May 31, 1932. L. B. TRIPLETT 1,860,874

PATIENT HOLDER

Filed Oct. 21, 1930

Fig. 1.

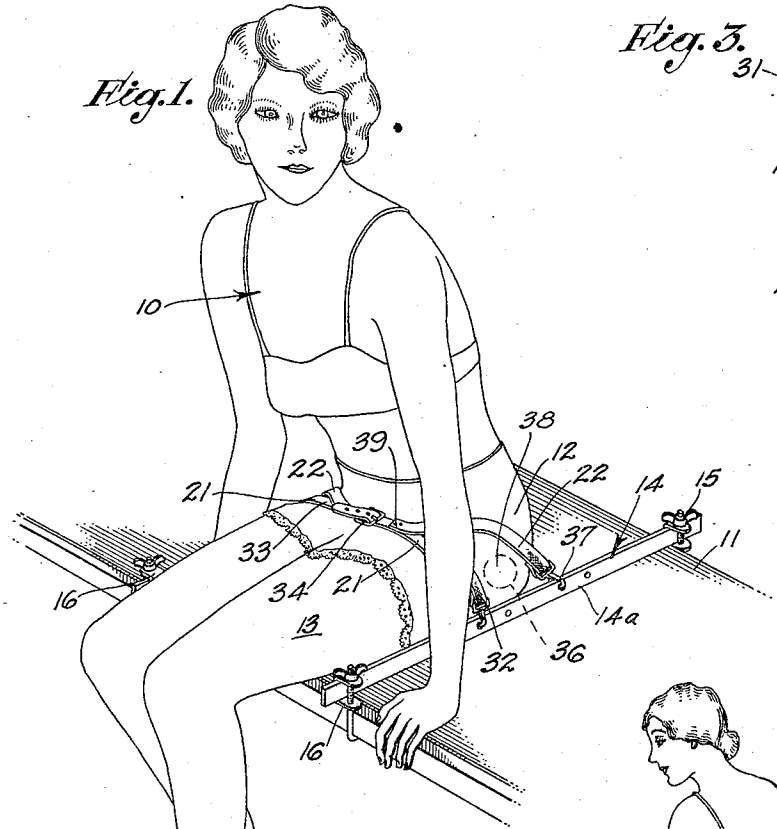


Fig. 3.

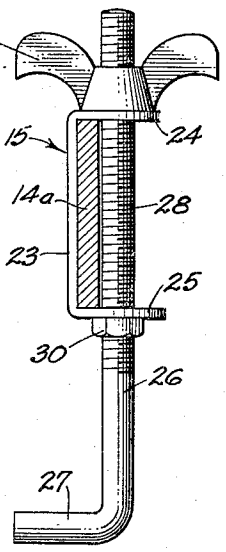


Fig. 4.

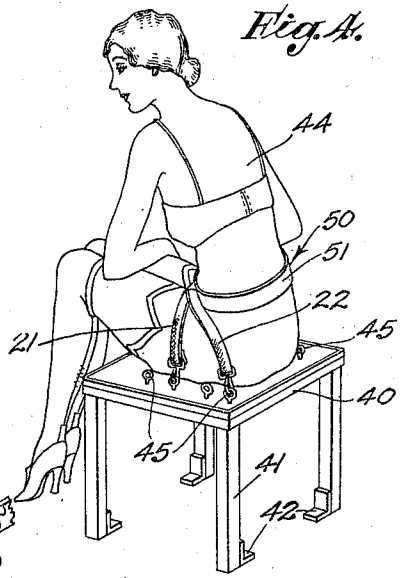


Fig. 5.

