May 28, 1929. A. B. CLARK 1,715,118

FOLDING CHAIR

Filed July 24, 1926

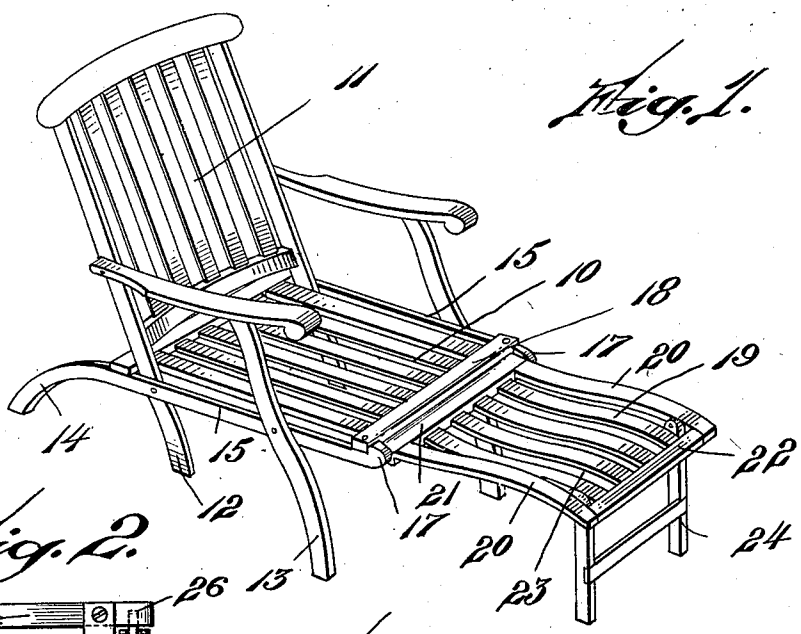


Fig. 1.

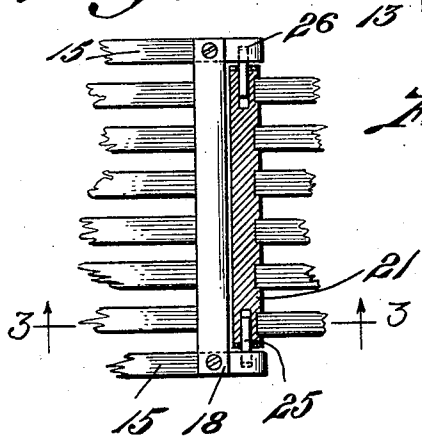


Fig. 2.

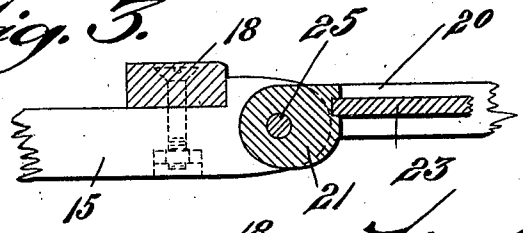


Fig. 3.

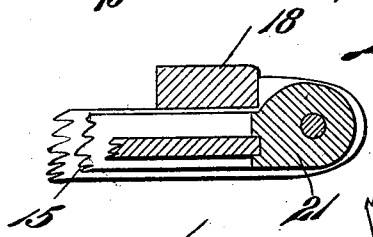


Fig. 4.

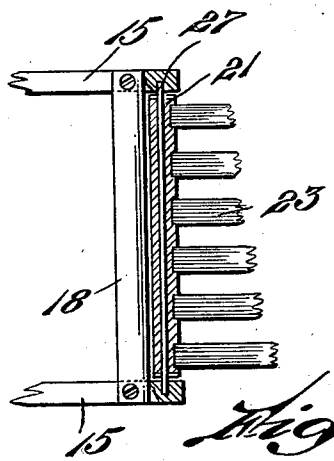


Fig. 6.

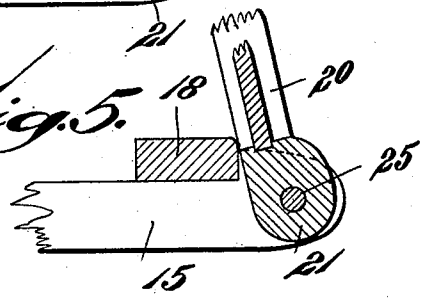


Fig. 5.

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Patented May 28, 1929. 1,715,118

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT B. CLARK, OF READSBORO, VERMONT, ASSIGNOR TO READSBORO CHAIR COMPANY, OF READSBORO, VERMONT, A CORPORATION OF VERMONT.

FOLDING CHAIR.

