April 4, 1967 J. PENN 3,312,501

COLLAPSIBLE SEATS

Filed Dec. 13, 1965

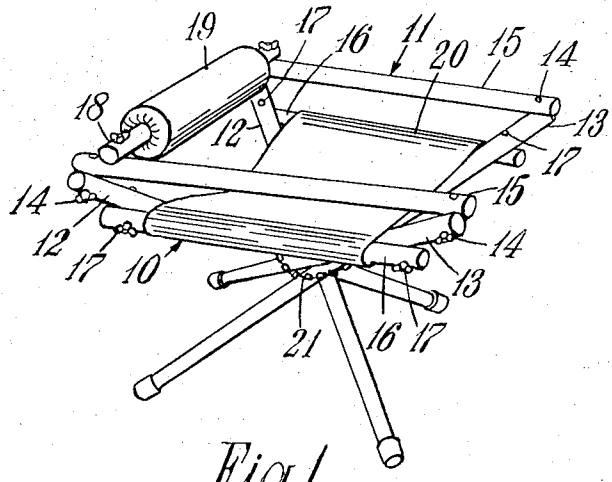


Fig. 1.

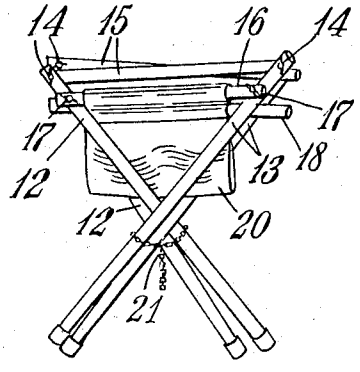


Fig. 2.

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COLLAPSIBLE SEATS

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The present invention relates to collapsible seats.

An object of the invention is to provide a collapsible chair or stool which is comfortable, inexpensive to produce and occupies little space in its collapsed condition.

Another object of the invention is to provide a collapsible chair or stool which is extremely rigid and will adapt itself to uneven ground without any instability.

A further object of the invention is to provide a collapsible chair or stool in which the seating angle may be readily adjusted.

In the accompanying drawings:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the seat according to the present invention shown in assembled condition and

FIG. 2 is of a perspective view of the seat shown in collapsed condition.

In carrying the invention into effect according to one convenient mode by way of example, a chair comprises two side members **10**, **11**, each of which includes two leg members **12**, **13**, arranged to form an X-like structure with the upper ends of the legs **12**, **13**, pivotally connected at **14**, to the ends of an arm-rest member **15** positioned on the inner surface of the leg members **12**, **13**. A cross member **16** positioned below and substantially parallel to the arm-rest **15** is also pivotally connected at **17** to the outer surface of the leg members **12**, **13**.

A back-rest member **18** having a bolster **19** mounted thereon has its ends respectively releasably mounted adjacent the ends of the arm rests **15** which are connected to the legs **12**.

The cross members **16** constitute the supports for the seat portion **20** which is made from a flexible material such as canvas, the ends of which are connected together on the underside of the seat **20** by a cord (not shown) laced through a series of eyelets positioned adjacent the edges of the canvas. Alternatively, the seat **20** may be connected adjacent its ends to the cross members as shown in FIG. 2.

When assembled, each leg member **12**, **13**, is directed downwardly and inwardly towards the opposite diagonal corner of the chair so that all the legs converge towards one another and cross over at a position below, but in the centre of the seat area **20**. The legs **12**, **13**, are retained in this position by a chain member **21** which encircles all the legs adjacent their cross-over position.

The seating angle may be readily adjusted by shaking the chair bodily so that the legs **12**, **13** assume a position relatively to one another which provides the required seating position. The weight of the person occupying the chair retains or locks the legs **12**, **13**, in this position by forcing them into tight engagement with the encircling chain member **21**.

When it is desired to collapse the chair it is only necessary to release one end of the back rest **18** from its associated arm rest **15**, slide the bolster **19** from the back rest **18** and then swing the latter through ninety degrees so that it lies adjacent the arm rest to which it is still connected, whereupon the side members **10**, **11** can be drawn together to collapse the chair, the chain member **21** maintaining the legs in their X-formation.

Alternatively, the back rest **18** may be removed completely from the arm-rests **15** and accommodated in the seat portion **20** as shown in FIG. 2.

The legs **12**, **13**, arm-rests **15**, cross members **16** and back rest **18** may be made from hardwood rods of any suitable cross-section or from tubular metal alloy. Preferably, the bolster **19** is formed from polyurethane foam.

It will be appreciated that the arm rest **15** and back rest **18** may be dispensed with to provide a stool.

I claim:

1. A collapsible seat which, in its assembled condition comprises a pair of spaced side members, a flexible seat forming web, interconnecting said side members, a pair of leg members arranged in X-formation pivotally connected to an arm-rest member and side member, each leg member being downwardly and inwardly directed towards the opposite diagonal corner of the seat so that all the legs converge towards one another and cross at a position below the seating area, a back-rest member releasably interconnecting said arm rests and means encircling and retaining said legs in their X-formation adjacent the cross over position, the arrangement being such that the seat may be collapsed by releasing said back-rest from at least one of said arm rests and then bringing said side members together.

2. A collapsible seat as claimed in claim **1**, wherein said seat-forming web is connected to a cross member positioned below and substantially parallel to each arm rest.

3. A collapsible seat as claimed in claim **1**, wherein said back-rest member has a bolster mounted thereon.

4. A collapsible seat as claimed in claim **1**, wherein said means encircling the legs comprises a chain.

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