Dec. 14, 1954 H. W. MENDE 2,696,870

ARTICLE OF FURNITURE WITH PIVOTED SEAT

Filed June 17, 1952 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

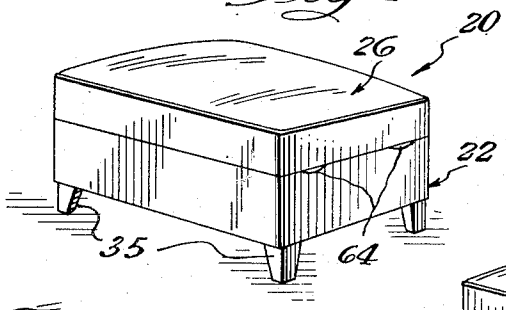


Fig. 2.

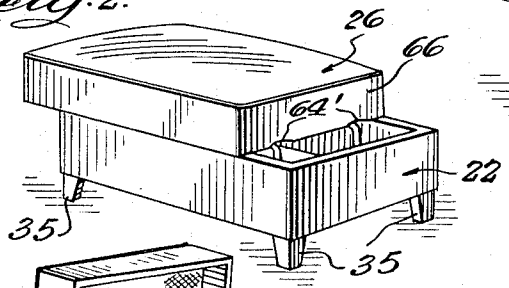


Fig. 3.

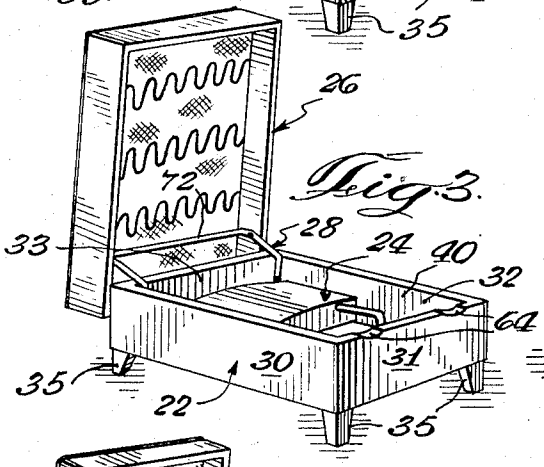


Fig. 4.

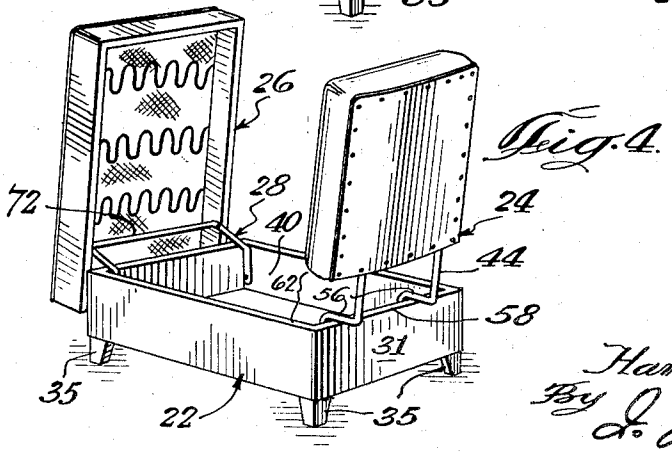


Fig. 5.

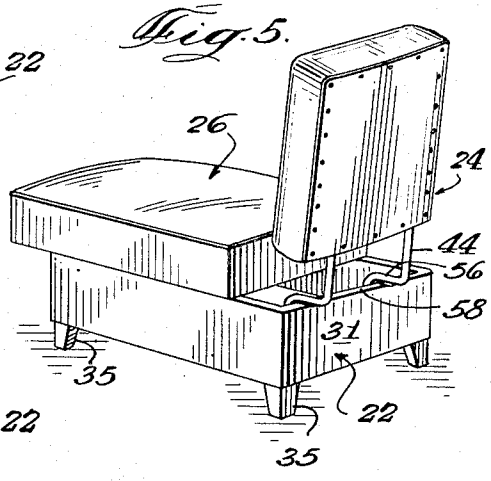
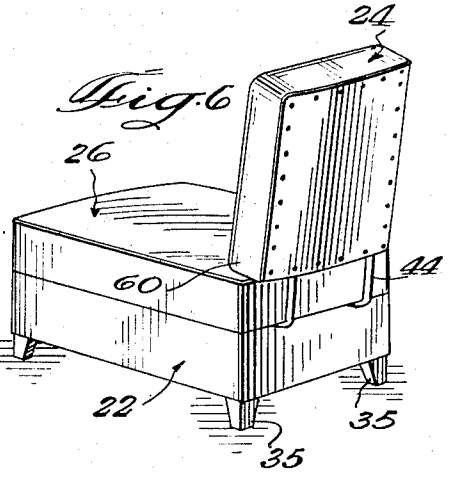


Fig. 6.



