June 21, 1966 M. MENUTO 3,257,148

FOOT REST

Filed Feb. 8, 1965

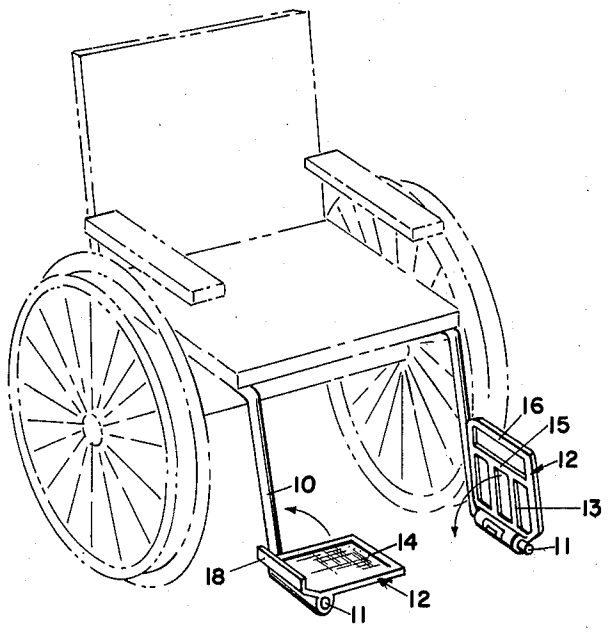


FIG. 1

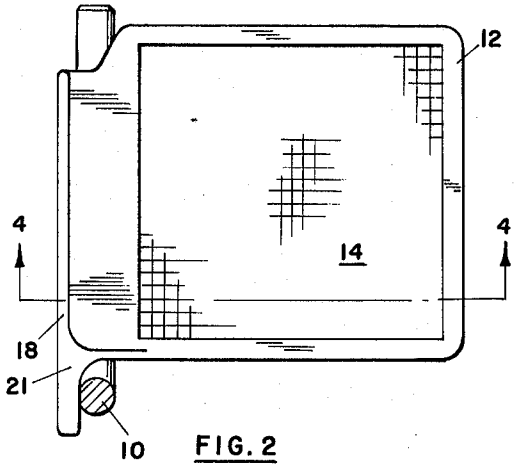


FIG. 2

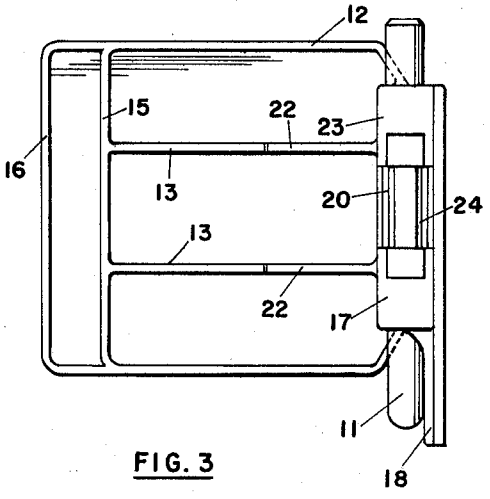


FIG. 3

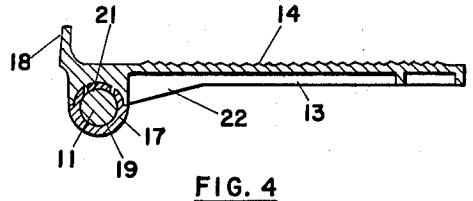


FIG. 4

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FOOT REST

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This invention relates to invalid chairs and, more particularly, to foot supports for invalid chairs.

The present invention provides an improvement over previous foot supports for wheel chairs in that an integral flange at the side of the foot support provides a protective edge for keeping the foot of the patient from sliding off of the foot support and, at the same time, the foot support is mounted on the foot support holder so that it does not need any screws or other fasteners to hold it in place. An extension on the flange at the back of the foot support provides an integral stop to keep the foot support in position without screws or any other fabricated part. The foot support has ribs which are formed in such a way that a part of the foot support can be removed to form a smaller size foot support. The tubing which is bent in an L-shape forms the support for the foot support and needs no fabrication.

It is, accordingly, an object of the present invention to provide an improved foot support.

Still another object of the invention is to provide an improved foot support in combination with a chair.

Still another object of the invention is to provide an integral foot support which requires no fabrications and no separate screw fasteners to hold it in place.

A further object of the invention is to provide a foot support which is simple in construction, economical to manufacture, and simple and efficient to use.

