

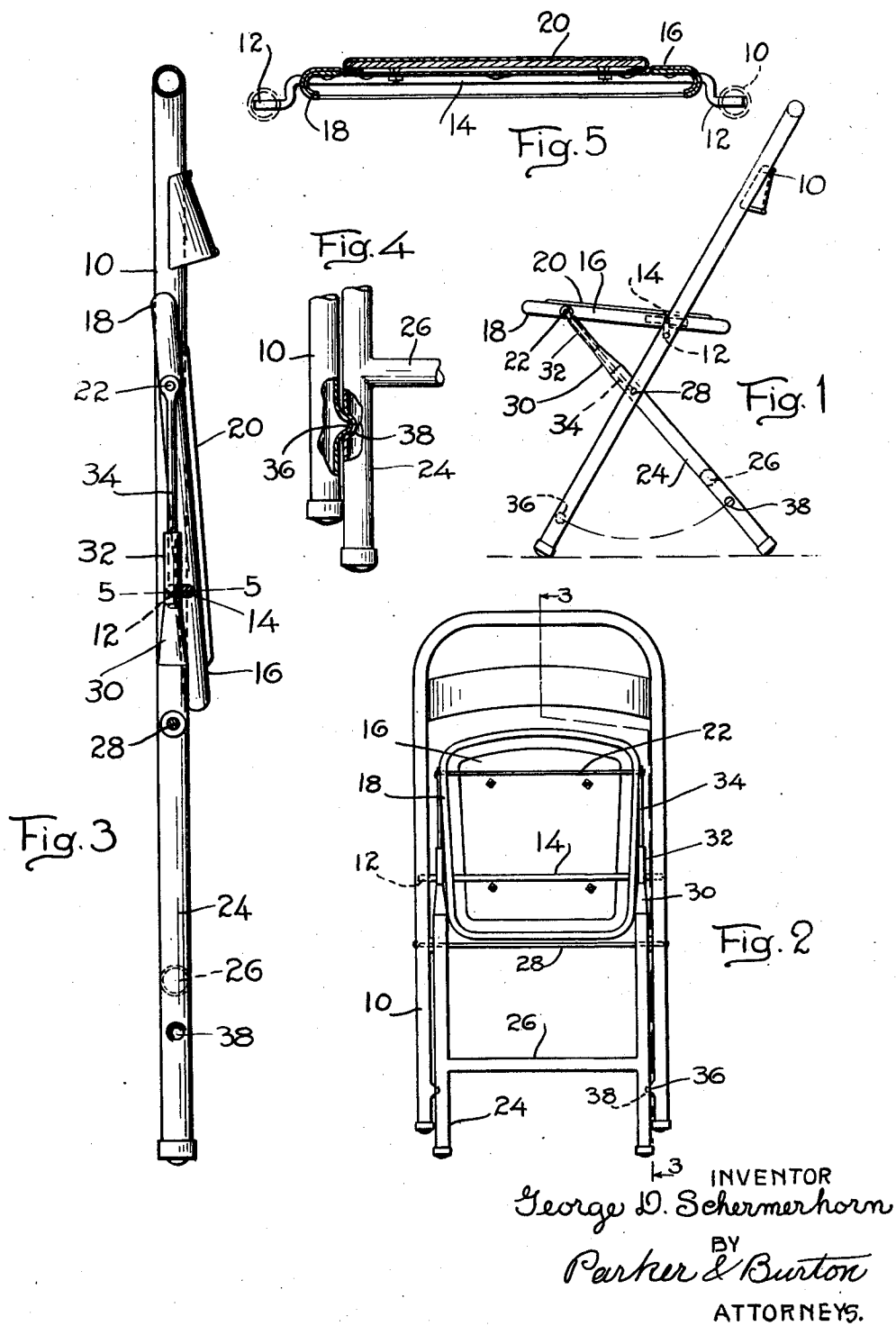
May 27, 1930.

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1,760,008

FOLDING CHAIR

Filed Feb. 11, 1928



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FOLDING CHAIR

Application filed February 11, 1928. Serial No. 253,557.

My invention relates to an improved folding chair. The object is to provide a durable, compact, inexpensive, sturdy folding chair of neat and attractive design which is particularly adapted to be made out of metal. The seat and legs of the chair fold substantially within the plane of the uprights so that the chairs may be conveniently stored within a minimum space. The construction is such that the chair may be folded and unfolded quietly and without the metallic tinny noise that commonly accompanies the operation of folding metal chairs.

An object is to provide a chair of this description wherein the seat is mounted between the uprights upon eccentric pivotal supports to fold substantially within the plane of the uprights but offset the pivotal axis of its supports, and wherein legs are pivoted between the uprights and coupled with the seat to fold therewith substantially into the plane of the uprights within the space provided by the eccentric mounting of the seat.

