March 6, 1928. 1,661,937

G. W. FISCHER ET AL

FOLDABLE CHAIR

Filed June 12, 1926 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1

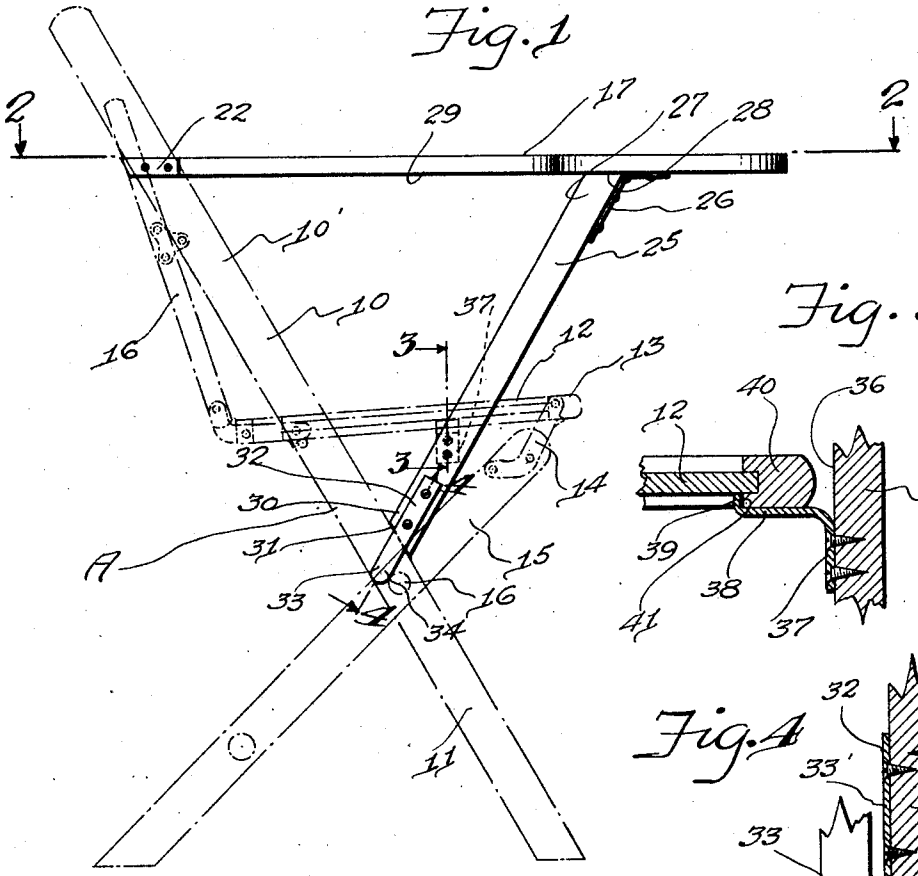


Fig. 3

Fig. 4

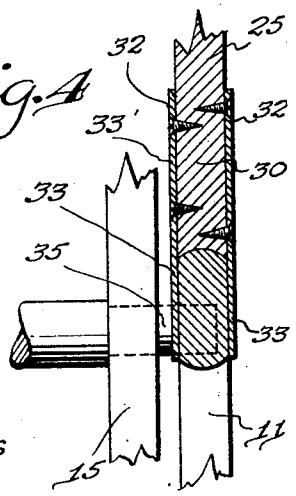
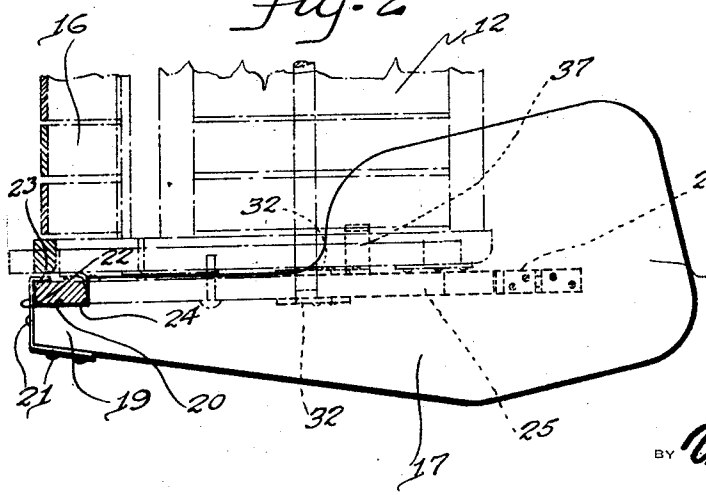


