Jan. 11, 1938. S. G. COLLARD 2,104,830

OBSTETRICAL CHAIR

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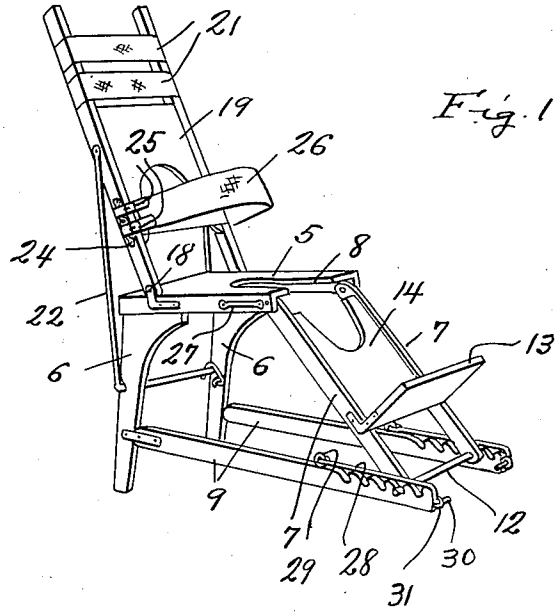



Fig. 1.

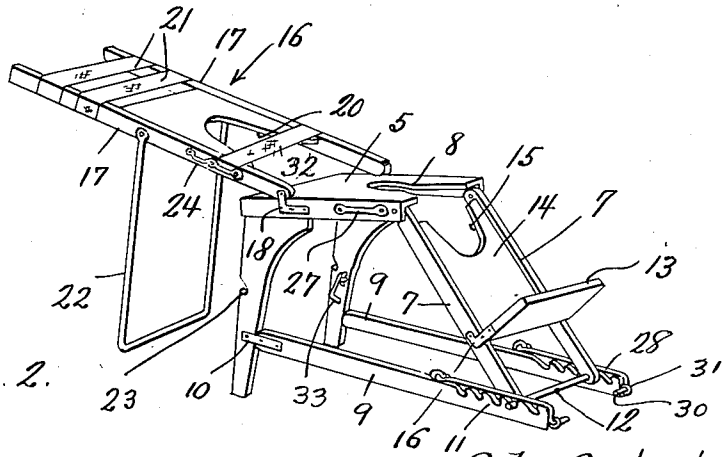



Fig. 2.

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Fig. 3.

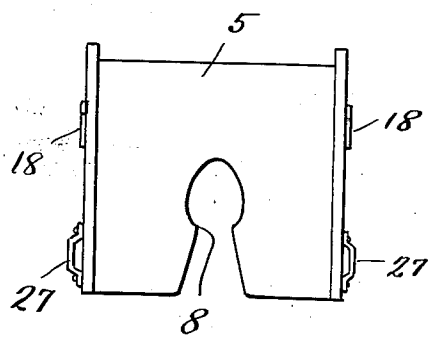
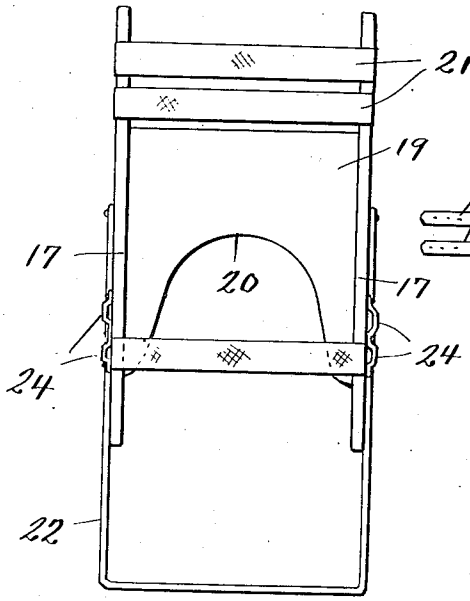



Fig. 4.



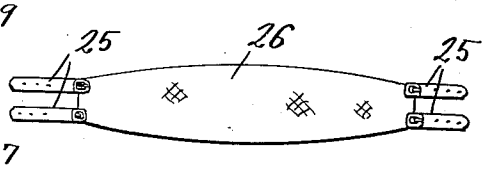




Fig. 5.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,104,830

## OBSTETRICAL CHAIR

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Application June 9, 1937, Serial No. 147,393

7 Claims. (Cl. 155—28)

This invention is a chair particularly designed for obstetrical purposes.

An object of the invention is to provide a chair of this character which is foldable, and which is also so constructed as to permit the use thereof during actual labor, as well as for examination purposes.

The invention, together with its objects and advantages will be best understood from a study of the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the chair, in one position.