A further object resides in the provision in a folding chair of this character of tubular legs pivoted within the uprights and having upper portions of reduced diameter wherein extensions are telescopically arranged and pivotally connected with the seat.

A meritorious feature resides in providing suitable mechanism for automatically locking the legs and seat substantially within the plane of the uprights when the chair is in the folded relationship and, furthermore, in providing a novel arrangement of telescoping leg extensions associated with the legs and seat.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a chair in the unfolded position embodying my invention.

Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the chair shown in Fig. 1 showing such chair in the folded relationship.

Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 2

Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary elevation

partly broken away of the portion of the locking mechanism.

Fig. 5 is a horizontal sectional view taken on line 5—5 of Fig. 3 showing the seating structure only in a solid line.

My chair comprises a pair of spaced apart uprights 10 here shown as being of tubular metal structure and generally U-shaped form. A seat-supporting rod 12 extends between the uprights and is journaled therein. This rod has an intermediate portion 14 offset from its pivotal axis. A seat structure 16 is secured to this offset portion 14 to pivot therewith.

I have here shown the seat as also formed of metal and as having turned-over margins 18 through which the supporting rod extends and as being provided with a cushion or pad 20. The seat has a second transversely extending rod 22 which serves to pivot the upper extremities of the legs in the manner hereinafter described.

A pair of legs 24, braced apart by a transverse member 26, are pivotally supported between the uprights upon a rod 28 which bridges the gap between the uprights. These legs are shown as being formed of tubular metal. Each leg at a point beyond the rod 28 is tapered as at 30 to provide an upper end portion 32 of reduced diameter. An extension 34 is telescoped within this reduced upper extremity of the leg and is pivotally mounted upon the rod 22 of the seat.

The seat is adapted to be folded or unfolded pivoting with the rod 12 and in the folded position the chair will appear as shown in Fig. 2. In the unfolded position the seat will be supported in the manner shown in Fig. 1 and the extensions 34 of each leg may preferably rest upon the rod upon which the leg is pivoted.

The frictional resistance of the moving parts is substantially sufficient to retain the chair in the folded relationship, but I prefer to provide in proximity to the lower ends of

the legs and the uprights means for retaining the chair in the folded relation. I have here shown an upright as bumped outwardly as at 36 to be received within a depression 38 formed in the adjacent leg. The inherent spring tension of the uprights as they are supported is such that the leg structure is wedged between the uprights spreading them apart so that these parts interengage to hold the chair folded.

I claim:

1. A folding chair having tubular uprights, a seat supporting rod journaled therein having an offset intermediate portion lying within the plane thereof, a seat secured to said offset portion of the rod and spaced inwardly from its ends to pivot therewith, a pair of tubular legs journaled upon a second rod extending between the uprights, said legs having upper end portions of reduced diameter, an extension telescoped within the reduced upper extremity of each leg and pivotally connected with the seat, forwardly of its connection with the uprights and adapted to lie alongside of the seat within the offset portion of said pivot rod and within the plane of the uprights when the chair is folded.

2. A folding chair having a pair of uprights, a seat journaled between the uprights, a pair of legs journaled between the uprights upon a pivotal support carried thereby, an extension for each leg pivoted to the seat and telescoping within the leg above its pivotal connection with the upright and adapted to rest upon said pivotal support to limit the unfolding of the seat.

3. A folding chair comprising, in combination, a pair of uprights, a seat supporting rod extending therebetween within the plane thereof and having laterally extending ends pivoted to the uprights, a seat secured to the intermediate portion of the rod with each side edge spaced from the adjacent laterally extending end of the rod, a pair of rear legs pivoted between the uprights, each rear leg coupled with the adjacent side edge of the seat to fold with the seat within the space between said side edge and the adjacent laterally extending end of the rod.

4. A folding chair comprising, in combination, a pair of uprights, a seat supporting rod extending therebetween within the plane thereof and having laterally extending ends pivoted to the uprights, a seat secured to the intermediate portion of the rod with each side edge spaced from the adjacent laterally extending end of the rod, a pair of rear legs pivoted between the uprights, a member pivoted to each side edge of the seat and telescopically coupled with the adjacent rear leg whereby said legs are constrained to swing with the seat to fold within the space between the side edges of the seat and the adjacent laterally extending ends of the rod.

5. In a folding chair, a pair of uprights, a pair of rear legs pivoted thereto, a seat, and a metal reinforcing bar extending across the bottom of the seat, the ends of the bar having lateral ears pivoted to the uprights, said lateral ears being spaced from the sides of the seat to permit the rear legs to be folded between the sides of the seat and the ears within the plane of the uprights.

In testimony whereof, I, GEORGE D. SCHERMERHORN, sign this specification.

GEORGE D. SCHERMERHORN.