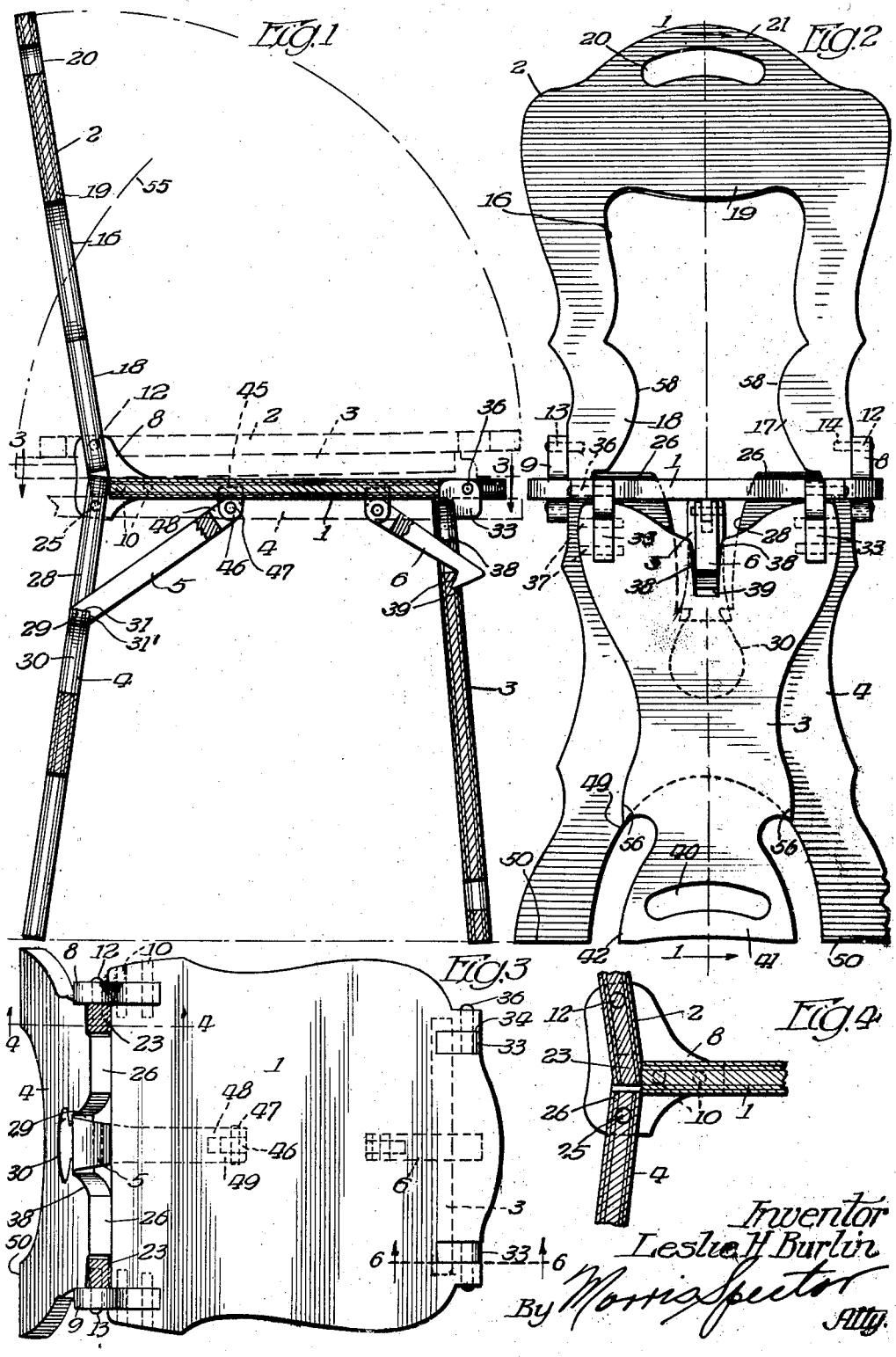
May 30, 1944. L. H. BURLIN 2,350,013

FOLDING CHAIR

Filed June 5, 1942 2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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May 30, 1944. L. H. BURLIN 2,350,013

