Oct. 24, 1967 S. P. CHASSAIGNAC 3,348,882

KNOCKDOWN CHAIR

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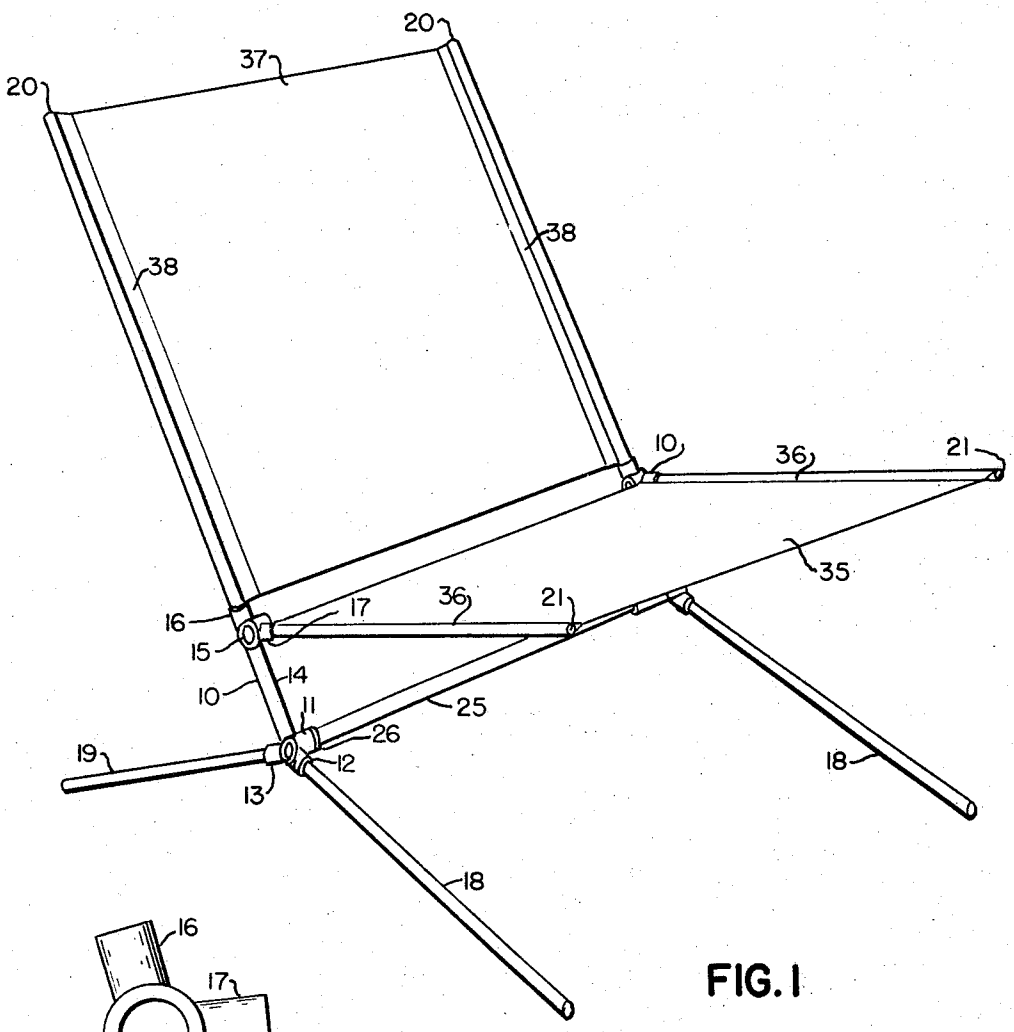


FIG. 1

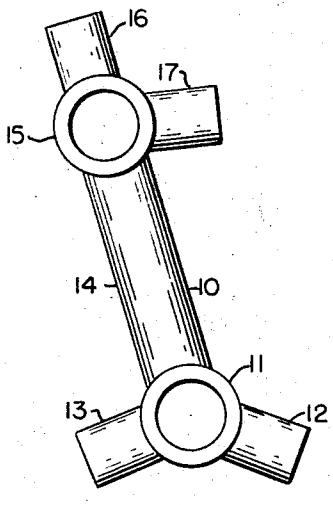


FIG. 2

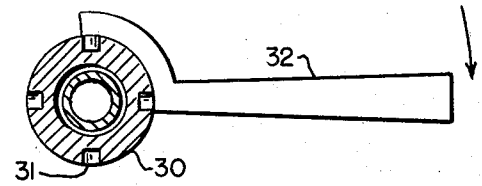
INVENTOR:
STANTON P. CHASSAIGNAC
BY Peter L. Tailer
ATTORNEY

