United States Patent

Zdroik

[15] **3,664,460**

[45] **May 23, 1972**

[54] TREE SEAT

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[22] Filed: **Mar. 8, 1971**

[21] Appl. No.: **121,876**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **182/187**
[51] **Int. Cl.** **A47c 9/10**
[58] **Field of Search** 182/187, 188

[56] **References Cited**

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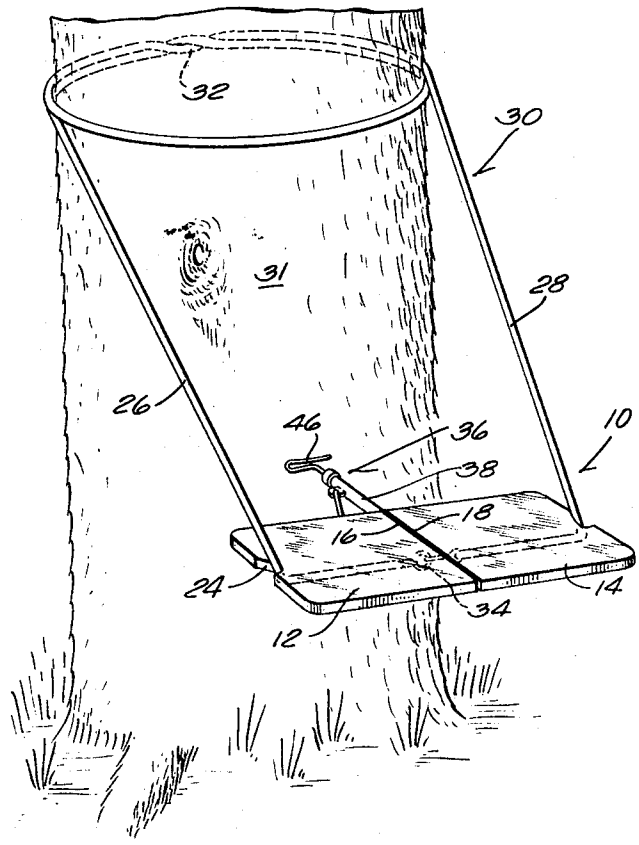
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Primary Examiner—Reinaldo P. Machado
Attorney—Wheeler, House & Wheeler

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A collapsible and portable tree seat for hunters, campers, etc. comprises two narrow hinged seat sections suspended from a tree trunk by a sling and a telescoping strut with a curved tip which engages the trunk of a tree to space the seat from the tree trunk so that the user can comfortably center himself on the seat without touching the tree trunk.

