March 26, 1929. V. ALBANO 1,706,948

CONVERTIBLE BED ARMCHAIR

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Fig. 1

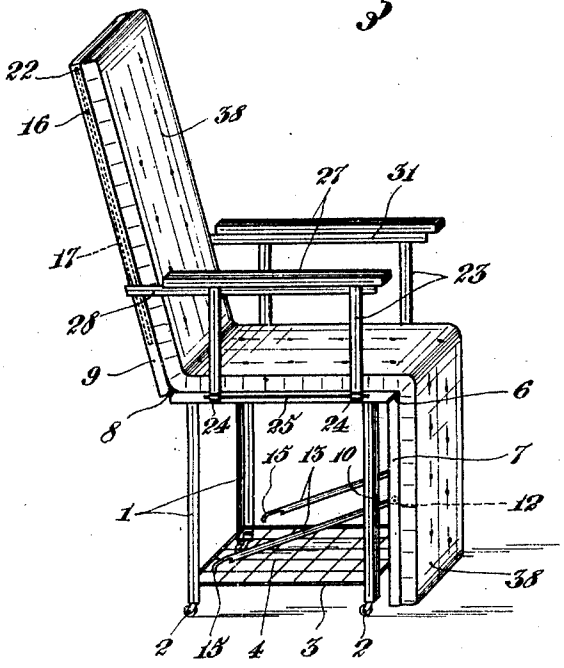
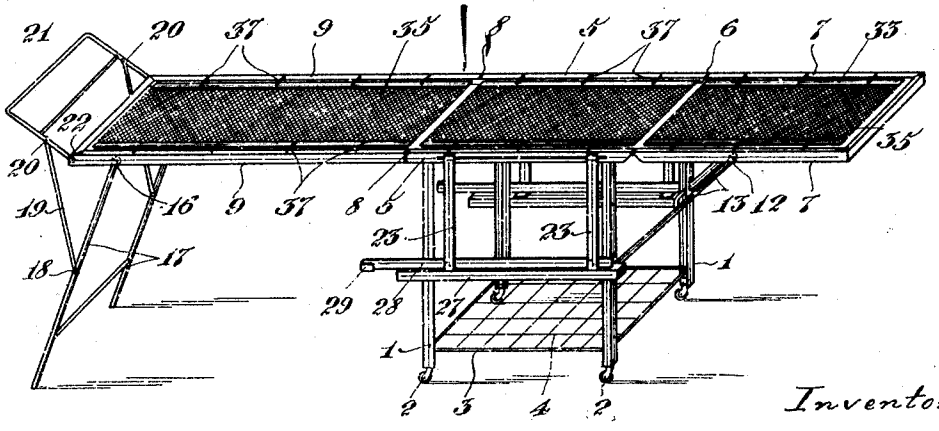


Fig. 2



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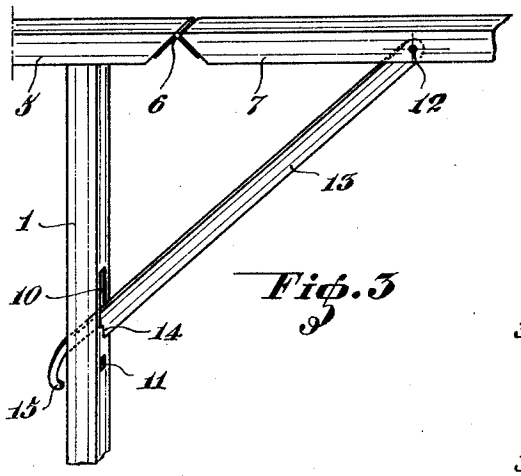


