C. E. BARNES.

LEG FOR MULTIFORM CHAIRS.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 18, 1918.

1,297,059. Patented Mar. 11, 1919.

Fig. 1.

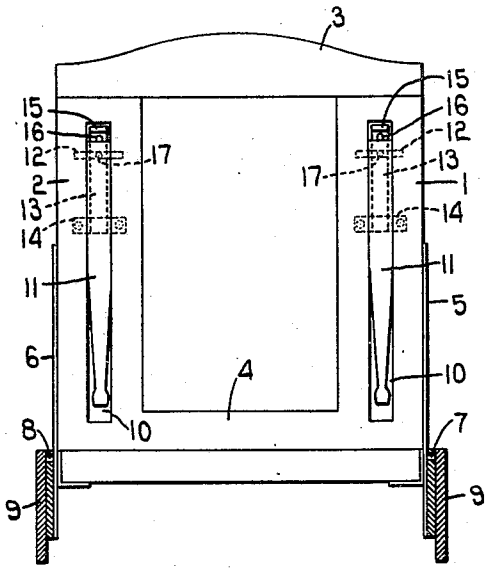


Fig. 2.

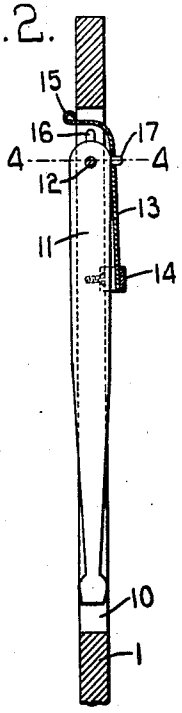


Fig. 3.

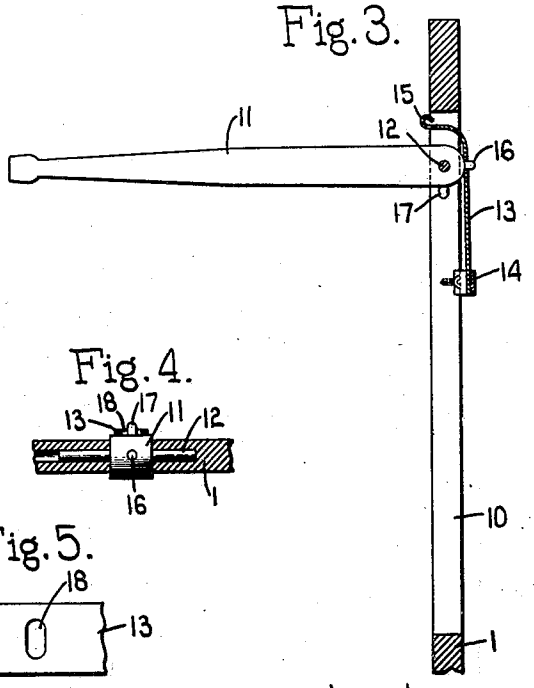


Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

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LEG FOR MULTIFORM CHAIRS.

1,297,059. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 11, 1919.

Application filed April 18, 1918. Serial No. 229,229.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES E. BARNES, a citizen of the United States, and resident of New York, county of New York, State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Legs for Multiform Chairs, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawing, is a specification, like characters on the drawing representing like parts.

This invention relates to improvements in furniture and comprises a leg supporting construction which is adapted for a variety of uses.

The invention is particularly adapted for use in connection with convertible or multiform chairs, folding beds, etc., in which the leg is only used when the article is in a certain position. In such case it is desirable that the legs shall be concealed within the framework so that the device will not present an unsightly appearance by reason of the projecting leg.

More particularly the invention is adapted for use upon multiform chairs of the type illustrated in my applications Ser. No. 169,665, filed May 19, 1917, and Ser. No. 229,230, filed April 18, 1918, in which the device is adapted to form a Morris chair, a chaise lounge, settee or bed. In such case the seat extension and back each is provided with a plurality of legs adapted to be concealed within the framework of said seat extension or back or to be extended in position to support said seat extension or back or both in the plane of the seat of the chair.

