March 15, 1932. W. F. CASPAR 1,849,864

FOLDING SEAT

Filed Feb. 27, 1930

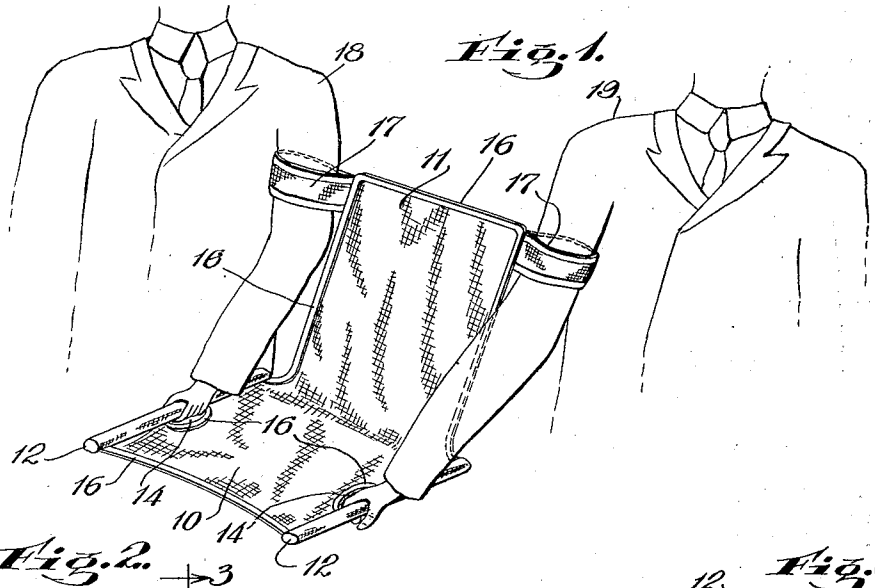


Fig. 1.

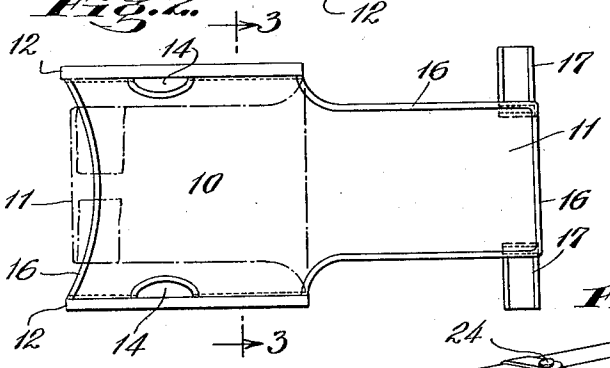


Fig. 2.

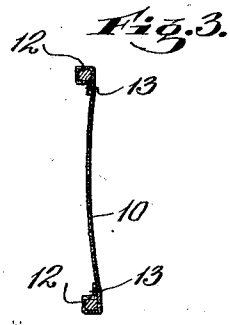


Fig. 3.

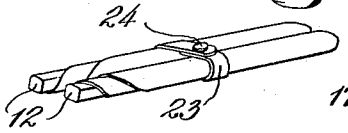


Fig. 4.

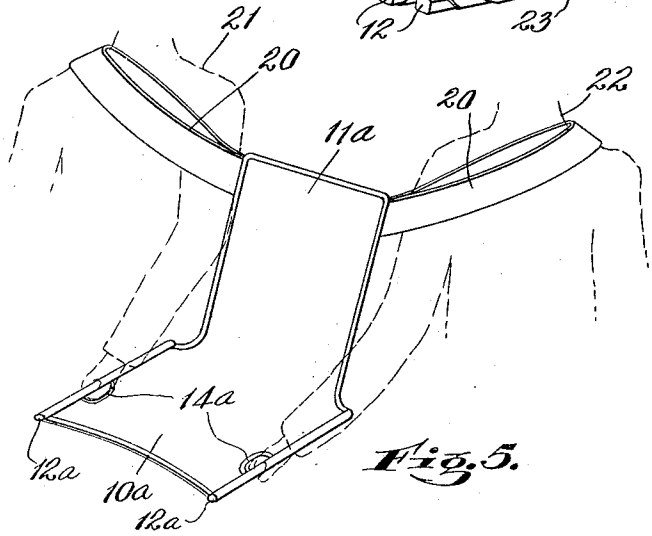


Fig. 5.

