J. SCHUMAN.

CHAIR.

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1,248,931.

Patented Dec. 4, 1917.

Fig. 1

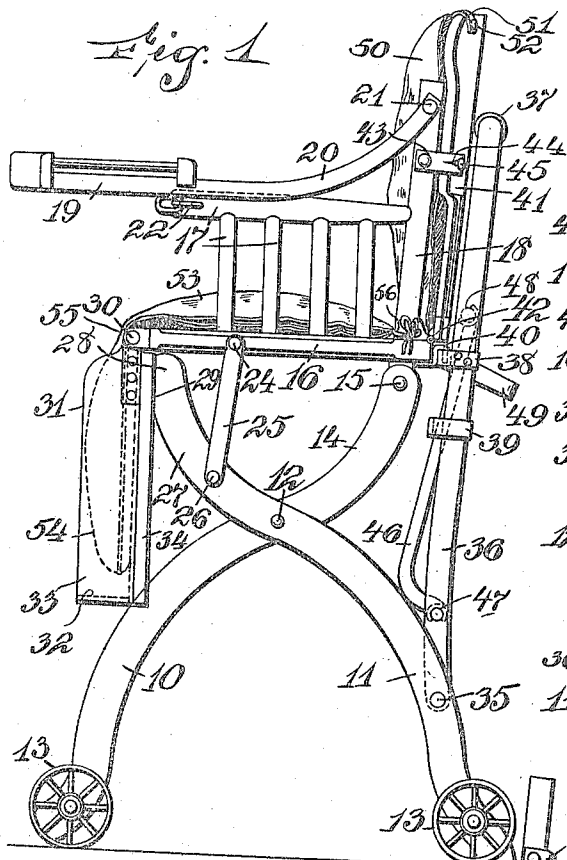


Fig. 2

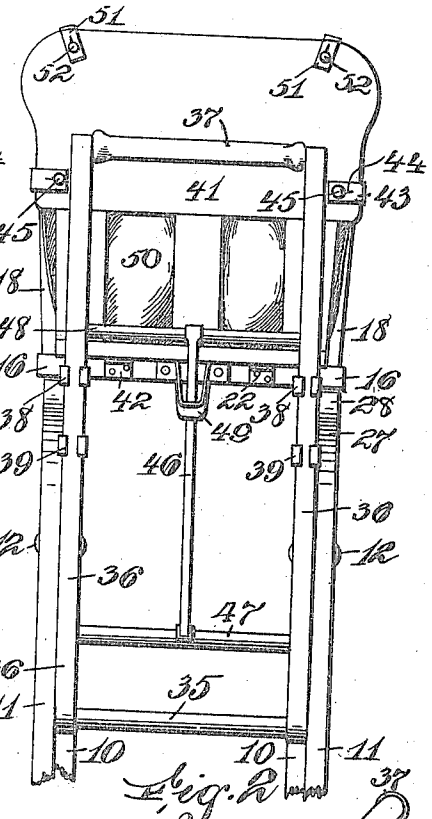
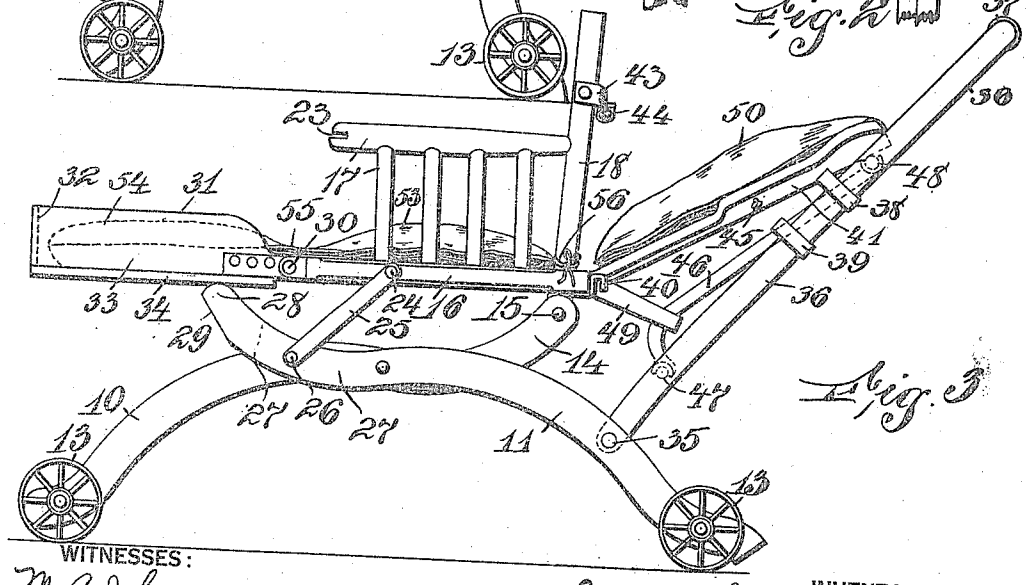


