June 24, 1930. T. G. MELISH 1,765,845

FOLDING CHAIR

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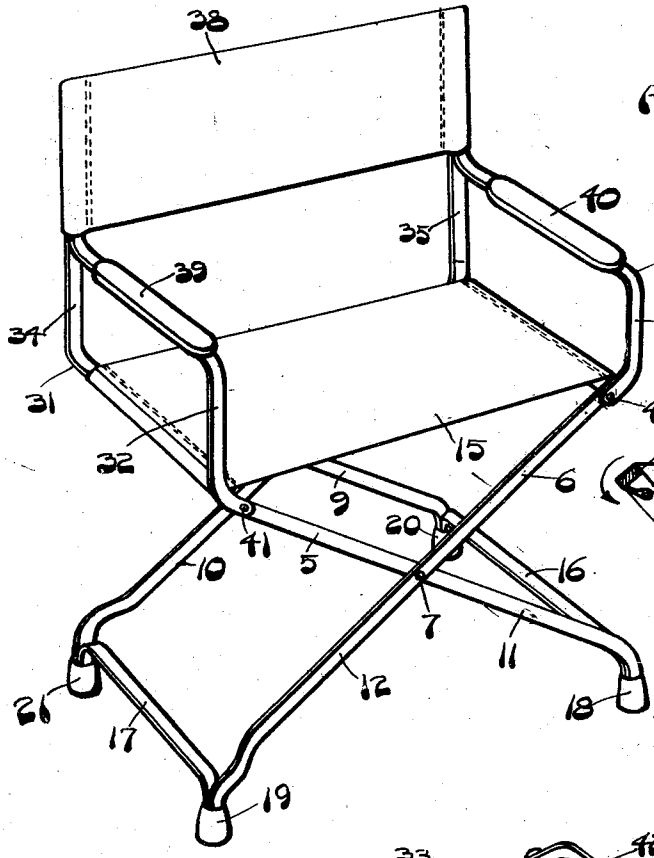


