May 3, 1932. J. J. BUTZEN 1,856,315

KNOCKDOWN WOVEN FURNITURE

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FIG. 1

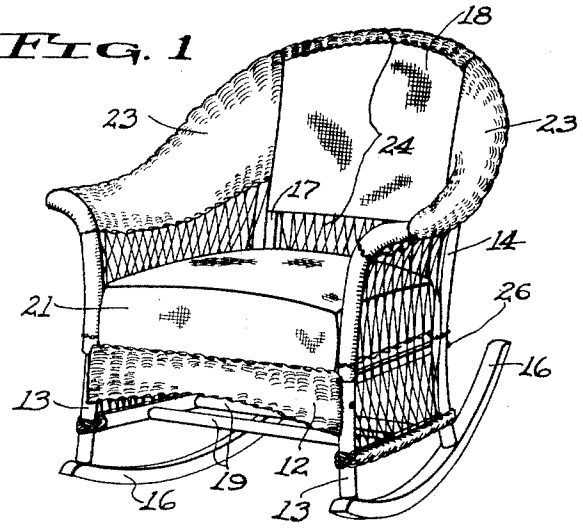
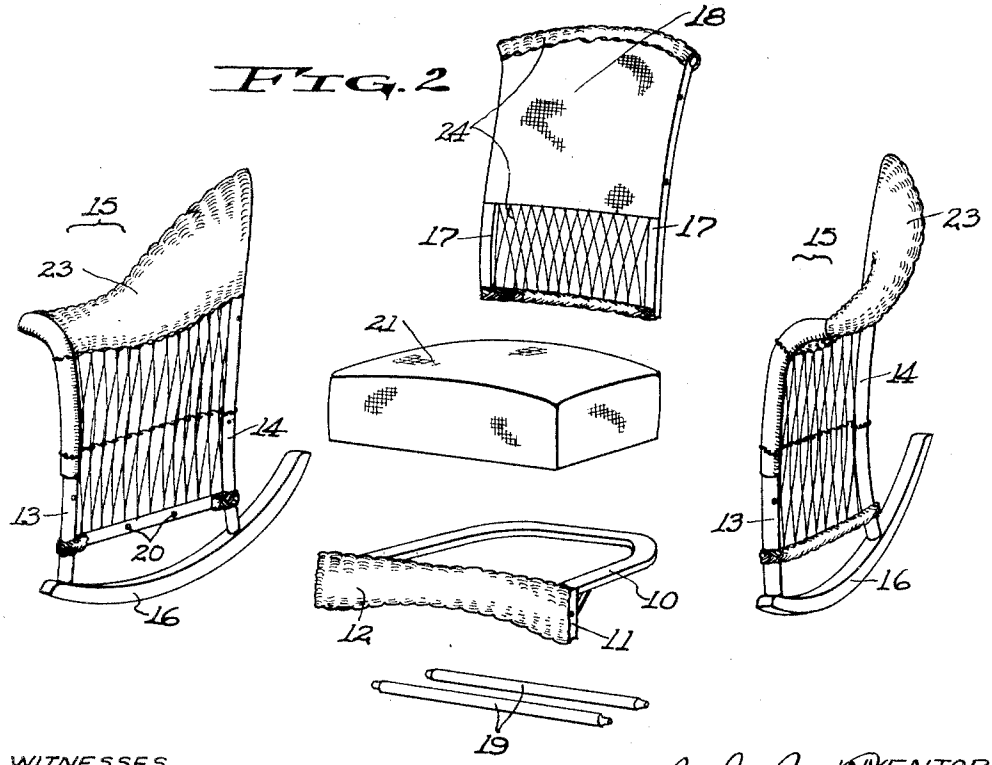


