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INVALID'S HIGH CHAIR

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2 Sheets-Sheet 1

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This invention relates to improvements in chairs and has particular reference to a chair adapted to be used by an invalid child and embodies in its construction certain distinctive features whereby the child may be comfortably positioned therein even though handicapped by the presence of casts or other surgical appliances worn by the child during a period of illness.

The principal objects of the invention are the provision in the chair of means whereby the child's feet can readily rest on the side of the chair; the provision of means whereby the chair can be readily collapsed to permit a seating of the child therein, and means whereby the chair can be restored to its normal operative position with the parts retained in locked position so that danger of the child accidentally falling from the chair will be eliminated.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a chair of the character described that is simple in construction, economical to manufacture, strong, durable, and highly serviceable in use.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawing, wherein for the purpose of illustration is shown the preferred embodiment of the invention, Fig. 1 is a front elevation of a chair constructed in accordance with my invention,

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same, disclosing to advantage, the hinged mounting of the seat and the cooperating locking arrangement of the side arms relative to the back of the chair.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary view illustrating the manner in which the chair is opened to receive the child, with the arms and tray of the chair being lowered relative to the seat portion.

Fig. 4 is a rear elevation of the chair,

Fig. 5 is a top plan view of the same, and

Fig. 6 is a horizontal section through the chair, the view being taken on the line 6–6 of Fig. 4 and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Referring to the drawings the numeral 1 designates a base or pedestal substantially rectangular in cross section which functions to prevent accidental tipping of the chair. On said base 1 mount legs 2, 9, 10 and 11, while a pair of enlarged legs or supports 13 are also secured to the pedestal at the front thereof, the said supports being connected in turn by a cross brace 14 on which rests the front portion of the seat 12. It will be noted that the respective ends of the cross brace 14 terminate at the inner sides of the front support 13 and are suitably secured thereto. It will be noted that the said supports 13 have hingedly connected thereto as at 19 a pair of extensions 16 that carry the side arms of the chair, which arms in turn support a tray A.

The rear portions of said side arms are capable of passing through slots 18 provided in the back 23 of the chair; and to said side arms the back is detachably secured as by pins 21 or like fastening elements.

This back 23 will be noted, and as disclosed to advantage in Figs. 4 and 5, is hingedly secured at 22 to the seat portion 12. Hinges 23 are connected to the bottom of the seat to permit a raising of the seat, while dowel pins 24 provided on the legs 8 and 9 prevent accidental displacement of the seat. It is to be noted that the said hinges 23 each embodies in its construction an upper and lower leaf, the upper leaf being of greater length than the lower leaf. This arrangement allows the seat 12 to be slightly and sufficiently elevated to permit a cast that connects the feet of the child, and which cast will be hereinafter explained, to pass beneath the seat. At this moment the buttocks of the child are in a position above the seat of the chair.

It is to be noted that the invalid child while about to be seated, is held in the arms of its mother or an attendant, who first slightly elevates the chair seat to allow the passage of the cast beneath the seat 12 and above the upper extremities of the front legs 13. The front of the seat is then lowered on the dowel pins 24 and the child is seated in the chair.

Interposed between the base 1 and the seat portion 12 is the child's foot supporting means, which consists of a pair of oppositely disposed platforms 25 and 26 that are mounted on cross braces 27 and 28, the cross brace 27 being secured to the legs 10 and 11, while the cross brace 28 is secured to the legs 9 and 8. This feature of construction is illustrated to advantage in Figs. 1 and 4.

Due to the fact that in the treatment of some disorders a cast extends between the spread feet of the child, it is necessary to position the platforms 25 and 26 at the sides of the chair. Thus, the feet of the child may be comfortably supported, with the cast itself passing between the front legs 5 and 9 and the rear legs 10 and 11 of the chair.

When it is desired to position the invalid child in the chair the tray and arms are lowered and assume the position disclosed in Fig. 3. The child with the cast between its feet is lowered until contact of the child's feet has been made
with the platforms 25 and 26. The child's legs will readily rest on the platforms 25 and 26. The hinged seat is then lowered and straddled by the child and the tray is brought into operative position, with the chair assuming the positions of Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawing.

A chair of this character has a wide field of use in hospitals and homes and particularly so in cases of congenital hip dislocation wherein a cast is employed to space the legs of the child apart and to retain the legs in a fixed position. This type of chair will fill a long needed want in the trade and will provide a maximum degree of comfort for an invalid child and will protect the child against the danger of an accidental fall.

It is to be understood that the form of my invention herewith shown and described is to be taken as a preferred example of the same and that various changes relative to the shape, size, material, and arrangement of parts may be readily resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claim.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

In an invalid's highchair, a base, a seat portion, a pair of front legs and a pair of rear legs connecting said base and seat portion, a pair of vertical supports positioned on said base, a cross brace connecting said supports and capable of receiving thereon the front portion of said seat, a pair of extensions hingedly connected at their lower ends to said vertical supports, side arms secured to the ends of the extensions of said vertical supports, a tray connected to said side arms to confine the occupant to the said seat portion, a back hingedly connected to the rear portion of said seat for detachably retaining therein said side arms, a cross brace between said front and rear legs, a pair of platforms interposed between said base and said seat portion and secured to said brace and extending laterally from said chair to support the cast connected feet of the invalid.

MICHAEL MARDER.

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