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B. M. BESKOW

FOLDING CHAIR

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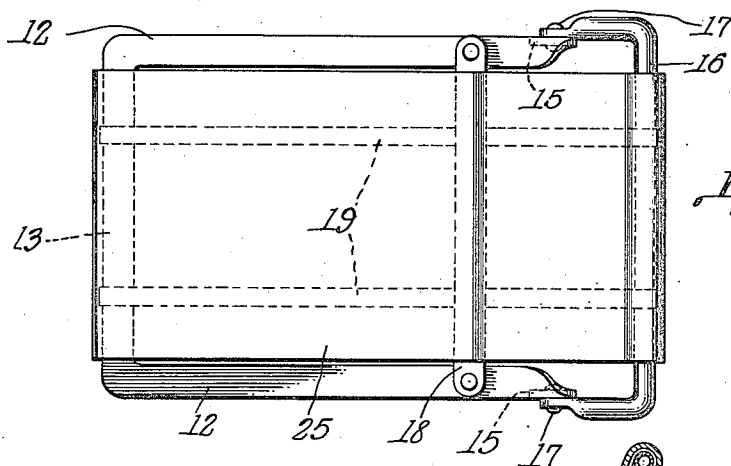


Fig. 1.

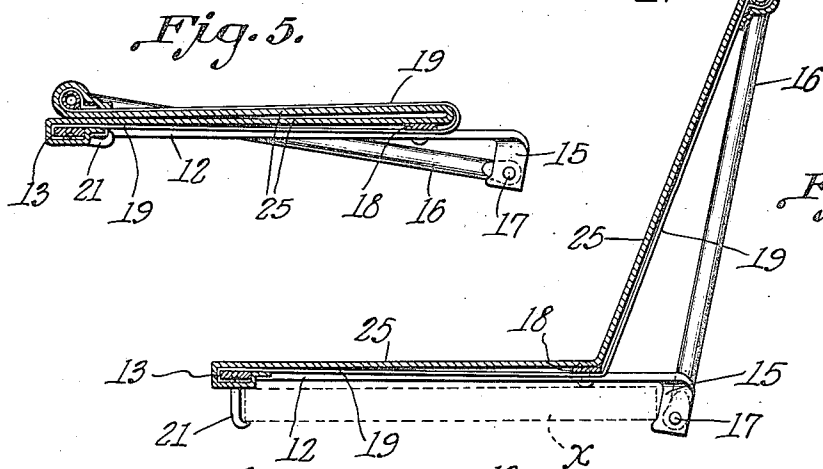


Fig. 2.

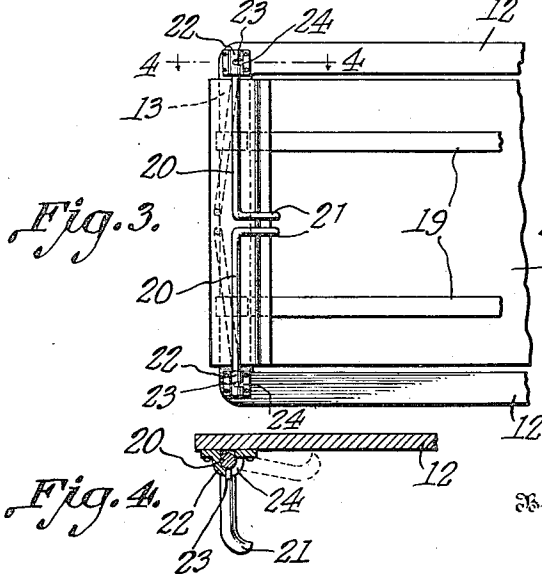


Fig. 3.

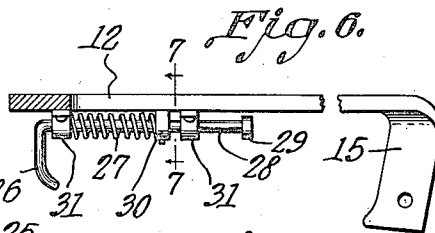


Fig. 4.

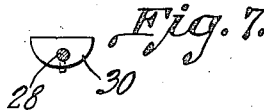


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BERNHARD M. BESKOW, OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA.

FOLDING CHAIR.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BERNHARD M. BESKOW, a citizen of the United States, residing at Miami Beach, in the county of Dade and State of Florida, have invented or discovered certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Chairs, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention relates to legless folding chairs and has for its object to provide a simple and convenient device of this kind which is more especially adapted to be removably attached to a plain board seat such as is used in the "bleachers" of base ball parks or in other places where cheap seating stands are provided for the accommodation of large numbers of persons. To this end the improved folding chair preferably comprises a light sheet metal seat frame to which is hinged a folding back rest, the seat frame having depending members, to embrace a board on which the seat will rest when in use, one set, at least, of these depending members being preferably of elastic spring metal so as to afford a frictional hold on the edges of the board on which the seat is to be placed, thus removably securing the folding chair to the board, all as will hereinafter more fully appear.

