Feb. 15, 1955 J. E. BEARDSLEY ET AL 2,702,076

STADIUM CHAIR

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Fig. 1

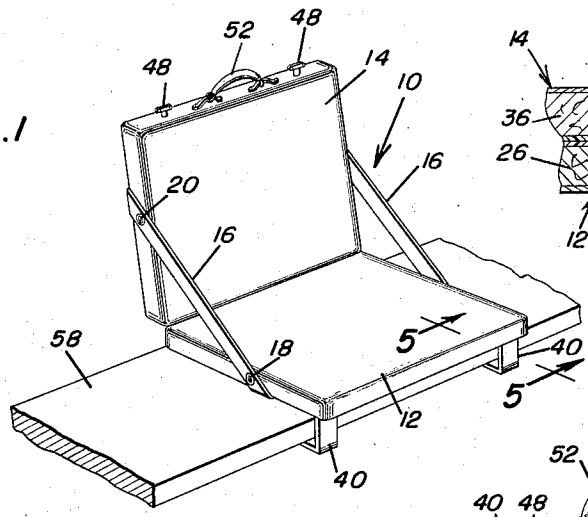
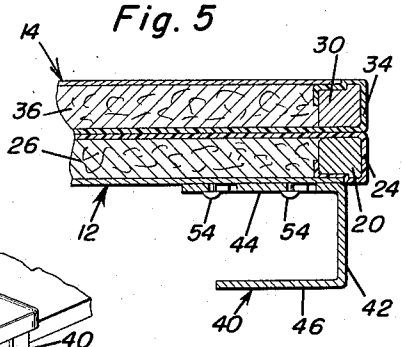



Fig. 5



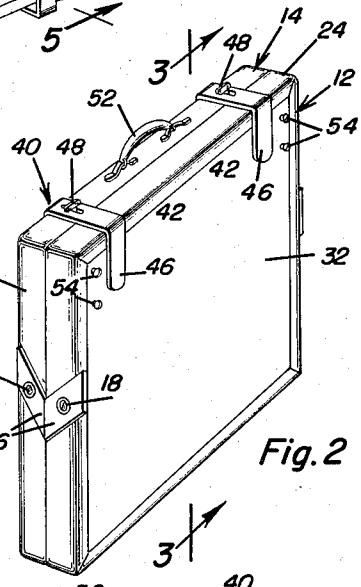




Fig. 2

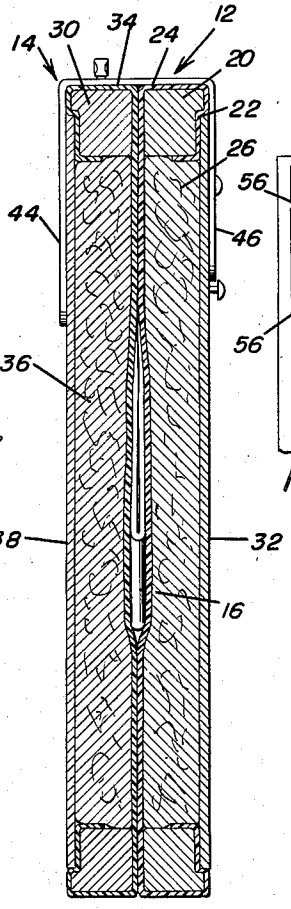



Fig. 3

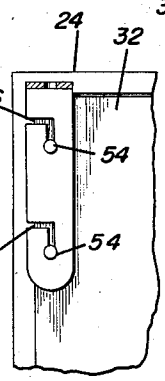



Fig. 6

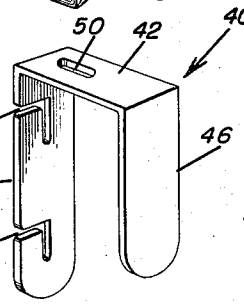



Fig. 4

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2,702,076

# STADIUM CHAIR

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3 Claims. (Cl. 155—133)

The present invention relates to a chair attachment for benches or bleachers and the like.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a chair attachment that may be conveniently attached to benches, bleachers, picnic table seats and the like to provide a more comfortable seating arrangement thereon.

A very important object of the invention is to provide a collapsible chair attachment which may be carried much as a suitcase or briefcase and which is enabled to utilize the means for clamping the attachment to a bench or the like as the means for retaining the chair attachment in its collapsed position.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a collapsible chair attachment capable of simple and economical production, of light weight and which is very easy to collapse and set up for use.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the chair attachment attached to a bleacher or bench in its open position;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the attachment in its collapsed position;

Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view of the attachment in its collapsed position, taken substantially along section line 3—3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the clamping means for clamping the attachment to a supporting surface and for locking the attachment in its collapsed position;

Figure 5 is a cross-sectional view of the forward edge of the attachment seat disclosing the disposition of the clamping means for mounting the attachment on a supporting surface, taken substantially along section line 5—5 of Figure 1; and

Figure 6 is an enlarged detail view of one edge of the undersurface of the seat with the clamping means being attached thereto.

