

May 16, 1939.

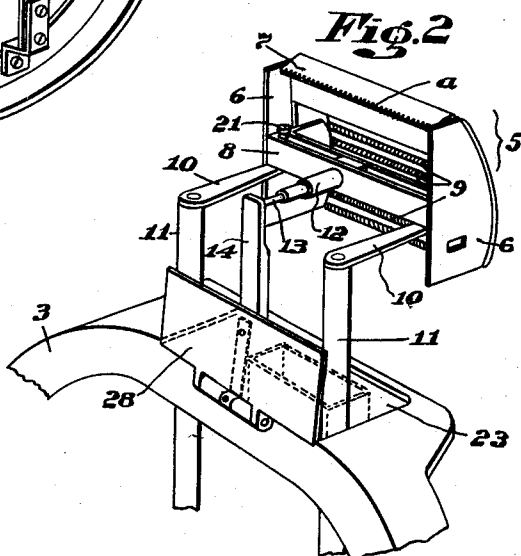
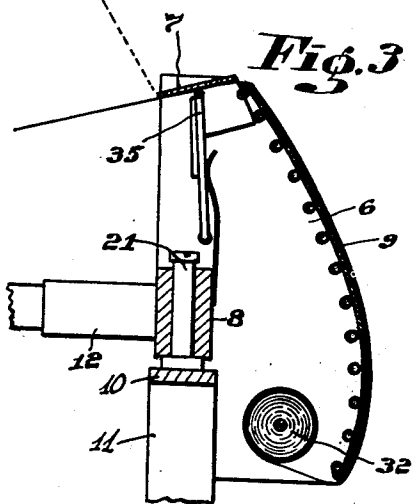
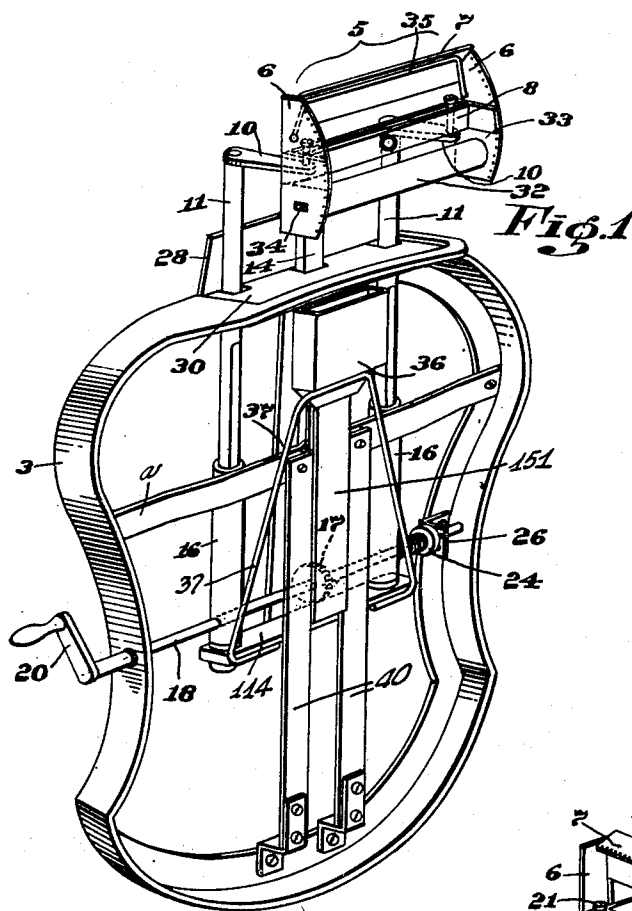
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2,158,183

