Nov. 22, 1938. L. J. THOMPSON 2,137,312

STADIUM SEAT

Filed April 29, 1938

Fig. 1

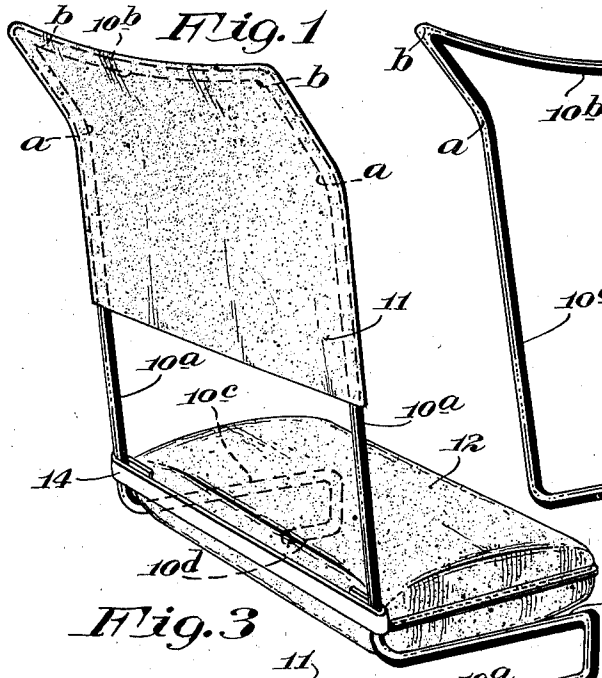


Fig. 4

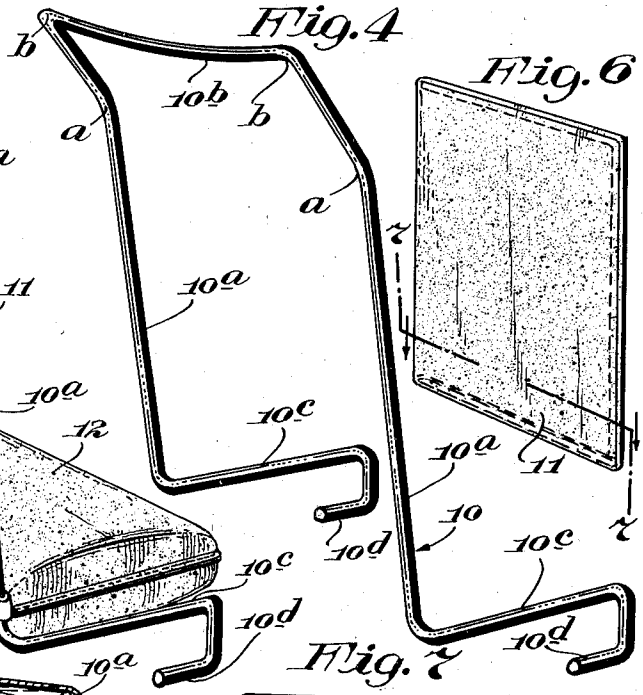


Fig. 6

Fig. 3

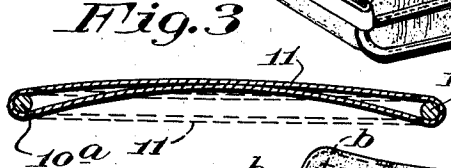


Fig. 7

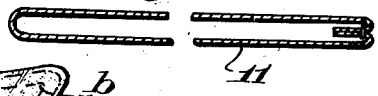


Fig. 2

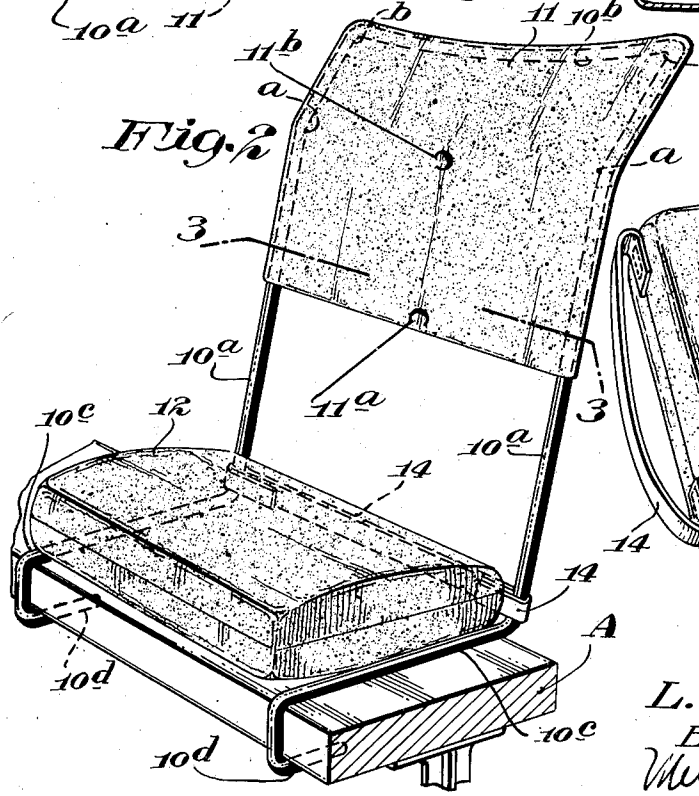
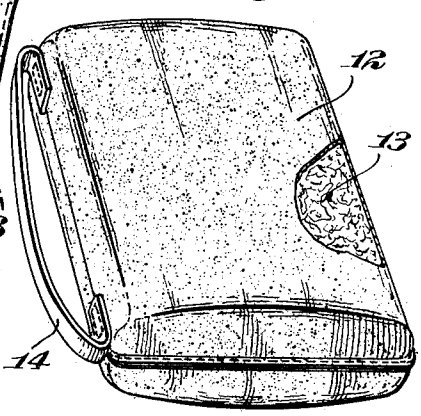


Fig. 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,137,312

STADIUM SEAT

Leonard J. Thompson, Wichita, Kans.