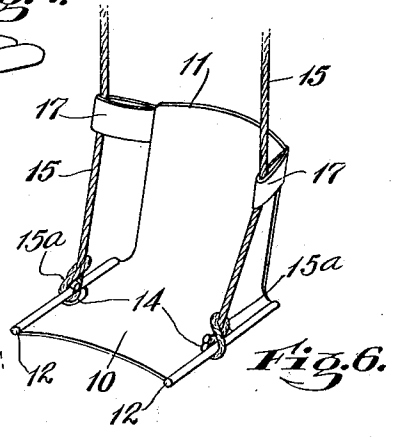


Fig. 6.

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Patented Mar. 15, 1932

1,849,864

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

WILLIAM FREDERICK CASPAR, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO CLEMENT C. MASON, OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT

FOLDING SEAT

Application filed February 27, 1930. Serial No. 431,693.

This invention relates to folding seats which may be used as an invalid carrying member, as a swing seat or as an amusement or exercising device; and the object of the invention is to provide a device of the class and for the purpose specified comprising two side parts or rails of rigid material coupled together in spaced relation by a flexible body constituting the seat proper of the device, said body or seat including an extension at one side thereof also composed of flexible material and formed in conjunction with the seat and back rest or supporting member; a further object being to provide the upper sides of the back rest or supporting member with coupling devices or strap members adapted to be engaged by the body of a person or persons carrying the seat to support the backrest in predetermined position with respect to the seat of the device; a further object being to provide means whereby the side rails or bars of the seat may be grasped by the hands of one or more persons whereby the ropes of a swing may be attached thereto, the latter also engaging the strap members of the backrest; a further object being to provide a seat of the class described which may be compactly rolled or folded to form a comparatively small package with means for retaining the folded parts in position; and with these and other objects in view, the invention consists in a device of the class and for the purpose specified which is simple in construction, efficient in use, and which is constructed as hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention is fully described in the following specification, of which the accompanying drawings form a part, in which the separate parts of my improvement are designated by suitable reference characters in each of the views, and in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of one form of device which I employ, illustrating one method of its use.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the construction shown in Fig. 1, indicating the method of folding the same.

Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the device completely folded.

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 1, showing a slight modification; and,

Fig. 6 is a view similar to Fig. 5 showing a modified use of the device.

In Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive and Fig. 6, I have shown one form of device which in the construction shown comprises a body of canvas, duck or other strong and durable material fashioned to form a seat member 10 and a backrest 11 arranged at one end of and continuous with the seat member, the side edges of the seat member being folded around side rods or bars 12 of any suitable rigid material and being stitched as seen at 13, note Fig. 3 of the drawings. Portions of the seat 10 are cut away centrally of the rods 12 to form hand openings 14 whereby the rods 12 may be gripped in the manner seen in Fig. 1 of the drawings or whereby the ropes 15 of a swing may be tied to or otherwise engaged with said rods as seen at 15*a* in Fig. 6 of the drawings.

The free edges of the seat 10 as well as the backrest 11 are preferably reinforced by binding strips 16 as are also the openings 14. Attached to the sides of the backrest 11 at the upper end thereof are straps 17 which in the construction shown are in the form of loops through which the arms of two persons indicated at 18 and 19 in Fig. 1 of the drawings may be passed in supporting the device between such persons to facilitate the carrying of an invalid or injured person in one use of the device or in carrying a person for amusement or other purposes. As seen in Fig. 6 of the drawings, the ropes of a swing may be passed through the strap loop 17 to support the backrest 11 in forming a seat for a swing.

In Fig. 5 of the drawings, I have shown a slightly modified form of device wherein the seat member 10*a*, backrest 11*a*, rails 12*a* and hand openings 14*a* are similar to the structure of the seat shown in Figs. 1 to 4 and Fig. 6 of the drawings, the device being modified in the provision of comparatively long strap members 20 in the form of large loops which may be passed over the heads of two persons indicated at 21 and 22 in dotted lines in said figure to arrange said straps on the outer shoulders of said persons in supporting the

backrest 11*a* as well as part of the weight of the person arranged thereon and upon the seat 10*a* of the device.

In the use of the device, it will be understood that the seat member 10—10*a* is arranged in a slightly inclined position with the forward end thereof arranged above the rear end, thus comfortably supporting the occupant and preventing accidental displacement of the occupant, especially in carrying the occupant up or down stairs or from an inclined path or roadway especially when it would be undesirable to place the arms of the occupant around the necks of the persons carrying the seat, the latter arrangement however, being most preferable when it is possible for the occupant to do so.

When the device is not in use, the backrest is folded upon the seat 10, the loops or straps 17—20 being foldable inwardly upon the seat as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 2 of the drawings, after which the entire device is rolled or folded upon the bars or rails 12 in the manner indicated in Fig. 4 of the drawings and may be retained in this position by a strap 23 having a suitable securing device 24. This compact device will occupy but small space and may be conveniently stored for immediate use.