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FIG. 4



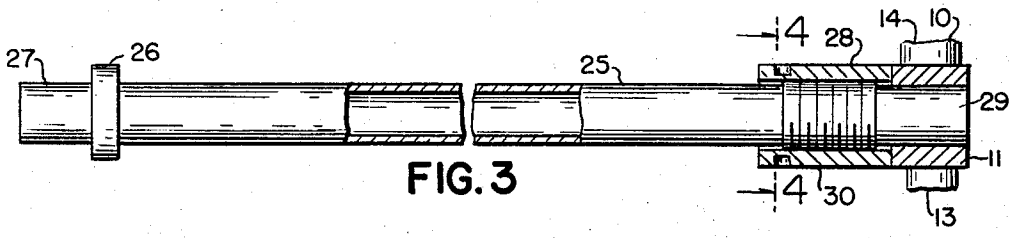


FIG. 3

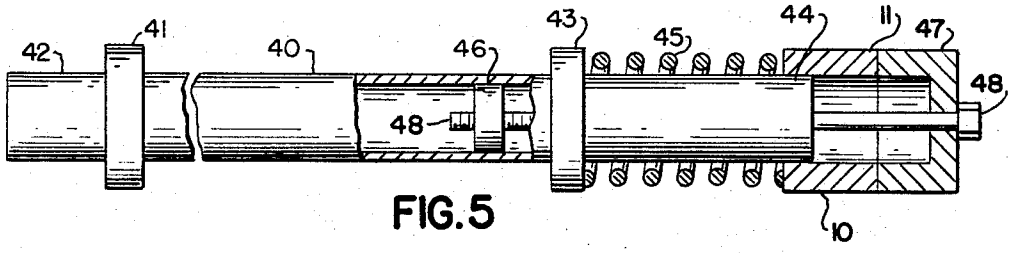


FIG. 5

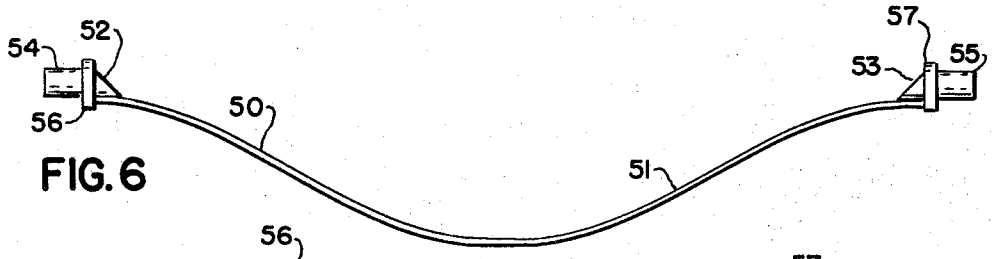


FIG. 6

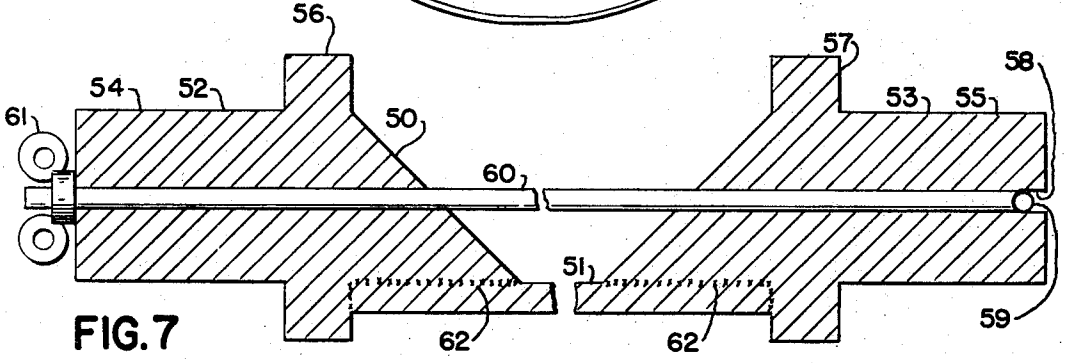


FIG. 7

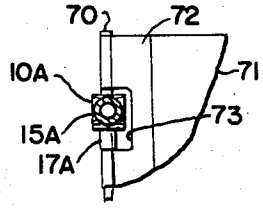


FIG. 8

INVENTOR:
STANTON P. CHASSAIGNAC
BY Peter L. Tailer
ATTORNEY

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KNOCKDOWN CHAIR

Stanton P. Chassaignac, Box 1341, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10017

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A chair having two side fittings from which seat and back members are cantilevered to project therefrom, a flexible seat and back extending, respectively, between the seat and back members, and a cross member holding the side fittings apart stretching the seat and back between the seat and back members.

