Feb. 26, 1924. 1,484,626

R. COOPERSMITH

DIVAN, COUCH, AND THE LIKE

Filed Nov. 8, 1920

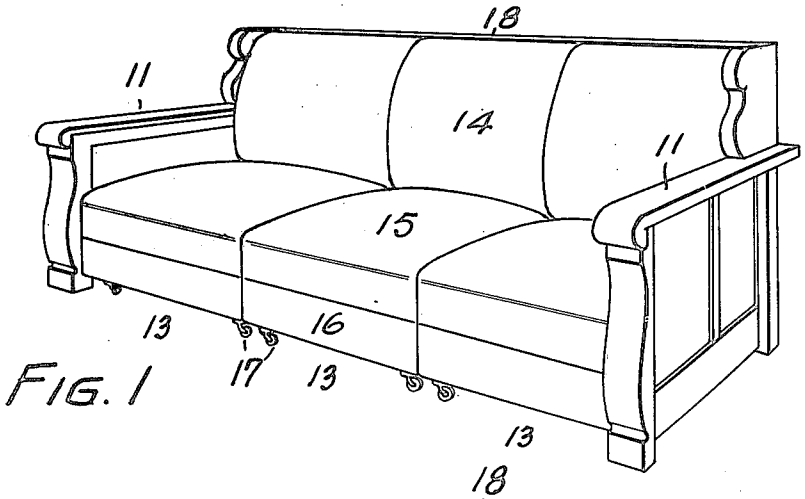


FIG. 1

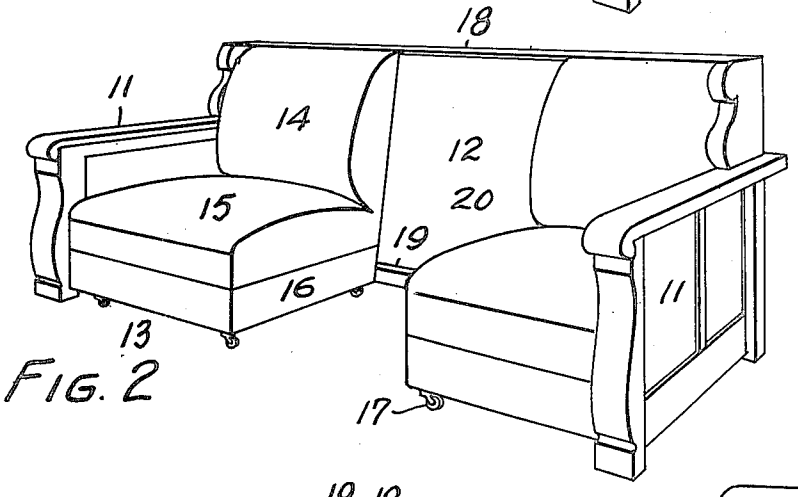


FIG. 2

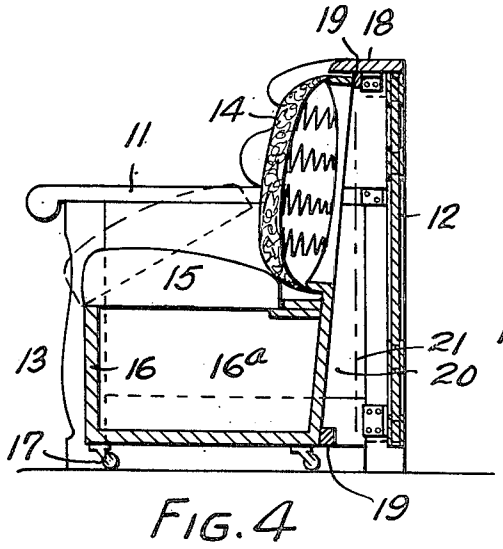


FIG. 4

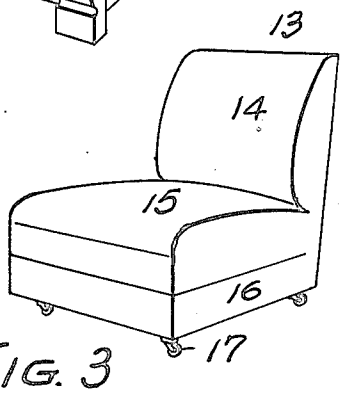


FIG. 3

Inventor
Rudolph Coopersmith
By Lothrop & Baughman Co
Attys.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RUDOLPH COOPERSMITH, OF MONTREAL, QUEBEC, CANADA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO ABRAHAM RUCHE, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

DIVAN, COUCH, AND THE LIKE.