6 Claims, 6 Drawing Figures



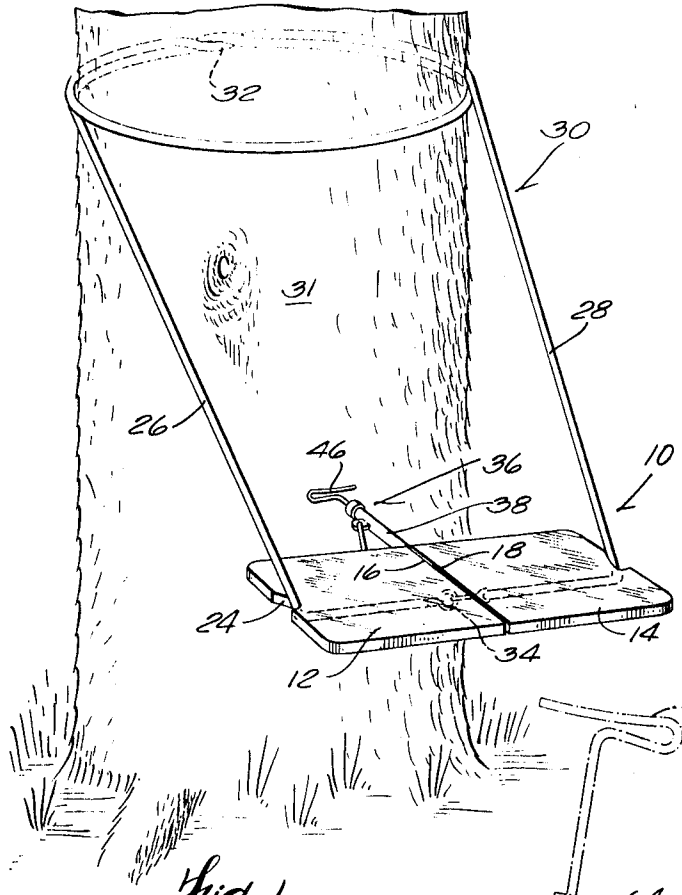


Fig. 1

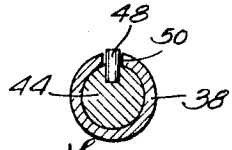


Fig. 5

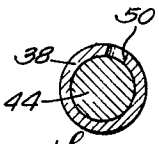


Fig. 4

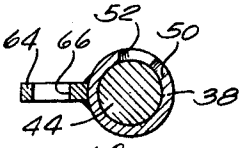


Fig. 3

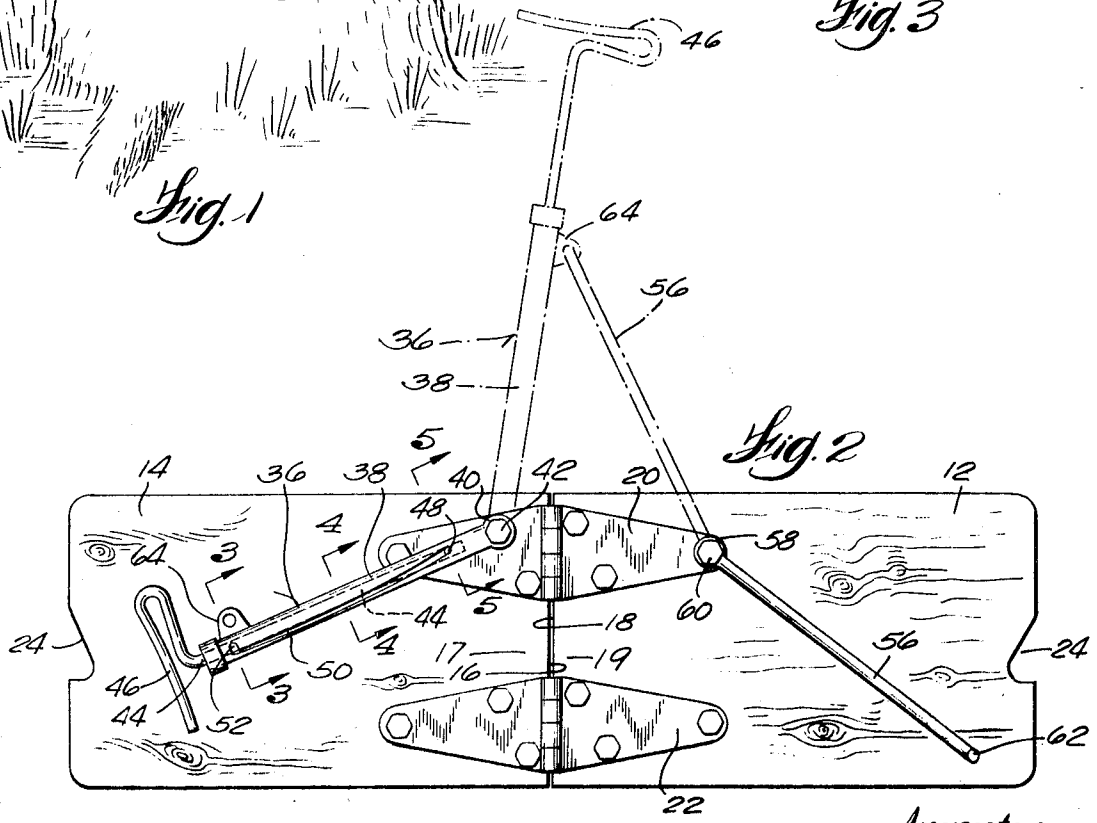


Fig. 2

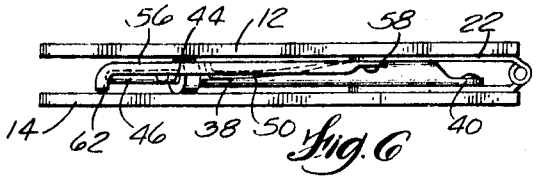


Fig. 6

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TREE SEAT

BACKGROUND OF INVENTION

Tree suspended seats have been used by hunters for many years although they have not become popular because they are generally uncomfortable, and too bulky to carry.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

The invention provides a portable tree seat with two seat sections hinged together along abutting edges by hinges on the under side of the seat sections. The hinges permit the seat sections to be folded when the seat is not in use, and the abutting edges prevent movement of the sections about the hinge pins in a downward direction to keep the seat sections from collapsing when in use.

A strut spaces the seat from the trunk so that the user can comfortably position himself on the seat without interference from the trunks. The strut is pivotally connected to one of the seat portions and includes a sleeve and a telescoping rod with a transverse fold or curved tip which engages the trunk. The strut can be withdrawn from the sleeve to an extended position for use and moved inwardly to a retracted position for storage between the folded seat sections.

The strut is maintained in the tree engaging position by a brace or re-inforcing rod which has one end pivotally connected to the other seat section and an end connectable to the strut to form a rigid triangle.

The seat is suspended from the trunk by a sling which is wrapped around the tree trunk and has ends with clips which are connected beneath the seat.

Further objects and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from the following disclosure.

Drawings

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the tree seat of the invention.

FIG. 2 is an enlarge bottom view of the tree seat.

FIG. 3 is a sectional view along lines 3— 3 of FIG. 2.

FIG. 4 is a sectional along lines 4— 4 of FIG. 2.

FIG. 5 is a sectional along lines 5— 5 of FIG. 2.

FIG. 6 is a view of the tree seat in the collapsed storage condition.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Although the disclosure hereof is detailed and exact to enable those skilled in the art to practice the invention, the physical embodiments herein disclosed merely exemplify the invention which may be embodied in other specific structure. The scope of the invention is defined in the claims appended hereto.