BARBER'S CHAIR

Filed Aug. 4, 1938

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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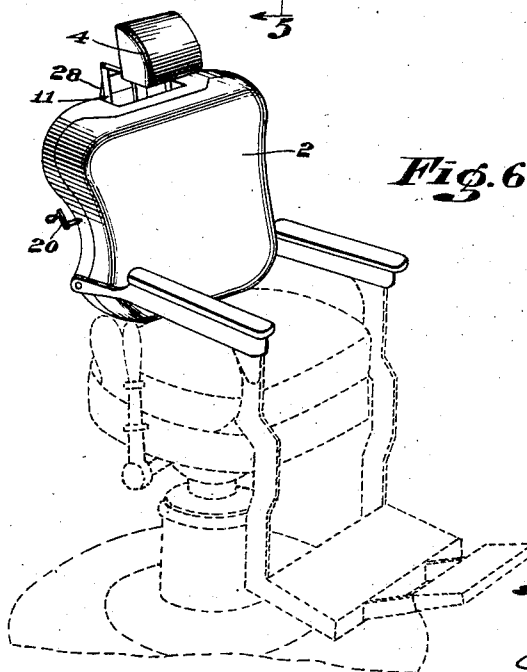
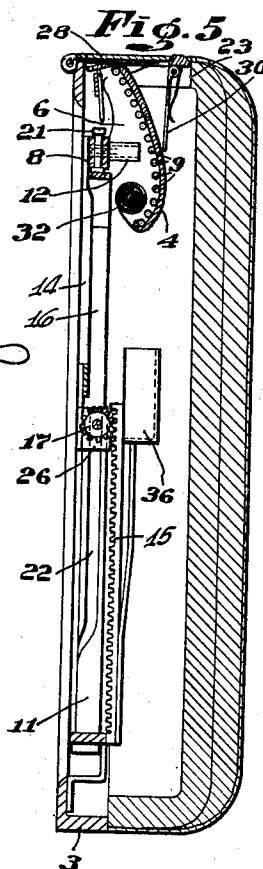
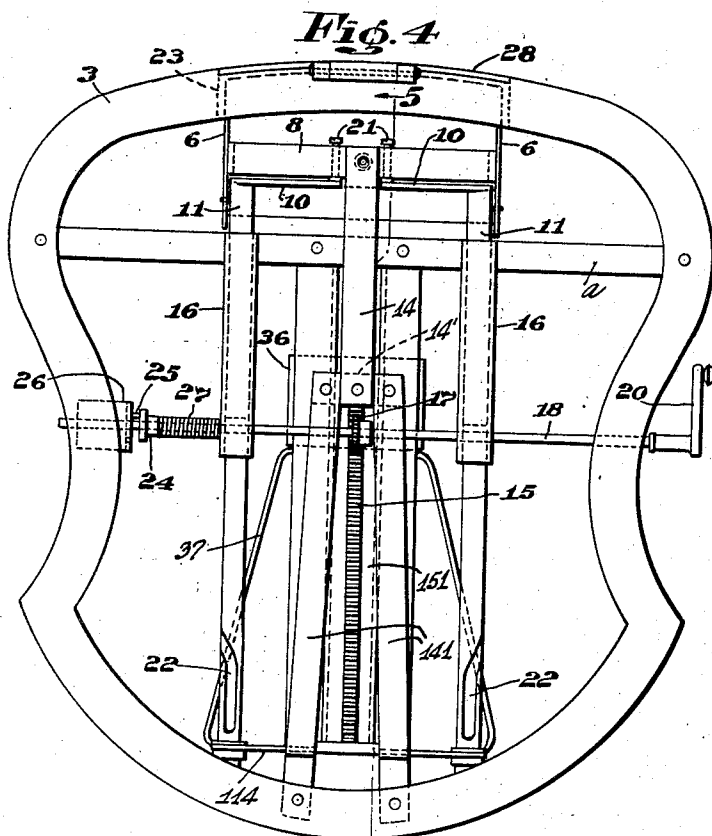
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BARBER'S CHAIR

Filed Aug. 4, 1938

2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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2,158,183

BARBER'S CHAIR

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Application August 4, 1938, Serial No. 223,053

3 Claims. (Cl. 155-177)

This invention relates to barbers' chairs and those intended for similar purposes and in which a headrest is employed.

In using such chairs the headrest is required to support a customer comfortably while the barber is shaving him. If the next customer wishes to have a hair cut the headrest must be removed, since otherwise it would be in the barber's way. Usually the headrest is removably supported in the back of the chair, and if it is going to be in the way the barber simply removes it bodily and lays it on a convenient shelf.

The present invention aims to improve chairs of this general type with a view especially to making them more convenient for the barber to use and providing more sanitary conditions for the customer.

The nature of the invention will be readily understood from the following description when read in connection with the accompanying drawings, and the novel features will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the frame parts and structural mechanism of the chair back, the headrest and the operating means therefor;

Fig. 2 is a similar view of the rear portions of a headrest structure as shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a vertical, sectional view of the headrest;

Fig. 4 is a rear elevation of the frame and associated parts shown in Fig. 1 but illustrating the headrest in its retracted or concealed position;

Fig. 5 is a vertical, sectional view approximately on the line 5-5, Fig. 4, but showing the frame upholstered; and

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a barber's chair equipped with apparatus embodying this invention.

Referring first to Fig. 6, a barber's chair of a conventional form is there shown in dotted lines but equipped with a back 2 constructed in accordance with the invention. This back is suitably upholstered and the frame for it is best shown at 3 in Figs. 1, 4 and 5.