Fig. 2



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Fig. 5

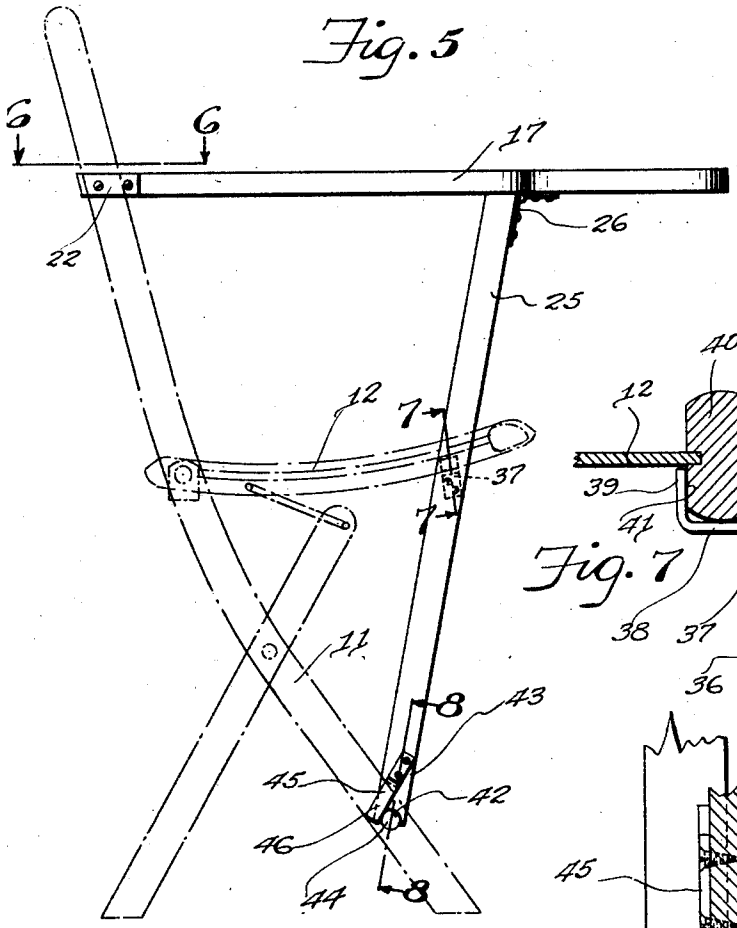


Fig. 7

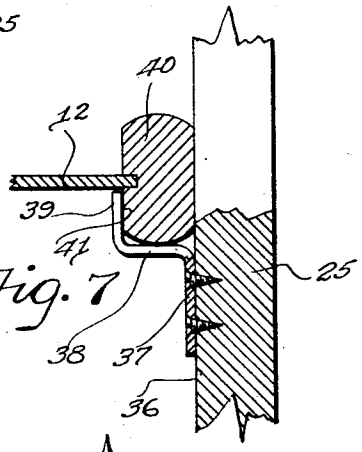


Fig. 8

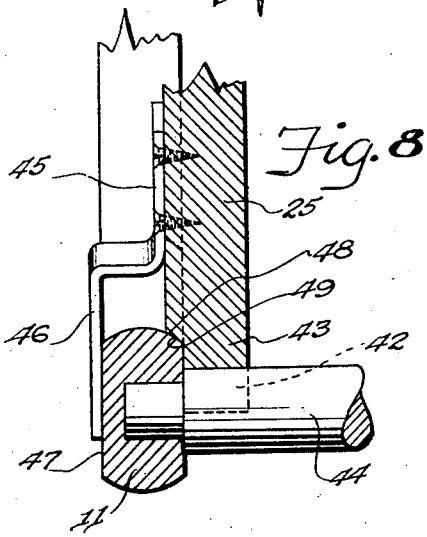
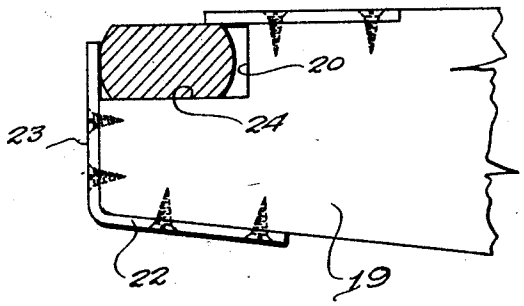


Fig. 6



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FOLDABLE CHAIR.

Application filed June 12, 1926. Serial No. 115,581.

This invention relates to certain novel improvements in foldable chairs and more particularly to a detachable chair arm and has for its principal object the provision of an improved construction of this character which will be highly efficient in use and economical in manufacture.

