Oct. 9, 1951 V. T. O'CONNOR 2,570,842

BEACH OR LIKE ROCKING CHAIR

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Fig. 1.

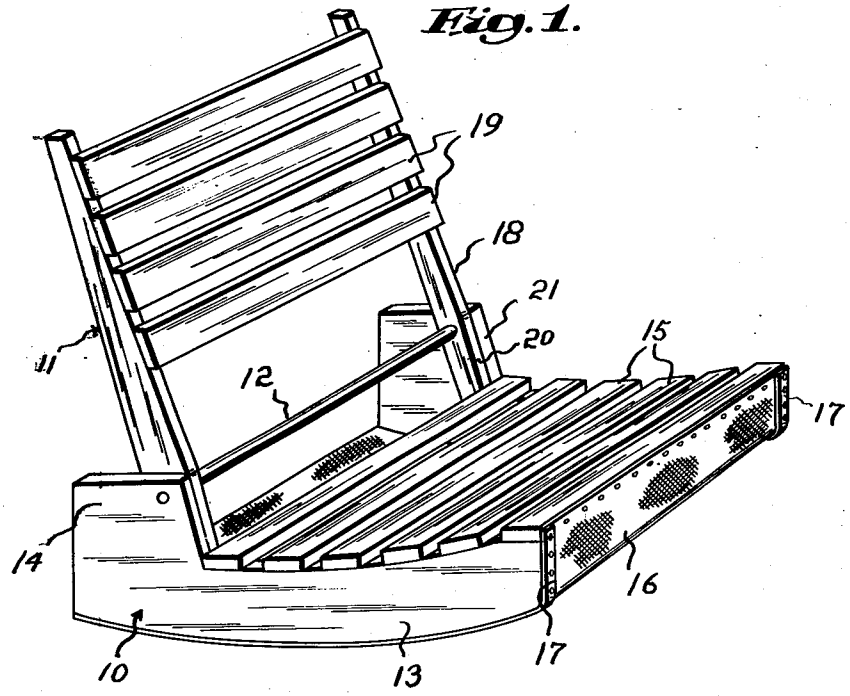
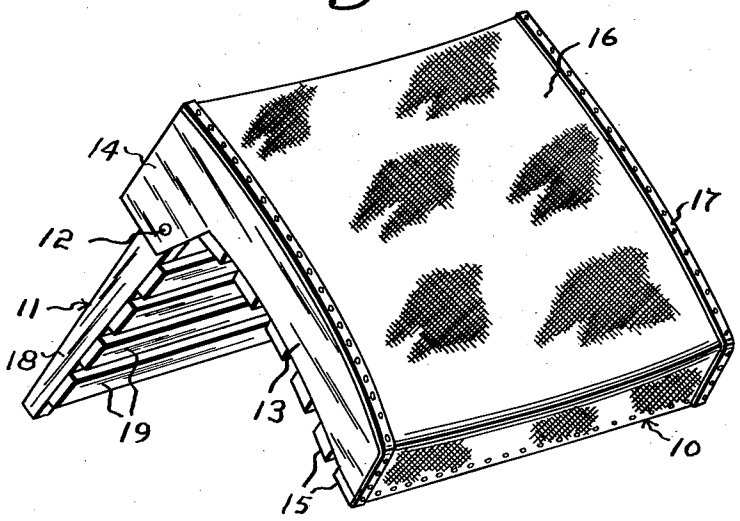


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 3.

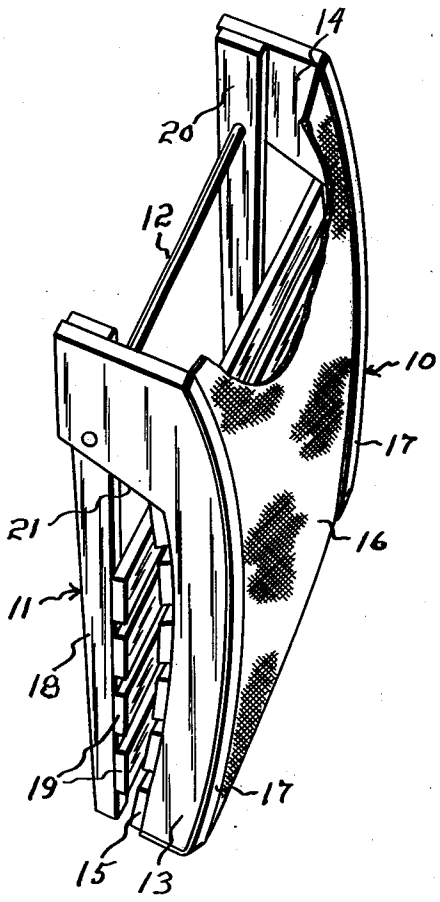


Fig. 4.