Fig. 3

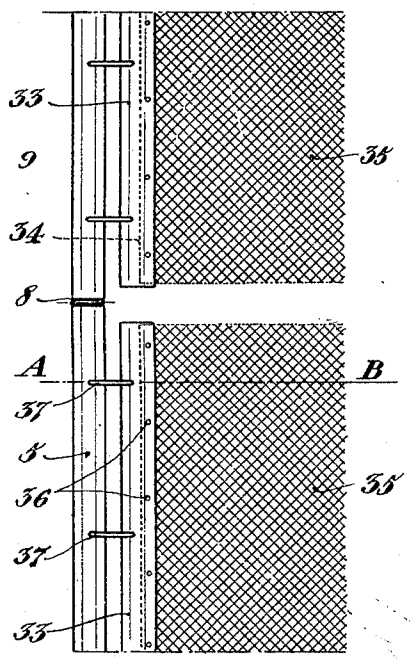


Fig. 6

Fig. 4

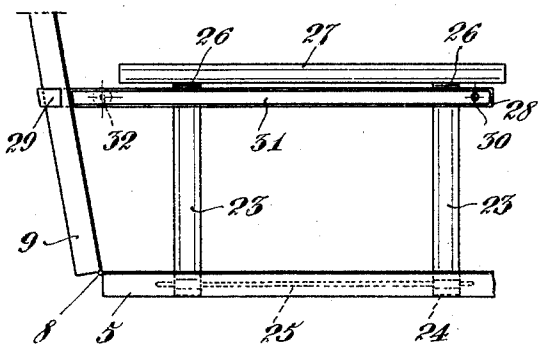


Fig. 5

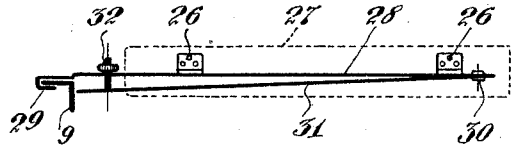
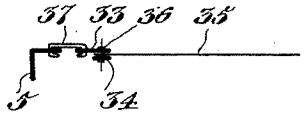


Fig. 7



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Patented Mar. 26, 1929. 1,706,948

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VICENTE ALBANO, OF ROSARIO, ARGENTINA.

CONVERTIBLE BED ARMCHAIR.

Application filed December 17, 1926. Serial No. 155,492.

This invention relates to an improved convertible arm chair or couch, according to its width its object being the production of a piece of furniture which may be used as an ordinary arm chair or couch, or as a bed, after unfolding or extending the corresponding parts of the same.

The piece of furniture according to this invention substantially consists of a main body part formed by the seat, properly speaking of the chair, suitably reinforced and provided with its corresponding legs and covered on its top by the seat. To the frame of said seat is hinged at its front side, another frame which normally descends on the front side of the chair and which when in its raised position, forms the foot end of the couch or bed. To the rear side of the seat frame is also hinged a similar frame which, in its raised position, forms the back of the arm chair or couch and, when lowered, forms the head end of the bed. The said three frame parts are covered either separately or as a whole with a suitable wire fabric or mattress, for resiliently supporting an upholstered pad or cushion.

In order that the invention may be readily understood and carried into practice, a preferred embodiment of the same has been illustrated by way of example in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the convertible arm chair in position for being used as such.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the convertible arm chair when in its extended position, with the upholstered pad or cushion removed.

Figure 3 illustrates the means for supporting the foot end of the bed in relation to the legs of the arm chair.

Figure 4 is a detail view in side elevation, showing the arrangement of the arm supports of the chair and the manner in which they retain in position the back of the chair.

Figure 5 is a plan view of Figure 4.

Figure 6 illustrates one way of effecting the connection between the metallic fabric or springs and the frame of the seat and back of the chair, and

Figure 7 is a section on the line A—B of Figure 6.

In said drawings, 1 indicates the legs of the chair, preferably made of angle iron, as well as the frame of the chair, said legs being provided at their lower ends with castors 2 and suitably reinforced by a square trussing 3 formed by crossed wires 4. On the legs 1 are supported the bars 5, also of angle iron, which form the frame of the seat, the latter having secured to its front side the hinges 6 for supporting a swinging frame 7. To the opposite or rear end of the seat frame are secured the hinges 8 which support the frame 9 of the back of the chair, also constructed of suitable angular iron bars.

In each of the front legs is formed, at a suitable height, an elongated vertical slot 10, and below the same a hole 11. For the purpose of retaining the foot support or frame in raised position when the chair is to be used as a bed, the frame 7 has pivoted to it at 12 the front or upper ends of a pair of bars 13 which extend through the slots 10 and are formed at the other end with catches 14 to engage the lower edges of said slots so as to retain the bars in raised position. In order to prevent the bars 13 from sliding out of the slots 10, they are provided at their lower or free ends with bent portions or hooks 15, adapted to engage within the holes 11. In order to fold or lower the foot frame 7, it is sufficient merely to raise the bars 13, somewhat so as to disengage the catches 14 and then push the frame backwards so as to cause the bars 13 to slide within the slots 10 and position themselves below the seat, in the manner shown in Figure 1.