Application April 29, 1938, Serial No. 204,983

2 Claims. (Cl. 155—133)

My invention provides what is herein designated as a bleacher or stadium seat and, generally stated, consists of the novel devices, combination of devices and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and defined in the claims.

This term bleacher seat is used to indicate a portable seat that is capable of being readily attached and detached from plank or board seats such as found in baseball parks, circuses and the like.

The objects of my invention are the provision of a seat for the above or similar purposes that will afford the greatest comfort to the user, is capable of being applied, removed and transported, and which, while strong and durable, may be constructed at reasonable small cost.

Seats of this improved character may, of course, be sold to the trade, but are especially adapted and intended to be rented at the place of use, usually for a particular game or performance.

The preferred and commercial form of the improved seat is illustrated in the accompanying drawing wherein like characters indicate like parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective showing the complete seat viewed from the rear;

Fig. 2 shows the complete seat viewed from the front and applied to a seat plank of a bleacher, or the like;

Fig. 3 is a horizontal section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a perspective showing the steel frame of the seat;

Fig. 5 is a perspective showing the cushion of the seat;

Fig. 6 is a perspective showing the envelope-like hood removed from the back of the seat frame; and

Fig. 7 is a section taken on the line 7—7 of Fig. 6, some parts being broken away.

The seat frame is made from spring metal preferably steel, and may be either a solid rod or spring steel tube. This seat frame, which is shown segregated and in detail in Fig. 4, is indicated as an entirety by the numeral 10. This member 10 is formed from a single rod bent to form parallel uprights 10*a*, a cross-connecting member 10*b* forming a yoke-like frame back, and horizontal base portions 10*c*, the ends of which are bent downward and backward to form clamping prongs 10*d*. It is important to note that the upright frame portions 10*a* are bent or turned obliquely backward and upward between the points marked *a* and *b* on Fig. 4, and that the member 10*b* between the points *bb* is bowed backward, all for purposes which will hereinafter more fully appear.

The seat cushion 12 preferably involves a casing of canvas or similar material stuffed with filling material 13. At its back this cushion 12 is provided with a loop-forming strap 14, the ends of which are secured to the ends of the rear edge of the cushion. For a reason hereinafter noted this strap 14 is of elastic material.

To close more or less the gap between the upper portions of the rods 10*a* and to form a back rest, an envelope-like hood 11 of canvas or the like is slipped over the yoke and upper portions of said rods. When the seat cushion 12 is in position, the elastic strap or loop 14 will be slipped over the vertical rods or parts of the frame thereby positioning the cushion between or upon the horizontal portions 10*c* of the frame.

The main function of this loop strip 14 is to keep the cushion in proper position and to keep the same from being disconnected from the frame when the seat is moved about. When the seat is applied on a seat-forming board or support A of a bleacher, granstand, or the like, the prongs 10*d* will grip the edges of the said seat board and prevent the seat from rocking backward. Moreover, when any pressure produced by leaning back against the hood occurs it will simply tighten the grip of the prongs 10*d* on the board A. Pressure on the central portion of the hood will tend to pull the sides of the frame together, but the same pressure will cause the prongs 10*d* to more tightly grip the board A and prevent the sides of the frame from approaching.

Flexibility in the strap loop 14 permits the sides of the frame to be spread so that the hood will always be stretched taut. When the occupant of the seat leans backward against the hood, it will be chiefly engaged between the points marked 11*a* and 11*b* and pressure will not be directed against the extreme upper portion of the hood or against the backwardly bowed transverse portion 10*b* of the frame unless the pressure on the hood is extremely great. Ordinarily the hood will be engaged only between the said points 11*a* and 11*b* so that very great resilience is afforded for the back pressure. Moreover, the supporting frame of the seat is quite resilient and this, coupled with the fact that the cushion is well padded, makes the device a very comfortable seat. In view of the statements just made, it will be understood that the backward bend of the sides of the frame above the points

marked *a* on Fig. 4 is important because it throws the bowed portion 10*b* where it will not interfere with the resilience and cushioning action afforded by the hood.

In the foregoing it will be understood that the invention described is capable of various modifications within the scope of the invention disclosed and claimed.

What I claim is:

1. In a seat of the kind described, a frame made up of a rod-like element bent to form an upright yoke-like frame back and horizontal base portions, the latter terminating in downwardly and backwardly turned hooks, in combination with a hood slipped over the yoke of said frame, and a seat cushion associated with the base and back portions of said frame, and which cushion is provided with a loop-forming strap slipped over the back-forming portion of said frame.

2. In a seat of the kind described, a frame made up of a metallic rod bent to form an upright yoke-like frame back and horizontal base portions, in combination with a flexible hood detachably slipped over the yoke of said frame, and a seat cushion associated with the base and back portions, and which cushion is provided with a loop-forming strap slipped over the back-forming portion of said frame, the loop-forming strap of said cushion being of resilient material permitting the back portion of said frame to be spread into tight engagement with said hood.

LEONARD J. THOMPSON.