Figure 2 is a similar view of the chair in a second position.

Figure 3 is a bottom plan view of the seat of the chair.

Figure 4 is a plan view of the back rest, and

Figure 5 is a plan view of an abdominal belt.

Referring to the drawings by reference numerals, it will be seen that in the preferred embodiment thereof, the improved folding obstetrical chair comprises a seat 5 supported by rear legs 6 and front legs 7. The seat 5 as shown is provided with an opening 8 of suitable edge contour and opening through the forward end edge of the seat. Opening 8 is provided to permit the performance of vaginal examination, to take care of secretions, and to accommodate the child upon delivery thereof.

For supporting the seat 5 at the desired angle to the horizontal, there are provided rails 9 having one end abutting the legs 6 and pivoted to the legs 6 through the medium of brackets 10. At the free ends thereof the rails 9 are provided with notches 11 to receive the ends of a rod 12 that connects the free ends of legs 7. Thus, by engaging the rod 12 in selected notches 11, the seat 5 may be supported at the desired angle to the horizontal.

To secure the rod 12 in engagement with selected notches 11, each rail 9 is provided with a retaining bar 28 secured at one end thereof to the rail 9 through the medium of an eye screw 29 and having a free end fashioned to provide a hook 30 engageable with a keeper eye 31 provided at the free end of the rail, as clearly shown in Figures 1 and 2.

Pivotally supported between the legs 7 adjacent the lower ends of the legs is a footrest 13. Also extending upwardly from the rest 13 suitably secured between the legs 7 is a board 14 which forms a leg rest and is provided at its upper edge with an opening or notch 15 substantially mating with the opening 8 and forming substantially a continuation of the opening 8 whereby a relatively large opening is provided for examination or delivery of the child. The footrest is preferably hinged to the legs 7 at the lower edge of the leg rest 14 as at 16.

The chair is also provided with a backrest 16 which includes a pair of side rails 17 pivoted at one end to brackets 18 provided at opposite sides of the seat 5 adjacent the rear of the seat. A back supporting plate 19 is supported between the sides 17 of the backrest and is provided in the lower edge thereof with an opening 20 to permit manipulation of the spine during childbirth.

Also extended between the upper ends of the sides 17 of the backrest are spaced strips 21 of suitable fabric forming a rest for the head, while extended across the backrest adjacent the lower edge of the back supporting plate 19 is a strip 32 of fabric which provides a yielding support for the back of the patient adjacent the base of the spinal column.

For securing the backrest 16 at the desired position of adjustment there is provided a U-shaped brace 22, the legs of which at the open end of the U are pivoted to the sides 17 of the backrest intermediate the ends of said sides. At the closed end of the U the brace member 22 is engageable in notches 23 provided therefor in the rear edges of the rear supporting legs 6. Thus, it will be seen that with the brace member 22 engaged in the notches 23 as shown in Figure 1, the backrest 16 is supported at a suitable angle to the perpendicular for supporting the back of the patient assuming a sitting posture on the chair.

For supporting the back 16 in a substantially horizontal position, brace 22 is swung to the position shown in Figure 2 so that the lower or closed end of the brace rests on the floor. Thus with the back 16 shown in the position in Figure 2, the person may occupy the chair in a reclining position.

The sides 17 are also provided with suitable brackets 24 with which are engaged the straps 25 provided in pairs on the opposite ends of an abdominal belt 26. The belt 26 is to be used during childbirth, and when so used, serves to lift the abdomen, thus bringing the axis of the uterus in line with the birth canal and corrects the posterior position of the cervix; while at the same time, the belt will exert a pressure over the upper portion of the abdomen for aiding the expulsive forces of labor.

There are also provided at opposite sides of

the seat 5 suitable handgrips 27 which the patient may make use of in an obvious manner when expulsive efforts are being made by her.

A feature of the present chair is that it permits the patient to sit in a semi-squatting position and thus open the lower portion of the birth canal and to advantage utilize the force of gravity and the other forces of nature as an aid in expelling the child. Also the semi-squatting position as may be assumed by the patient renders it more easy for the patient to assist herself, and at the same time facilitate examination, direction of the patient, and assistance to the patient by the attendant during labor.

Also, as clearly shown in Figures 1 and 2, to secure the supporting brace 22 engaged with the notches 23 there is suitably mounted on one of the legs 6 a retaining hook 33 that engages the closed end of the brace 22 in a manner shown in Figure 1, whereby the back of the chair is positively secured in the position shown in Figure 1.

