

W. F. FOLMER.

STUDIO CHAIR.

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1,074,615.

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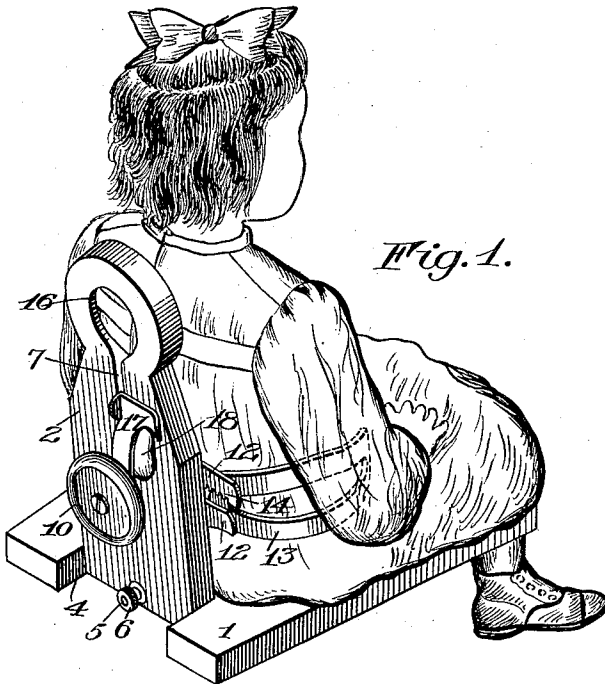


Fig. 1.

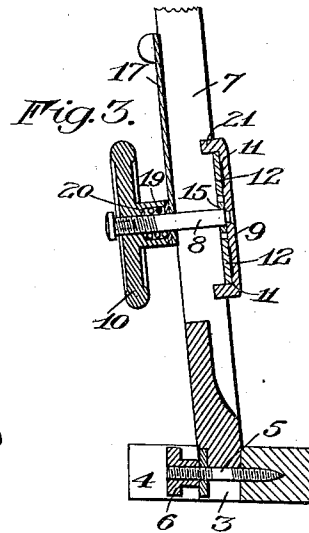


Fig. 3.

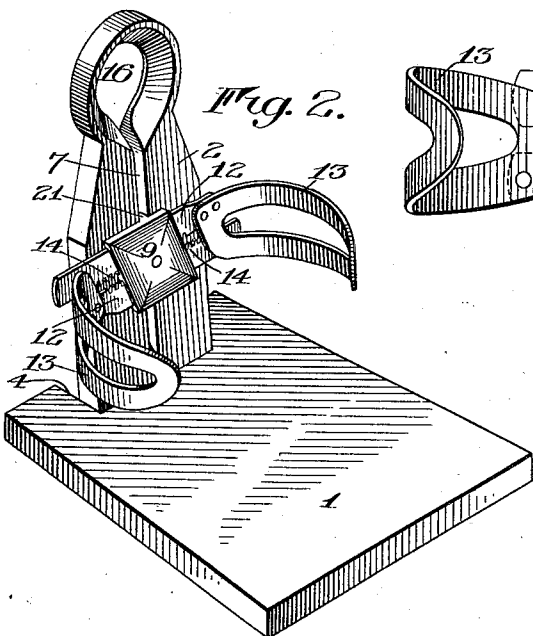


Fig. 2.

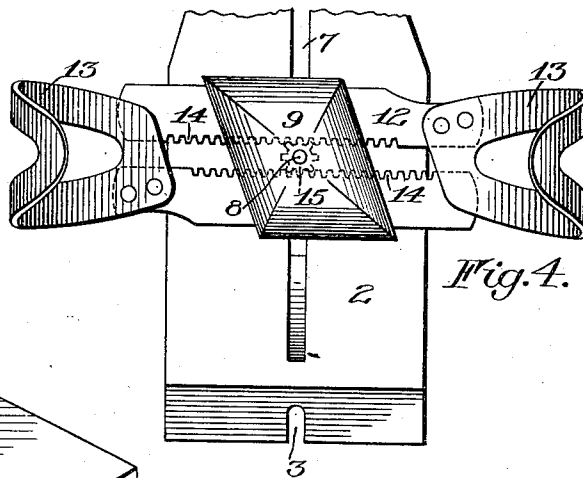


Fig. 4.