FIG. 1

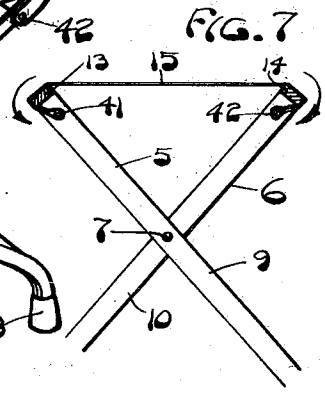


FIG. 7

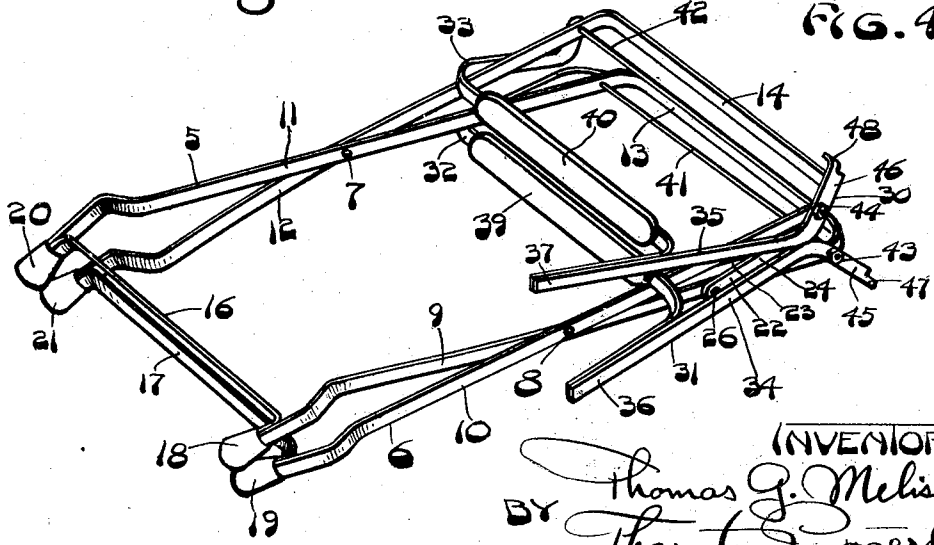


FIG. 4

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FOLDING CHAIR

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FIG. 2

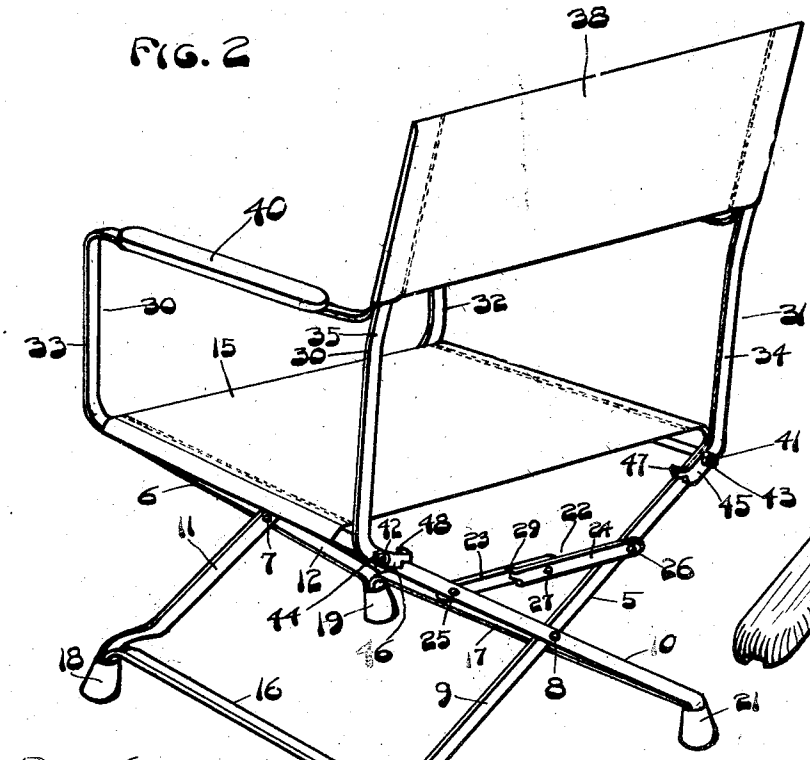


FIG. 5

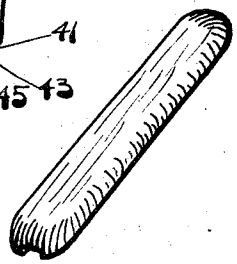


FIG. 6

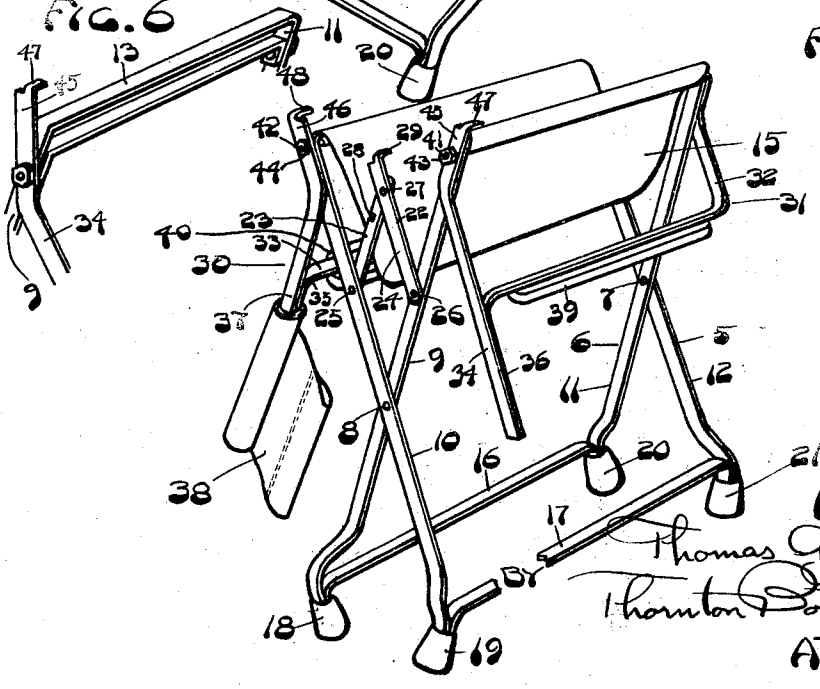


FIG. 3

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FOLDING CHAIR

Application filed October 21, 1926. Serial No. 143,136.

This invention relates to a type of chair which, while folding, has been particularly designed with an object in view of producing a chair which is remarkably light, which is very strong, which may be folded into a compact form, which is notably comfortable when in use, which is simple to move from folded to expanded condition and back again, which is quite cheap to produce, and in which the seat as well as the back are flexible to conform to the shape of the occupant and may be quickly removed and replaced for purposes of renewal, laundering or repair.