When not in use, the chair may be readily folded as is thought to be apparent and in a folded condition will require but relatively small storage space.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A folding obstetrical chair including a seat, rear supporting legs for the seat, front supporting legs for the seat hinged at one end to the seat at opposite sides of the latter, brace rails hinged at one end to said rear supporting legs and having free ends provided with notches, a round connecting the free ends of said front supporting legs and having its respective opposite ends extending laterally from said front supporting legs for engagement with selected notches whereby to support said seat at the desired angle of inclination relative to the horizontal.

2. A folding obstetrical chair including a seat, rear supporting legs for the seat, front supporting legs for the seat hinged at one end to the seat at opposite sides of the latter, brace rails hinged at one end to said rear supporting legs and having free ends provided with notches, a round connecting the free ends of said front supporting legs and having its respective opposite ends extending laterally from said front supporting legs for engagement with selected notches whereby to support said seat at the desired angle of inclination relative to the horizontal, and a back for said chair hinged at its lower end to said seat, together with a supporting brace for the back pivoted at one end to the back and having a free end adapted to rest on the floor for supporting the back in a substantially slightly inclined position relative to the horizontal, and said rear seat supporting legs being provided with notches with which the free end of said back-brace is engageable for supporting said back at the desired angle of inclination relative to the perpendicular.

3. A folding obstetrical chair including a seat, rear supporting legs for the seat, front supporting legs for the seat hinged at one end to the seat at opposite sides of the latter, brace rails hinged at one end to said rear supporting legs and having free ends provided with notches, a round connecting the free ends of said front supporting legs and having its respective opposite ends extending laterally from said front supporting legs for engagement with selected notches whereby to support said seat at the desired angle of inclination relative to the horizontal, leg and foot rests respectively supported by said front supporting legs, and said seat and leg rests having mating notches in one edge thereof to provide an enlarged opening for examination and delivery purposes.

4. A folding obstetrical chair including a seat, rear supporting legs for the seat, front supporting legs for the seat hinged at one end to the seat at opposite sides of the latter, brace rails hinged at one end to said rear supporting legs and having free ends provided with notches, a round connecting the free ends of said front supporting legs and having its respective opposite ends extending laterally from said front supporting legs for engagement with selected notches whereby to support said seat at the desired angle of inclination relative to the horizontal, leg and foot rests respectively supported by said front supporting legs, and said seat and leg rests having mating notches in one edge thereof to provide an enlarged opening for examination and delivery purposes, a backrest hinged to said seat, brace means for securing said backrest at either of two desired positions of adjustment, and said backrest including a back supporting member having an enlarged notch in the lower edge thereof to permit freedom of movement of the spine.

5. A folding obstetrical chair including a seat, rear supporting legs for the seat, front supporting legs for the seat hinged at one end to the seat at opposite sides of the latter, brace rails hinged at one end to said rear supporting legs and having free ends provided with notches, a round connecting the free ends of said front supporting legs and having its respective opposite ends extending laterally from said front supporting legs for engagement with selected notches whereby to support said seat at the desired angle of inclination relative to the horizontal, a backrest hinged to said seat, brace means for the backrest, said backrest including a back supporting member provided in the lower edge thereof with an enlarged notch to permit freedom of movement of the spine, and said backrest at opposite sides thereof being provided with brackets, and an abdominal belt having strap means at the respective opposite ends thereof engageable with said brackets for securing the abdominal belt across the abdomen of the occupant of the chair.

6. A folding obstetrical chair including a seat, rear supporting legs for the seat, front supporting legs for the seat hinged at one end to the seat at opposite sides of the latter, brace rails hinged at one end to said rear supporting legs and having free ends provided with notches, a round connecting the free ends of said front supporting legs and having its respective opposite ends extending laterally from said front supporting legs for engagement with selected notches whereby to support said seat at the desired angle of inclination relative to the horizontal, and means carried by said brace rails for releasably securing the ends of said round retained in selected notches.

7. A folding obstetrical chair including a seat, rear supporting legs for the seat, front supporting legs for the seat hinged at one end to the seat at opposite sides of the latter, brace rails hinged at one end to said rear supporting legs and having free ends provided with notches, a round connecting the free ends of said front supporting legs and having its respective opposite ends extending laterally from said front supporting legs for engagement with selected notches whereby to support said seat at the desired angle

of inclination relative to the horizontal, and a back for said chair hinged at its lower end to said seat, together with a supporting brace for the back pivoted at one end to the back and having a free end adapted to rest on the floor for supporting the back in a substantially slightly inclined position relative to the horizontal, and said rear seat supporting legs being provided with notches with which the free end of said back-brace is engageable for supporting said back at the desired angle of inclination relative to the perpendicular, and a retaining hook mounted on one of said rear seat supporting legs and engageable with the free end of said back brace to retain the latter in engagement with the notches in said seat supporting legs.

SABY GERTRUDE COLLARD.