According to the present invention the back structure of this chair is equipped with a headrest so supported that it may be moved either into an extended or operative position, as shown at 4 in Fig. 6, or into a retracted and concealed position inside the structure of the chair back. Mechanism also is provided which may be man-

ually actuated for moving the headrest from either of said positions to the other. As best shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the headrest 4 includes a skeleton or frame, indicated in general at 5, and comprising side pieces 6-6 and members 7 and 8 connecting them. The headrest is covered or upholstered in any suitable manner, the covering being supported, for example, by horizontal spiral springs 9, the opposite ends of which are anchored in the side pieces 6-6. This entire structure is mounted on the forward ends of two arms 10-10 which are secured rigidly to the upper ends of vertical rods or shafts 11-11, and it is also guided for forward and backward movement on a telescoping connection including the members 12 and 13, Fig. 2, mounted on the upper end of a vertical bar 14. This bar forms a part of a vertically movable assembly which includes a rack 15 rigid with, or forming part of, a slide 151 provided with grooved edges running on spaced guide bars 40-40, Fig. 1. Secured to a frame member α are two tubes 16-16 through which the rods 11 slide, the tubes guiding these rods for vertical movement. Thus the entire supporting structure for the headrest is guided for up and down motion in a fixed path in the frame. In the particular arrangement shown the rods 11-11 are secured together at their lower ends by a crossplate 114, Figs. 1 and 4, and the lower end of the bar 14 is secured to a cross-bar 14', and the latter is fastened to the part 114 by two braces 141, Fig. 4. Preferably the upper end of the slide 151 is steadied by a wire brace 37 somewhat U-shaped in form, the lower ends of this brace being secured to the crosspiece 114.

There is provided an opening in the member 8 through which the part 12 has a sliding movement so that it can project somewhat beyond the front face of the member 8 when the headrest is in the recess, as shown in Fig. 5.

For the purpose of raising and lowering the headrest a pinion 17 is arranged to mesh with the rack 15 and is mounted on a horizontal shaft 18 which is supported in bushings or bearings carried by the frame member 3. One end of this shaft projects through the upholstery, as shown in Fig. 6, and has a crank 20 secured to it by means of which the mechanism may be actuated. Thus by rotating the shaft 18 in one direction or the other, the headrest may be raised or lowered.

In addition to this movement, however, it is also necessary to move the headrest forward after it has been raised out of its socket or recess

in the back 2. For this purpose the two arms 10—10 are provided at their outer ends with up-right pins or stub shafts 21, Figs. 2, 4 and 5, which are located in slots formed in the headrest frame member 8. It will also be observed that the shaft 18 extends through the guide tubes 16 and through cam-shaped slots 22—22 formed in the rods 11—11. These slots are so shaped that during the first part of the lifting movement of the headrest produced by rotation of the shaft 18, the parts simply rise from their positions shown in Fig. 4, the headrest coming through the aperture 23 in the frame. During this period the rods 11 slide in the guides 16 and on the shaft 18, but when the upper ends of the spirally curved portions of the slots strike the shaft, both rods begin to turn in such directions as to swing the arms 10—10 forwardly and this movement continues until the arms arrive in the positions shown in Figs. 1 and 2. At this time the headrest is projected forward into its correct relationship to the main body of the back 2, as shown in Fig. 6. Further rotation of the shaft 18 results in raising the headrest somewhat further, the shaft 18 at this time riding in the lower straight portions of the cam slots 22—22 which may be seen in Fig. 4. This latter rising movement of the headrest is desirable in order to adjust it to the heights of different individuals. Also, in order to lock it in the desired position of adjustment, the shaft 18 is mounted to slide axially in the frame 3 and a collar 24, Figs. 1 and 4, is secured to it. A pin 25 fixed in this collar projects away from the handle 20 and is adapted to enter any one of several holes formed in the adjacent flat face of a bracket 26 which is secured to the frame 3, as best shown in Fig. 1. A coiled spring 27 encircling the shaft 18 tends to hold the pin 25 seated in one of these holes. Consequently, the operator may adjust the headrest to the desired height and then lock it in that position simply by rocking the crank 20 slightly until the pin 25 registers with one of the holes and is forced into it by the spring 27. Also, by pulling on the handle 20 he may withdraw the pin from the hole and change the adjustment or lower the headrest into its inoperative position.

It will be evident from the foregoing that during the first few reverse revolutions of the shaft 18 to lower the headrest, the only movement of the latter is that in a downward direction. As soon, however, as the upper ends of the spiral portions of the cam slots 22—22 strike the shaft 18, the rods 11—11 begin to turn to swing the arms 10—10 inwardly toward each other as shown in Fig. 4, and this movement continues until the headrest has been moved backwardly into line with its supporting and operating instrumentalities. Thereafter a further rotation of the shaft 18 lowers the headrest into the space in the back structure 2.

