March 16, 1965 A. C. HOVEN ETAL 3,173,723

SEAT ATTACHMENT

Filed June 8, 1964

FIG. 1

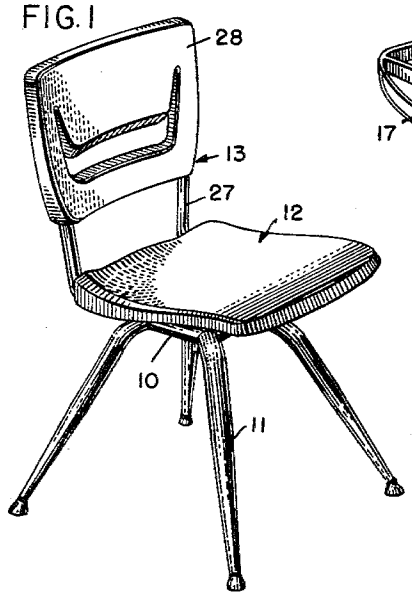
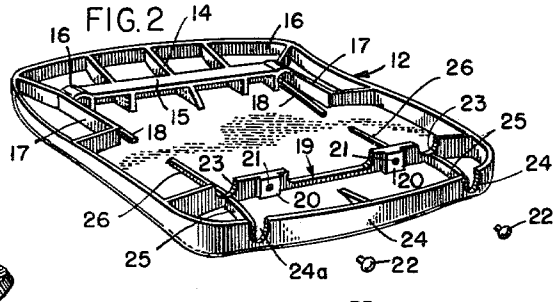


FIG. 2



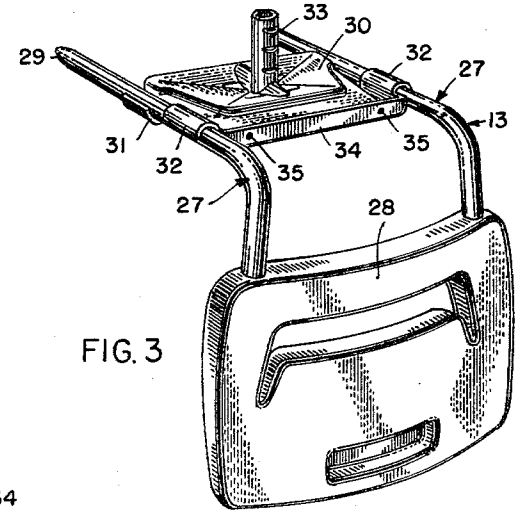
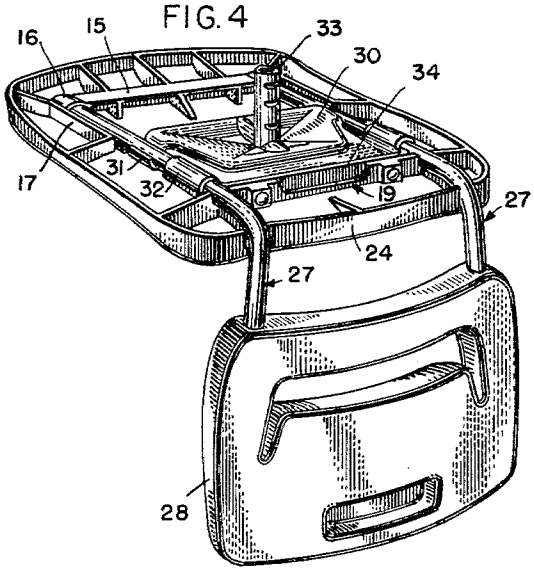


FIG. 3

FIG. 4



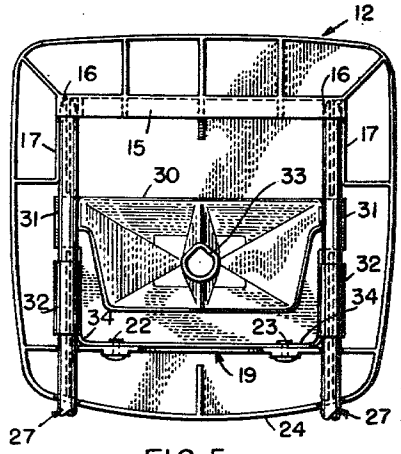


FIG. 5

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SEAT ATTACHMENT

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This invention relates to a seat attachment, and more particularly to a chair or the like equipped with a seat panel united to a top frame assembly.

An object of the invention is to provide a unique arrangement for connecting a seat panel and a top frame assembly. A further object is to provide an assembly of a seat panel and top frame in which a minimum of fastening means is employed and by which ready, sturdy union of the parts is effected. A still further object is to provide for the assembly of a seat panel and top frame in which a sturdy union is accomplished through the use of rivets or the like which are concealed. Other specific objects and advantages will appear as the specification proceeds.