Application filed July 24, 1926. Serial No. 124,638.

This invention relates to an improved construction of folding chair, more particularly of the type having a foot rest attached to the forward edge of its seat portion; and the object of this invention is to provide a construction by which the foot rest may be pivotally attached to the seat portion in such a manner as to prevent the same from being easily broken.

A further object of the invention is to extend the side rails of the seat portion of the chair and to pivot the foot rest to the extending portion of these side rails to enable the same to have a greater swing relative to the seat portion and to provide a stronger pivot or hinge construction and one less liable to be broken.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, as will be more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a so-called steamer chair with the foot-rest portion attached thereto and in extended position.

Figure 2 is a view partly in section showing the foot rest member pivotally connected to the seat portion of the chair.

Figure 3 is a sectional detail side elevation showing the relation of the extended side rail of the seat and a portion of the foot rest in extended or working position.

Figure 4 is a view similar to Figure 3 showing a portion of the foot rest as folded beneath the seat.

Figure 5 is a view similar to Figures 3 and 4 illustrating the foot rest as being swung in the opposite direction and as being raised at an angle to the seat.

Figure 6 is a detail in section showing a slight modification in which the pivot pin, which connects the foot rest to the seat portion, extends complete through the meeting cross bar of the foot rest.

It has been customary in attaching a foot rest to the front edge of the seat of a folding chair, to use metal hinges by which construction the foot rest could be folded under the seat but could not be raised from its normal working position to any substantial extent, without causing a great strain on the hinges due to the long leverage of the rest that would in time result in tearing the hinges from position. Such a strain is frequently caused by persons unaccustomed to the use of the chair in attempting to fold the same.

In order to obviate this difficulty and provide a strong and durable construction that cannot be broken by swinging the rest upward, I have extended the side rail portions of the seat beyond the front cross bar or edge thereof and have pivoted the foot rest to these extended portions by which construction the foot rest may be freely raised to a vertical position or even further back relative to the seat without injury to the pivotal connection; and the following is a detailed description of the present embodiment of my invention and showing one means by which these advantageous results may be accomplished:—

With reference to the drawings, 10 designates the seat portion of a folding chair, which is provided with the usual back rest 11 and legs 12, 13 and 14. The back legs 14 are formed by a rearward extension of the side rails 15, the forward end portion 17 of which rails extend beyond the front edge of the cross bar 18 of the seat.

The foot rest 19 is formed of a suitable frame having side bars 20, end bars 21 and 22 and intermediate slats 23 and is supported at one end by means of legs 24, while at its opposite end the bar 21 is provided with suitable pivot pins or trunnions 25 the ends of which extend into openings 26 in the extending end portions of the rails 15 to pivotally mount the foot rest with relation to the seat. This foot rest may be freely swung back and folded beneath the seat, as illustrated in Figure 4, or it may be freely swung through an arc of substantially 270° to the raised position illustrated in Figure 5, without fear of injury, in which position it will be noted that the cross bar 18 forms a strong and rigid stop limiting further movement of the rest in this position.

By this construction I am enabled to use a large and durable pivot pin of sufficient size to resist unusual strains to which it may be subjected and a construction is presented by which a raising of the foot rest relative to the seat portion is permitted and no undue strain on either the pin or the rails is caused.

I have illustrated in Figure 6 a single trunnion 27 extending through the bar 21 instead of a pair of trunnions, as illustrated

in Figure 2 to show that this slight modification may be made.

The foregoing description is directed solely towards the construction illustrated, but I desire it to be understood that I reserve the privilege of resorting to all the mechanical changes to which the device is susceptible, the invention being defined and limited only by the terms of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a folding chair, a seat having side rails with connecting cross bars for supporting spaced slats, the front cross bar being positioned a short distance from the ends of the rails, a foot rest having a frame with spaced slats supported therein and of a width to fit between the ends of said rails projecting beyond said front cross bar, pivoting means for connecting said frame to the projecting ends of said side rails, said pivotal means being located to permit said foot rest and seat to be folded into substantial parallelism in one direction, said front cross bar being disposed to lie above said pivoting means for providing an elongated stop adjacent the point of pivoting to arrest the relative swinging of said foot rest and seat in the other direction.

2. In a folding chair, a seat having side rails, front and back cross bars connecting said side rails, the front cross bar being positioned a short distance from the ends of said rail leaving said rails projecting there beyond, a foot rest having spaced end bars rigidly connected together, one of said end bars being positioned between said projecting rail ends and of a size to substantially fill the space there between, pivotal connecting means extending into said projections and also into said end bar therebetween to swingingly connect said seat and foot rest together.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ALBERT B. CLARK.