FOLDING CHAIR

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Fig. 5

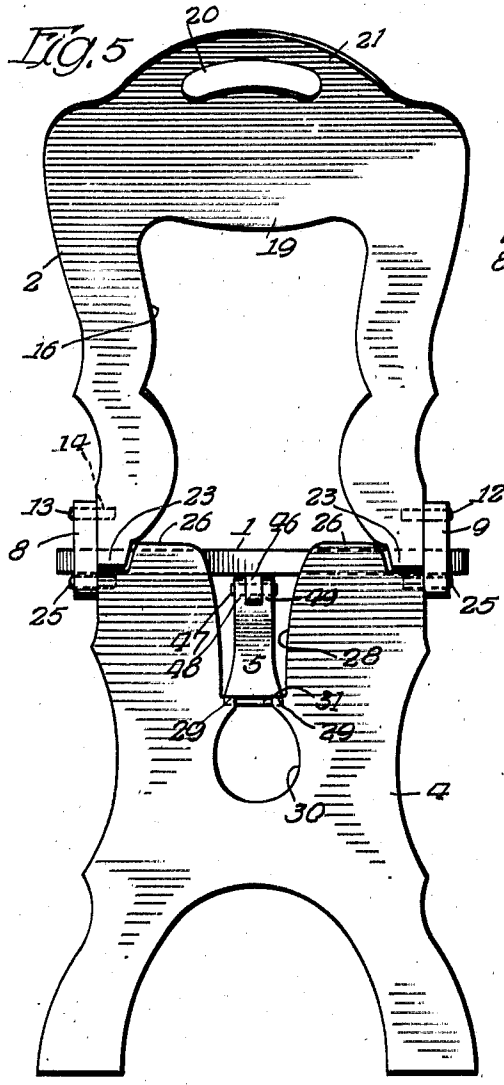


Fig. 7

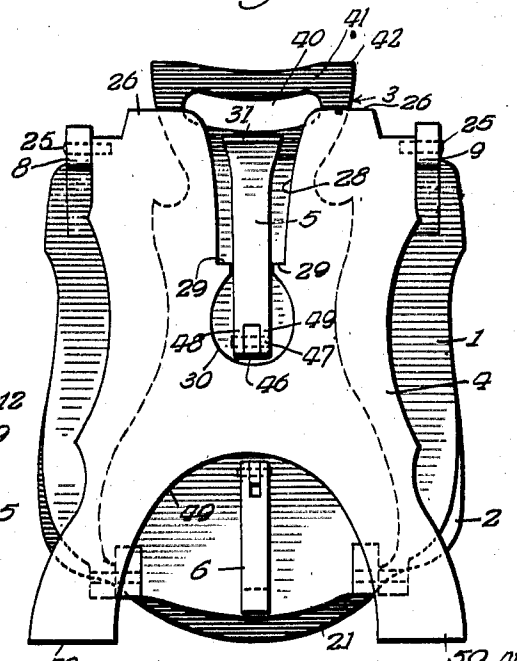


Fig. 6

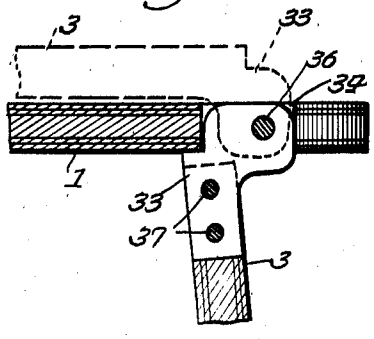


Fig. 8

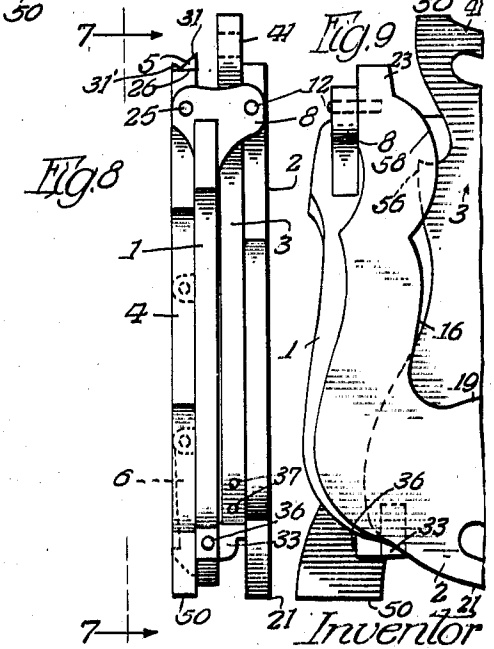


Fig. 9

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2,350,013

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2,350,013

FOLDING CHAIR

Leslie H. Burlin, Valparaiso, Ind.

