Oct. 27, 1925. 1,559,111

F. J. LEES

TOY FURNITURE

Filed June 21, 1923

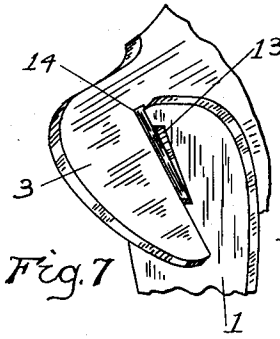


Fig. 7

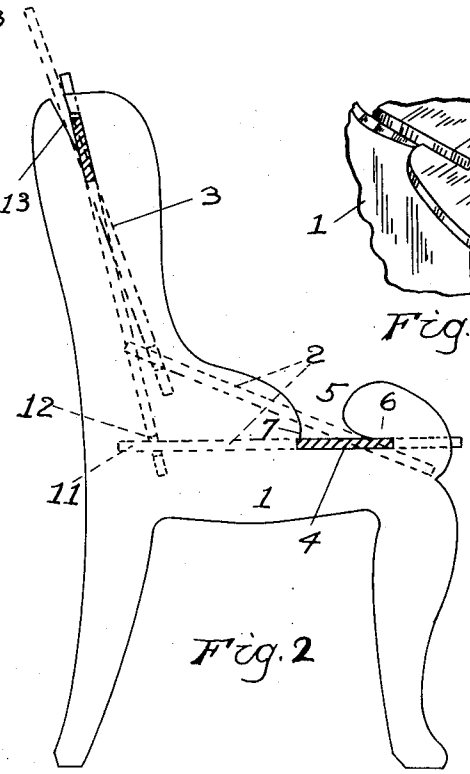


Fig. 2

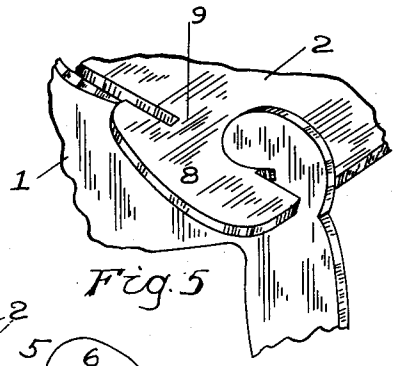


Fig. 5

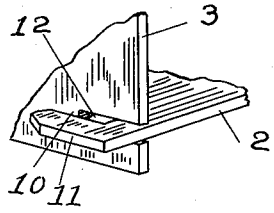


Fig. 6

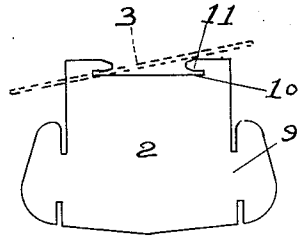


Fig. 3

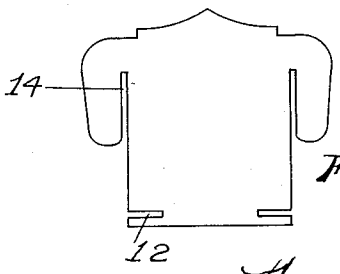


Fig. 4

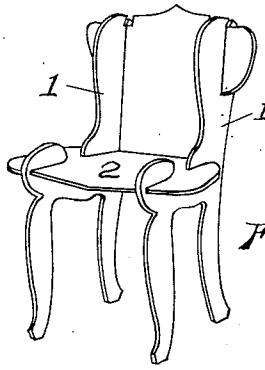


Fig. 1

Fredrick J. Lees
INVENTOR

BY Geo. B. Willcox
ATTORNEY

Patented Oct. 27, 1925. 1,559,111

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDRICK J. LEES, OF SAGINAW, MICHIGAN.

TOY FURNITURE.

Application filed June 21, 1923. Serial No. 646,809.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDRICK J. LEES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Saginaw, in the county of Saginaw and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Toy Furniture; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to toy furniture and the improvement comprises articles of knock-down furniture adapted to be built up of a plurality of flat pieces stamped from sheet metal and adapted to be easily and quickly assembled to form well braced rigid pieces of furniture such as straight-backed or rocking chairs, settees and the like. The articles can be easily disassembled and since all of the pieces of which they are composed are flat they can be packed in small space for shipment, or mailed in an envelope.