In order to close the upper end of the recess or chamber into which the headrest disappears, a cover 28, best shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 5, is pivoted at its rearward edge on the frame 3, and is acted upon by a leaf spring in a direction tending to hold it constantly closed, as shown in Fig. 5. When the headrest rises it strikes the cover and opens it, as shown in Fig. 2, and it is held open by its contact with the parts 11 and 14. As the headrest disappears, however, the cover follows it and finally comes to rest on shoulders provided in the upper margin of the aperture 23.

Similarly, it is desirable to close said aperture when the headrest is in its operative position in

order to prevent, so far as possible, the entrance of dust into the headrest chamber. For this purpose another cover 30, Fig. 5, is hinged at the forward edge of the aperture 23 and is acted upon by a spring tending to hold it closed. When the headrest moves downwardly it opens this cover, as shown in Fig. 5, but when it is raised out of the chamber in the chair back the cover automatically rises to its operative position, as shown in Fig. 1. Its free edge is notched, also as shown in said figure, to accommodate the parts 11 and 14.

The head supporting surface of the rest 4 should be covered with paper while in use, and I prefer, therefore, to mount a roll of paper 32, Figs. 1, 3 and 5, in the structure of the headrest and under or behind the upholstery material. It can be supported on pins mounted in short leaf springs or on one such member, as indicated at 33 in Fig. 1, at one end, with the spindle of the roll projecting through a slot 34 in the other side member 6. This web of paper can be drawn around under the edge of the upholstery, over the front face of it, and back over the upper edge of the upholstery and between the plate 7 and a spring actuated retaining member 35 which clamps the web yieldingly against the lower surface of the plate and thus holds it in its operative position on the headrest. This part 35 consists simply of a U-shaped wire or rod, the ends of which are bent outwardly and extend through holes in the plates 6—6, these bent ends forming pivots on which the device may swing. Before the barber shaves the next customer he draws the entire length of paper previously exposed through the space between the parts 7 and 35 and then tears or cuts off the used section of this sheet by swinging it upwardly across the toothed or cutting edge *a*, Fig. 2, of said plate.

Preferably a receptacle 36, Figs. 1 and 5, is secured to the sliding structure inside the chair back 2 as, for example, by means of the wire brace 37, Fig. 1, where it serves to support a bottle or other container holding a material adapted to give off germicidal fumes or vapors. These thus will be dispersed throughout the recess or chamber in which the headrest is located when in its inoperative position, and they will maintain the parts thereof in a sanitary condition. By mounting the receptacle on the slide it is raised when the headrest is moved to the upper limit of its stroke into a position immediately under the aperture 23 where the supply of disinfectant material may conveniently be replenished.

The invention thus provides a barbers' chair which is very convenient for him to use, and in which the headrest and the paper covering for it are protected from contamination. Essentially the same construction is adapted for other uses as, for example, by dentists.

While I have herein shown and described a preferred embodiment of my invention, it will be understood that the invention may be embodied in other forms without departing from the spirit or scope thereof.

Having thus described my invention, what I desire to claim as new is:

1. A chair of the character described including a back, a headrest, said back being provided with a recess to receive said headrest, supporting and operating mechanism for said headrest operable to raise the headrest out of said recess and to move it forward into its operative position and to return it again to its inoperative position in said recess, said mechanism including a slide movable

upwardly and downwardly in said back, rack and pinion means operable to raise and lower said slide, cam means operated by said sliding movement for moving said headrest backward and forward relatively to the slide, and an actuating element for rotating said pinion.

5 2. A chair of the character described including a back, a headrest, said back being provided with a recess to receive said headrest, a slidable supporting structure in said back carrying said headrest, an operating mechanism for said headrest 10 operable to raise the headrest out of said recess and return it into the recess, comprising means mounted on said back cooperating with means on 15 said supporting structure for automatically moving the headrest forward into its operative position after it has been raised out of the recess and

subsequently returning it to a position in line with said recess, and means for operating said mechanism.

3. A chair of the character described including a back, a headrest, said back being provided with a recess to receive said headrest, slidable supporting means carrying said headrest, an operating mechanism for said headrest operable to raise the headrest out of said recess and to return it into the recess, cam means on said slidable support 10 engaging means in said back for automatically moving the headrest forward into its operative position after it has been raised out of the recess and subsequently returning it to a position in line with said recess, and means for operating said 15 mechanism.

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