Application June 5, 1942, Serial No. 445,899

18 Claims. (Cl. 155—148)

This invention relates to chairs in general and more particularly to folding chairs.

It is one of the objects of the present invention to provide a folding type chair which is sturdy of construction, light in weight, and which may be easily and quickly folded and unfolded. It is a further object of the present invention to provide a folding chair of the above mentioned character which when folded is exceedingly compact.

It is a still further object of the present invention to provide a folding chair of the above mentioned character which when folded is not only compact but also presents perfectly flat sides so that a large number of such chairs can be stacked one against another with a minimum amount of waste space, and which may be piled one upon the other and still remain level. It is another object of the present invention to provide a folding chair of the above mentioned character which can be stood up while folded and will remain in an upright position. It is another object of the present invention to provide a chair of the above mentioned character which when folded has a handle for facilitating carrying of the chair and when carried in its partially folded condition naturally tends to assume its fully folded position. Thus when the folded chair is carried from one place to another there is no possible tendency for the chair to unfold. Another object of the present invention is to provide a folding chair which does not require any latches or other holding devices for holding the chair in its folded position.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a folding chair which, though rigid in construction, requires no metal parts.

The attainment of the above and further objects of the present invention will be apparent from the following specification taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings forming a part thereof.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a central longitudinal sectional view of a folding chair embodying the present invention, said view being taken along the line 1—1 of Figure 2;

Figure 2 is a front view of the chair of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a view taken along the line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a fragmentary view taken along the line 4—4 of Figure 3;

Figure 5 is a view of the back of the chair of Figure 1;

Figure 6 is a fragmentary sectional view taken along the line 6—6 of Figure 3;

Figure 7 is a side view of the chair in its folded position, said view being taken along the line 7—7 of Figure 8;

Figure 8 is an end view of the folded chair; and

Figure 9 is a fragmentary side view of the folded chair, said view being taken from the opposite side of that of Figure 7.

Reference may now be had more particularly to the drawings. The chair of the present invention is made entirely of wood, preferably plywood, which consists of thin layers or laminae overlaying one another and with the grain of the wood of the adjacent layers extending in different directions, as is well known in the art, the layers being adhered together to make a solid laminated board. The chair consists of a flat seat 1, a back 2, a front leg 3, a back leg 4, fittings for hinging these four members together, and suitable latches 5 and 6 for holding the chair unfolded. The seat 1 is a flat board notched at the back to receive a pair of similar brackets 8—9 each of which is secured to the seat by a pair of wooden dowel pins 10—10, each pair of which holds a bracket. The brackets 8—9 are therefore, rigid with respect to the seat. The back portion 2 is hinged to the brackets 8—9 by dowel pins 12—13. The dowel pins 12—13 are axially aligned. Each pin fits snugly in a hole 14 of the back and is journalled in one of the brackets 8—9.

The back 2 consists of one continuous board having a cut-out portion 16 leaving two end portions 17—18 and a top portion 19. The top portion 19 also has a slot 20 cut therein to form a handle 21 to facilitate carrying of the unfolded chair. Each of the end portions 17—18 has a lower portion 23 that bears against the rear edge of the seat 1 when the chair is in its unfolded position and thus limits the amount of backward pivotal movement of the back about the dowel pins 12—13 as a center. The back 21 is thus in its extreme raised position, as illustrated in Figure 1, and is free to tilt downwardly in a clockwise direction from that illustrated in Figure 1 to its folded position, in a manner to be set forth more fully as this description proceeds.