Inventor
Harold W. Mende
By L. Jerry Silverman
Attorney

Dec. 14, 1954 H. W. MENDE 2,696,870

ARTICLE OF FURNITURE WITH PIVOTED SEAT

Filed June 17, 1952 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

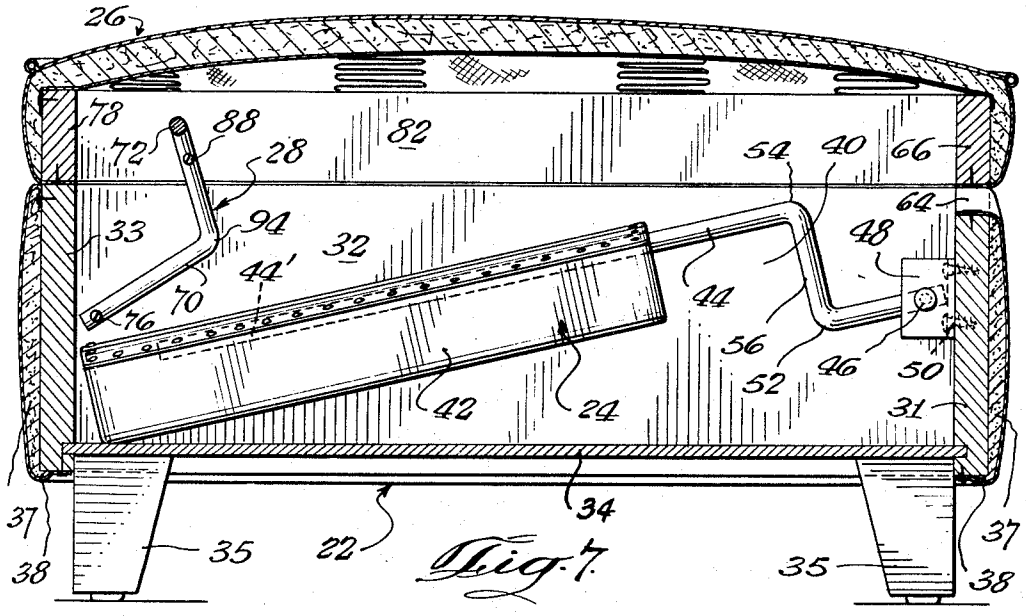


Fig. 7.

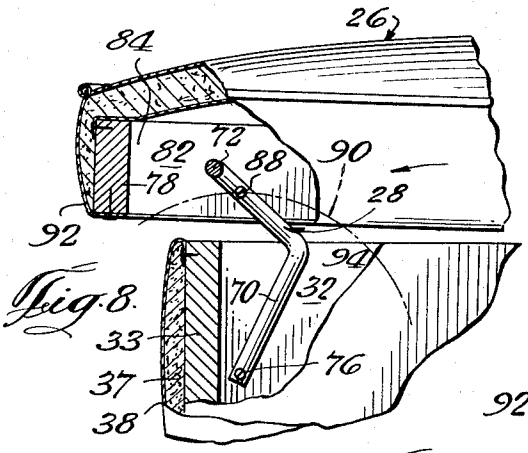


Fig. 8.

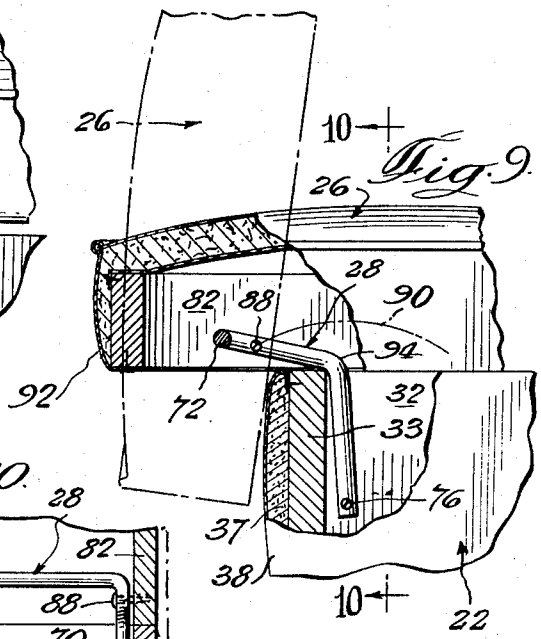


Fig. 9.