The present drawings illustrate a preferred embodiment of the invention as applied to the back of a chair of the type mentioned but it will be understood that the invention herein is applicable to any other kind of furniture or other device.

In the drawings,

Figure 1 illustrates in elevation the back and in vertical section a portion of the frame of a chair, embodying my invention,

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view through the back showing the leg pivotally mounted in a recess therein and illustrating the locking means embodying my invention retaining the leg within said recess,

Fig. 3 is a similar view illustrating the leg in extended position,

Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view of the pivotal support and locking means on lines 4—4 Fig. 2, and,

Fig. 5 is a detail view of a portion of the locking means illustrating the preferred form of aperture.

Fig. 1 of the drawing illustrates a conventional form of a frame for a chair back comprising sides 1, 2, a top 3 and a bottom 4, it being understood that suitable covering or upholstering may be provided therefor. This frame is supported upon side plates 5, 6 which are mounted upon pivots 7, 8 upon the frame 9 of the seat or body portion of the chair. Suitable means may be provided for retaining the back in upright position or permitting the same to be lowered into horizontal position. In the latter position it is desirable to provide means for supporting the upper or free end of the back.

In the preferred embodiment of my invention illustrated herein the side members 1 and 2 of the back frame are provided with longitudinal recesses 10. Legs 11 having their upper ends preferably fitting said recesses are pivotally mounted upon rods 12 extending transversely across said recess. The upper ends of the legs preferably are curved to semi-cylindrical form. It will be readily understood that the legs so mounted are adapted to be concealed within said recess as illustrated in Fig. 2 or to be extended therefrom as illustrated in Fig. 3.

In order to lock the leg in concealed or extended position I have provided a locking member which is secured to the rear side of the frame and overlies the end of the leg, thereafter preferably passing through the recess in the frame so that it may be operated from the front. This locking means preferably is in the form of a resilient flat plate 13 secured at one end to a bar 14 fastened to the back of said side member 1 (or 2) and extended over the end of the leg, then offset or bent and passed through the recess beyond the end of the leg so that its end 15 will be in an accessible position.

The end of the leg and the locking plate are provided with interengaging members adapted when in one position to retain the leg in the recess and in the other to lock it in extended position. The preferred form of interengaging members as illustrated

herein comprises studs 16, 17 projecting from the end and side of the under portion of the leg preferably at right angles as illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3 and an aperture 18 in the locking plate to receive the lugs 16, 17. The aperture 18 preferably is elongated transversely of the plate in order to provide for any slight displacement which may take place.

The operation of the device is obvious from inspection of the drawing. If the leg is in extended position as illustrated in Fig. 3 and it is desired to place the same in concealed position the operator merely presses upon the end 15 of the locking plate 13 sufficiently to force the same out of engagement with the pin 16, thereupon the leg falls or may be pressed down until the stud 17 engages the aperture 18 when the device will be locked in the position illustrated in Fig. 2. When it is desired to use the leg the operator merely presses the end 15 of the locking plate until the stud 17 is released, then moves the leg about its pivot until the stud 16 enters the aperture 18.

When the leg is held in the recess as illustrated in Fig. 1 it is practically concealed so that there is no interference with the beauty of the furniture.

It will be understood that the embodiment of the invention shown herein is illustrative and not restrictive and that various modifications may be made within the meaning and scope of the following claim.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

In a device of the class described, a frame having a recess in the face thereof, a leg lying within said recess when in closed position, a pivotal connection at one end of the leg with the side walls of said recess, a resilient locking plate having its body portion extending along the bottom of the recess beneath the leg and concealed thereby when in closed position, one end of said plate being secured to the frame and the free end of said plate extending over the end of said leg and offset to project through said recess to the front of the recess, and inter-engaging means upon said leg and plate operable to lock the leg either in closed position within said recess or in extended position perpendicular to the frame and recess, whereby the locking plate is substantially concealed when the leg is in closed position but is accessible for convenient operation by means of the offset projecting end.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

CHARLES E. BARNES.