The back frame 9 supported in extended or horizontal position by means of a swinging frame 17, the side members of which are pivoted at their upper ends at 16 to the adjacent side members of the back frame; and to the free end of said frame 9 there is connected a pillow-supporting frame 21 whose side members are pivoted to the corners of frame 9 at 22 and are further connected by braces 19 with the sides of frame 17, the points of pivotal connection being indicated at 20 and 18. When the back frame is swung upward into its vertical positon, the frames 17 and 21 can be swung or folded to fit within its channel-iron members, as represented in dotted lines in Figure 2.

Each of the arm supports of the chair consists of two flat bars 23, hinged at 24 to the seat frame 5; the hinge spindles may be formed by a simple rod 25 so that on withdrawing the same from the hinges, said arm supports may entirely be taken off. The bars 23 are bent at their upper ends so as to permit the arm rests 27, or arms proper, to be

fastened thereto by means of screws 26. Below said bent portions there is riveted to the bars 23 a horizontal bar 28, having its rear end hooked as shown at 29, for the purpose of engaging the adjacent side member of the back frame 9, in order to prevent the same from falling backward.

In order to hold the back frame 9 rigidly in position and prevent any forward motion of the same, a resilient bar or strap 31 is secured to the inner side of the bar 28, as indicated at 30, the end of the strap 31 abutting normally against the opposite side member of the frame 9, as clearly shown in Figure 5. The resilient strap 31 is also provided with a pin which passes through a hole formed in the bar 28, being provided on its outer end with a stop 32. In order to lower the back of the chair, the stop 32 is pulled in an outward direction, so as to move the strap 31 out of the way of the back, whereupon, by tilting the back in the desired direction, it may be disengaged from the hook 29 of the bar 28; in this way, the arm supports are allowed to fold downwards on their hinges 24. As has been stated before, by entirely withdrawing the hinge spindles 25, the arm supports may be removed, so that two converted arm chairs may be placed side by side, in order to serve as a bed.

One of the main drawbacks ordinarily encountered in the construction of this kind of convertible arm chairs or couches, consists in the fact that the springs or resilient supporting surface cannot be subjected to any additional longitudinal stretching, owing to which the springs became loose and the couch uncomfortable. In accordance with this invention, such difficulty is overcome by stretching the resilient fabric or springs in a transverse direction and by providing, if desired, a separate resilient supporting surface for each section of the frame. For said purpose, the risilient wire fabric or mattress 35 is gripped between two bars 33 and 34 and is secured thereto by means of rivets 36. The bars extend in a longitudinal direction or parallel to the frame parts 5 and 9, to which they are affixed by means of the clips or staples 37 which enter into holes formed in the bars 33 and the frame bars 5 and 9, as clearly shown in Figures 6 and 7. Before placing the said clips or staples 37 in position, the wire fabric is streached to the desired degree by any known or suitable means.

The entire supporting surface of the chair or couch is covered by a cushion or pad 38, conveniently secured at its upper and lower ends, and, if desired, also along the line of folding of the back with regard to the seat.

The manner of converting the piece of furniture into one or the other form for use will be understood from the foregoing, without further explanations.

It will be evident that various modifications may be introduced without departing from the general scope of this invention as claimed.

Thus, instead of using only metal as material for constructing the arm chair according to this invention, the seat frame of the same might be made of wood, provided or not with drawers; the arm supports might also be made of wood and means might be provided for adjusting at will the degree of incline of the back.

Having now clearly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I now declare that what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. A convertible chair, comprising a seat frame; supporting legs therefor; a back frame hinged to the seat frame for swinging movement between a substantially vertical position and a substantially horizontal position; arm frames hinged to the side members of the seat frame; a horizontal bar secured to each arm frame and provided with a hooked rear end for engagement with the rear face of the adjacent side member of the back frame to hold the latter against rearward movement from its vertical position; a resilient strap secured to one bar and normally abutting at its rear end against the front face of the adjacent side member of said back frame to hold said frame against forward movement, but displaceable from such position to permit forward movement of the frame; and separate means for supporting the back frame in its horizontal position.

2. A convertible chair, according to claim 1, in which the free end of the resilient strap is provided with a finger-piece which projects slidably through an opening in the adjacent horizontal bar to move the strap end out of abutting relation to the adjacent side member of the back frame.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

VICENTE ALBANO.