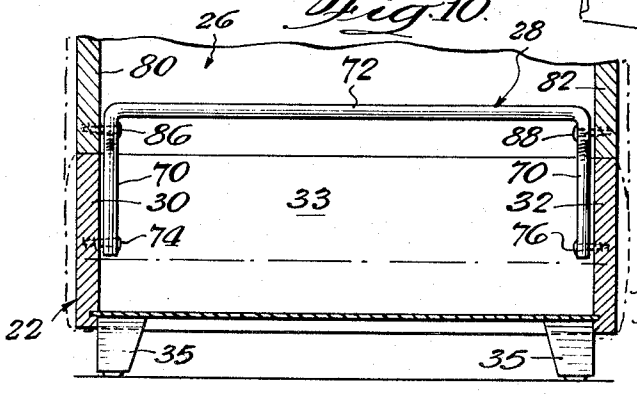


Fig. 10.

Inventor
Harold W. Mende
By J. Jury Silberman
Attorney

United States Patent Office 2,696,870 Patented Dec. 14, 1954

2,696,870

ARTICLE OF FURNITURE WITH PIVOTAL SEAT

Harold W. Mende, Flint, Mich., assignor to Samuel G. Reichman, Flint, Mich., now by change of name to Samuel G. Richman

Application June 17, 1952, Serial No. 293,929

13 Claims. (Cl. 155—152)

This invention relates generally to an article of furniture and more particularly is concerned with an article of furniture which comprises a combined ottoman and chair of novel and improved construction.

In a co-pending application Serial No. 164,510 filed on May 26, 1950 by Samuel G. Reichman, assignee of the instant application, the said co-pending application being entitled Combined Ottoman and Chair and which matured into Patent No. 2,625,204 dated January 13, 1953, there is described an article of furniture similar to that referred to herein. In the construction described in said co-pending application, there is provided a box-like housing which has a back rest member adapted to be disposed in either of two positions. In one position, the back rest member is disposed horizontally and within the housing, being hinged along one edge of the housing. The second position of the back rest member is erect, in position to support the back of a person seated upon the article of furniture. There is a part of the back rest member which engages against the edge of the housing to which the same is hinged. The housing is provided with a top member that is removably secured thereto so that same may be moved from its position on top of the housing to permit the back rest member to be pivoted out of the housing. In normal condition, with the back rest member located within the housing, the top of the same forms the seat of an ottoman, and the back rest member with all of the hardware associated therewith are concealed. With the back rest member exposed and in erect position, the top member or seat is engaged against the front thereof to prevent same from pivoting upon the seat.

This invention is especially concerned with a novel manner of connecting the seat of the article of furniture, and accordingly it is the principal object of this invention to provide a novel and improved connection between the seat or top member of the article of furniture and the housing, whereby the seat may be easily and quickly moved from one to the other of its positions.

Another object of the invention is to provide an article of furniture of the character described in which the seat is hingedly secured at the front end thereof in such a manner that when the seat is pivoted to expose the interior of the housing, the hinge means enables the seat to be braced against a side of the said housing.

Still a further object of the invention is to provide in an article of furniture of the character described, an articulated seat connection.

Another object of the invention is to provide an article of furniture of the character described in which the seat is secured in a manner whereby it may be translated horizontally along the top of the housing in a direction away from the back rest and thereafter pivoted upwardly to uncover the housing.

In connection with the immediately above described object, it is desired to point out that the size of the seat of the article of furniture must be such that it completely covers the housing. Said seat is preferably overstuffed or upholstered in any suitable manner in keeping with modern design. The back rest member is also preferably upholstered. Thus, when the back rest member is erect, it is preferred that it engage upon the rear edge of the seat to form a comfortable and attractive corner. The most desirable arrangement would be for the bottom of the back rest to overlap and engage upon the rear part of the seat. Obviously this cannot be done if the seat must pivot about the edge of the housing, since its path will be blocked by the back rest member. Likewise,

if a small amount of clearance is left, so that the resilience of the back rest and seat upholstery are depended upon to enable one to pass the other, there will be scratching of the upholstery surface and unusual wear.

