Feb. 25, 1936. J. KUSS 2,032,288

RECLINING CHAIR

Filed Oct. 13, 1934

Fig. 1.

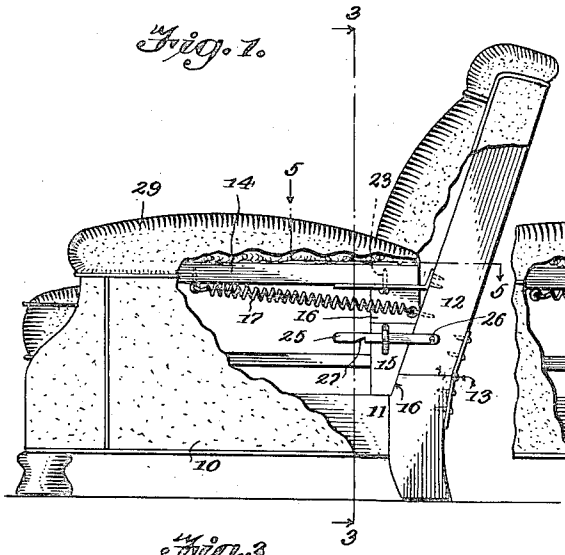


Fig. 2.

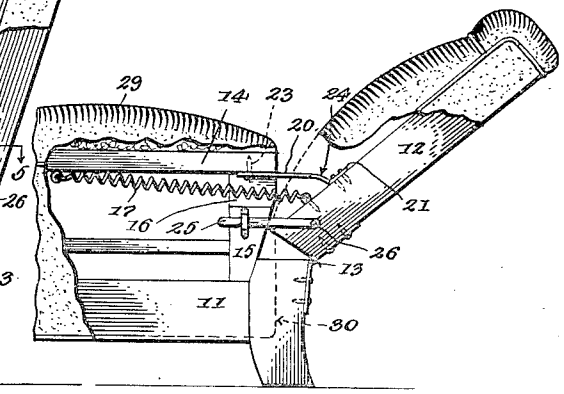


Fig. 3.

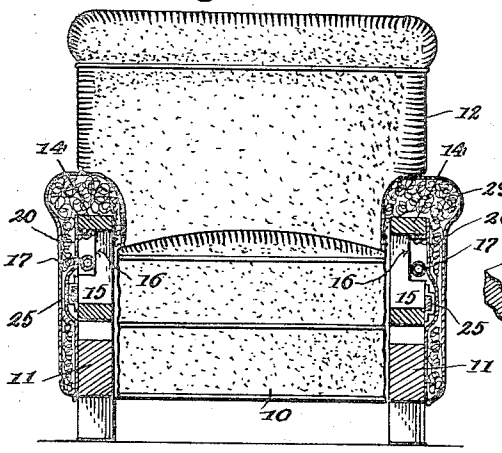


Fig. 4.

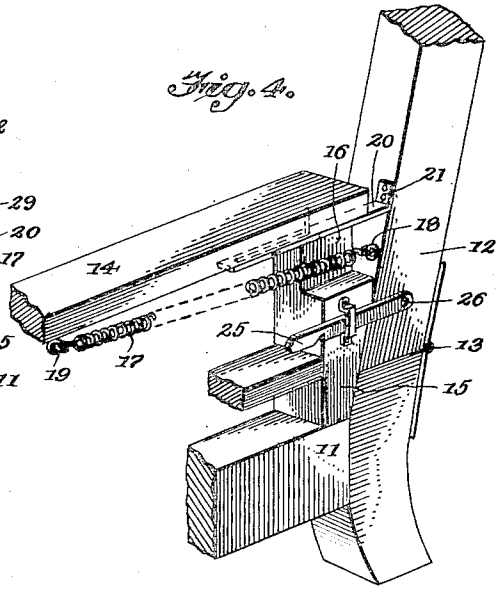


Fig. 5.

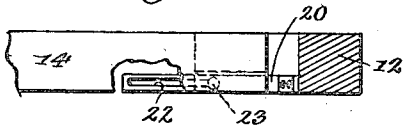
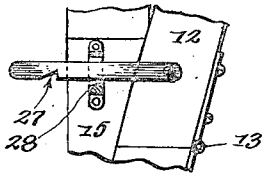


Fig. 6.



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RECLINING CHAIR

John Kuss, Chicago, Ill.

Application October 13, 1934, Serial No. 748,232

1 Claim. (Cl. 155—163)

This invention relates to reclining chairs, and has for its object the production of a simple and efficient means for permitting the reclining of the back of the chair, or the swinging of the back rearwardly to a reclining position merely by placing the weight of the back of the user upon the back of the chair and forcing the same rearwardly against the tension of a spring to move the back of the chair to the desired position.

Another object of this invention is the production of a simple and efficient reclining chair having a hinged back which is normally held in its upright position through the medium of tension springs, the back being so mounted and constructed as to permit the back to be moved to a reclining position when pressure or weight is brought to bear thereon, suitable means being provided to lock the chair in a set position.

A still further object of this invention is the production of a simple and efficient mechanism for supporting the back of a chair and causing the back of the chair to automatically swing to its upright position as soon as the locking device is released.

Other objects and advantages of the present invention will appear throughout the following specification and claim.