Application filed November 8, 1920. Serial No. 422,704.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RUDOLPH COOPERSMITH, a citizen of the United States of America, and resident of the city of Montreal, in the Province of Quebec and Dominion of Canada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Divans, Couches, and the like, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to improvements in furniture construction generally, and more particularly to improvements in that class of furniture known as divans, divanettes, sofa beds or folding beds although the invention is not limited to these particular classes of furniture.

The object of the invention is to provide an article of furniture of the general character of a lounge, which may be readily taken apart to form a plurality of separate and independent chairs.

At the present time, there is a considerable demand for articles of furniture which are available for use as beds at night and for some other purpose during the day. This demand has led to the production of many combinations which are variously termed divans, divanettes, sofa beds, folding beds, table beds, mantle beds and such like. This invention, however, relates only to constructions of the sofa bed type and has no relation to table or mantle beds. In all constructions of the sofa bed type, the device is available during the day as a seat which will accommodate two or more persons. By various manipulations, such a device may be converted at night into a bed. The disadvantage which pertains to all devices of this character is that on conversion into a bed, the device ceases to be available as a seat. A further disadvantage is that devices of this character are heavy and difficult to move around, so that if for example additional seating accommodation is required in one room, it is difficult or impossible to shift even a small divanette from one room to another to obtain the additional seating accommodation. A still further disadvantage of the sofa bed type is that so much space is taken up by the folding bed and the bedding that the space available for springs in the back, and especially in the seat, is very limited, with the result that even in the best examples of the type the cushions are hard and tend to lumpiness. This condition operates to hinder the sale of the better class of such goods to persons who wish to use the same for the most part as a couch and who wish the sleeping accommodation merely for an emergency.

According to the present invention, all the above enumerated disadvantages are overcome and an article of furniture produced which is available during the day as a couch or as a plurality of separate and independent chairs and is available at night as a bed and as a plurality of separate and independent chairs. In other words, the conversion of the device from a couch to a bed does not result in the loss of the seating accommodation. The chair members are entirely independent of the bed, if any, and may therefore have upholstery of full depth, such as is found in the best class of Chesterfields or overstuffed chairs. The result is that during the day a piece of furniture according to this invention may serve as a couch or as a plurality of separate chairs and in all cases the maximum of comfort will be obtainable. On the other hand, the seats of the individual chairs may be removable and the space beneath used for storage purposes after the principle of the well known box lounge constructions. If additional seating accommodation is required in some room remote from furniture according to this invention, the same may be resolved into a plurality of chairs and as many of these chairs as needed may be moved with no greater difficulty than accompanies the movement of any upholstered chair. A folding bed may be included in the device or may be omitted.

According to this invention, the device consists of a framework comprising a back and ends connected thereto. One or more chairs of box construction are provided each having a seat and back upholstered in any suitable manner. The chairs are absolutely uniform and together completely fill the space between the ends of the frame, giving the appearance of a Chesterfield lounge upholstered in sections or with loose seat and back cushions. Each chair is preferably mounted on its own casters and the framework may be provided with casters or not as desired. When a folding bed is to be incorporated, the sides of the frame are of sufficient depth from front to back to leave a space be-

tween the backs of the chair members and the back of the frame in which the bed may be housed in its folded position.

In the drawings which illustrate the invention;—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the device arranged as a lounge.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the device showing one of the chairs removed.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a single chair.

Fig. 4 is a vertical cross sectional view of the device illustrating the method of construction.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, 11 designates the ends and 12 the back of a divan, divanette, sofa, couch or lounge frame which are releasably connected together in any suitable manner. The seat and back of the device are formed in one or more units or chairs, designated 13, each comprising a back 14 and seat 15. The seat of each chair is mounted on a box frame 16 supported on the floor by means of casters 17. The seat may be movable as indicated in dotted lines, Figure 4, to give access to a storage space 16^a in the box frame under the seat, or this space may be occupied by the spring upholstery of the seat. The back may be connected in any suitable manner with the box frame and is of any suitable type of upholstery. The one or more chairs which form the seat and back of the lounge, according to the size thereof, fits snugly under a top board 18 secured between the ends and over the back of the frames. One or more stops 19 may be provided in the frame to limit the inward movement of the chair members and to give perfect alignment of the same when two or more are used. If the device is to be used merely as a combination of lounge and chairs, the space 20 between the backs of the chair units and the back 12 of the frame may be reduced as much as possible, thus economizing in floor space and material, but if the device is to include a bed the space 20 is of sufficient depth to accommodate a folded bed of suitable construction, the position of which in its folded form is indicated at 21.