The invention is shown in an illustrative embodiment, by the accompanying drawing, in which—

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of a chair embodying our invention; FIG. 2, a perspective view of a seat panel which is turned upside down; FIG. 3, a perspective view of the chair top frame assembly also in upside down position for assembly with the seat panel shown in FIG. 2; FIG. 4, a perspective view similar to FIG. 3 but showing the top frame assembly united to the seat panel; and FIG. 5, a broken bottom view of the assembly seat panel and top frame assembly.

In the illustration given, **10** designates a chair base equipped with legs **11**. Mounted upon the base **10** is a seat panel **12** which may be formed of plastic, metal, composition material, or any suitable material. Secured to the seat panel **12** is a top frame assembly **13**.

The seat panel **12** is shown in upside down position in FIG. 2. The panel, which may be formed of polyethylene or other plastics or other suitable material, is shown provided at its forward end with a frame **14** having a transverse member **15**, and at the end of the transverse member **15** a pair of sockets **16**. Adjacent each of the sockets **16** is a rearwardly-extending wall **17**. Also, extending rearwardly from each of the sockets **16** is a brace rib **18**. At the rear of the seat panel, we provide a cross rib **19** which is provided with enlarged or thickened portions **20** apertured at **21** to receive attachment rivets **22**. Also, the cross rib is provided on either side with recesses or notches **23**. The front wall or panel **24** is also provided with recesses **24***a* which are aligned with recesses **23**. Reinforcing strips **25** extend between the recesses **23** and **24***a*, and reinforcing strips **26** extend forwardly from the recesses **23**.

The chair top frame assembly comprises a pair of tubes **27** which have a vertically-extending portion receiving a seat back **28**, and have forwardly-extending portions terminating in rounded or pointed ends **29**. The ends **29** are adapted to fit snugly within the sockets **16** of the seat panel **12**. Carried by the forwardly-extending tube portions is a plate member **30** anchored to the tubes **27** by sleeves **31** and **32** and equipped with a pivot tube **33** adapted to be received within the seat base **10**.

The cross bar **34** is welded to the plate member **30** and is adapted to lie within the cross rib **19** of seat panel **12** in abutting relation therewith, and the cross bar **34** is provided with a pair of rivet openings **35** aligned with the rivet openings **21** of the seat panel **12**.

In the assembly of the seat panel **12** with the chair top assembly, the tubes **27** are moved forwardly to bring their points **29** within the sockets **16** of the seat panel **12** and with the rear portions of the tubes resting within the

recesses **23** and **24***a* of the cross rib **19** and front wall **24** respectively. The cross bar **34** lies flush against the forward side of cross rib **19**, as shown best in FIG. 4. The rivets **22** may now be used to complete the union of the parts, as shown best in FIG. 5.

With the foregoing structure, as illustrated in FIGS. 4 and 5, a sturdy union of the parts is brought about by using only two rivets or the like, while at the same time the fastening means are concealed. The forward ends of the tubes **27** are locked tightly within the sockets **16**, and the rear portions of the tubes are held tightly by the union between the cross bar **34** and the cross rib **19**. Assembly is thus accomplished in a minimum of time. The tubes **27** engage substantially throughout their length reinforced portions of the seat panel while at the same time being rigidly united to the panel. The rigid metal plate **30** is anchored firmly upon the metal tubes **27**, and at the same time the tubes are thus buttressed by the side walls **17** and the apertured walls **19** and **24**.

While in the foregoing specification we have shown a specific structure in considerable detail for the purpose of illustrating an embodiment of our invention, it will be understood that such detail or details may be varied widely by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of our invention.

We claim:

1. In combination, a seat panel having a frame member at its forward underside providing a pair of sockets and having at its rear underside a frame providing a cross rib and a rear wall, said rib and wall being provided with a pair of aligned recesses, a chair top assembly equipped with a pair of tubes terminating in ends fitting said sockets, said tubes being also received within said frame recesses, said assembly also being provided with a cross bar abutting said cross rib and the two cross ribs being provided with aligned openings, and fastening means extending through said openings to complete the union of said panel and top assembly.

2. The structure of claim 1 in which said seat panel is formed of plastic, and said cross rib is provided with thickened portions about said openings.

3. In combination, a plastic seat panel having a frame member at its forward underside providing a pair of sockets and having at its rear underside a frame providing a cross rib and a rear wall, said rib and wall being provided with a pair of aligned recesses, and a chair top assembly equipped with a pair of tubes terminating in points fitting said sockets, said tubes being also received within said frame recesses, said assembly being provided with a cross bar abutting said cross rib of said seat panel, and the two cross bars being provided with aligned rivet openings, and rivets extending through said openings to complete the union of said panel and top assembly.

4. The structure of claim 3 in which said seat panel is provided with reinforcing strips extending over said tubes.

5. The structure of claim 3 in which said seat panel is provided with forwardly-extending walls adjacent said sockets and bearing against said tubes to brace said tubes against lateral movement.

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