FIG. 2



WITNESSES

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FIG. 3

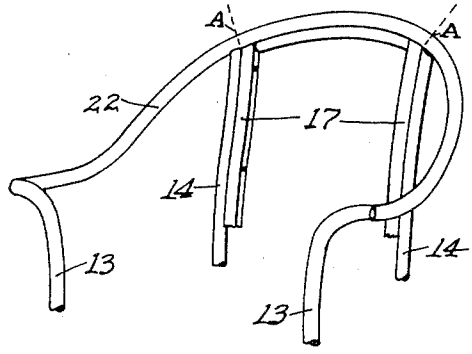


FIG. 4

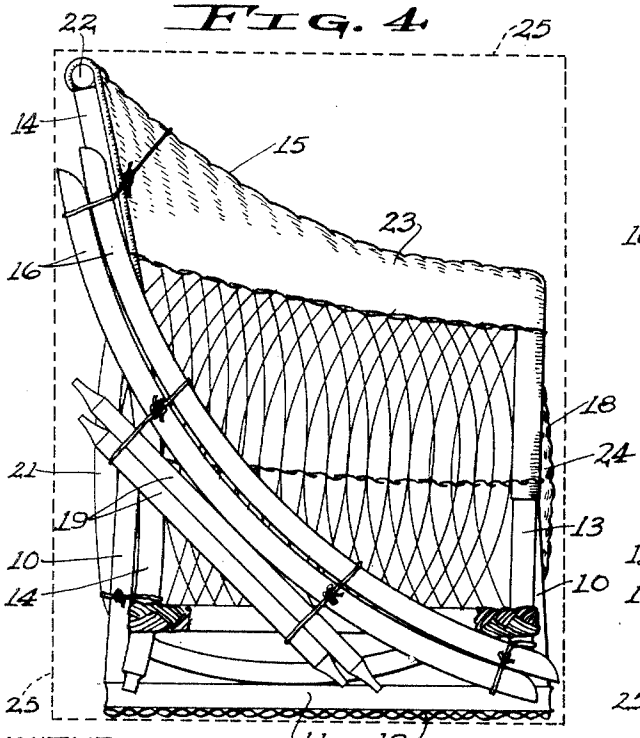
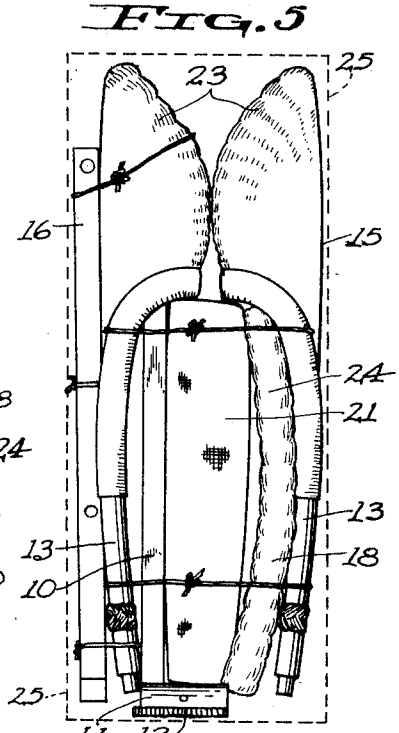


FIG. 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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KNOCKDOWN WOVEN FURNITURE

Application filed December 7, 1929. Serial No. 412,339.

The invention relates to knock-down woven furniture.

The bulky character of woven furniture, commonly known as fibre furniture, renders the shipping costs of this type of furniture comparatively high, notwithstanding its relatively inexpensive construction. With other types of furniture, knock-down construction has heretofore been resorted to for facilitating packing and reducing shipping costs, but the expedients in use are not adaptable to woven furniture. In the case of certain types of fibre arm chairs, for example, weaving operations require the use of a single curved frame member to support the upper portions of the back and arms.

An object of the present invention is to construct an article of woven furniture in such manner as to permit compact packing and inexpensive shipment without interfering with loom operations, the knock-down character of the article of furniture being inconspicuous after the article is assembled and in use.

The invention further consists in the several features hereinafter set forth and more particularly defined by the annexed claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Fig. 1 is a perspective view of an assembled woven fibre arm chair embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is a perspective exploded view of the arm chair;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary perspective view of the frame structure as it appears before the weaving operations;

Fig. 4 is a side elevation of a knock-down assembly of the chair as it appears ready for shipment, and

Fig. 5 is an end view of the knock-down assembly.