The construction referred to in connection with the aforementioned object, enables the seat to be translated away from, and hence out from under the bottom of the back rest member, so that when pivoted about its axis thereafter it completely clears the back rest member. Thus the back rest member may be upholstered as fully as the seat, there being no limitation to its thickness.

Many other objects of the invention spring from the construction. For example, one object is the provision of a seat more easily manipulated; another is the provision of an article of furniture in which the seat may be moved to a position firmly engaged against the standards of the back rest member to retain same in positive erect position; another is to provide an extremely simple and sturdy hinged connection for the seat and one in which the hinge or connector member is never subjected to forces tending to pull same away from its fastenings or strain the same; another is to provide an article of furniture of the character described which can be constructed economically while still performing the functions ascribed to same.

With these objects in view, and others which will occur as the description of the invention proceeds, the invention consists of certain constructional features and arrangement of parts set forth hereinafter and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims, it being obvious that great variation in dimensions, form and minor details are capable of being made without departing from the spirit of or varying from the scope of the invention.

In accordance with the patent statutes, there has been set forth in considerable detail a preferred embodiment of the invention shown in the drawings and described in considerable detail in the specification hereinafter set forth, wherefrom one skilled in the art to which the invention appertains may be able to understand the invention and practise the same, and may have full knowledge of the contribution that has been made to the arts and sciences by the said invention.

In the drawings, in which the same or similar characters of reference designate the same or similar parts throughout the several figures of the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of an article of furniture comprising a combined ottoman and chair, constructed in accordance with the invention, showing the same with the back rest member concealed and the seat member in normal position on top of the housing.

Figs. 2 to 6 inclusive are views similar to that of Fig. 1 but the series comprising progressive views showing the manner in which the back rest member is erected so that the article of furniture is converted into a chair. Thus, Fig. 2 shows the article of furniture after the seat member has been moved forward, partially uncovering the housing interior; Fig. 3 shows the seat member pivoted about the front end of the article of furniture and braced in erect condition against the front wall of the housing, thereby completely exposing the interior of the housing; Fig. 4 shows the back rest member pivoted from its horizontal position within the housing to the erect position outside of the housing; Fig. 5 shows the seat member having been returned to the same position it occupied in Fig. 2, but in this case with the back rest member erect; and in Fig. 6 the seat member has been translated into the space between the upholstered portion of the back rest member and the top of the housing thereby completely closing off the opening of the housing, and completing the conversion of the article of furniture into a chair.

Fig. 7 is a median sectional view through the article of furniture while same is in the condition illustrated in Fig. 1.

Fig. 8 is a fragmentary sectional view taken through the connection between the seat portion and the housing showing the disposition of the parts thereof relative one to the other while the seat is being moved from the position shown in Fig. 1 to its position in Fig. 2.

Fig. 9 is a view similar to that of Fig. 8 except with the seat member in the position illustrated in Fig. 2.

Fig. 10 is a sectional view through the article of furni-

ture taken along the line 10—10 of Fig. 9 and in the direction indicated.

Generally the article of furniture of the invention is constructed as a foot-stool or ottoman, suitably upholstered and of a size comfortably to seat a person. There is a framework forming a hollow housing of box-like formation, and the seat member is secured to the framework to pivot, generally about one upper edge of the housing or base. The seat member is capable of being pivoted from one position where it completely covers the entire top of the base to a second position where it is erect and uncovers the top of the base to give access to the interior thereof. The position assumed by the erect seat member is with its pivoted end engaged against the outside of the base and braced against the wall thereat, a substantial distance below the upper edge of the base. Simultaneously the seat is connected to pivoting means that extends over the edge of the wall against which the seat member is braced, and connects on the inside of the hollow base a substantial distance below the upper rim or edge of the base. Thus, the seat member is virtually supported by the edge and wall.

At the opposite end of the connection of the seat member is provided a back rest member which comprises a back rest pad secured on the end of an elongate frame, the opposite end of the frame being pivotally secured within the base or housing so that the back rest member may be pivoted from one position horizontally arranged within the base to a second erect position outside of the base. The frame is provided with bends offsetting the back rest pad from the pivoted end of the frame to form shoulders which engage the upper edge of the wall thereat, and also to enable the seat member to cover the entire top of the base or housing. The back rest pad may be suitably upholstered and extend a substantial distance forward as to overhang the base or housing, and with the base or housing providing a sort of groove or seating recess within which the free end of the seat member may be engaged when it is moved to cover the housing.