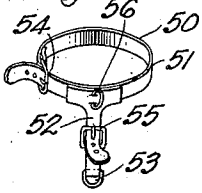
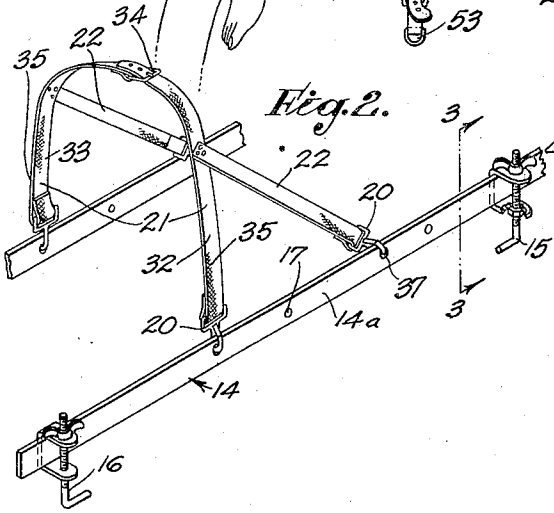


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

LOUIS B. TRIPLETT, OF PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

PATIENT HOLDER

Application filed October 21, 1930. Serial No. 490,148.

My invention relates to means for holding the lower portion of the torso of a person while such person is seated on a seat member in such a manner that the hips and the body and muscular structure proximate thereto will be substantially immovably held during movement of the body above the hips.

Although the invention is of utility in many instances where it is desired to hold the hip portion of a person's body in substantially immovable position, such as for the purpose of enabling the person so held or secured to exercise the various muscles of the body above the hips, I find that the invention has its most extensive utility in conjunction with the practice of osteopathy, chiropractic, and mechanotherapy, in which various ailments, deformations, lesions, etc. are treated by manipulation or operation of selected muscles and parts of the human body. I have found that it is extremely difficult to operate or manipulate the muscles connecting the hips with the upper portion of the body, and further, it is almost impossible for the operator to place tension in these muscles in a desired manner, owing to the fact that when a lift is exerted on one side of the body, the patient will rock on the glutei maximus and the posterior femorals.

It is an object of the invention to provide a simple means for use on the human body when the body is received in seated position on a seat member and which will firmly hold the hip structure and the pelvis against rotation. The device is of such character that the glutei maximus are held firmly in engagement with the seat member, thereby enabling the torso above the hip structure to be placed in tension by application of forces by the operator, to be swung or curved sidewardly so as to relatively stretch and contract the muscles, and to be moved in a circumductory or other manner to accomplish a desired treatment thereof.

It is an object of the invention to provide means for use in conjunction with a seat member which will extend upwardly to the front and rear of the greater trochanters and then across the thighs immediately adjacent to the point of juncture of the thighs to the hip structure.

It is an object of the invention to provide in a simple device of this character a seat member, a strap extending from points on the seat member adjacent to the thighs upwardly and over the thighs whereby to hold the posterior femorals firmly down against the seat member, and complementary members secured to the seat member adjacent to the hips but situated rearwardly of the greater trochanters, and extending upwardly and forwardly above the areas of the greater trochanters, and thence over the thighs, whereby to firmly secure the trochanters in substantially immovable position and to hold the glutei maximus against the seat member.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device of this character which may be readily attached to any seat or table structure.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will be made evident hereinafter.

Referring to the drawings, which are for illustrative purposes only:

Fig. 1 is a preferred form of my invention in use on a standard form of treating table.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the anchor bar and strap construction employed in the preferred form of my invention.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged vertical cross-section represented by the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing a form of my invention embodied in a seat structure.

Fig. 5 is a perspectve view of an auxiliary back support which may be used in the practice of my invention.

In Fig. 1 I show a patient 10 seated on a treating table 11 which will be hereinafter referred to as a "seat member" for the reason that when so used the patient is seated thereon. On each side of the hips 12 and limbs 13 of the patient's body, anchor means 14 are placed across the top of the table or seat member 11, these anchor means including metal bars 14*a* having attachment members 15 and 16 secured thereto and having openings 17 adapted to be engaged by devices 20 secured on the ends of strap members 21 and 22. The attachment members 15 and

16 may be conveniently made from U-shaped brackets 23 adapted to extend over the bars constituting the anchor means and having openings in the laterally bent ends 24 and 25 through which a vertical bar 26 may be extended. This vertical bar 26 has a laterally extended portion 27 on its lower end and the upper portion thereof is provided with threads 28 to receive a lower nut 30 and an upper wing nut 31. By adjustment of the nut 30 on the bar 26 the position of the hook or laterally extending portion 27 relative to the bar 14*a* may be varied to suit the thickness of the seat member 11 to which the anchor means is to be secured.