In these drawings, the numeral 10 designates a seat frame having a depending front rail 11 which may in some instances be provided with a facing 12 of woven material. The seat frame 10 is secured to front and rear leg members 13 and 14 respectively forming part of a pair of side frames 15, which may or may not be provided with detachable rockers 16. The upper portions of the front leg members 13 may be wound with fibre as usual and the upper ends of these leg members may be curved outwardly, as seen in Fig. 1, to facilitate the formation of broad arm rests. The rear leg members 14 are secured to the side frame members 17 of a back frame 18, the edges of the frame members 17 being concavely recessed to receive the rounded leg members. The side frames 15 may also be joined by transversely-extending rounds 19 having reduced ends fitting in sockets 20 formed in the side frames. A seat cushion 21 is mounted on the seat frame 10, as seen in Fig. 1.

As seen in Fig. 3, the upper portions of the side frames 15 and back frame 18 are originally formed of a single curved wooden frame member 22, which is secured to the front and rear leg members 13 and 14 and to the side frame members 17 of the back frame. Fibre facings 23 are woven onto the side portions of the curved frame member 22 and the front leg members 13 to form the side panels of the chair, and a fibre facing 24 is woven to the back portions of the curved frame member 22 to form a back panel. In some instances, the upper portions of the facing 24 embracing the frame member 22 may be omitted. The ends of the strands of the facings 23 and 24 are turned under at those points of the frame member 22 where this frame member is joined to the rear leg members 14 and back frame side members 17. These points of the frame member are indicated by "A" in Fig. 3. After the weaving on the back frame and side frames is completed, the curved frame member 22 is cut at the points "A" to thus separate the back frame or panel from the side frames or panels, as indicated in Fig. 2.

In packing the chair for shipment, the two side frames 15 are placed in substantially parallel relation with their outer faces innermost and their upper flaring wing portions in abutting relation, as seen in Fig. 5. The space which is left between the side frames is occupied by the seat frame, the seat cushion and the back frame, in the abutting parallel relation seen in Fig. 5, the front rail 11 of the seat frame being lowermost. The rounds 19 and the rockers 16 (when used) may be lashed to the outside of

one of the side frames as seen in Fig. 4, and the whole assembly may be suitably tied in place. If necessary, additional packing material may be inserted between abutting pieces of the chair to avoid chafing. The compactly arranged tied assembly is then placed in a rectangular carton 25 which is of comparatively small size, and the knock-down chair is then ready for shipment.

To assemble the chair, the several frames are secured together in abutting relation by means of screws 26 or other suitable fastening elements to form a rigid structure. This is accomplished by securing the rear leg members 14 and the frame members 17 together, and securing the seat frame 10 to the front and rear legs of the side frames. When thus assembled, the upper edge of the chair has a continuous unbroken appearance which renders inconspicuous the knock-down character of the chair. The upper edge of the chair is smoothly curved since the frame member 22 is originally formed in one piece.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. The method of building knock-down woven furniture, which consists in providing a frame member forming in common the upper portions of back and side frames, applying woven back and side facings to the unitary frame structure with their edge portions adjacent, and then severing said frame member at two points between the edge portions of said facings to separate the back frame from the side frames.

2. A knock-down chair comprising a seat frame, a pair of side frames removably secured to said seat frame, a back frame removably secured to said side frames, said side frames and back frame having laterally abutting upright frame bars at their separable edges and having complementary curvilinear upper frame bars arranged in endwise alignment and overlying and secured to the upper ends of the frame bars of said side frames and back frame, and woven facings for said frames secured to said upper frame bars and at their upper edge portions presenting a smooth continuous curve extending across the junctions of said endwise aligned frame members.

3. The method of building knock-down woven furniture, which consists in providing a facing-supporting frame member forming in common the upper portions of back and side frames, securing end portions of two pairs of parallel bars to said frame member to form the opposite uprights of the back frame and the rear uprights of the side frames, each pair of said bars being disposed in adjacent relation, and then severing the upper frame member at two points between the respective pairs of said parallel bars.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature.

JOHN J. BUTZEN.