In the drawings, the attachment is designated in its entirety by the numeral **10** and is seen to comprise a seat member **12** and a back member **14**. The lower edge of the back member is hingedly connected to the back edge of the seat member so that the back member **14** will collapse upon the seat member **12** and may be swung outwardly therefrom to open postion, as shown in Figure 1.

Flexible straps **16** extend between the side edges of the seat and back members **12** and **14**, respectively, to limit the opening movement of the back member **14**. Fasteners **18** secure one end portion of each strap **16** to the side edge of the seat member intermediate the front and back edges thereof, whereas fastener **19** secures the opposite end portion of each strap **16** to a side edge of the back member **14** intermediate the upper and lower edges thereof. The seat and back members **12** and **14**, respectively, are of identical size and configuration so that the edges of these members will be coplanar with one another when the attachment is in its collapsed position, as shown in Figures 2 and 3.

The seat member **12** of the chair **10** comprises a rectangular frame **20** of any suitable rigid material, such as wood, having a recessed area **22** on the undersurface thereof. Leather, cloth, plastic or other suitable material **24** is stretched over the frame **20** and folded back



under the recessed area **22** of the frame. Suitable soft wadding or filler **26** is then placed within the frame and a hard back or undersurface **32** has its edge portions seating in the recessed area **22** around the undersurface of the frame and is suitably tacked or otherwise secured thereto. Thus, the soft wadding is held between the seat covering and the seat backing **24** and **32**, respectively.

The seat back is of identical construction, comprising an open frame **30**, covering **34**, wadding **36** and hard back **38**.

To retain the seat in its open postion on a supporting structure and to retain the attachment in its collapsed position, a clamping means **40** is provided, the clamping means consisting of a U-shaped clamping element including the bight portion **42** and flanges **44** and **46**.

In collapsing the chair, the seat member **12** and the back member **14** are folded into abutment with one another with the flexible strap **16** being folded inwardly to be received between the abutting surfaces of the seat and back members.

To retain the chair in its collapsed position, the upper edge of the back member **14** is provided with an upwardly projecting turnlock **48** adjacent each corner thereof. The bight portion **42** of each clamping element **40** is provided with a longitudinal slot **50** through which the turnlock **48** extends, turning of the turnlock **48** after extension through the slot **50** clamping the bight portion **42** of the clamp **40** to the upper edge of the back member. Flanges **46** and **44** of each clamping element **40** straddle the seat and back members **12** and **14** and thereby retain them in their collapsed position. Handle **52** is provided centrally of the upper edge of the back member **14** for carrying the attachment in its collapsed position, much as a briefcase.

The backing member **32** forming the undersurface of the seat member **12** is provided with a pair of longitudinally spaced downwardly depending fastening elements **54** adjacent the forward edge thereof at each corner. Flange **44** of the clamping element **40** is provided with a pair of longitudinally spaced L-shaped locking slots **56** opening into one edge thereof. To adapt the chair attachment for its seating position, the clamping elements **40** are removed from their position locking the attachment in collapsed position, and the flange **44** is secured to the studs or fastening elements **54** by way of the locking slots **56** and the attachment opened to its seating position. Then, the seat member **12** is slipped onto a bench or the like **58**, as shown in Figure 1, with the clamping elements **40** having the flanges thereof straddling the forward edge portion of the bench to retain the seat thereon.

From the foregoing, the construction and operation of the device will be readily understood and further explanation is believed to be unnecessary. However, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction shown and described, and accordingly, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. A chair attachment for benches and the like comprising a seat and a back hingedly connected to one another for swinging movement from a collapsed position abutting one another to an open seating position, and means selectively clamping said seat and back in collapsed position and clamping said seat to a supporting structure when in open position, said clamping means including a U-shaped clamping element including a bight portion and flanges, said flanges overlying said seat and back when in collapsed position, said bight portion straddling the edges of said seat and back opposite the hinged edges thereof, the edge of said back underlying said bight portion having a lock element projecting therefrom, said bight portion having a slot therein receiving said lock element for locking said clamping element thereto.

2. A chair attachment for benches and the like comprising a seat and a back hingedly connected to one another for swinging movement from a collapsed position abutting one another to an open seating position,

and means selectively clamping said seat and back in collapsed position and clamping said seat to a supporting structure when in open position, a pair of fastening elements projecting from the undersurface of the seat adjacent the forward edge thereof, said clamping means including a U-shaped clamping element having a bight portion and flanges, one of said flanges having a pair of locking slots opening into one side thereof receiving said fastening elements whereby the clamping element may clamp the seat to a supporting structure.

3. A chair attachment for benches and the like comprising a seat and a back hingedly connected to one another for swinging movement from a collapsed position abutting one another to an open seating position, and means selectively clamping said seat and back in collapsed position and clamping said seat to a supporting structure when in open position, a pair of fastening elements projecting from the undersurface of the seat adjacent the forward edge thereof, said clamping means including a U-shaped clamping element having a bight portion and flanges, one of said flanges having a pair of locking slots opening into one side thereof receiving said fastening elements whereby the clamping element may clamp the seat to a supporting structure, said bight portion having a slot therethrough, a turnlock projecting from the upper edge of said back extending through said slot locking the bight portion thereto and said flanges overlying said seat and back when the attachment is collapsed.



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