The invention contemplates an attachment for a foldable chair ordinarily used at a gathering of individuals whereby for the purpose of serving a light plate lunch the attachment can be expeditiously associated with the chair for receiving and supporting the plate lunch without interfering with the seating capacity thereof and which can be detached from association with the chair to permit the chair to be used without the attachment or to be folded in a compact condition for storage purposes.

A further object of the invention resides in the simple combination and arrangement of parts for detachably supporting the plate arm in operative position with a foldable chair.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

The invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention will be best understood by reference to the accompanying drawings illustrating the preferred form of my invention, and in which:

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of a foldable chair illustrating the invention associated therewith.

Fig. 2 is a sectional detail view, illustrating a top plan view of the invention, and taken substantially on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary sectional detail view taken substantially on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary sectional detail view taken substantially on line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a side elevational view of a foldable chair illustrating a modified form of construction of the invention associated therewith.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary top plan view of the invention taken substantially on line 6—6 of Fig. 5.

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary sectional detail view taken substantially on line 7—7 of Fig. 5.

Fig. 8 is a fragmentary sectional detail view taken substantially on line 8—8 of Fig. 5.

In the drawings we have illustrated two forms of the invention and in the description to follow similar parts will be designated by similar reference characters.

Referring more particularly to Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive, illustrating the preferred form of construction, a foldable chair is indicated at A. This chair comprises a frame 10 defining leg portions 11 and hingedly supporting a seat member 12. The forward end portion 13 of the seat member 12 is pivotally connected as at 14 to leg members 15 pivotally connected to the leg members 11 as at 16 whereby when the seat member 12 is disposed upon the back 16, of the chair, the chair may be collapsed.

With this chair is detachably associated our invention which includes a table arm 17 having a relatively large supporting portion 18 for receiving and supporting a plate lunch. This portion 18 is disposed in a position, when the invention is in applied position with the chair, so as to not interfere with the occupant of the chair. The table arm 17 has an inner end portion 19 which defines a notch 20 defining together with a plate 22 having an angled end portion 23 a recess 24. This plate 22 is secured to this end portion 19 through the medium of securing elements 21 such as screw members or the like.

A supporting arm 25 is hingedly connected, through the medium of a hinge member 26, to the table arm 17 contiguous the outer end portion thereof. This arm 25 has its upper end portion 27 bevelled as at 28 permitting flat engagement between the end portion 27 and the under surface 29 of the table arm 17. The lower end portion 30 of the supporting arm 25 is likewise bevelled as at 31 to permit flat engagement between this end portion of the supporting arm and the adjacent supporting leg 11, as illustrated in Fig. 1.

Secured to the end portion 30 on opposite corresponding sides of the supporting arm 25 are finger strips 32 having end portions 33 extending beyond the bevelled end portion 30 and adapted when the arm 25 is in the position illustrated in Fig. 1, to be disposed on opposite sides of the adjacent supporting leg 11 with an end portion 34 of one of the finger strips indicated at 33′, Fig.

4, bearing against the top side of the trunnion 35 which pivotally connects the adjacent leg portion 11 to the adjacent leg portion 15.

Secured to the inner side 36 of the supporting arm 25 is a bracket 37 defining a horizontal portion 38 and an end portion 39 extending in an upward direction substantially at right angles with respect to the horizontal portion 38. This horizontal portion 38 is adapted to be disposed beneath and in contact with an adjacent frame member 40 of the seat member 12 whereas the end portion 39 is adapted to engage an adjacent horizontal side edge 41 of this frame member whereby to cooperate with the finger strips 33 to prevent lateral movement of the supporting arm 25.

In applying the attachment thus described the table arm 17 is disposed in a position with an upper end portion of an adjacent side rail 10′ received in the recess 24. When the table arm 17 is disposed in this position the supporting arm 25 is arranged with the end portions 33 of the finger strips 32 disposed on opposite sides of the adjacent supporting leg 11 with the finger strip 33′ engaging the trunnion 35. When the finger strips 32 are disposed in this position the bracket 35 has its portions 38 and 39 arranged in contact with the frame member 40 of the seat member 12 for reasons hereinafter set forth. From the description herein it will be seen that the supporting arm 25 is held against lateral movement through the medium of the finger strips 32 and the bracket 37 and that downward movement of the table arm is resisted by the supporting arms 25 through the cooperation of the plate 22. When the table arm is disposed in the position illustrated in Fig. 1, it will be supported through the medium of the arm 25 and its associated parts in substantially a horizontal plane.