The back leg 4 is pivoted to each of the two brackets 8 and 9 by pivot dowel pins 25—25 that are in axial alignment and extend into and fit snugly in dowel holes in the back leg 4 and pivot in the brackets 8—9 respectively. The

back leg 4 has projections 26—26 at its upper end which bear against the lower back edge of the seat 1 when the leg 4 is in its unfolded position, as illustrated in Figures 1, 2 and 5, thus limiting the amount of backward tilting of the back leg 4 with respect to the seat 1. The back leg also has a cut-out portion 28 located centrally thereof at the upper portion, as may be seen in Figures 1 and 5. This cut-out portion forms shoulders 29—29 for receiving the lower end of the latch 5. For this purpose the lower end of the latch 5 is cut at two edges 31—31' at right angles to one another, as may be seen in Figure 1. It is thus apparent that when the latch 5 is in the position illustrated in Figure 1 it holds the back leg 4 against forward tilting. The cut-out portion 28 is narrow adjacent the shoulders 29 and then continues as an additional cut-out portion 30 continuous with the cut-out portion 28. This forms a pocket for receiving the latch 5 when the chair is folded, as will be explained more fully as this description proceeds. The outer end of the latch 5 is made quite wide, as may be seen from Figure 5, to bear against the shoulders 29—29, and the portion of the latch 5 adjacent its pivot is narrower to permit it to pass through the space between the shoulders 29—29 when the chair is folded.

The front leg 3 of the chair is secured to the seat 1 by two similar brackets 33—33, illustrated more fully in Figure 6. Each bracket 33 extends into a slot 34 in the seat and is pivoted in that slot to swing about a pivot pin 36. Each bracket 33 then extends into a slot in the front leg 3 and is secured to the front leg by a pair of dowel pins 37—37. The front leg 3 has a cut-away portion 38 at the top center thereof for receiving the latch 6. To facilitate the latching action the bottom of the cut-out portion 38 is provided with shoulders 39—39 at right angles to one another for receiving the latch 6. The bottom of the leg 3 has a slot 40 formed therein to constitute the portion 41 at the base of the leg 3 adjacent the slot 40 a handle for carrying the chair when the chair is in its folded position. The width of the handle portion 41 at its base, as indicated at 42, is less than the width of the top of the cut-out portion 16 of the back to permit the lower end of the front leg to swing through the cut-out portion 16 in a manner to be described more fully as this description proceeds.

The latch 5 is mounted on the seat 1 by means of a hinge made of wood and having a circular base that fits snugly and is glued in a hole in the bottom surface of the seat 1 and extends approximately half way through the seat. A tongue 46 is integral with and extends from the base 45. The latch 5 is bifurcated at its end, as indicated at 48—49, and tightly embraces the tongue 46 and is pinned thereto by a dowel pin 47. The tongue 46 is of very slightly greater width than the distance between the tines 48—49 which are thus slightly spread apart by the tongue and thereby exert a pressure against the tongue which tends to hold the latch 5 to any position to which it is physically moved. The latch 6 is similarly mounted on the base 1.

An explanation will now be given of the manner of folding the chair of Figure 1, for which reference may be had to Figures 1 and 8. First the latch 6 is released by moving it upwardly from the position illustrated in Figure 1. The leg 3 is then folded about the pin 36 as a center until the leg passes forward of the seat 1 and then folds over the seat. In this movement the portion 41 of the leg 3 passes along the curve 55 through the cut-out portion 16. The leg 3 then overlies the base of the seat 1. The back 2 is then folded downwardly about the pin 12 as a center until it overlies the leg 3 in the position illustrated in dotted lines in Figure 1. Thereafter, with the latch 5 released from the leg 4 the leg 4 is folded about the pivot pins 25 as a center to lie on the opposite side of the seat 1. At that time the latch 5 is in the position illustrated in Figure 7, lying flat against the seat 1, within the cut-out portion 28 of the back leg 4. The portion 41 of the front leg 3 constitutes a handle for carrying the folded structure. It is to be noted that the center of gravity of the folded structure is approximately directly below the handle 41, hence the folded structure is easy to carry. It is further to be noted that the normal top of the back 2 and the bottom of the leg 4 constitute a three point support for supporting the folded structure. The back leg 4 is cut-out at its bottom, as indicated at 49, to afford a space for the latch 6 in its folded position, and provides two leg portions 50—50 for helping to support the chair. Thus the two leg portions 50—50 and the top 21 of the back 2 constitute a three point support for the folded structure. The folded structure is quite compact, with no parts of the chair projecting beyond the outer surface of the leg 4 or the outer surface of the back 2 as seen in Figure 8. This thus facilitates stacking of the folded chairs one upon another in a minimum amount of space. The material cut out of the leg 4 at 49 and out of the back 2 at 16 and out of the leg 4 at 28 is utilized for making the latches 5—6, the brackets 8—9, the brackets 33—33 and the hinges upon which the latches 5—6 are pivoted. It is thus apparent that in the chair of the present invention substantially all of the material is utilized with a minimum of waste.