The tree seat **10** includes two seat sections **12** and **14** which have abutting edges **16** and **18** and adjoining margins **17** and **19** which are pivotally connected by hinges **20** and **22**. When the seat sections **12** and **14** are in the unfolded condition for use as shown in FIGS. **1** and **2**, the edges **16** and **18** are in abutting relationship and downward pressure on the seat presses the edges **16** and **18** together to maintain the seat sections in an unfolded co-planar relationship.

Each seat section **12** and **14** has a notch **24** for receiving the legs **26** and **28** of a sling **30**. The sling **30** is desirably wrapped around the tree **31** and knotted at **32** on the side of the tree **31** opposite the seat **10**. The ends of the sling **30** are connected beneath the seat by suitable fasteners or clips **34**.

To space the seat from the tree trunk so that the user can comfortably center himself on the seat, the invention provides a strut **36** which has a tubular member **38** with an eye **40** at the inner end which is pivotally connected to the seat portion **14** by a hinge bolt **42**. The tubular member **38** telescopically receives a rod **44** which has a folded or transverse end **46** which engages the tree trunk. Means are provided for locking the rod in an extended position. In the disclosed construction,

the rod **44** is provided with a peg or cam follower **48** which is located in a cam slot **50** which extends axially and circumferentially of the tubular member **38**. When the telescoping rod **44** is in the extended position as shown in broken lines in FIG. **2**, the cam follower **48** is located in a transverse notch **52** in the cam slot **50** which maintains the rod **44** in an extended outer position. The strut **36** can also be used with the rod **44** in a retracted position (FIG. **2**, **5**) with the cam follower **48** located at the inner end of the cam slot. The inner end of the cam slot **50** and the notch thus define two useable positions for the telescoping rod **44**. In both positions, the folded end **46** is in a plane parallel with the unfolded seat sections **12** and **14**.

To rigidify the strut **36**, the invention provides a brace **56** which has an eye **58** at the inner end pivotally connected by bolt **60** to seat section **12**. Means are provided for connecting the brace **56** to the strut **36**. In the disclosed construction, the means comprises a hook **62** on the brace **56** and a tab **64** on the outer tubular member **38** which is provided with an eye **66** which receives the hook **62**. When the brace **56** is connected to the strut, a rigid triangular structure is formed with the strut **36** and brace **56** forming sides of the triangle and seat sections **12**, **14** forming the base of the triangle. Thus, pivotal movement of either the strut **36** or the brace **56** is prevented and the strut is maintained in the erect tree engaging position. With the seat spaced from the tree, the user can comfortably balance himself on the seat. The tree trunk can be conveniently used as a back rest if desired. With the seat **10** spaced from the tree trunk, a hunger can easily twist his body when watching for game.

When the seat is not in use or is being carried, the strut **36** and brace **56** are pivoted between the folded seat portions **12**, **14** as shown in FIG. **6**. The folded seat and sling can be conveniently carried in a bag (not shown) which can be fastened to a belt.

Various of the features of the invention are set forth in the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A portable tree seat including a seat portion, a sling for suspending the seat portion from a tree trunk, a strut pivotally connected to said seat portion and movable between a position beneath the seat and an erect position to engage a tree trunk and space the seat portion from the tree trunk, a brace pivotably connected to said seat portion at a point remote from said connection of said strut and said seat portion, and means for connecting said brace to said strut to maintain said strut in said erect position.

2. A device in accordance with claim **1** wherein said means to connect said brace to said strut comprises a hook on one of said strut and said brace and an eye on the other of said brace and said strut.

3. A device in accordance with claim **1** wherein said strut has an outer tubular member pivotally connected telescoped said seat portion, a rod telescoped in said tubular portion said rod including a transverse rest portion at the end of said rod, and means on said tubular member to maintain said rod in an extended position.

4. A tree seat in accordance with claim **3** wherein said means for locking said rod in the extended position comprises a cam slot in said tubular member, a cam follower on said rod said cam slot extending axially and circumferentially of said tubular member and a transverse notch in said slot to receive aNd retain said follower to maintain said rod in the extended position.

5. A device in accordance with claim **1** wherein said seat portion has first and second pivotally connected seat sections and wherein said strut is connected to one of said seat sections and said brace is connected to the other of said seat sections.

6. A device in accordance with claim **1** wherein said seat has notches to receive said sling and said sling has fastening clips for connection beneath the seat.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Patent No. 3,664,460 Dated May 23, 1972

Inventor(s) Melvin M. Zdroik

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent are hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 1, Line 40, change "enlarge" to --enlarged--

Column 2, Line 28, change "hunger" to ---hunter----

Column 2, Line 52, delete "telescoped" and insert --to--

Signed and sealed this 17th day of October 1972.

(SEAL)
Attest:

EDWARD M.FLETCHER,JR.
Attesting Officer

ROBERT GOTTSCHALK
Commissioner of Patents

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* U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1969 O—366-334