In the drawing:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the chair, the back being shown in its upright position certain parts of the upholstery being broken away;

Figure 2 is a side elevation of a portion of the chair showing the back in its reclining position;

Figure 3 is a section taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a fragmentary sectional view of a portion of the chair frame-work illustrating the mechanism for controlling the position of the back of a chair;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary horizontal sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 1, certain parts being broken away;

Figure 6 is a side elevation of the latching mechanism for holding the back in its reclining position.

By referring to the drawing, it will be seen that 10 designates the body of the chair which may be of the overstuffed design, or may be of any suitable or desired type without departing from the spirit of the invention. The body 10 of the chair comprises a frame 11 upon which is hingedly secured a back 12 through the medium of a hinge 13, clearly shown in Figure 1. The back 12 may be upholstered in any suitable or desired manner.

The frame 11 is provided with an arm rail 14 upon either side of the body 10, as is usual with such types of chairs, and the frame 11 is also provided upon either side of the frame with arm supporting and abutment blocks 15 near the rear end of the body 10, these blocks 15 being inclined or beveled as at 16, to constitute a stop or abutment for the back 12 when the back 12 is raised to its upright and slightly inclined position such as is shown in Figure 1. These blocks 15 are provided with notches 16 to constitute pockets for the coil springs 17.

The back 12 carries eyelets 18 which engage the rear ends of the coil springs 17 and the forward ends of the coil springs 17 are secured to anchoring eyes 19 fastened to the underface of the arm rails 14. The springs 17 extend longitudinally of the arm rails 14 and are suspended below the arm rails, the rear ends of the springs 19 extending through the pockets 16 previously mentioned, as shown in detail in Figure 4. These springs 17 are adapted to normally retain the back 12 in its upright or partially inclined position, such as is shown in the drawing, and to normally hold the back 12 in contact through the tension of the springs 17 against the inclined faces 16 of the blocks 15.

Guiding strips 20 are secured to the back 12 through the medium of the angularly bent portions 21 of the strips 20 and these guiding strips 20 extend under and contact with the under face of the arm rails 14. The strips 20 are provided with elongated slots 22 through which slots 22 extend the guiding pins 23 which pins 23 are anchored in the arm rails 14 and are provided with enlarged heads to retain the guiding strips 20 in sliding contact with the under face of the arm rails 14. These guiding strips 20 are preferarbly formed of spring metal to permit the strips to slightly flex at their outer ends adjacent the angularly extending portions 21, as indicated by the numeral 24 in Figure 2.

In order that the back 12 may be held in its reclined position, I provide a locking or latching device which consists of an elongated latching bar 25, the bar 25 being pivotally connected, as at 26, to the back 12, as shown in detail in Figure 6. This latching bar 25 is provided with a notch portion 27, which notch portion is adapted to be brought into engagement with the keeper strap 28 carried by the frame 11 and through the strap, the latching bar 25 extends. Two of these latching bars 25 may be employed, if desired, one upon either side of the frame 11, such as is shown in Figure 3. The entire mechanism for controlling the positon of the back may be completely en-

cased through the medium of the upholstery **29**, the upholstery being shown partly broken away in Figure 2 and the outline thereof being shown in dotted lines, as at **30**. When the back **12** is moved to its reclined position and should it be desired to permit the back to swing to its upright position, the operator may merely place his finger under the latching bar **25** in the rear of the keeper strap **28** releasing the latching bar or bars from the keeper or keepers **28**, the coil springs **17** immediately pulling the back **12** to its upright position. The guiding strips **20** through the medium of the slots **22** and pins **23** will limit the swinging movement of the back **12** both to and from a reclining position.

By considering the drawing, it will be seen that when it is desired to move the back to a reclining position, it is only necessary for the operator to press rearwardly thereon or to lean backward with sufficient force against the tension of the spring **17** to cause the back **12** to move from a position shown in Figure 1 to the position shown in Figure 2. The latch members **25** will automatically drop to a locking position when the back has been moved to a fully reclined position, and the back will remain in this position until the latching members **25** are released, as desired. However, it should be understood that through the medium of the present device, the back **12** may be moved to various selected positions to suit the comfort and convenience of the user of the chair, and that the back **12** will immediately move to its upright position or to its raised position when pressure or weight is relieved therefrom unless of course the back **12** has been first moved to its fully reclined position where the latching members **25** will engage the keepers **28**.

It should be understood that changes in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention so long as such changes fall within the scope of the appended claim.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:—

A chair of the class described comprising a frame, an arm rail at one side of said frame, a back hingedly secured to said frame, tension means anchored at one end to said arm rail and secured at its opposite end to the back near the lower end of the back and adapted to normally hold the back in a raised position, a spring metal elongated flat guiding strip engaging the under face of said arm rail and having one end fixedly secured to said back, said guiding strip normally lying flat throughout its entire length against the under face of said arm rail when said back is in a raised position, said strip being longitudinally slotted, a securing pin passing through said slot and engaging said arm rail, said pin limiting the longitudinal movement of said strip as said back is moved to and from a raised position, said spring metal guiding strip being adapted to flex at a point near its connection with said back when the back is swung to a reclining position and when the point of connection of said strip with the back is moved to a plane below the normal position of the strip whereby downward pull upon the securing pin will be minimized, and said frame having a clearance formed therein through which said tension means and guiding strip pass to be secured to said back.

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