These and other objects are attained in the chair described in the following specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective front view of a chair embodying my invention.

Fig. 2 is a perspective back view of the chair shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the partially folded condition of the chair.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing the completely folded condition of the chair, the fabric seat and back having been removed in order that the frame work may be seen readily.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged perspective view of the arm rest.

Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view of the upper portion of a supporting leg frame.

Fig. 7 is a vertical cross section taken longitudinally of the seat portion in Fig. 1.

There are two principal elements 5 and 6 which are in the form of two metal rectangles fitting one within the other and pivotally joined at points 7 and 8 midway of the rear legs 9 and 10 and of the front legs 11 and 12 of the respective rectangles. Cross bars 13 and 14 at the tops of the respective rectangles extend from front to rear and form the supports to which the side edges of the seat fabric 15 are attached. The bottom bars 16 and 17 of the respective rectangles perform the function of braces between the front and rear legs adjacent to the feet 18 and 19, 20 and 21 of the chair. These feet are preferably of a material which, as for example rubber, will not mar the floor or slip thereon. The side edges of the fabric seat are supported by the side bars 13 and 14 of the frame so that the front and rear edges of the seat are free from support and therefore adaptable to shape themselves to the person occupying the chair. This is one reason for the notable comfort of the chair. The seat is removable in a manner which will be explained shortly. The seat-supporting leg rectangles 5 and 6 are held in expanded condition by a break brace 22 which extends between the upper portions of the rectangles at the back of the chair above the pivot 8 as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. The break brace 22 consists of links 23 and 24 pivoted at their outer ends at points 25 and 26. The links are pivotally joined at a point 27, but link 23 having a laterally extending notch 28 which receives a laterally extending lug 29 on link 24. These are placed so that the brace breaks in an upward direction as shown in Fig. 3.

Now the members which support the back and arm rests will be described. The members 30 and 31 consist of two arm rest supports 32 and 33 which are made a part of rear elements 34 and 35 respectively, see Fig. 4, between which the fabric back 38 is stretched, the latter having pockets sewed therein to receive the back supports. The supports 32 and 33 carry the respective arm rests 39 and 40. These members 30 and 31 are pivoted to the rectangular seat supporting members 5 and 6 upon rods or bolts 41 and 42, beneath the respective cross bars 13 and 14, so that they may swing outwardly and down to collapsed position as shown progressively in Figs. 3 and 4. These bolts incidentally perform the additional function of receiving the loops which are provided along the side edges of the seat fabric, after these edges have been brought over the cross bars 13 and 14 for support. Thus, by means of the nuts 43 and 44 on the ends of the bolts they may be removed and the seat then taken out for washing or renewal.

This is also true of the back 38 as has been explained, by merely slipping it from its supports 36 and 37, as suggested in Fig.

3. But now, in order to prevent the arm rests and back supports from collapsing inwardly when the occupant of the chair bears against the back, short extensions 45 and 46 are provided on the respective rear elements 34 and 35, with laterally extending lugs 47 and 48 respectively thereon for bearing against the edges of the rear legs 9 and 10 of the frame adjacent to the seat. In this manner the back is held stretched taut so as to support the pressure of the occupant against it, but, because of the back being of nothing but fabric, it will yield to the shape of the occupant's back, thus adding an additional of marked comfort to this chair.

Having thus described my invention what I claim is:

A folding chair comprising a pair of substantially rectangular elements pivoted together between correspondingly opposed sides, one side of each element constituting a brace between and adjacent to the floor engaging ends or feet of the pivotally joined sides, the side of each element opposite said side functioning as a brace forming a seat stretching bar, a removable bolt in and extending between the pivotally joined sides of each element spaced from the stretching bar thereof, a flexible seat having bolt receiving loops in two of its opposite sides, passing over the stretching bars and having its loops occupied by the bolts, said bars functioning to stretch the seat over them when the elements are moved to expanded position, said bars when the chair is collasped loosening the seat and permitting removal thereof when the bolts are removed, a back support pivoted on each side of the frame for folding movement away from the seat, a lug on each support to limit its movement toward the seat, and a flexible back detachably mounted on each support adapted when the seat supporting frame is expanded to be stretched taut between said supports against the resistance afforded by said lugs on said supports, the folding movement of the rectangular elements permitting detachment of the back and the folding movement of the back supports.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature.

THOMAS G. MELISH.