired position. In this way people may readily pass others sitting down without causing anyone to rise and without discomfort or embarrassment.

What I claim is:—

1. In a seat of the character described, a seat section having a recess formed with an annular shoulder, a rotatable seat section fitted into said recess so as to be substantially flush with the top thereof, said section lightly resting on said shoulder, a socket member carried by said seat section, and a head carried by said rotatable seat section, said head fitting into said socket.

2. A seat, including a main seat section and a rotatable seat section, said main seat sec-

tion having a recess for receiving said rotatable seat section, said seat section being substantially wholly within said recess, a metallic socket carried by said main seat section centrally thereof, said socket being formed with resilient projections, and a head secured to the bottom of said rotatable seat section adapted to fit into said socket and rest thereon for acing as a rotatable support, said projections resiliently resisting application and removal of said head.

3. A seat for auditoriums and the like, comprising a main seat section having a recess provided with an annular peripheral shoulder, a rotatable section fitting substantially wholly within said recess and resting on said shoulder, and means at the center of said rotatable seat section acting as a central support therefor.

ETTA M. SQUIRES.