The pivot connection of the seat member with the housing is articulate, there being an angular coupling having one end pivotally secured within the housing and the other end pivotally secured within the bottom of the seat member. Each of the seat members and the housing is therefore capable of rotating relative to the coupling or articulated hinge member so that the axis about which the seat member is rotated may be moved prior to rotating same. Thus, to pivot the seat member from the box or housing, it is first slid away from the end of the housing to which the back rest member is pivoted. This of course will shift the rotation axis of the seat member and is accomplished by causing the articulated hinge member to swing from one position to another. At the end of its movement, the bend of the articulated hinge engages the edge of the housing wall, and the seat member is then swung upward. By this expedient, the overhang of the back rest pad member will not interfere with the seat member, and the advantages referred to will be engendered.

Referring now to the drawings, the reference character 20 designates generally the article of furniture constructed in accordance with the invention. Same generally consists of a base 22 of hollow box-like construction which serves as a housing for storing articles and the like and within which the back rest member 24 is adapted to be disposed when concealed by the seat member 26. The articulated hinge member is designated generally 28.

As will be noted, the base or housing 22 is formed of four side walls 30, 31, 32 and 33, and is closed off on its bottom by a floor or bottom wall 34 and is mounted on suitable legs or the like 35. The base member or housing 22 may have its walls padded or upholstered in any suitable manner as indicated by the reference character 37 and may be covered with leather, plastic sheeting or other attractive upholstery covering 38. The constructional details of the housing 22 are well-known and capable of wide variation of construction.

The housing 22 provides an interior chamber which is designated 40 for convenience and within which the back rest member 24 is adapted to be disposed when the article of furniture is not used as a chair (Figs. 1 and 7). Considering the portion of the article to which the back rest member is pivoted at the rear thereof, the side wall 31 comprises the rear wall, and the side wall 33 comprises the front wall. The back rest member 24 comprises a back rest pad 42 which is upholstered in any desired manner for comfort and attractiveness, and having any desired thickness; an elongate frame formed of a pair of tubular members 44, the end of the tubular members 44 extending a substantial distance into the back rest pad 42 and being secured thereto. This is indicated by the broken lines 44' of Fig. 7. The free (left-hand) end of the tubular frame members 44 may be in the form of a loop secured into the back rest pad in any suitable manner. The secured (right-hand as viewed in Fig. 7) ends of the frame members 44 are pivoted at 46 to suitable brackets 48 fastened to the inner face of the rear wall 31 as for example by screws or the like. Preferably, the brackets 48 are channel members which have the pivot pins or bolts extending between the arms thereof, the ends of the tubular frame members being pierced to receive such bolts or pins and being straddled by the respective channel members.

The channel members 48 are each secured to the rear wall 31 on the interior thereof by suitable wood screw 50 or the like as shown in Fig. 7. The tubular frame members 44 each have two right angle bends therein as indicated at 52 and 54 whereby to form an offsetting shoulder 56 in each of the tubular members 44. As will be seen in Figs. 4 and 5, these shoulders are positioned relative to the pivots 46 such that when the back rest member 24 is in erect position, the upper edge 58 of the rear wall 31 supports the same and limits the backward pivotal movement of the said back rest member 24. That portion of the frame members 44 to which the back rest pad 42 is secured is thus offset rearwardly a substantial amount. Preferably the back rest pad 42 is secured so that its face is substantially over the housing 22. Thus its lower end 60 will overhang the housing, and there will be formed a sort of groove or recess defined by the lower end 60 and the shoulders 56 and which includes the upper edge 58 of the rear wall 31 and portions of the upper edges of the side walls 30 and 32. This groove or recess is intended to be occupied by the free end of the seat 26 when same is in proper position completely covering the base 22, and obviously when the back rest member is erect, the seat end cannot enter this recess in a pivoting movement. The recess is generally indicated by the bracket 62 in Fig. 4.

In order that the seat 26 be snugly engaged upon the top of the housing, even when the back rest member 24 is erect, there are provided notches 64 in the upper edge 58 of the rear wall 31 into which the shoulder portions 56 are intended to engage, but such notches may be provided in the edge of rear wall 66 of the seat 26, if desired as shown at 64' in Fig. 2 which is a minor variation of the construction.