While the invention has been illustrated as including three separate chair units, it will be understood that it is not limited to this number, as it may include only one or as many sections as desired without departing from the spirit of the invention. A single section of ordinary width will result in the production of a capacious armchair for day use and will provide concealment for a single width folding bed, whereas a device comprising two, three or more chair units will constitute during the day a lounge or a plurality of chairs and will provide concealment for a folding double bed. The number of chairs will depend also upon whether the bed is arranged longitudinally or transversely of the frame. It will be understood, however, that the invention also includes a single removable seat unit for even the largest constructions, although such an arrangement obviously has the disadvantage of losing the individual chair feature and forms when drawn out of the frame merely another lounge but without arms. While it is preferred to connect the back to the seat so that, when the seat is drawn out for use independently, the couch back will move with the seat and form a back for the seat, it will be understood that the back may if desired be connected in any suitable manner to the main frame or to the bed and be independent of the seat, so that when the seat is drawn out of the frame it will be in the nature of a stool rather than a chair. Since, however, such a modification is obviously within the scope of the present invention, it will be understood that the term "chair" or equivalent expression is generic and includes either the seat alone or the seat with back attached. As this invention deals only with the broad idea, practically no details of construction are illustrated or described. The folding bed employed may be of any suitable form and the chair construction may be of any suitable form, that is to say the chair backs and seats may be rigidly connected to one another and to the box frame or may be swingingly related to one another. Obviously, it is impossible to illustrate or describe all the varieties of chair construction which may be applicable to the present invention. While the chairs illustrated in the drawings are of full box frame construction, it will be understood that this is purely a matter of design and that other designs may be employed without departing from the spirit of the invention, such as a shallower box frame, making possible the use of clearly defined legs to support the chairs.

While the device has been illustrated with a frame including ends which form arms for the seat, it will be understood that it is not thus limited, as the arms may be omitted, so that the ends are of only sufficient depth to receive between them and conceal a folded bed. In such a construction, fastening devices of some description will probably be necessary to hold the chairs in proper relation with the frame.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is;—

1. An article of furniture comprising a plurality of chairs, a framework adapted to enclose said chairs and hold the same in alignment side by side to form a couch or the like, and a folding bed normally housed in a framework and concealed by the chairs.

2. In a couch bed or the like, a seat and back each formed in a plurality of independ-

ent separable parts, the parts of the back being connected to the parts of the seat to form independent chair units removable from the remainder of the structure, and a folding bed normally concealed behind the seat and back and entirely independent therefrom, whereby the couch seat and back may be resolved into a plurality of separate chairs independently of the use of the bed.

3. In a couch bed or the like, a frame comprising a back and ends connected thereto, a seat and back for the couch supported independently of the frame and removable therefrom for use as a seat, and a folding bed connected to the frame back and normally concealed behind the seat and back, and a top connected between the frame ends and back adapted for engagement with the seat back to conceal the bed when folded.

4. In a couch bed or the like, a frame, a plurality of chairs adapted for arrangement in said frame to form a couch seat and a couch back, and means in the frame for aligning said chairs.

5. In a couch bed or the like, a frame including a back, a plurality of chairs adapted for arrangement in the frame to form a couch seat and couch back, and means for aligning said chairs in spaced relation from the frame back, a folding bed normally disposed in the space between said chairs and frame back, and a frame top closing the space between the chairs and frame back.

6. In a couch bed or the like, a framework, a box frame separable from said framework, a couch seat mounted on said box frame and separable from the main frame with the box frame and serviceable as a seat before and after separation from the main frame, said seat being movable relatively to the box frame to give access to the interior thereof.

7. A couch made up of a plurality of chair sections, each section constituting a unit entirely separable from the remaining sections and capable of use as an independent chair, and a frame for maintaining said sections in couch formation.

8. A couch bed made up of a plurality of chair sections alined in couch formation, each section constituting a unit entirely separable from the remaining sections and capable of use as an independent chair, a frame for maintaining said sections alined in couch formation, and a folding bed carried by the frame normally concealed therebetween and said sections.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand.

RUDOLPH COOPERSMITH.