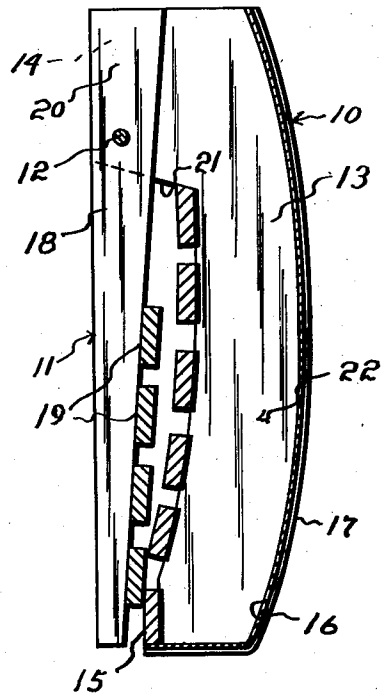
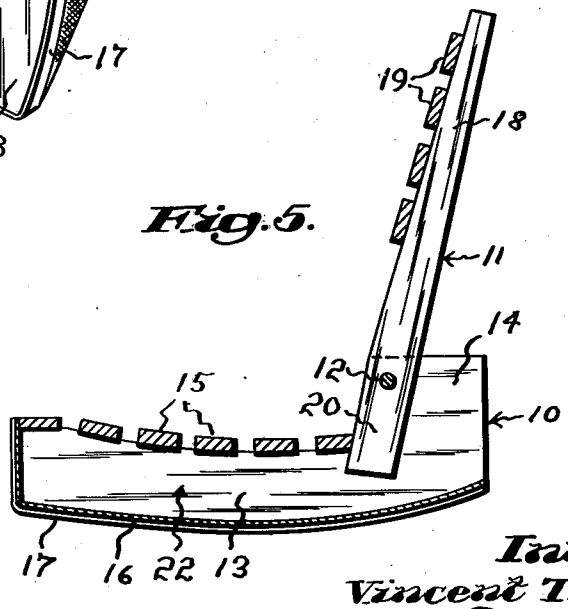


Fig. 5.



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Patented Oct. 9, 1951 2,570,842

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,570,842

BEACH OR LIKE ROCKING CHAIR

Vincent T. O'Connor, Revere, Mass.

Application June 24, 1950, Serial No. 170,189

6 Claims. (Cl. 155—75)

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My present invention relates to chairs for beach or like use and its objective is to provide a chair structure that combines lightness and strength with adaptability for use on sand, is adapted for ease and convenience in carrying it, and has a storage space for such articles as towels, magazines, and lunches, that are to be used at the beach.

In accordance with my invention, I provide a chair consisting of a pair of rockers rigidly interconnected by seat establishing means and a back pivotally connected to the rear rocker ends to be raised from a first position in which it is closed against the means into a predetermined position of use. A fabric bottom is connected to the rockers to provide a load supporting surface of adequate area to prevent the rockers from becoming embedded in soft sand.

In practice, the rockers are of substantial height and the seat establishing means are attached directly to their upper surface. The fabric bottom is attached to the bottom surfaces and front ends of the rockers to define with the seat establishing means, a storage compartment of substantial capacity open at the rear end of the chair. The rockers have upright portions at their rear ends through which extends a transverse back supporting pivot which also serves as a carrying handle for the chair adjacent the open end of the compartment.

In the accompanying drawings, I have shown an illustrative embodiment of my invention from which these and other of its novel features and advantages will be readily apparent.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of my chair set up for use,

Fig. 2 is a like view of the chair inverted so that its base is presented as a head rest,

Fig. 3 is a view, in perspective of the chair when collapsed and positioned to be carried,

Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section through the chair when collapsed, and

Fig. 5 is a similar view of the chair when set up for use.

The chair shown in the drawings consists of a base and a back, generally indicated at 10 and 11 with the back being pivotally connected to the base as by the transverse pivot 12.