When the chair is folded the projecting portions 58—58' of the back 2 overlie the projections 56 of the folded front leg 3, as is illustrated in Figure 9. These projecting portions 58 thus hold the front leg 3 against being swung out of its folded position so long as the chair back 2 is in its folded position. When the chair is in the position illustrated in Figure 8, the back 2 hangs from its pivot pins 12—13. When the chair is carried in its folded position, as by grasping the handle 41 of the front leg, that front leg is prevented from swinging about its pivot 36 because the parts 56 of the front leg are overlaid by the projections 58 of the chair back at points close to the pivot center 12—13 of the chair back. The overlying projections 58 of the chair back prevent the assembled structure from swinging about the pivot 36 when the folded chair is lifted by grasping the handle 41. It is for this reason that the distance between projections 56—56 of the front leg 3 is greater than the distance between the projections 58—58 of the chair back. However, the distance between the projections 56—56 of the front leg must be less than the width of the top of the opening 16 in the chair back in order to permit these projections to pass through the opening 16.

In compliance with the requirements of the patent statutes I have here shown and described a preferred embodiment of my invention. It is, however, to be understood that the invention is not limited to the precise construction here shown, the same being merely illustrative of the principles of the invention. What I consider new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A folding chair comprising a seat, front and

rear legs pivoted to the seat and swingable from a depending position to a folding position overlying the top and bottom surfaces, respectively, of the seat, a back rest pivoted to the seat and swingable to a position overlying the folded position of the front leg, the distance from the front leg pivot to the bottom of the front leg being greater than the distance from the front leg pivot to the back rest pivot, the part of the front leg that extends beyond the back rest pivot in the chair folded position having a handle formed thereon.

2. A folding chair comprising a seat, a front leg pivoted to the seat and swingable from its normal position to a position overlying the top surface of the seat, a back rest pivoted to the seat and swingable to a position overlying the leg when the leg overlies the seat, the length of the front leg being greater than the distance from the center of the leg pivot to the center of the back rest pivot, said back rest having a central opening through which the leg passes to its chair folding position, the part of the leg that extends through the opening having a handle portion for carrying the folded chair.

3. A folding chair comprising a seat, a front leg pivoted to the seat and swingable from its normal position to a position overlying the top surface of the seat, a back rest pivoted to the seat and swingable to a position overlying the leg when the leg overlies the seat, the length of the front leg being greater than the distance from the center of the leg pivot to the center of the back rest pivot, said back rest having a central opening through which the leg passes to its chair folding position, the part of the leg that extends through the opening having a handle portion for carrying the folded chair, the back rest having a part which overlies the front leg in its chair folded position, said overlying part being adjacent the pivot axis of the back rest to hold the front leg in its folded position.

4. A folding chair comprising a seat, front and rear legs pivoted to the seat and swingable from their normal positions to a folding position overlying the top and bottom surface, respectively, of the seat, a back rest pivoted to the seat and swingable to a position overlying the front leg when that leg overlies the seat, the length of the front leg being greater than the distance from the center of the front leg pivot to the center of the back rest pivot, said back rest having a central opening through which the front leg passes to its chair folding position, the part of the front leg that extends through the opening having a handle portion for carrying the folded chair, the lengths of the back rest and of the rear leg being such that upon positioning the seat of the folded chair vertically with the rear edge of the seat uppermost the back rest and the rear leg hang vertically and terminate below the seat and at the same level to constitute supports for the folded chair and with the center of gravity of the folded chair between such supports.

5. A folding chair compriisng a seat, a front leg pivoted to the seat and swingable from its normal position to a position overlying the top surface of the seat, a back rest pivoted to the seat and swingable to a position overlying the leg when the leg overlies the seat, the length of the front leg being greater than the distance from the center of the leg pivot to the center of the back rest pivot, said back rest having a central opening through which the leg passes to its chair folding position, the part of the leg that extends through the opening having a handle portion for carrying the folded chair, the back rest having a part which overlies the front leg in its chair folded position, said overlying part being adjacent the pivot axis of the back rest to hold the front leg in its folded position, a rear leg pivoted to the seat and swingable to a position overlying the bottom surface of the chair seat, the lengths of the back rest and of the rear leg being such that upon positioning the seat of the folded chair vertically with the rear edge of the seat uppermost the back rest and the rear leg hang vertically and terminate below the seat and at the same level to constitute supports for the folded chair and with the center of gravity of the folded chair between such supports.