Fig. 3



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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB SCHUMAN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Irvington, county of Essex, and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Chairs, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an infant's chair and is designed to provide a chair of the type that has a seat portion which is supported on legs that are arranged in swinging relation intermediate of their ends, whereby the chair can be raised and lowered by moving the legs together or apart, respectively, the chair having a handle portion attached at a suitable point on the legs and in rear of the seat portion.

The chair has a front extension which is suspended vertically from the front edge of the seat when the seat is in its raised position, but which extension is swung out so as to extend horizontally from the front of the seat portion, the extension being swung to and held in its extended position by the top ends of the rear legs of the chair.

The chair is further provided with a back hinged to the back end of the seat portion, the chair having means for holding the back in its upright position, the back being supported by the handle when it is in its lowered position. This type of chair permits the use of the chair as an ordinary high chair, and in case an infant falls asleep while in the chair, the chair can be lowered, the lowering operation swinging the extension out on the front end of the seat portion and then the back can be lowered to be supported by the handle part so that the chair can be transposed into a bed or crib and there is no necessity of attempting to remove the child from the chair if it falls asleep. The handle is so secured to the chair that it is locked to the seat portion when the seat portion is at its uppermost position, and is thereby held up close against the back of the chair. There is an intermediate holding portion to which the seat can be lowered, which intermediate holding means holds the handle upright in its relation to the chair to prevent the lowering of the back of the chair, but this intermediate holding means is so disposed that when it supports the chair at an intermediate position, the extension on the front of the seat portion is raised so that the extension at the front of the chair and the back at the rear of the seat portion can both be arranged to be in position to allow the infant to lie down. The chair can also be fixed so that the front extension is raised to extend from the front of the seat portion, but the back of the seat portion is held also in is raised position.

The invention further consists in details of construction that will be hereinafter more fully set forth and embodied in the clauses of the claims.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which Figure 1 is a side view of my improved chair. Fig. 2 is a back view of the chair illustrated in Fig. 1, the bottom portion being broken away, and Fig. 3 is a side view of the chair illustrated in Fig. 1, this view showing the chair lowered to a position where the child occupying the chair can recline, this view showing the tray removed from the chair.

The chair is supported by two pairs of legs, the forward legs 10 and the rear legs 11 being pivoted at 12, a pair of legs being arranged on each side of the chair and having wheels 13 at their bottom ends so that when the chair is lowered to the position shown in Fig. 3 it can be wheeled on the floor, as will be evident. The rear ends 14 of the front legs 10 are pivoted as at 15 to the seat portion 16, the seat portion having any desirable type of side rails 17 and the rear posts 18, one on each side of the seat portion, the rear post 18, beside its other functions, acting to support a suitable tray 19, the arms 20 of which are pivoted as at 21 to the rear post 18, being held in place by any suitable means, usually springs 22 which project so that they can be operated and which snap into the slots 23 in the side rails 17, as will be evident. The seat portion has, near its front end, pivotal supports 24 for the links 25 which are pivoted at 26 to the front ends 27 of the rear legs 11, the front ends 27 having their upper ends 28 cut away as at 29, the purpose of which will be described hereinafter.