The improvement comprises more specifically a plurality of flat pieces of sheet metal formed with interlocking joints of improved construction so arranged as to impart strength and rigidity, in all directions, to the assembled article.

With the above and certain other objects in view which will appear later in the specification my improvement comprises the devices described and claimed and the equivalents thereof.

In the drawings Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a straight chair assembled.

Fig. 2 is a part sectional side view showing by dotted lines some of the various positions of the parts while being assembled.

Fig. 3 is a view of the seat member, showing by dotted lines the position of the back member being assembled with the seat.

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the back member.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged perspective view of the interlocking connection between a side member and one edge of the seat member.

Fig. 6 is a detail of the connection between the rear of a seat member and the lower edge of the back member.

Fig. 7 is a detail of the connection between the upper end of a side member and an edge of the back.

In the drawing which illustrates a straight chair as one embodiment of my improvement, 1 is a side member stamped from sheet metal. 2 is the bottom or seat and 3 the back.

The interlocking connection between the side member 1 and the seat 2 comprises a horizontal slit 4 in the side member, communicating with an opening 5 narrower than the slit, the ends of the slit being formed with lugs 6 and 7, as shown in Fig. 2.

The seat member 2 is formed with an ear 8 having a narrow neck 9 adapted to fit into the slit 4 when inserted from above through opening 5 in the tilted position shown by dotted lines in Fig. 2 and in Fig. 5. The front edge of neck 9 engages the lug 6 and the rear edge rests on the bottom of slit 4, supporting the seat 2 in a horizontal position.

The rear edge of seat 2 is formed as shown in Figs. 3 and 6, with a slot 10 and a lug 11 at each side, and the back 3 has a corresponding slot 12, the two slots when assembled interlocking as shown in Figs. 2 and 6.

The top of each side 1 is formed with a bayonet slot 13, and the upper part of the back 3 has a corresponding slot 14, the two slots 13 and 14 interlocking when assembled as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 7.

To assemble an article of furniture made according to my invention the bottom 2 is secured to the two sides by inserting the neck 9 of the seat 2 by way of openings 5 into the horizontal slits 4 of the side members. The lugs 6 and 7 hold the seat in place in a horizontal position as above described. The rear end of seat 2 is raised as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 2, and the back 3 is similarly interlocked with the lugs 11 of the seat. The upper part of the back is likewise inserted and locked to the two side members by means of the bayonet slots 13 of sides 1, 1 and the slots 14 of the back.

Vertical strength is imparted to the assembled structure by the interlocking of the back and seat. Sidewise stiffness is imparted by the interlocking of the back and side members and the interlocking of the seat and side members. There is practically no looseness or tendency to twist or rack in the article when assembled.

By the means above described I have produced a simple and inexpensive toy article which can be assembled without the

use of tools and without bending or twisting any part of the structure. The article when assembled is practically as rigid as if it had been constructed in the usual manner. It may be taken apart readily and the parts when stacked are flat and occupy but small space. All the pieces are formed by simple cutting operations, as by means of cutting dies. It is not necessary to employ forming dies, although they may be used for purposes of ornamentation if desired.

I have shown and described the improvement as applied to toy furniture, but when desired it may also be used in the construction of other knock-down furniture, as for example a rocking chair or other article which is needed in knock-down form for convenience in transportation, as for example on camping trips and the like. In the case of larger or full sized articles of furniture I prefer to make the various parts of wood or to build them up of veneer, although they may be made of sheet metal.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A pair of flat sides each formed with a horizontal slit communicating with an opening narrower than said slit, said sides also formed with bayonet slots in their upper ends, a seat member formed with an ear at each side near its front end, a narrow neck adapted to fit the horizontal slit of said flat side when inserted in said narrow opening, the rear edge of said seat formed with a pair of slots, a back member having slots interlocking with the slots of said seat, the upper part of said back member slotted and adapted to interlock in the bayonet slots of said side members.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature.

FREDRICK J. LEES.