

A. D. CONVERSE.
FOLDING CHAIR.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 5, 1913.

1,182,978.

Patented May 16, 1916.

Fig. 1.

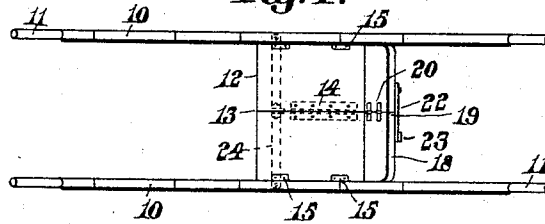


Fig. 2.

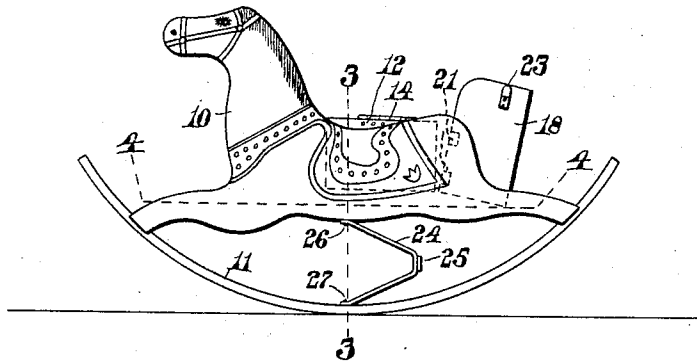


Fig. 3.

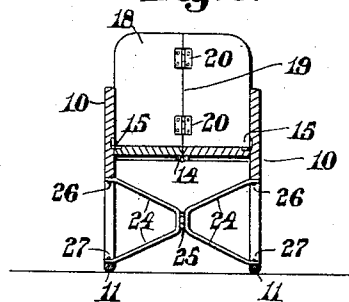
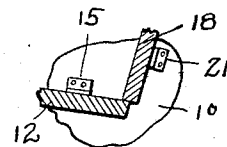
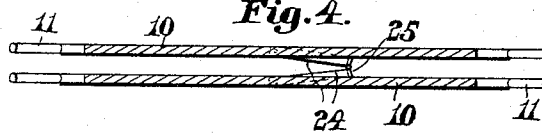


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:
N. C. Lombard
C. F. Allen.

Fig. 5.

Inventor:
Atherton D. Converse,
by Walter E. Lombard,
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ATHERTON D. CONVERSE, OF WINCHENDON, MASSACHUSETTS.

FOLDING CHAIR.

1,182,978.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 16, 1916.

Application filed April 5, 1913. Serial No. 759,226.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ATHERTON D. CONVERSE, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Winchendon, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Chairs, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to collapsible rockers and particularly to that class in which the side members are connected by a centrally divided seat and a centrally divided back all hinged together and adapted to be folded simultaneously to permit said side members being moved toward each other.

The object of the present invention is to provide a simple brace beneath the folding seat to give rigidity to the device when in condition for use, said brace being formed in two parts pivoted together with the ends so articulated to the side members that said brace, seat, and back may simultaneously be folded.

The invention consists primarily of two flat V-shaped members pivoted together at their apices and having their ends connected to the side members of the rocker by pivots at right angles to the seat thereof.

The invention further consists in certain novel features of construction and arrangement of parts which will be fully understood by reference to the description of the drawings and to the claim hereinafter given.

Of the drawings: Figure 1 represents a plan of a device embodying the features of the present invention. Fig. 2 represents an elevation of the same. Fig. 3 represents a transverse section of the same, the cutting plane being on line 3—3 on Fig. 2, Fig. 4 represents a horizontal section of the same, the cutting plane being on line 4—4 on Fig. 2 and Fig. 5 represents a sectional detail showing the back of chair extending over the seat to prevent it from folding.

Similar characters designate like parts throughout the several figures of the drawings.