6. A folding chair comprising a seat, opposite side brackets rigidly secured to the seat at the rear thereof, a back rest pivoted to both brackets above the seat and having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the back rest, a rear leg pivoted to both brackets below the seat and also having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the rear leg, a rear leg holding latch for releasably holding the rear leg in the chair-unfolded position, the rear leg being swingable to a folded position against the bottom side of the seat, the back rest being foldable to a position overlying the top side of the seat and substantially parallel to the folded rear leg, the lengths of the back rest and of the rear leg being such that upon positioning the seat of the folded chair vertically with the brackets uppermost the back rest and the rear leg hang vertically and terminate below the seat and at the same level to constitute supports for the folded chair and with the center of gravity of the folded chair lying between such supports.

7. A folding chair comprising a seat, opposite side brackets rigidly secured to the seat at the rear thereof, a back rest pivoted to both brackets above the seat and having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the back rest, a rear leg pivoted to both brackets below the seat and also having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the rear leg, a rear leg holding latch for releasably holding the rear leg in the chair-unfolded position, the rear leg being swingable to a folded position against the bottom side of the seat, the back rest being foldable to a position overlying the top side of the seat and substantially parallel to the folded rear leg, the lengths of the back rest and of the rear leg being such that upon positioning the seat of the folded chair vertically with the brackets uppermost the back rest and the rear leg hang vertically and terminate below the seat and at the same level to constitute supports for the folded chair and with the center of gravity of the folded chair lying between such supports, said chair having a front leg pivoted to the front part of the seat and occupying a folded position between the seat and the folded position of the back rest.

8. A folding chair comprising a seat, opposite side brackets rigidly secured to the seat at the rear thereof, a back rest pivoted to both brackets above the seat and having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the back rest, a rear leg pivoted to both brackets below the seat and also having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the rear leg,

a rear leg holding latch for releasably holding the rear leg in the chair-unfolded position, the rear leg being swingable to a folded position against the bottom side of the seat, the back rest being foldable to a position overlying the top side of the seat and substantially parallel to the folded rear leg, the lengths of the back rest and of the rear leg being such that upon positioning the seat of the folded chair vertically with the brackets uppermost the back rest and the rear leg hang vertically and terminate below the seat and at the same level to constitute supports for the folded chair and with the center of gravity of the folded chair lying between such supports, said chair having a front leg pivoted to the front part of the seat and occupying a folded position between the seat and the folded position of the back rest, the front leg being of a length sufficient to extend, in its folded position, at least substantially to the pivot of the back rest, and the end of the front leg having a handle portion for carrying the folded chair.

9. A folding chair comprising a seat, opposite side brackets rigidly secured to the seat at the rear thereof, a back rest pivoted to both brackets above the seat and having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the back rest, a rear leg pivoted to both brackets below the seat and also having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the rear leg, a rear leg holding latch for releasably holding the rear leg in the chair-unfolded position, the rear leg being swingable to a folded position against the bottom side of the seat, the back rest being foldable to a position overlying the top side of the seat and substantially parallel to the folded rear leg, the lengths of the back rest and of the rear leg being such that upon positioning the seat of the folded chair vertically with the brackets uppermost the back rest and the rear leg hang vertically and terminate below the seat and at the same level to constitute supports for the folded chair and with the center of gravity of the folded chair lying between such supports, said chair having a front leg pivoted to the front part of the seat and occupying a folded position between the seat and the folded position of the back rest, the front leg being of a length sufficient to extend, in its folded position, at least substantially to the pivot of the back rest, and the end of the front leg having a handle portion for carrying the folded chair, the back rest having a central opening therein through which the front leg passes as the front leg and back rest are pivoted to their folded positions.