I have shown the base 10 as consisting of a pair of rockers 13 which are of substantial height. Each of the rockers 13 includes an upright portion 14 at its rear end through which the back attaching pivot 12 extends. The rockers 13 are rigidly interconnected by seat establishing means shown as slats 15 secured to the upper surfaces of the rockers 13 and, preferably, the upper edge of each rocker is slightly concave to ensure that the thus established seat is comfortable. In accordance with my invention, I complete the base by securing a fabric bottom 16 to the bottom of the rockers 13, and, for reasons that will subsequently be apparent, also to the front ends thereof. For this purpose, I have found duck a satisfactory material but prefer that it be protected by wear strips 17 which may simply be strips of woven belting. In practice, the foremost slat 15 is flush with the front ends of the rockers 13 and the fabric bottom 16 is also secured thereto.

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While the back 11 may be of any type, I have shown it as consisting of a pair of arms 18 interconnected by the spaced slats 19. The arms 18 are of substantially the same over-all length as the rockers 13 and each of them is shown as being carried by the pivot 12, which may be a dowel, so that when the back 11 is in its first position, shown in Figs. 3 and 4, in which it is closed against the base 10, the ends of the arms 18 are flush with the ends of the rockers 13 and the arms 18 are also flush with the upper edge of the rocker portions 14.

As will be apparent from Fig. 5, when the back is raised, the extremities 20 of the arms 18 engage the rearmost slat 15 which functions as a stop to hold the back 11 against further rearward movement from the slightly rearwardly inclined raised position shown in Figs. 1 and 5. The front edges 21 of the rocker portions 14 are forwardly and downwardly inclined to be flush with adjacent portions of the arms 18 when the back 11 is raised.

The importance of the fabric bottom 16 will be readily appreciated by considering the chair as set up for use on a beach where it seems to establish a load supporting surface of sufficient area to prevent the rockers 13 from becoming embedded in the sand without interfering with their use.

Another advantage of the fabric bottom 16 is that when the chair is inverted to establish the position shown in Fig. 2, the fabric bottom 20 is disposed to provide comfortable support for a person's head and shoulders.

While the back 11, the rockers 13, and the seat establishing means may be made of wood, metal, or plastic, one of the features of chairs made in accordance with my invention is that they are adapted to combine strength with low cost production, lightness in weight, and, when col-

lapsed to be readily carried by the pivot 12 which provides a convenient handle.

A further advantage of my invention is that the rockers 13, the bottom 16, and the seat establishing means define a compartment 22, open at the rear of the chair, in which may be stored for use or for convenience in carrying these articles of which towels, magazines, and lunches are but examples so that beach chairs in accordance with my invention are well adapted to meet many requirements of those who wish to enjoy the beach for more than a swim.

What I therefore claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A beach chair comprising a pair of rockers, seat establishing means interconnecting said rockers, a back connected to said rockers adjacent their rear ends, and a fabric bottom secured to the bottom of said rockers to establish a taut load supporting surface to prevent said rockers from becoming embedded in the sand.

2. A beach chair comprising a pair of rockers each of which includes an upright portion at its rear end, seat establishing means interconnecting said rockers, a back, means pivotally connecting said back to said rocker portions so that it may be pivoted from a first position against said means rearwardly into a raised position, and a fabric bottom secured to said rockers to establish a load supporting surface to prevent said rockers from becoming embedded in the sand.

3. A beach chair comprising a pair of rockers, seat establishing means interconnecting said rockers, a back connected to said rockers adjacent their rear ends, a fabric bottom secured to the bottoms of said rockers to establish a lead supporting surface to prevent said rockers from becoming embedded in the sand, and flexible wear strips for said bottom secured to each of said rockers.

4. A beach chair comprising a pair of rockers, each of which includes an upright portion at its rear end, seat establishing means attached to the upper surfaces of said rockers to interconnect them, a back including a pair of arms, a transverse pivot between said rocker portions supporting said arms so that it may be pivoted from a first position against said means rearwardly into a raised position, said arms including portions engageable with the rear edge of said means in said raised position, said transverse pivot constituting a carrying handle for said chair when said back is in said first position, and a fabric bottom secured to the bottom and front surfaces of said rockers to establish a load supporting surface to prevent said rockers from becoming embedded in the sand and defining with said rockers and said seat establishing means a carrying compartment when said chair is held by said pivot.

5. The chair of claim 4 in which the arms are of substantially the same length and in the first position of the back, the rear end of each arm is flush with the rear end of a rocker portion and the upper edge of the rear end portion is flush with the upper edge of that rocker portion.

6. The chair of claim 4 in which the front edge of each upright rocker portion is forwardly and downwardly inclined and the arms are flush with those edges in the raised position of the back.

VINCENT T. O'CONNOR.

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