

I. HIMES.
 OPERA CHAIR.
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1,382,084.

Patented June 21, 1921.

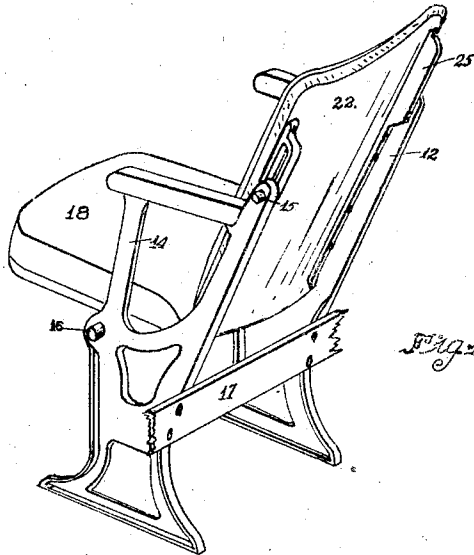


Fig. 1.

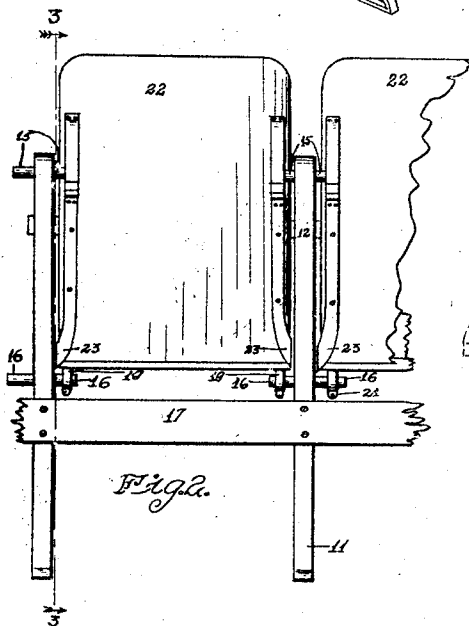


Fig. 2.

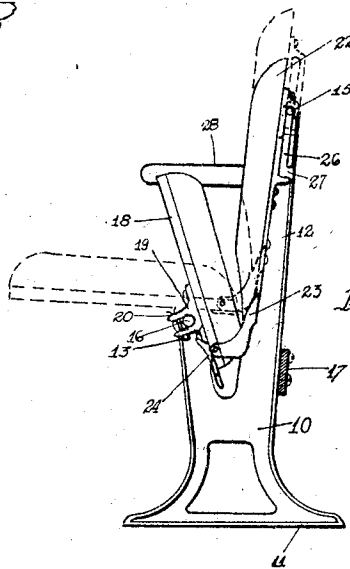


Fig. 3.

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ISIAH HIMES, OF MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA.

OPERA-CHAIR.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISIAH HIMES, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Marshalltown, in the county of Marshall and State of Iowa, have invented a certain new and useful Opera-Chair, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide an opera chair of simple, durable and inexpensive construction, so constructed that the seat member may be automatically elevated and folded when not in use.

Or more specifically it is the object of my invention to provide a chair having a tilting seat member capable of being automatically operated by the weight of the back member.

A still further object is to provide an opera chair having supporting members capable of being arranged in rows and rigidly secured in position and when so arranged, designed to carry automatically operated seat and back members which may be easily and quickly removed for the purpose of cleaning or repairing without having to disconnect or remove the supporting members.

These and other objects will be apparent to those skilled in the art which need not be mentioned in detail.

My invention consists in the construction, arrangement and combination of the various parts of the device, whereby the objects contemplated are attained, as hereinafter more fully set forth, pointed out in my claims, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my improved chair; and

Fig. 2 is the rear elevation of my improved chair showing the manner in which a second chair is placed adjacent thereto when it is desired to arrange them in rows.