In the drawings, 10 represents a side frame which may be of any desired shape, as, for instance, the shape of a horse or other animal, as indicated in Fig. 2 of the drawings. The frame 10 is composed in part of a curved rocker member 11 adapted to rest upon the floor and rock in the usual manner. Interposed between the side frames 10 is a folding seat 12 centrally di-

vided at 13, the two portions of said seat being connected together by a long hinge 14 extending longitudinally thereof. This hinge is secured to the two parts of the seat portion 12 so that said seat portion may be folded upwardly about the pivot of said hinge as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings. The opposite edges of said seat are pivotally connected to the side frames 10 by means of hinges 15 secured to the upper face of the seat 12 and the inner face of the side frames as clearly indicated in the drawings. The seat 12 is also provided with a back 18 centrally divided at 19, said back being wholly disconnected from the seat portion 12. The two parts of the back 18 are pivotally secured together by means of hinges 20 extending longitudinally thereof and secured to its front face so that said back is adapted to fold rearwardly into the position shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings. The opposite edges of the back 18 are pivotally secured by hinges 21 or other means to the side frames 10. Pivotaly secured to the rear of one part of the back 18 is a latch member 22 adapted to engage a projection 23 secured to the rear face of the other part of said back, this latch 22 and projection 23 coacting to prevent the folding of the back when the rocker is in use. It is obvious that when any weight, as, for instance, that of a child, is resting upon the seat 12, the folding of the seat will be effectually prevented. As an additional safeguard to prevent the accidental folding of the seat portion 12, the lower edge of the back 18 extends over the upper face of said seat 12 adjacent to its rear edge, and thereby firmly locks said seat portion 12 in extended position and effectually prevents any upward movement thereof.

In order to give greater rigidity to the device a brace is provided immediately beneath the forward part of the seat 12, this brace being formed of two V-shaped members 24, the apices of which are pivotally connected by means of a hinge 25. These members 24 are preferably made of flat metal strips as shown. The outer upper ends of each of the members 24 are connected to the body of the side members 10 by pivots 26 at right angles to the seat portion 12 when extended. The outer ends of the lower arms of the members 24 are similarly connected by pivots 27 to the curved rocker members 11. The hinge 25 is so ar-

ranged as to permit the brace members 24 to fold rearwardly as indicated in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

It will be apparent, from an inspection
 5 of the drawings, that the combined members 24 form a cross brace, with the upper arm of each member coacting with the lower arm of the other member and extending diagonally from the body portion of each
 10 side member to the rocker member of the other side member. By means of this brace thus constructed and positioned immediately beneath the forward end of the seat 12 and extending from the body of the side mem-
 15 bers to the rocker members 11, sufficient rigidity is given to the rocker without the necessity of other cross members, foot rests, or play trays, which latter members, usually found in devices of this character, may be
 20 entirely dispensed with.

When it is desired to fold the device this may be accomplished by raising the latch 22 thereby permitting the back 18 to be folded rearwardly, the seat 12 to be folded
 25 upwardly, and the brace 24 to be folded to the rear, all into the position indicated in Fig. 2 of the drawings, these operations being effected simultaneously.

30 It is believed that the operation and many advantages of a collapsible rocker of this

construction will be fully understood from the foregoing description.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

In a device of the class described, the
 35 combination of two side members; a centrally divided folding seat interposed between and pivoted at its opposite edges to said side members; a centrally divided
 40 back normally extended over the rear edge of said seat; and V-shaped metal braces beneath said seat pivoted to said side frames by pivot members perpendicular to said
 45 folding seat when extended the inclined upper portion of each brace being parallel to the inclined lower portion of the companion brace; and a hinged connection between said braces the axis of which is ad-
 50 jacent to the front edges of said braces whereby said brace when extended will sustain the weight of the occupant of said seat and may be folded rearwardly simulta-
 55 neously with the folding of said seat and back.

Signed by me at Winchendon, Mass., this
 27th day of March, 1913.

ATHERTON D. CONVERSE.

Witnesses:

NELLIE M. DRISCOLL,
 E. KATHERINE ALLEN.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents,
 Washington, D. C."