Referring now especially to Figs. 7 to 10, the connection between the seat 26 and housing 22 is articulated, that is to say the connection between them consists of a pair of pivoted joints with a link interposed between the joints. This is the definition of "articulated" as intended herein. In this manner, each of the connected parts is capable of pivoting about one end of the link thus enabling the sliding movement referred to hereinabove. In Fig. 7, the articulated connecting means 28 which may be referred to for convenience hereinafter as a hinge is formed of a pair of identical L-shaped links 70 positioned on opposite sides of the article of furniture and connected together by a cross bar 72. The said cross bar is not an essential part of the connection insofar as basic operation is concerned, but is practically almost indispensible because it forces both of the link members 70 to operate in unison, provides a more sturdy and rigid mounting, and eliminates twisting and lateral sway of the seat 26 during pivotal movement thereof. The description of the links and the manner of their connection and operation may be considered as though there is no cross bar connecting them.

As shown in Figs. 7 through 10, the links 70 each have one end pivotally secured to the inside of the housing 22 a substantial distance below the upper edge thereof. Thus the right hand link 70 has its lower end pivoted at 74 to the inner face of the right side wall 30 while the left hand link 70 has its lower end pivoted at 76 to the inner face of the left side wall 32. The seat 26 of the article of furniture 20 is formed as a rectangular frame of joined members of wood or the like, providing a rear wall 66, front wall 78, and side walls 80 and 82. The seat frame is of a plan configuration to coincide

with the plan configuration of the housing 22 so that in normal association, the one rests on the other.

The seat is preferably upholstered by means of the same type of padding 37 and covering 38 used to upholster both the outside of the base 22 and the seat pad 42. The type of upholstering is immaterial to the invention, but as shown, a shallow cavity is formed on the interior of the seat 26 as designated 84 which is convenient for the accommodation of the cross bar 72 in its swinging movement, and also under certain conditions for the back rest member 24 if same is of a size to extend upward beyond the upper edges of the side walls of the housing 22 when it is disposed as shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3 and 7.

The upper ends of the links 70 are pivotally secured to the inner faces of the side walls of the seat frame, the pivot 86 being secured to the wall 80 and the pivot 88 being secured to the wall 82.

In the connection between the seat 26 and the housing 22 there are two rotative axes, one coinciding with the pivots 86 and 88, and the other coinciding with the pivots 74 and 76. In moving the seat from its position as shown in Figs. 1 and 7 to the position shown in Figs. 3 and 9 (broken lines in this last figure) first the seat 26 is translated to the left as viewed in Fig. 7. This is not truly a translation, since the left hand end will rise slightly during the movement, as indicated in Fig. 8, but if the length of the links 70 is not too great there will be a very small rise. The right hand end of course will remain engaged upon the upper edges of the side walls 30 and 32 throughout this transmitting movement. During this movement, the links 70 swing about their pivots 74 and 76 thereby carrying the axis defined by the pivots 86 and 88 in a path indicated generally by the broken lines 90 of Figs. 8 and 9. The horizontal position of the seat 26 during this movement is substantially maintained until the position indicated in Figs. 2 and 9 is reached. There is relative movement between the links 70 and the seat 26, but it is actually the revolving of the links about their pivots. As a matter of fact, in the arrangement specifically shown, it is impossible to pivot the seat 26 about the links 70 from the condition illustrated in Figs. 1 and 7 while the article of furniture is being used as an ottoman.

The position of Figs. 2 and 9 having been achieved, the end 92 of the seat 26 is now unobstructed, and the entire seat can be pivoted about the axis defined by the pivots 86 and 88. During this pivoting movement, the links 70 remain stationary and do not pivot relative to the axis defined by the pivots 74 and 76. In order to carry the end 92 far enough beyond the wall 33 to give it clearance so that an erect condition as illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4 and in the broken lines of Fig. 9 can be achieved, each of the links 70 has a bend 94 intermediate its ends. Preferably the bends are located so that they will coincide with the top edge of the front wall 33. Thus, the wall edge helps support the erect seat, while the bottom of the end 92 of the seat 26 engages against the outside padding of the wall 33. This provides a minimum of strain on the pivots of the links, tending to prevent loosening or pulling out of the same.