10. A folding chair comprising a seat, opposite side brackets rigidly secured to the seat at the rear thereof, a back rest pivoted to both brackets above the seat and having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the back rest, a rear leg pivoted to both brackets below the seat and also having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the rear leg, a rear leg holding latch for releasably holding the rear leg in the chair-unfolded position, the rear leg being swingable to a folded position against the bottom side of the seat, the back rest being foldable to a position overlying the top side of the seat and substantially parallel to the folded rear leg, the lengths of the back rest and of the rear leg being such that upon positioning the seat of the folded chair vertically with the brackets uppermost the back rest and the rear leg hang vertically and terminate below the seat and at the same level to constitute supports for the folded chair and with the center of gravity of the folded chair lying between such supports, said chair having a front leg pivoted to the front part of the seat and occupying a folded position between the seat and the folded position of the back rest, the back rest having a central opening therein through which the front leg passes as the front leg and back rest are pivoted to their folded positions.

11. A folding chair comprising a seat, opposite side brackets rigidly secured to the seat at the rear thereof, a back rest pivoted to both brackets above the seat and having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the back rest, a rear leg pivoted to both brackets below the seat and also having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the rear leg, a rear leg holding latch for releasably holding the rear leg in the chair-unfolded position, the rear leg being swingable to a folded position against the bottom side of the seat, the back rest being foldable to a position overlying the top side of the seat and substantially parallel to the folded rear leg, the lengths of the back rest and of the rear leg being such that upon positioning the seat of the folded chair vertically with the brackets uppermost the back rest and the rear leg hang vertically and terminate below the seat and at the same level to constitute supports for the folded chair and with the center of gravity of the folded chair lying between such supports, said chair having a front leg pivoted to the front part of the seat and occupying a folded position between the seat and the folded position of the back rest, the back rest having a central opening therein through which the front leg passes as the front leg and back rest are pivoted to their folded positions, and the back rest having a projecting part at the opening and adjacent the pivot axis of the back rest, said projecting part overlying the front leg and holding the front leg in its folded position.

12. A folding chair comprising a seat, opposite side brackets rigidly secured to the seat at the rear thereof, a back rest pivoted to both brackets above the seat and having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the back rest, a rear leg pivoted to both brackets below the seat and also having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the rear leg, a rear leg holding latch for releasably holding the rear leg in the chair-unfolded position, the rear leg being swingable to a folded position against the bottom side of the seat, the back rest being foldable to a position overlying the top side of the seat and substantially parallel to the folded rear leg, the lengths of the back rest and of the rear leg being such that upon positioning the seat of the folded chair vertically with the brackets uppermost the back rest and the rear leg hang vertically and terminate below the seat and at the same level to constitute supports for the folded chair and with the center of gravity of the folded chair lying between such supports, said chair having a front leg pivoted to the front part of the seat and occupying a folded position between the seat and the folded position of the back rest, the front leg being of a length sufficient to extend, in its folded position, at least substantially to the pivot of the back rest, and the end of the front leg having a handle portion for carrying the folded chair, the back rest having a central opening therein through which the front

leg passes as the front leg and back rest are pivoted to their folded positions, and the back rest having a projecting part at the opening and adjacent the pivot axis of the back rest, said projecting part overlying the front leg and holding the front leg in its folded position.

13. A folding chair comprising a seat, opposite side brackets rigidly secured to the seat at the rear thereof, a back rest pivoted to both brackets above the seat and having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the back rest, a rear leg pivoted to both brackets below the seat and also having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the rear leg, a rear leg holding latch for releasably holding the rear leg in the chair-unfolded position, the rear leg being swingable to a folded position against the bottom side of the seat, the back rest being foldable to a position overlying the top side of the seat and substantially parallel to the folded rear leg, the lengths of the back rest and of the rear leg being such that upon positioning the seat of the folded chair vertically with the brackets uppermost the back rest and the rear leg hang vertically and terminate below the seat and at the same level to constitute supports for the folded chair and with the center of gravity of the folded chair lying between such supports, said chair having a front leg pivoted to the front part of the seat and occupying a folded position between the seat and the folded position of the back rest, the front leg being of a length sufficient to extend, in its folded position, at least substantially to the pivot of the back rest, and the end of the front leg having a handle portion for carrying the folded chair, the folded chair being free of projections extending outwardly of the back and free of projections extending outwardly of the rear leg, and the back and rear leg being substantially parallel to one another in their chair-folded positions to facilitate stacking of such folded chairs one upon another.