This invention relates in general to furniture; and, more particularly, to chair construction.

A main object of this invention is to provide anaesthetically pleasing and simple chair which may be completely disassembled to be very compact for packaging, shipment, and storing.

Another object of this invention is to provide an aesthetically pleasing chair which has two side fittings from each of which a back member is cantilevered upward and a seat member is cantilevered forward, a fabric back being disposed between the back members, a fabric seat being disposed between the seat members, a cross member extending between said side members forcing said side members apart stretching said fabric back and said fabric seat, and legs supporting said chair.

A further object of this invention is to provide a chair having four legs which will accommodate themselves to floor irregularities.

An additional object of this invention is to provide a chair having means to transversely tension a fabric back and seat to accommodate stretching or shrinking of the seat and back.

Many other objects, advantages, and features of invention reside in the construction, combination, and arrangement of parts involved in the embodiments of my invention and its practice as will be understood from the following description and accompanying drawing wherein:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of a chair according to my invention;

FIGURE 2 is a side view of a side fitting of the chair of FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 3 is a front view of a first cross member with a center portion broken away, with portions broken away in longitudinal section, and with a fragment of a side fitting positioned thereon;

FIGURE 4 is a section taken in line 4—4 of FIGURE 3 showing a sleeve being turned by a wrench;

FIGURE 5 is a front view of a second cross member with a central portion broken away, portions broken away in section to show internal construction, and a fragment of a side fitting being forced thereon;

FIGURE 6 is a front view of a third cross member;

FIGURE 7 is a longitudinal vertical section through the ends of the cross member of FIGURE 6 with its leaf spring broken away and with assembly means shown passing therethrough; and

FIGURE 8 is a substantially horizontal section taken above a side fitting showing a modification allowing a fabric seat to extend behind the side fitting.

Referring to the drawing in detail, FIGURES 1, 2, and 3 show a chair according to my invention. Two side fittings **10** are each welded from steel or stainless steel sections of tubing. A bottom ring **11** has two leg holding

front and rear tubular studs **12** and **13** welded to it. Extension **14** fixes upper ring **15** above and slightly behind ring **11**. Back and seat member holding tubular studs **16** and **17** are welded to each ring **15** with stud **16** following the direction of extension **14** to please the eye.

As may be seen in FIGURE 1, front legs **18**, back legs **19**, back members **20**, and seat members **21** of tubular steel are slipped into the studs **12**, **13**, **16** and **17**, respectively. Referring also to FIGURE 3, a cross member **25** is of tubular steel and has a collar **26** welded near one end **27**. End **27** is inserted into the ring **11** of one side fitting **10**. A raised threaded portion **28** is formed near the other end **29** of cross member **25**. An internally threaded sleeve **30** is screwed about threaded portion **28**. Radial apertures **31** allow wrench **32**, shown in FIGURE 4, to turn sleeve **30**. The other side fitting **10** has end **29** of cross member **25** inserted into its ring **11**.

As shown in FIGURE 1, a fabric seat **35**, sewed to have tubular side portions **36**, is slipped from the front over seat members **21**. A fabric back **37**, sewed to have tubular side portions **38**, is slipped downward over the back members **20**. Sleeve **30** is then screwed outwards as shown in FIGURE 3 to force one side fitting **10** outwards to tighten fabric seat **35** and fabric back **37** between the cantilevered seat and back members **21** and **20**.