With the above and other objects in view, the present invention consists of the combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims, it being understood that changes may be made in the form, size, proportions, and minor details of construction without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawing:

FIG. 1 is an isometric view of a foot support on a chair according to the invention;

FIG. 2 is a top view of the foot support;

FIG. 3 is a bottom view of the foot support; and

FIG. 4 is a cross sectional view of the foot support taken on line 4—4 of FIG. 2.

The foot supporting member **12** shown according to the invention is made up of a tubular member round in cross section which has two leg members, a horizontal leg **11** and a vertical leg **10**, which are arranged at slightly less than ninety degrees to each other so that when the foot supporting member **12** is in the operative position, it will tend to slide away from the end of the horizontal leg **11** and toward the chair and, therefore, does not require a nut on the end of the horizontal leg **11** to prevent the foot supporting member from sliding off.

The foot supporting member **12** is generally plate like with lateral ribs **13** and a horizontal rib **15** on the bottom. The longitudinal rib **15** is spaced from and parallel to flange **16**. Thus, if a child's foot rest is desired, the foot supporting member **12** can be cut off toward the edge from the flange **16** and longitudinal rib **15** will lie just behind the front cut-off edge.

The foot supporting member has a generally flat top surface **14** which terminates at the outside end in the upwardly extending flange **18**. The upwardly extending

flange **18** extends toward the chair at end **21** beyond the end of the foot rest and end **21** abuts against the vertical leg **10** of the tubular member when the foot rest is folded down in operative position.

Spaced boss portions **17** and **23** are provided with a bore **19** which receives the horizontal leg **11**. Thus, the foot supporting member may rotate on the leg **11** which forms a snug fit inside the bore **19**. The boss portions **17** and **23** are spaced from each other and a recess **20** is provided between the boss portions and in this recess is received a flat spring **24**. The flat spring **24** is bent into arcuate shape with two legs and an intermediate portion. The legs bear frictionally against the horizontal leg **11** of the support and the intermediate portion bears against the bottom of the recess **20**. Thus, the flat spring **24** makes frictional engagement with the outer periphery of the horizontal leg **11** of the support. A gusset **22** is integrally attached to the lateral ribs **13** at the edge and, also, to the boss portions **17** and **23**. This makes the foot rest extremely rigid.

In operation, the foot rest may be swung up and laterally into a plane generally parallel with the vertical leg **10** out of working position and can also be swung down and inwardly into operative position when the flat top surface **14** is generally horizontal. The end **21** of the upwardly extending flange **18** will engage the back side of the vertical leg **10** and form a rigid stop, holding the foot rest rigidly in position.

The foregoing specification sets forth the invention in its preferred practical forms but the structure shown is capable of modification within a range of equivalents without departing from the invention which is to be understood is broadly novel as is commensurate with the appended claims.

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. In combination, an invalid chair and a foot support comprising

a generally L-shaped arm round in cross section on said chair having a generally horizontal leg and a vertical leg,

said foot support having a plate like member having a boss integrally attached to its lower rear edge,

a flange integrally attached to the rear edge of said boss and to the rear edge of said foot support and extending upwardly therefrom,

a bore through said boss,

said generally horizontal leg of said L-shaped arm extending into said bore in said boss,

said flange having an end portion extending from the rear edge of said foot support,

said end portion of said flange engaging the side of said L-shaped arm when the top surface of said plate like member is in operative position, limiting the swinging movement of said foot support.

2. The combination recited in claim **1** wherein

said boss has two spaced boss portions,

a recess between said spaced boss portions,

and a generally flat spring bent into arcuate shape in said recess,

said arcuate spring terminating in end members engaging said L-shaped arm and the intermediate portion of said spring engaging said foot rest, exerting a frictional force thereon,

said foot rest being held on said L-shaped arm.

3. The combination recited in claim **1** wherein

said plate like member has a generally flat top,

said top being inclined slightly toward said L-shaped arm when said flange engages said L-shaped arm and said top is in operative position.

4. The combination recited in claim **1** wherein

said horizontal and vertical legs of said L-shaped arm are disposed at an angle of slightly less than ninety degrees to each other, whereby said foot support is urged by gravity to slide toward said vertical leg.

5. The combination recited in claim 4 wherein said foot support has spaced, laterally extending ribs on the bottom thereof,

said foot support being adapted to be broken off along one said rib whereby a smaller size foot support is provided.

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