As shown in Fig. 1, the attachment member 15 is hooked over the back of the table or seat member 11 and the attachment member 16 is moved on the front end of the bar 14*a* so as to engage the front edge of the table or seat member 11.

The anchor means are placed close to the hips 12 and limbs 13, and the strap member 21, which is made in two portions 32 and 33 connected together by a buckle 34, is extended from one anchor means to the other across the limbs at the point where the limbs join the hip structure. The end parts 35 of the strap member 21 extend vertically upwardly from the anchor means 14 on the sides of the femurs in position slightly forward of the greater trochanters, the position of which greater trochanters I have crudely indicated in Fig. 1 by means of a dotted circle 36. Each of the strap members 22 extends upwardly from a point 37 on the cooperating anchor means 14 rearwardly of the adjacent greater trochanter and is carried upwardly and forwardly in a diagonal direction adjacent to and above the area 38 of the greater trochanter, and then inwardly over the upper end of a femur to a point 39 of engagement with the central portion of the strap member 21. With the body of the patient 10 in seated position, as shown in Fig. 1, a shortening or tightening of the strap member 21 by use of the interconnecting buckle 34 will cause the strap members 21 and 22 to be constricted upon the adjacent body portions of the patient in a manner to hold the glutei maximus firmly against the seat member 11, to substantially immovably hold the greater trochanters, and to consequently prevent vertical rotation of the pelvis.

When the patient is held in this manner the various muscles of the hips, the lumbar region, stomach, sides, and back may be operated or manipulated. The torso above the hips may be rotated, may be arched or curved forwardly, sidewardly, or rearwardly, or may be circumducted in order to attain the desired treatment in a manner not possible where the patient is merely seated on a table or chair, for it will be readily seen that forces applied to the body to bend or swing the same will be responded to by rocking of the glutei maximus and the posterior femorals on the surface of the table, as there are no means present to hold these parts firmly against the table while the upper portion of the torso is being operated or manipulated.

It will be noted that a plurality of holes 17 are provided in the bars 14*a* so that the position of the strap members 21 and 22 may be changed either forward or rearward to suit conditions of operation.

It is to be further noted that the patient holder is of such simple character that it may be readily installed and quickly removed from a treating table or other seat member. It is of simple and economical construction, yet is fully effective for the purpose for which it is intended.

In Fig. 4 I show an alternative form of my invention in which the patient holder is permanently incorporated in a support or seat member 40 having legs 41 which may be secured to the floor by means of clips 42. In conjunction with the upper portion of the seat member 40 I provide means for securing the strap members 21 and 22 in position to properly engage a person 44 occupying a seated position on the seat member 40. As a means for securing the strap members 21 and 22 to the seat member 40 I show eyelets 45 projecting above the top of the seat member along lines situated on each side of the hips and limbs of the person 44. I prefer to place the eyelets 45 on the top of the seat member 40 rather than along the sides thereof as this permits the use of a single size of seat member to be used by persons of different width across the hips and thighs, for the lateral spacing of the eyelets on the top of said seat member 40 is determined in accordance with the structure of the person 44 by whom the device is to be used.

This form of the invention is especially suitable for exercising in which the movement of the torso is accomplished muscularly by the person seated on the seat member 40 instead of by external application of force by an operator to accomplish the desired movement of the torso. The person 44 may swing the torso sidewardly, forwardly, or rearwardly without movement of the hip structure, thereby accomplishing a beneficial elongation and contraction of the muscles which extend upwardly from the hip structure and through the torso.

In Fig. 5 I show the auxiliary member 50 which consists of a strap 51 adapted to encircle the lower portion of the torso so as to lie over the sacrum, and having a depending strap 52 adapted to pass downwardly between the groins and having a hook or ring 53 for attachment to the forward edge of the table 40. A ring 56 is placed at the front of

the strap 51, and the central part of the member 21 is passed therethrough. The encircling strap 50 is equipped with adjustment means in the form of a buckle 54, and the depending strap 52 has adjustment means in the form of a buckle 55. This auxiliary member 50 is of especial utility where the invention is employed as an exerciser and may be employed in the treating of a patient, although in most treatments its use is not necessary.