Witnesses

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STUDIO-CHAIR.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM F. FOLMER, of the city of Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Studio-Chairs; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and to the reference-numerals marked thereon.

My present invention relates to furniture and it has for its object to provide a seat, chair or other body support for infants or children by means of which they can be supported in an upright sitting posture otherwise unobtainable because of weakness or a general disinclination on the part of the occupant to assume and retain such a position.

The invention further has particular reference for providing a device of this nature that can be conveniently and usefully employed in the studio of portrait photographers to assist them in gaining the desired poses of child subjects without necessitating the appearance of an attendant to the child in the photograph.

To these and other ends the invention consists in certain improvements and combinations of part all as will be hereinafter more fully described, the novel features being pointed out in the claims at the end of the specification.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view taken from a rearward point of a body support in the nature of a chair constructed in accordance with and illustrating one embodiment of my invention, a child being shown in position therein; Fig. 2 is a perspective view from a forward point with the parts in practically the same positions of adjustment; Fig. 3 is a central vertical section through the chair back and adjacent portion of the bottom, and Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail front elevation of the waist supporting clamps.

Similar reference numerals throughout the several figures indicate the same parts.

In the present exemplary embodiment of the invention a chair or seat is shown comprising, as to the general elements, a bottom 1 and back support 2 only, it being in-

tended that the chair be placed upon the seat of a larger chair or table in lieu of providing legs or other supporting parts. The chair should preferably be invisible and by this structure can be used as well when it is desired that the occupant be represented as sitting on the floor, for instance.

It is desirable that the chair be of knock-down construction for convenience in packing and shipping and to this end the lower portion of the back has an open slot 3 that sets within an opening 4 in the rear of the seat, being secured to the latter preferably by a bolt 5 and thumb screw or nut 6 that is received within the slot 3. Extending vertically and preferably centrally, of the back, is a slot or guide 7 through which extends from front to rear a bolt or spindle 8 having a head 9 rigid therewith and disposed on the front face of the back, while the rearwardly projecting end has a threaded engagement with a clamping wheel or member 10. The head 9 is provided on its rear face with parallel transverse guides 11 to receive the shank portions 12 of waist supporting arms 13 disposed at either side of the chair. These arms are preferably curved inwardly approximately as shown to conform as nearly as possible with the body of the child and after being widened to receive the latter are pressed inwardly toward each other beneath the child's arms in the region of the waist and hold it against swaying movement, at the same time supporting it beneath the arm pits if so desired.

The shank portions 12 embody racks 14 meshing upon opposite sides of a pinion 15 loosely mounted on the spindle 8 between the guides 11 and are thereby connected for simultaneous movement during their lateral adjustments so that other than a symmetrical disposition thereof is impossible and the occupant is held centrally on the seat. To secure the arms in their various positions of adjustment the clamping member 10, loosened during their adjusting movement, is tightened to react against the rear of the back and thereby draw the head 9 rearwardly to clamp the shank portions 12 between it and the front face of the back, as will be readily seen from an inspection of Fig. 3. This same clamping action is also utilized to adjust the arms bodily and in

unison in a vertical direction along the slot or guide 7 to change the elevation of the point of support as required between the hip and shoulder or to suit occupants of different sizes, guiding ribs 21 on the head projecting within the slot serving to hold it and the arms in their proper relations horizontally.

In order that the subject may be effectually prevented from falling or leaning forwardly I provide a simple means which utilizes its clothing to attach it to the back support. To this end an opening 16 is formed in the latter with which the slot 7 communicates to form in effect a restricted portion thereof and in use an end of the child's garment is passed through such opening and wedged down within the slot. To further insure its retention I prefer to provide an additional securing member in the present form of a preferably resilient plate or lever 17 which is pivotally mounted on the spindle 8 between the clamping member 10 and the back support. It is thus permitted to swing transversely of the slot 7 and to further wedge the rearwardly projecting portion of the garment between itself and the rear face of the back support, as is clearly shown in Fig. 1, the cloth of the garment being indicated by the numeral 18. The clamping member 10 is also obviously common to this part, but to prevent too loose a movement thereof and also to allow its operation while sufficient clamping pressure is communicated to the head 9 to prevent the attendant structure from slipping down the slot 7, it is preferable to interpose a spring 19 between the securing and clamping members, as shown in Fig. 3, the same being housed within a recess 20 in the latter to exert its yielding pressure a little in advance of the ultimate rigid contact produced.