As shown in FIGURE 5, a cross member **40** may have a collar **41** welded near end **42** to be inserted in a ring **11** of a side fitting **10**. A second ring or collar **43** is welded a greater distance from end **44**. A strong compression coil spring **45** is placed about end **44**. An internally threaded nut **46** is fixed in member **40**. A side fitting **10** is placed over end **44** against spring **45**, a cap **47** is positioned over its ring portion **11**, and a bolt **48** is passed through cap **47** to be screwed into nut **46**. Bolt **48** is then tightened to urge a side fitting **10** inward against compression spring **45** to compress it. The chair is assembled in the same manner as has been hereinbefore described and bolt **48** is backed off to allow spring **45** to tension the fabric back **37** and seat **35**. If desired, bolt **48** and cap **47** may be removed completely after chair assembly.

FIGURES 6 and 7 show a cross member **50** which consists of a strong leaf spring **51** having two ends **52** and **53** welded to it. Ends **52** and **53** have cylindrical portions **54** and **55** to be inserted into rings **11** of side fittings **10**. Collars **56** and **57** are formed on the inner sides of the cylindrical portions **54** and **55**. A transverse slot **58** is milled or cut in end **53** to receive the "T" head **59** of a long threaded rod **60**. Rod **60** is passed through both the ends **52** and **53**. By tightening the thumb screw **61**, rod **60** compresses or bows spring **51** to allow the assembly of the chair. After assembly, nut or thumb screw **61** and rod **60** are removed so spring **51** may tension the fabric back **37** and seat **35** of the chair. FIGURE 7 shows the spring **51** welded to the ends **52** and **53** at **62**.

FIGURE 8 shows a minor modification of my invention. A small extension rod **70** is welded to the top ring **15A** of each of two side fittings **10A** which are otherwise identical to the side fittings **10**. A modified fabric seat **71** has tubular side portions **72** containing, on each side, a cutout **73**. The seat **71** is first slipped over the rearwardly extending rods **70** of two side fittings **10A** and then the seat members **21** are inserted through the tubular side portions **72** to enter the seat studs **17A**. This modification allows the seat **70** to extend behind the back **37**.

Since the side fittings **10** may rotate about the cross members **25**, **40**, or **50**, the two pairs of legs **18** and **19** of this chair will accommodate themselves to any floor irregularities as soon as the chairs are sat upon. If desired, tips or ends of any type may be applied to legs **18** and **19** to protect a floor.

While I have shown and described my invention in the best forms known to me, it will nevertheless be understood that these are purely exemplary and that modifications may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention except as it may be more limited in the appended claims wherein I claim:

1. A chair comprising, in combination, two side fittings each containing a transverse aperture, a back member cantilevered upwards from each side fitting, a seat member cantilevered forward from each side fitting, a flexible back extending between said back members, a flexible seat extending between said seat members, a cross member having first and second cylindrical ends extending into the transverse apertures in said side fittings mounting said side fittings on said cross member, said cross member having means holding said fittings apart stretching said back and said seat between said back and said seat members, a front leg extending downward from each side fitting, and a back leg extending downward from each side fitting, said side fittings having tubular studs fixed thereto, said back members, said seat members, said front legs, and said back legs telescoping into said tubular studs to be cantilevered from said side fittings.

2. The combination according to claim 1 wherein said means holding said fittings apart comprises a collar fixed near the first end of said cross member, a threaded portion of said cross member near the second end of said cross member, and an internally threaded sleeve screwed outward about said threaded portion forcing said side fittings apart.

3. The combination according to claim 1 wherein said means holding said fittings apart comprises a first collar fixed near the first end of said cross member, a second collar fixed near the second end of said cross member, a compression coil spring disposed about said second end outside said second collar, said compression spring urging the side fitting on the second end of said cross member outwards.

4. The combination according to claim 3 wherein said cross member is tubular and with the addition of means to compress said compression spring to assemble said chair, said means to compress said spring comprising a threaded element fixed within said cross member, a cap having a greater inside diameter than said second end of said cross member, and a bolt passing through said cap screwed into said threaded element, said bolt being tightened pulling said cap and a side fitting inward compressing said compression spring against said second collar.

5. The combination according to claim 1 wherein said means holding said fittings apart comprises means preventing said side fittings from sliding inwards on said first and second ends, said cross member being a bowed leaf spring urging said first and second ends and said side fittings apart.

6. The combination according to claim 1 wherein each of said side fittings has a lower ring from which a front and a back leg extend, said lower ring containing a cylindrical aperture to receive an end of said cross member, an extension fixed to and extending upward from said lower ring, and an upper ring fixed on top of said extension, said back and seat members extending upward and forward from said upper ring.

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CASMIR A. NUNBERG, *Primary Examiner.*