At the front of the seat portion 16 are the hinges 30, these hinges being arranged preferably on each side of the seat portion and to which are attached the extension 31, this extension having an end board 32 and side pieces 33 and bottom rails 34 which are in line with the front ends 28 of the rear legs 11. The cut-away portion 29 permits the

extension 31 to hang vertically when the chair is raised as shown in Fig. 1 and permits the extension to hang freely from the hinges 30, but abuts on the rails 34 so as to hold the extension 31 in place against excessive swinging or rattling. Pivoted at 35 to the rear legs 11 are the arms 36, which arms, combined with the cross-bar 37, form a handle for the chair. The handle has upper clips 38 and intermediate clips 39 which extend from the front of the handle and provide staple-shaped or similar receptacles for the reception of the hooks 40, which hooks are fastened to the back edge of the seat portion 16, and when the hooks are caught in the upper clips 38 the handle is held close up toward the back 41 which is pivoted as at 42 to the seat portion and when in place can be secured by the tabs 43 which have button-holes 44 to receive the studs or buttons 45 to hold the back in its upright position. When the chair is lowered to the intermediate clips 39 the handle is held in the position in which it is shown in Fig. 1, but the lowering of the seat causes a swinging of the legs to separate the ends 14 and 27, the ends 27 moving forward, and their rounded ends 28 engaging the bottoms of the rails 34 and swinging the extension 31 to the position substantially in extension of the seat portion 16, that is, to an approximately horizontal position. If the chair is raised to release the hooks 40 from the intermediate clips 39 and still further lowered, the legs are spread to the position shown in Fig. 3 and the supporting rod 46, which is fastened at its ends 47 and 48 to the cross-bars of the arms 36 of the handle, engages the end of the yoke 49 which is fastened to the end of the seat portion 16. With the handle in this position the tabs 43 can be unbuttoned from the buttons 45 and the back 41 permitted to drop back until it rests on the handle, preferably on the cross-bar 48.

On the back 41 can be arranged a suitable cushion 50 secured by tabs 51 to the buttons 52 to hold the cushion 50 in place. A double cushion with a seat portion 53 and an extension portion 54 has a narrow connecting strip 55 between these portions, and suitable strings 56 on the rear corners of the seat portion 53 can be tied around the rear post 18 to hold this double cushion in place. The thin portion 55 permits an easy folding of the double cushion and permits the seat portion 54 to follow the extension 31 and hang suspended when the extension is suspended as shown in Fig. 1.

When this chair is used and an infant occupies it, say while the chair is in the position shown in Fig. 1, and the child falls asleep, it is not necessary to remove the child from the chair in order to make it comfortable, and the removal of the child usually results in its being awakened, which is avoided by means of this construction of chair. When the infant falls asleep the chair is slightly raised until the hooks 40 are released from the clips 38, and then the seat portion is lowered to the position shown in Fig. 3 which automatically swings the extension 31 so that it horizontally extends from the seat portion 16, this also straightening out the double cushion. As soon as the chair is lowered the tabs 43 are unbuttoned from the buttons 45 and the back can be lowered as shown in Fig. 3, and the child is as comfortable as if it were in a crib or bed, and a great deal of work is saved and a comfortable chair is provided.

It will be evident that this chair, while preferably made of wood on account of its lightness, can be made of metal and other materials, the chair being simply operated, its simplicity making its operation assured.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. A chair comprising a seat, two pairs of crossed legs hinged together and serving as a vertically collapsible support for said seat, and the upper ends of the forward pair of legs being pivotally connected with the rear portion of said seat, the upper ends of the rear legs being adapted to extend forwardly from said seat when the legs are spread apart, and a pivoted extension adapted to hang downwardly from the forward side of the seat in the path of movement of the upper ends of the rear legs, said rear legs being cut away on the sides adjacent the pivoted extension to permit the same to hang in a substantially vertical position.