I claim as my invention:

1. A device of the character described for holding the lower portion of the human body during operation of the upper portion of the body while the body is received in seated position on a seat member, including: a pair of anchor means in the form of bars adapted to be secured across the top of the seat member on each side of the limbs and hips of the body seated on said seat member; and a member extending from said anchor means and over the upper ends of the femurs.

2. A device of the character described for holding the lower portion of the human body during operation of the upper portion of the body while the body is received in seated position on a seat member, including: a pair of anchor means in the form of bars adapted to be secured across the top of the seat member on each side of the limbs and hips of the body seated on said seat member; and strap members extending from said anchor means and over the upper ends of the femurs.

3. A device of the character described for holding the lower portion of the human body during operation of the upper portion of the body while the body is received in seated position on a seat member, including: a pair of anchor means in the form of bars adapted to be secured across the top of the seat member on each side of the limbs and hips of the body seated on said seat member; and strap members adjustably secured to said anchor means and extending from said anchor means across the areas proximate the greater trochanters and over the upper ends of the femurs.

4. A device of the character described for holding the lower portion of the human body during operation of the upper portion of the body while the body is received in seated position on a seat member, including: a pair of anchor means in the form of bars adapted to be secured across the top of the seat member on each side of the limbs and hips of the body seated on said seat member; a strap means extending from one of said bars to the other vertically adjacent to the upper ends of the femurs but forwardly of the greater trochanters and horizontally across the femurs; and other strap means extending from points on said bars to the rear of said greater trochanters, upwardly and forwardly across the hips to points of joinder with central parts of the first of said strap means.

5. A device of the character described for holding the lower portion of the human body during operation of the upper portion of the body while the body is received in seated position on a seat member, including: a pair of anchor means adapted to be secured across the top of said seat member on each side of the limbs and hips of the body seated on said seat member; and a member extending from said anchor means and over the upper ends of the femurs.

6. A device of the character described for holding the lower portion of the human body during operation of the upper portion of the body while the body is received in seated position on a seat member, including: a pair of anchor means adapted to be secured across the top of the seat member on each side of the limbs and hips of the body seated on said seat member; and strap members extending from said anchor means and over the upper ends of the femurs.

7. A device of the character described for holding the lower portion of the human body during operation of the upper portion of the body while the body is received in seated position on a seat member, including: a pair of anchor means adapted to be secured across the top of the seat member on each side of the limbs and hips of the body seated on said seat member; and strap members adjustably secured to said anchor means and extending from said anchor means across the areas proximate the greater trochanters and over the upper ends of the femurs.

8. A device of the character described for holding the lower portion of the human body during operation of the upper portion of the body while the body is received in seated position on a seat member, including: a pair of anchor means adapted to be secured across the top of the seat member on each side of the limbs and hips of the body seated on said seat member; a strap means extending from one of said anchor means to the other vertically adjacent the upper ends of the femurs but forwardly of the greater trochanters and horizontally across the femurs; and other strap means extending from points on said anchor means to the rear of said greater trochanters, upwardly and forwardly across the hips to points of joinder with central parts of the first of said strap means.

9. A device of the character described for holding the lower portion of the human body during operation of the upper portion of the body while the body is received in seated position on a seat member, including: anchor means extending across and secured to the top of said seat member on each side of the limbs and hips of the body seated on said seat member; strap means extending from one part of said anchor means to the other

vertically adjacent the upper ends of the femurs but forwardly of the greater trochanters and horizontally across the femurs; and cooperating strap means extending from points on said anchor means to the rear of said greater trochanters, upwardly and forwardly across the hips to points of joinder with central parts of the first of said strap means.

10. A device of the character described for holding the lower portion of the human body during operation of the upper portion of the body while the body is received in seated position on a seat member, including: anchor means adjustably secured to the top of said seat member on each side of the limbs and hips of the body seated on said seat member; and a member extending from one part of said anchor means to the other and over the upper ends of the femurs.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand at Los Angeles, California, this 17th day of October, 1930.

LOUIS B. TRIPLETT.