With the seat 26 erect as shown, the previously concealed back rest member 24 may be rotated out of the interior 40 of the housing 22 and also erected to the position shown in Fig. 4, thereby forming the recess 62. Now the seat 26 is returned to its former position, but the movements are reversed as to order. First the seat is rotated about the pivots 86 and 88 until it overlies the top edges of the housing walls, as shown in Fig. 5 and once having achieved this position, the seat is translated to the right until its end 92 engages in the said recess 62 thereby completing the conversion from ottoman to chair.

There are features of the construction which are not apparent from the description, but which it is desired to emphasize at this time. In effect the seat is locked upon the housing and the back rest member is locked in place. Since it is impossible to lift the seat 26 in a pivoting movement first, one sitting on the extreme forward edge of the seat cannot lift the rear end thereof. In pushing the seat forward, as would occur by an occupant slouching down in the chair and pressing his back against the back rest member, the weight of the occupant's body upon the seat prevents the required rising of the forward end (see Fig. 8) thereby preventing forward sliding of the seat.

It is believed that the invention should be readily understood and appreciated from the above, and it is desired to point out that the same is capable of being practised with considerable variation in the minor details of the structure shown and described. For example, the rectangular shape of the article of furniture is only by way of presenting a simple version thereof. The manner of connecting the parts, the use of different materials, the upholstery, all are a matter of ordinary design, and the invention is capable of being practised irrespective of the particular design. Solid rods are suitable in place of the tubes forming the frame members 44, and as a matter of practicability, such members can be made quite thin through the use of rods.

What is desired to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. In an article of furniture of the character described and which includes an upwardly opening hollow housing and a seat adapted completely to cover the housing and having a downwardly opening hollow space therein, a connection between the seat and housing comprising an L-shaped hinge connected between the seat and housing and having one end pivoted to the interior of the seat and the other end pivoted to the interior of the housing, with the angle of the L opening toward an end of the article of furniture whereby the seat may be translated along the top of the housing to bring the seat end over and beyond the housing end after which the seat may be swung upward to uncover the opening, the bend being located so that same engages the top of the housing when the seat has been swung upward whereby to support said seat in erect condition.

2. An article of furniture which comprises a hollow housing opening upward and having a seat member thereon adapted to be moved between covering and uncovering positions; the seat member completely covering the said housing when in said covering position, a back rest member pivotally secured to the interior of the housing and having a back rest pad, the back rest member being swingable from a position arranged horizontally and within the housing to a position wherein same is erect at an end of the housing, the back rest member having a rearwardly offset portion and said back rest pad being secured to the said rearwardly offset portion but having a substantial part there of overhanging the housing, the seat member having hinged connection with the end of said housing opposite the end to which the said back rest member is connected, said hinged connection having a pair of parallel axes with interposed link means whereby the seat member may be slid beneath the said overhanging part and also pivotally swung about said opposite end to uncovering position.

3. A construction as described in claim 2 in which the link means comprises a pair of links rigidly connected one to the other and pivoted at their respective ends to the interior of the seat member and the interior of the housing to provide an articulated hinged connection.

4. A construction as described in claim 2 in which the link means comprises an L-shaped link opening toward said opposite end whereby when the seat member is in uncovering position the angle of the L will be braced against said opposite end.

5. In an article of furniture of the class described and having a box-like housing with upstanding walls, a seat mounted on top of the housing and engaged on the upper edges of the walls, means pivotally securing the seat to enable same to be moved between positions covering or uncovering the top of the housing, and comprising an articulated connection between the seat and the housing permitting both translative and swinging movement of the seat, said connection including a U-shaped member having its arms formed as links with the opposite ends of each link pivotally secured respectively to the seat and the housing so that translative movement of the seat will rotate said links about their pivotal securement to said housing, and swinging movement of said seat will rotate same about the pivotal securement of said links to said seat.

6. In an article of furniture of the class described and having a box-like housing with upstanding walls, a seat mounted on top of the housing and engaged on the upper edges of the walls, means pivotally securing the seat to enable same to be moved between positions covering or uncovering the top of the housing, and comprising an articulated connection between the seat and the housing permitting both translative and swinging movement of

the seat, said connection including a pair of link members connecting opposite edges of the seat with opposite edges of the housing and being pivotally secured to the seat on an axis normally spaced inwardly of the end of the housing when the seat is in covering position, the link members being also pivotally secured to the housing along an axis enabling the links to be rotated while the seat is moved generally toward said end to enable the first mentioned axis to be moved towards said end, said links being rigidly connected one to the other to move in unison.