It will be apparent that many uses of a device of this character may be had, such for example as in hospitals, as an equipment for ambulances, patrol wagons, as an emergency equipment in public vehicles, trains, cars or the like, in motor vehicles, camps and in fact in every home.

In addition to the utility of the device for carrying invalids, injured persons and the like, the device may be used as an amusement device in carrying children as well as grown persons, as an exercise device or in racing or running events and still further, and as illustrated in Fig. 6 of the drawings, the device may be used in the construction of a swing providing a comfortable and practical seat therefor and other uses than those herein specified, may be found; it being understood that my invention is not necessarily limited to the specific structure or contour of the device herein disclosed nor to the specific manner of constructing the same, and various other changes therein and modifications thereof may be made within the scope of the appended claims without departing from the spirit of my invention or sacrificing its advantages.

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

1. A device of the class described comprising an elongated body of strong, flexible material divided by a central fold into rectangular end portions, one of said end portions constituting the seat for the device and the other the backrest, relatively rigid members at the side edges only of the seat, and outwardly extending loop-shaped strap members arranged at the upper side edges of the backrest and projecting beyond the corresponding edges of the seat.

2. A device of the class described comprising an elongated body of strong, flexible material divided by a central fold into rectangular end portions, one of said end portions constituting the seat for the device and the other the backrest, relatively rigid members at the side edges only of the seat, outwardly extending loop-shaped strap members arranged at the upper side edges of the backrest and projecting beyond the corresponding edges of the seat, the side edges of the seat being folded around said rigid members, and the central portions of said side edges being cut out to form hand grip portions at opposite sides of the seat.

3. A device of the class described comprising an elongated body of strong, flexible material divided by a central fold into rectangular end portions, one of said end portions constituting the seat for the device and the other the backrest, relatively rigid members at the side edges only of the seat, outwardly extending loop-shaped strap members arranged at the upper side edges of the backrest and projecting beyond the corresponding edges of the seat, the side edges of the seat being folded around said rigid members, the central portions of said side edges being cut out to form hand grip portions at opposite sides of the seat, and said backrest being foldable upon the seat and the combined seat and backrest rolled into a comparatively narrow, elongated parcel.

4. A device of the class described comprising two substantially rectangular body portions of flexible material, one of said body portions constituting a seat and the other a backrest foldable with respect to the seat and adapted to be extended angularly with respect thereto, means for reinforcing the side edges only of the seat, and supporting loops arranged at the upper side edges of the backrest and projecting outwardly with respect thereto.

5. A device of the class described comprising two substantially rectangular body portions of flexible material, one of said body portions constituting a seat and the other a backrest foldable with respect to the seat and adapted to be extended angularly with respect thereto, means for reinforcing the side edges only of the seat, supporting loops arranged at the upper side edges of the backrest and projecting outwardly with respect thereto, and means forming hand grips at the sides of said seat.

6. An emergency chair adapted to be supported between two persons by adjacent arms and the hands of the arms of such persons, said chair comprising a seat and a backrest

movably supported in connection with the rear end of the seat, outwardly extending arm receiving loops at the upper end of the backrest and projecting outwardly from the side edges thereof and beyond the side edges of the seat, and hand grips on the side edges of the seat forwardly of the rear end thereof.

7. An emergency chair adapted to be supported between two persons by adjacent arms and the hands of the arms of such persons, said chair comprising a seat and a backrest movably supported in connection with the rear end of the seat, outwardly extending arm receiving loops at the upper end of the backrest and projecting outwardly from the side edges thereof and beyond the side edges of the seat, hand grips on the side edges of the seat forwardly of the rear end thereof, and said seat and backrest being composed of flexible material, the backrest being foldable upon the seat and both seat and backrest being adapted to be rolled into a compact, elongated package.

8. An emergency chair adapted to be supported between two persons by adjacent arms and the hands of the arms of such persons, said chair comprising a seat and a backrest movably supported in connection with the rear end of the seat, outwardly extending arm receiving loops at the upper end of the backrest and projecting outwardly from the side edges thereof and beyond the side edges of the seat, hand grips on the side edges of the seat forwardly of the rear end thereof, said seat and backrest being composed of flexible material, the backrest being foldable upon the seat and both seat and backrest being adapted to be rolled into a compact, elongated package, and the hand grips of said seat including reinforcing rods attached to the side edges of the seat.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name this 30th day of January, 1930.

WILLIAM FREDERICK CASPAR.