14. A folding chair comprising a seat, opposite side brackets rigidly secured to the seat at the rear thereof, a back rest pivoted to both brackets above the seat and having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the back rest, a rear leg pivoted to both brackets below the seat and also having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the rear leg, a rear leg holding latch for releasably holding the rear leg in the chair-unfolded position, the rear leg being swingable to a folded position against the bottom side of the seat, the back rest being foldable to a position overlying the top side of the seat and substantially parallel to the folded rear leg, the lengths of the back rest and of the rear leg being such that upon positioning the seat of the folded chair vertically with the brackets uppermost the back rest and the rear leg hang vertically and terminate below the seat and at the same level to constitute supports for the folded chair and with the center of gravity of the folded chair lying between such supports, said chair having a front leg pivoted to the front part of the seat and occupying a folded position between the seat and the folded position of the back rest, the back rest having a central opening therein through which the front leg passes as the front leg and back rest are pivoted to their folded positions, and the back rest having a projecting part at the opening and adjacent the pivot axis of the back rest, said projecting part overlying the front leg and holding the front leg in its folded position, the folded chair being free of projections extending outwardly of the back and free of projections extending outwardly of the rear leg, and the back and rear leg being substantially parallel to one another in their chair-folded positions to facilitate stacking of such folded chairs one upon another.

15. A folding chair comprising a seat, opposite side brackets rigidly secured to the seat at the rear thereof, a back rest pivoted to both brackets above the seat and having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the back rest, a rear leg pivoted to both brackets below the seat and also having a part bearing against the rear edge of the seat to limit the rearward pivoting of the rear leg, a rear leg holding latch for releasably holding the rear leg in the chair-unfolded position, the rear leg being swingable to a folded position against the bottom side of the seat, the back rest being foldable to a position overlying the top side of the seat and substantially parallel to the folded rear leg, the lengths of the back rest and of the rear leg being such that upon positioning the seat of the folded chair vertically with the brackets uppermost the back rest and the rear leg hang vertically and terminate below the seat and at the same level to constitute supports for the folded chair and with the center of gravity of the folded chair lying between such supports, said chair having a front leg pivoted to the front part of the seat and occupying a folded position between the seat and the folded position of the back rest, the front leg being of a length sufficient to extend, in its folded position, at least substantially to the pivot of the back rest, and the end of the front leg having a handle portion for carrying the folded chair, the back rest having a central opening therein through which the front leg passes as the front leg and back rest are pivoted to their folded positions, and the back rest having a projecting part at the opening and adjacent the pivot axis of the back rest, said projecting part overlying the front leg and holding the front leg in its folded position, the folded chair being free of projections extending outwardly of the back and free of projections extending outwardly of the rear leg, and the back and rear leg being substantially parallel to one another in their chair-folded positions to facilitate stacking of such folded chairs one upon another, the rear leg having a cut out portion constituting a recess in which the latch is located when the chair is folded.

16. A folding chair comprising a seat, front and rear legs pivoted to the seat and swingable from a depending position to a folding position overlying the top and bottom surfaces, respectively, of the seat, a back rest pivoted to the seat and swingable to a position overlying the folded position of the front leg, the distance from the front leg pivot to the bottom of the front leg being greater than the distance from the front leg pivot to the back rest pivot.

17. A folding chair comprising a seat, a pivoted back rest, a pivoted rear leg, means for releasably holding the rear leg in the chair-unfolded position, the rear leg being swingable to the folded position against the bottom side of the seat, the back rest being foldable to a position overlying the top side of the seat and substantially parallel to the folded rear leg, the lengths of the back rest and of the rear leg being such that upon positioning the seat of the folded chair

vertically with the back edge of the seat uppermost the back rest and the rear leg hang vertically and terminate below the seat and at the same level to constitute supports for the folded chair and with the center of gravity of the folded chair lying between such supports.

18. A folding chair comprising a seat, a pivoted back rest, a pivoted rear leg, means for releasably holding the rear leg in the chair-unfolded position, the rear leg being swingable to the folded position against the bottom side of the seat, the back rest being foldable to a position overlying the top side of the seat and substantially parallel to the folded rear leg, the lengths of the back rest and of the rear leg being such that upon positioning the seat of the folded chair vertically with the back edge of the seat uppermost the back rest and the rear leg hang vertically and terminate below the seat and at the same level to constitute supports for the folded chair and with the center of gravity of the folded chair lying between such supports, said chair having a front leg pivoted to the front part of the seat and foldable to a position between the seat and the folded position of the back rest.

LESLIE H. BURLIN.