7. In an article of furniture of the class described and having a box-like housing with upstanding walls, a seat mounted on top of the housing and engaged on the upper edges of the walls, means pivotally securing the seat to enable same to be moved between positions covering or uncovering the top of the housing, and comprising an articulated connection between the seat and the housing permitting both translative and swinging movement of the seat, said connection including a pair of link members connecting opposite edges of the seat with opposite edges of the housing and being pivotally secured to the seat on an axis normally spaced inwardly of the end of the housing when the seat is in covering position, the link members being also pivotally secured to the housing along an axis enabling the links to be rotated while the seat is moved generally toward said end to enable the first mentioned axis to be moved towards said end, said link members having a bend therein whereby to dispose said first mentioned axis substantially outside the said end at the completion of said seat movement to permit the seat to be rotated thereafter, said links being rigidly connected one to the other to move in unison.

8. In an article of furniture of the character described and which includes an upwardly opening hollow housing and a seat member movable between positions covering and uncovering the housing, a back rest member pivotally secured to the housing and being swingable from a position arranged horizontally to and on the interior of the housing to an erect position at an end of the housing, the member having its bottom edge spaced above the upper edges of the housing and substantially overhanging the housing when in said erect position, the seat member having an end thereof received in said space when in said covering position, a hinged connection between the seat member and the housing enabling the seat member to be translated horizontally in a direction to remove said end thereof from the space and thereafter to be pivoted upwardly in a movement clearing the back rest member to uncover the housing.

9. An article of furniture comprising a box-like housing having a pair of spaced end walls and side walls defining an upwardly opening chamber therebetween, a seat member mounted on top of the housing and arranged to be moved between positions covering and uncovering the chamber, a back rest member pivotally secured on the interior of the housing adjacent one end wall and pivotal between an erect position substantially overlying the chamber with the bottom edge of the back rest spaced above said one end wall, an articulated connection between the housing and one end of the seat member permitting both substantially horizontal translative and swinging movement of the seat member, the seat member having its free end received in said space when in covering position and capable of translative movement in a direction removing the free end from said space whereby to permit swinging movement of the seat to completely clear the back rest member when uncovering the chamber.

10. An article of furniture comprising a box-like housing having an upwardly opening chamber therein, a seat member movable between positions covering and uncovering the housing, a back rest member secured to the housing adjacent one end thereof in an erect position with its bottom edge spaced above the top of the housing and substantially overhanging said chamber, the seat member having a free end thereof received in said space when in covering position on the housing, an articulated connection between the housing and the seat member adjacent the end of said seat member diametrically opposite said free end permitting the seat member to be translated substantially horizontally in a direction to remove said free end from said space and thereafter to be pivoted in a movement clearing the back rest member to uncover the housing.

11. An article of furniture comprising an upwardly opening housing provided with a top edge, a seat member movable between positions into and out of engagement with said top edge, a member secured to the housing adjacent a side thereof in an erect position with a back rest pad secured thereto, the pad having a bottom edge spaced above the top edge of the housing and the face of the pad substantially spaced inward of said side so that the pad overhangs the top edge, the seat member having a free end thereof engaged in the space between the pad and the top edge of the housing when in engagement with said top edge, an articulated connection between the housing and the seat member adjacent the end of the seat member diametrically opposite said free end and permitting the seat member to be translated substantially horizontally in a direction to remove said free end from said space and thereafter be pivoted in a movement carrying same to said position out of engagement with the top edge without interfering with said pad.

12. A structure as defined in claim 11 in which said member having said pad secured thereto has the pad on one end thereof, and has an opposite end mounted on the interior of the housing, there being an intermediate stepped portion overlying the upper edge of the side adjacent which said member is secured, and the free end of the seat member engages over the stepped portion when said seat member is in engagement with said top edge.

13. A structure as defined in claim 12 in which the said opposite end is pivotally mounted on the interior of the housing and the member together with pad is capable of being pivotally swung into the interior of the housing to conceal the same when the seat member is out of engagement with said top edge, said seat member serving to prevent such pivotally swinging movement when said seat member is in position in engagement with said top edge.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
1,940,259	Lindemann et al.	Dec. 19, 1933
2,357,214	McDole	Aug. 29, 1944
2,591,271	Levereth	Apr. 1, 1952

FOREIGN PATENTS

Number	Country	Date
220,225	Germany	Aug. 17, 1910
240,085	Great Britain	Sept. 24, 1925