It is obvious that my invention could be used apart from the exact combination shown with a chair or seat as the back support, suitably mounted, might clearly be used alone with its attachments to hold the child in a standing position. I also wish to make mention of the fact of its being plain that the opening 16 in the back support for the initial insertion of the clothing need not be entirely inclosed, as shown, as it might be open at the top without destroying the function of the converging portion adjacent the slot 7 which directs the material within the latter.

I claim as my invention:

1. A body support comprising a back provided with an opening embodying an enlarged portion through which a part of the clothing of the occupant may be passed and a relatively restricted portion or communicating slot, adapted to subsequently receive and wedge the clothing, a pair of rigid waist

supporting arms disposed at opposite sides of the back and a carrying member therefor adjustable in the slot.

2. A body support comprising a back provided with an opening embodying an enlarged portion through which a part of the clothing of the occupant may be passed and a relatively restricted portion or communicating slot adapted to subsequently receive and wedge the clothing, a pair of rigid waist supporting arms disposed at opposite sides of the back and laterally thereof, a carrying member therefor adjustable in the slot in the back and a securing member pivoted to the carrier to move across the back transversely of the slot to wedge a projecting portion of such clothing between it and the back.

3. The combination with a body support including a back having a vertical slot or guide therein, of a vertically adjustable spindle extending through the slot and provided with a head on one side of the back, a pair of waist supporting arms arranged at either side of the support having shank portions embodying rack bars guided in the head, a gear loosely mounted on the spindle to cooperate with both rack bars and insure simultaneous lateral adjusting movements of the arms in opposite directions, and a clamping member engaging the spindle on the other side and reacting against the latter to lock the shank portions of the arms between the head and back against both vertical and lateral movement.

4. The combination with a body support including a back, of a spindle extending through the back and provided with a head on one side of the latter, a pair of waist supporting arms arranged at either side of the support having shank portions embodying rack bars guided in the head, a gear loosely mounted on the spindle to cooperate with both rack bars and insure simultaneous lateral adjusting movements of the arms in opposite directions and a clamping member engaging the spindle on the other side of the back and reacting against the latter to lock the shank portions of the arms between the head and back in their different positions of lateral adjustment.

5. The combination with a body support including a back, of a spindle extending through the back and provided with a head on one side of the latter, a pair of waist supporting arms arranged at either side of the support having shank portions guided beneath the head to permit lateral adjustment of the arms in opposite directions and a clamping member engaging the spindle on the other side of the back and reacting against the latter to lock the shank portions of the arms between the head and back in their various positions of adjustment.

6. A body support comprising a chair back provided with an opening embodying

a restricted portion or communicating slot adapted to receive and wedge the clothing of the occupant.

5 7. The combination with a body support including a chair back provided with a restricted opening or slot adapted to receive and wedge the clothing of the occupant, of a securing member movable across the back transversely of the slot to wedge a project-
10 ing portion of such clothing between it and the back.

8. The combination with a body support including a back provided with a restricted opening or slot adapted to receive and
15 wedge the clothing of the occupant, of a spindle extending through the back and provided with a head on one side of the latter, a pair of waist supporting arms arranged at either side of the support having

shank portions guided beneath the head to 20 permit lateral adjustment of the arms in opposite directions, a clamping member engaging the spindle on the other side of the back and reacting against the latter to lock
25 the shank portions of the arms between the head and back and a securing member pivoted on the spindle to swing transversely of the slot to wedge a projecting portion of such clothing between it and the back, the
30 securing member being arranged between the clamping member and back to be retained in position by the beforementioned clamping action.

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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents,
Washington, D. C."