2. In a folding chair, the combination of a seat, two pairs of crossed legs the legs of each pair being pivoted together and the upper ends of the forward pair of legs being pivotally connected with the rear portion of the seat, a handle frame the lower end of which is pivoted near the lower ends of the rear legs and which frame comprises two upright bars and an intermediate substantially centrally disposed upright bar, hooks on the rear portion of said seat, coöperating holding clips on said frame, and a downwardly disposed yoke on said seat embracing the intermediate bar of the frame and adapted to serve as a supporting means when the chair is depressed to maximum extent.

3. A chair comprising a seat portion, hinged legs supporting the seat portion at their upper ends, an extension suspended from the front of the seat portion and adapted to swing thereon, the upper part of the rear legs being disposed so that the extension is raised and supported thereby when the seat is lowered, a back hinged to the rear of the seat portion, means for securing the back in its upright position, a handle swinging on the rear legs, and means for securing the handle to the seat in differ-

ent positions, the handle acting as a support for the hinged back when the seat is lowered.

4. A chair comprising two pairs of legs hinged intermediate of their ends, a seat, the rear portion of which is hinged to the top ends of the front legs and the front of which is supported by the upper ends of the rear legs, an extension hinged to the front of the seat and depending therefrom when the seat is raised to draw the legs toward each other, the upper ends of the rear legs being arranged close to said extension whereby said extension is swung by a slight vertical movement of the seat, rear posts on the seat, a back hinged to the seat at the rear thereof, means for securing the back to the posts, and means for supporting the back in different adjusted positions.

5. A chair comprising two pairs of legs hinged intermediate of their ends, a seat portion hinged to the top ends of the front legs, means for supporting the seat portion upon the upper ends of the rear legs, an extension hinged to the front of the seat portion and depending therefrom when the seat portion is raised to draw the legs toward each other, the front upper part of the rear legs being arranged close to said extension whereby said extension is swung by a slight vertical movement of the seat portion, rear posts on the seat portion, a back hinged to the seat portion at the rear thereof, means for detachably securing the seat to the posts, a handle having clips arranged at different heights thereon, hooks on the back of the seat portion and adapted to rest in said clips to support the seat portion at different heights, the handle when so supporting the seat portion being held substantially vertical, and coacting means on the handle and on the seat portion for limiting the movement of the handle and the seat portion from each other when the hooks are released from the clips, said handle acting to support the hinged back when the back is released from the posts.

6. A chair comprising two pairs of legs hinged intermediate of their ends and supporting a seat portion thereon, a back hinged at the rear of the seat portion, means on the seat portion for detachably supporting the back in a substantially upright position, a handle having clips arranged at different heights thereon, hooks on the back of the seat portion and adapted to rest in said clips to support the seat portion at different heights, the handle when so supporting the seat portion being held substantially vertical, and coacting means on the handle and on the seat portion for limiting the movement of the handle and the seat portion from each other when the hooks are released from the clips, said handle acting when in any position other than its vertical position to support the hinged back.

7. A chair comprising two pairs of legs hinged intermediate of their ends, a seat portion hinged to the top ends of the front legs, posts on either side of the rear of the seat portion, a back hinged at its bottom to the seat portion, buttons on the rear of the seat portion, tabs secured to the posts and having button-holes to receive the buttons, a handle pivoted to the rear legs and extending upward in rear of the seat portion, and means for securing the handle and the seat portion together in different positions whereby the handle maintains the seat portion at predetermined heights, and at the same time acts as a support for the back when the back is in positions other than its vertical position.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I hereto set my hand, this 6th day of February, 1915.

JACOB SCHUMAN.

Witnesses:
M. A. JOHNSON,
H. TRAUTVETTER.

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