To detach the table arm 17 from association with the chair 10 the table arm is raised in an upward position to disengage the side rail 10′ from recess 24 after which the supporting arm 25 is detached from the adjacent leg 11 by folding the seat member 12 upon the back 16 to disengage the portions 38 and 39 of the bracket 37 from engagement with the frame member 40 of the seat member 12.

From the above description it is manifest that the attachment can be expeditiously associated and detached from association with a foldable chair of the construction illustrated.

Referring now to the modified form of construction illustrated in Figs. 5 to 8 inclusive the supporting arm 25, shown in Fig. 5, has a transverse groove 42 formed in its bevelled edge portion 43 for the reception of the cross rail 44 connecting the lower end portions of the supporting legs 11 of the chair A. The supporting arm 25 in this construction is held against lateral movement away from the chair through the medium of brackets 45 defining an end portion 46 engaging the outer surface 47 of the adjacent leg 11 and cooperating with the bevelled end portion 33 for retaining the supporting arm 25 against lateral movement relative to the adjacent supporting leg 11, the bevelled portion 48 of the supporting arm 29 being adapted to seat upon an adjacent top portion 49 of the adjacent supporting leg 11.

The detachable connection between the supporting arm 25 and the seat member 12 in the modified form of construction is substantially similar to the detachable connection between these elements as illustrated in the preferred form of construction and as herein described. To associate and detach the table arm 17 of the modified form of construction, reference is to be had to the description relating to the assembling and detaching from assembly of the table arm 17 as set forth relative to the preferred form of construction.

In both of the constructions illustrated in the drawings particular attention is directed to the fact that the supporting arm 27 is forced into bearing relation with an adjacent supporting leg 11 through the medium of an imposed weight on the seat member 12 which seat member is detachably connected to the supporting arm 25 through the medium of the bracket herein described and referred to.

While we have illustrated and described the preferred form of construction for carrying our invention into effect, this is capable of variations and modifications without departing from the spirit of the invention. We, therefore, do not wish to be limited to the precise details of construction set forth, but desire to avail ourselves of such variations and modifications as come within the scope of the appended claims.

The invention having been set forth, what we claim as new and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:

1. The combination with a foldable chair, of a table arm, means detachably connecting an end portion of the table arm to an adjacent side rail of the back frame of the chair, a supporting arm, means hingedly connecting the supporting arm to the table arm, means detachably connecting the supporting arm to an adjacent leg of the chair, and means carried by the supporting arm and engaging the seat member of the chair for forcing the supporting arm into bearing relation with respect to said adjacent supporting leg when a weight is disposed upon the seat member.

2. The combination with a foldable chair,

a table arm defining at one end portion a notched out portion, a member connected to said end portion of the table arm and defining portions defining together with the notched out portion a recess for the accommodation of a portion of the side rail member of the back frame member of the chair, means engaging portions of the chair and hingedly connected to the opposite end portion of the table arm for supporting the table arm in substantially a horizontal plane, and means engaging the seat member of the chair and connected to the supporting means for preventing lateral movement of the supporting means relative to the chair.

3. The combination with a foldable chair, of an attachment for the chair including a table arm, means for connecting the inner end portion of the arm to one of the side frames of the back of the chair, a supporting arm, means connecting one end portion to the table arm, said supporting arm extending downwardly from the table arm and engaging a rail connecting one pair of legs of the chair together, and means carried by the supporting arm and engaging the under side of the seat and functioning by weight of a body on the seat to retain the supporting arm in engagement with the rail.

4. The combination with a foldable chair including a seat, a back and a rail connecting one pair of legs of the chair together, of an attachment for said chair including a table arm having an inner end portion out to provide a notch, members connected to said inner end portion and having portions providing together with the notch a recess adapted for the reception of one of the side frames of the back, a member connected to the under side of the arm and extending downwardly therefrom and having a notch formed in its lower end portion to receive said rail adjacent one of the legs of said pair of legs, and a member carried by said lower end portion and engaging the outer surface of said one of the legs.

5. The combination with a chair including a seat, a back and a rail connecting one pair of legs of the chair together, of an attachment for the chair including a table arm, means detachably connecting the inner end portion of the table arm to one of the side frames of the back, a supporting arm, a member connected to one end portion of the supporting arm and having an end portion spaced from said end portion of the supporting arm, said end portion of the supporting arm adapted to have resting engagement with said rail and one of the legs of said pair of legs being adapted to be engaged by said end portion of the supporting arm between said end portion of the supporting arm and the end portion of said member, and means hingedly connecting the opposite end portion of the supporting arm to the table arm.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

GERVASIUS W. FISCHER.
WALTER F. SUND.