In the accompanying drawing Fig. 1 is a plan view of the frame of the improved folding chair with the back in raised position, and Fig. 2 is a side view of the same, a board to which the chair may be removably secured being denoted by dotted lines. Fig. 3 is a detail bottom view of the front portion of the seat frame, showing the spring arms and their mountings. Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view on line 4—4, Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a sectional view of the chair in folded condition. Figs. 6 and 7 illustrate a modification.

Referring to the drawings, 12 denotes the side parts of the seat frame and 13 the front part thereof, said front part being shown integral with said side parts, but it may be a separate piece secured to the side parts. The rear ends of the side parts 12 are twisted approximately 90° and bent down forming ears 15, and to these depending ears the back 16 is suitably pivoted, as by rivets 17. The rear portions of the side parts 12 are connected together by a cross bar 18. Secured to the front part 13 and to the top of the back 16 are tapes 19, preferably of steel,

said tapes passing beneath the cross bar 18.

Suitably mounted on the lower side of the front part 13 of the seat frame are spring arms 20 having gripping fingers 21. The spring arms 20 are preferably attached to a bar or part 13 by means of looped brackets 22 secured to said bar or part, said brackets affording bearings in which said arms are journaled so that partial rotation of said arms in said bearings is permitted. To secure said arms in said brackets, while permitting limited rotary movements thereof, said arms are provided with pins 23 received in slots 24 in the brackets 22, the end walls of said slots, when engaged by said pins, serving as stops to limit the turning movements of said arms.

When the chair is folded for convenient transportation the fingers 21 are turned over close to the bar or part 13, as shown in full lines in Figs. 3 and 5, but when the chair is in use the said fingers are turned to the position shown in full lines in Figs. 2 and 4, and will then serve, in co-operation with the rigid, depending ears 15, as gripping members to engage a board, as *a*, to removably attach said chair to the board. In this gripping operation the spring arms 20 may yield, as denoted by dotted lines in Fig. 3, so as to have a strong but elastic hold on the board *a*, as also adapting the chair to be attached to boards of different widths.

Attached to the front seat part 13 and the top of the back 16 is a cover 25 of leather, canvas or other suitable flexible material, said cover being partially supported by the tapes 19, thus affording a comfortable seat for the user. The tapes 19 are preferably of steel and serve not only to support the flexible cover 25, but, primarily, as a most effective means for bracing the back 16 without in any way obstructing the seat proper, so that the chairs may be placed as close together as may be desirable and thus the seating capacity of the boards on which the chairs are supported will not be lessened or interfered with. This feature of bracing the pivoted or folding back of a chair by flexible means connecting the seat portion of the chair to the upper part of a pivoted or folding back may, of course, be applied to chairs other than legless chairs, as will be obvious. In order, however, that the flexible means or tapes may properly brace the folding back 16 and may properly co-operate with the seat portion of the chair, it is

necessary that the rear cross bar 18, beneath which said flexible means or tapes extend, should be at said seat portion and should be located forward of the pivotal point of the said folding back, as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

Instead of the spring arms 20 for removably attaching the chair to boards of different widths other equivalent means may be employed. For example, the chair seat might be provided on its lower side with sliding spring-retracted hooks, as 26, the inward movements of which, under the influence of springs, as 27, encircling the shanks 28 of the hooks, being limited by fixed stops, as 29. See Figs. 6 and 7. The collar 30, attached to the shank 28 and between which and one of the supporting lugs 31 the spring 27 is located, may be formed with a flat top sliding in contact with the frame part 12, said flat top preventing the rod 27 from turning.

From the foregoing it will be understood that the invention provides a simple and convenient legless chair adapted to be removably attached to a board of an otherwise uncomfortable stand, and which chair may be folded for convenient transportation.

The invention is not to be understood as being limited to the details herein shown, as these details may be varied widely, within the province of mechanical skill, without departing from the scope of the invention as defined by the following claims.

Having thus described my invention I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A folding legless chair composed of a seat portion and a back pivoted thereto, said seat portion being provided with means for removably attaching the chair to a board on

which it is to be supported, a cross bar at the rear part of said seat portion, tapes extending from the front part of said seat portion and beneath said cross bar to the top of said back and serving primarily as braces for the back, and a flexible cover attached to said seat and back and partially supported by said tapes.

2. A legless folding chair comprising a sheet metal seat frame part with rigid depending ears at its rear portion and a cross bar near the rear of said seat frame part, a back pivoted to said ears, spring arms mounted at the front of said seat frame part, tapes extending from the front of said seat frame part and beneath said cross-bar to the top of said back, and serving to brace the latter, and a flexible cover partially supported by said tapes.

3. A chair comprising a pivoted or folding back, combined with a seat portion comprising a rear cross bar located forward of the pivotal point of said back, and flexible means extending from the forward part of the chair seat and beneath said rear cross bar to the upper part of said back, and thus serving to brace the said back when in an operative position.

4. A chair comprising a pivoted or folding back and a seat portion comprising side members and front and rear cross-bars, said rear cross-bar of said seat portion being located forward of the pivotal point of said back, combined with flexible members extending from said front cross-bar and beneath said rear cross-bar to the upper part of said back and thus serving to brace the said back when in an operative position.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
BERNHARD M. BESKOW.