Fig. 3 is a sectional side elevation taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

My improved chair is especially designed to be used in moving picture houses, theaters and similar places where people are passing in and out during the performance. Moving picture houses are usually quite dark and it is hard for a person entering to see. The side members of chairs as are usually constructed are generally left in a horizontal position which obstructs the passageway between the rows of seats, and on account of the building being dark a person entering, generally runs into the edge of the seat member. It is, therefore, very desirable

that the seat members should all be elevated. To accomplish this I have provided a seat with supporting members 10, which are formed with a base 11, with an upright back supporting member 12, seat supporting member 13 and an arm supporting member 14, the upper end of the back supporting members being each provided with laterally extending pins 15, which are preferably formed integral therewith. The seat supporting members 13 are provided with similar pins 16. The members 11 are secured to the floor by means of screws at equal distance apart and parallel to each other, the side members 10 being also secured in position by means of a horizontal bar 17, which serves the purpose of a foot rest as well as to assist in securing the supporting members in position. The seat members 18 being each provided with a casting 19 secured to the bottom at each side and at a point between the back and front edges, the said casting 19 being provided with a groove portion 20, which is designed to rest upon the pin 16 when placed in operating position. By this construction means is provided whereby the said seat member 18 may be easily removed from the pin 16 by merely lifting the members 19 from said pins. Members 19 are held against accidental removal by means of cotter pins 21. The back member 22 is pivotally secured to the seat member 18 by means of brackets 23 and pivots 24, the pivots 24 being secured in the member 18, while the brackets 23 are rigidly secured to the member 22. The bracket 23 is designed to extend forward a considerable distance as shown in Fig. 3 for the purpose of permitting a portion of the seat member 18 to fold adjacent to the member 22, or more specifically, to permit the member 18 to assume a nearly vertical position when elevated. The back member 22 is provided at each upper and side edge with a bracket 25 placed on its back face, this bracket 25 being provided with a longitudinal channeled groove 26 having an outwardly extending groove 27 at its lower end, these channels 26 being designed to rest over the end of the pins 15 when the back members 22 are in an operative position. By this construction the back member 22 may be moved upward and downward as the seat member 18 is tilted, the pivot 16 being so located on the support 10, and the bracket 19 located on the member 18 in such a manner that the weight of

the back member 22 will cause the forward edge of the member 18 to be elevated, and when so elevated, the top portion of the channel 26 will rest on the pins 15. The seat member 18 is designed to rest in a slightly closed position as shown in Fig. 3, when the back member 22 has reached its downward limit of movement; this leaves the seat member 18 in such a position that it may be easily moved to a horizontal position by a slight downward pressure on its upper edge, the back member 22 then being elevated to the position as shown on dotted lines in Fig. 3. It often becomes necessary to remove a seat or back member for the purpose of cleaning or repairing the cushions and this may be easily and quickly accomplished by simply removing the cotter pins 21 and then moving the seat member 18 to its horizontal position which will leave the pins 15 near the slots 27; the member 22 may be then pulled forward which will cause the pins 15 to pass through the slots 27 and then the back member will be released. The back members 22 may then be elevated and cause the member 19 to disconnect the pins 15 after which the said seat and back members may be removed for cleaning or repairing or they may be replaced with new ones without disturbing the supporting members 10. The members 14 are provided with arm rests 28 and are of a length sub-

stantially equal to a distance between the forward upper edge of the member 18 and the upper end of the supporting member 12 when the said member 18 is in its elevated position. By this construction a considerable distance is provided between the upper edge of member 18 and the back side of the back member of the next seat ahead. By this construction the seat member 18 will always be elevated when not in position and a large aisle provided between each row of seats so that the occupant may easily pass out without interference in case of fire or in a dark room.

I claim as my invention:

In a device of the class described, parallel supporting members provided with arm rests and inwardly extending seat and back pins formed integral, a seat and back member pivotally connected to each other, the said seat member being provided with brackets designed to detachably coact with the said seat supporting pins, the said back member being provided with channel members designed to be slidably mounted on said back supporting pins, each of the said channel members being provided with a slot through which its coacting pin may be released from the channel when the said pin is in one position of its movement.

Des Moines, Iowa, November 16, 1920.

ISIAH HIMES.