E. ROBBINS.

ROCKING CHAIR.

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1,132,387. Patented Mar. 16, 1915.

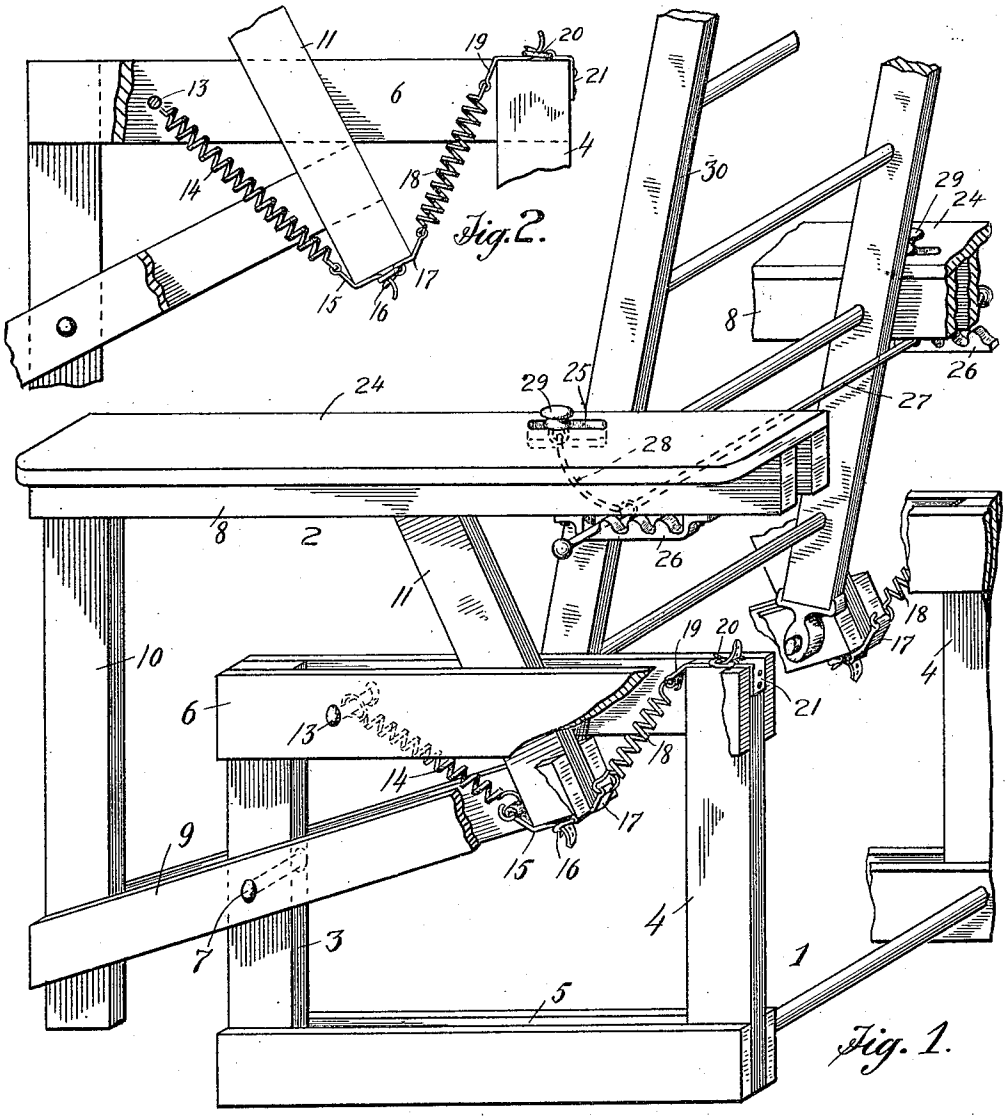


Fig. 2.

Fig. 1.

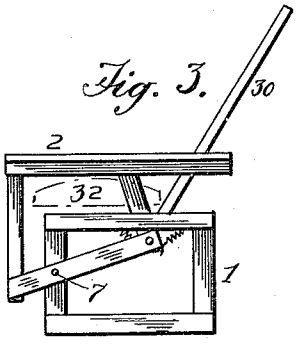


Fig. 3.

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ROCKING-CHAIR.

1,132,387. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 16, 1915.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELMER ROBBINS, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Portland, in the county of Multnomah and State of Oregon, have invented new and useful Improvements in Rocking-Chairs, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has relation to a rocking chair, and the object of my invention is to provide a device of this character of novel and superior construction.

More specifically I aim to provide, in a rocking chair, a novel means of resilient suspension.

A further object is the provision of improved means for adjusting the back-rest of the chair relative to its seat.

To this end my invention consists in the combinations and advantageous features hereinafter fully explained, and the perusal of this explanation is facilitated by having reference to the accompanying drawings, of which:

Figure 1 illustrates, in perspective side-elevation, the frame of a rocking chair embodying my invention, Fig. 2 is a fragmentary view substantially in agreement with Fig. 1 and provided in order to facilitate the reading of the said Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 is an outline of the chair indicating the proportions of the device.

The device comprises a stationary support 1 in which the chair 2 is mounted to rock. Both sides of said support are alike and rectangular in shape. Each side-frame consists of vertical members 3, 4 and horizontal members 5, 6, and the latter are made in two parts rigidly secured on both sides of the said vertical members. The sides of the chair 2 are also made alike and comprise top and bottom bars 8, 9 of double construction, between which a front brace 10 and a rear brace 11 are rigidly fixed. A pin 7, extending transversely through the vertical member 3 and the bottom bar 9, serves to support the chair on the stationary support.

A stud 13 is transversely fixed in the horizontal member 6 and this stud supports a coil-spring 14, the lower end of which terminates in a strap 15, and the latter engages a buckle 16 of a second strap 17. A second coil-spring 18 extends from said strap 17 to a strap 19, which engages a buckle 20 of a strap 21, and the latter is secured against transverse displacement on the vertical frame member 4. It is readily seen how the straps 15, 17 bend over the lower end of the chair brace 11, to which the strap 17 is preferably secured so as to prevent displacement of the parts.

From the above description it is seen that the chair is pivoted to rock on the pins 7. The springs 14, 18 yieldingly retain the chair in its forward position and its forward movement is limited by the inner end of the bottom bars 9 abutting the horizontal member 6 of the support. It is noticed that the springs are positioned in the space between the parts of the vertical support members 3, 4, thereby offering ample protection for said springs. The effect of this spring suspension is that the chair rocks very smoothly and is very sensitive to the least movement of a super-imposed body. This is partly due to the fact that the strain is taken by two pairs of comparatively light springs, and partly because the tension is uneven on each spring of a pair. That is to say, as the two springs 14, 18 diverge diagonally, and as the chair, in rocking, moves on a curve, the said springs are subject to varying strains, and as each pair of springs is independently adjustable, through the medium of the straps and buckles described, it is possible to regulate the tension of the springs so as to produce a high degree of sensitiveness.

Figs. 1 and 2 illustrate the general principle of my invention without regard to proportions. Fig. 3 is drawn more nearly to the correct shape, and is added in order to demonstrate an important feature, which will now be explained. Throughout the drawings no attention has been paid to the upholstering and finish of the device. In Fig. 3, however, the approximate relation of the seat, as indicated in dotted outline at 32, to the frame is shown. Now it is noticed that the front edge of the seat is positioned nearly vertically above the rocking center 7, and that the entire seat and back-rest are thrown behind this line. The result is that the front portion of the seat, when the chair rocks, moves substantially in a horizontal plane, and that therefore the person occupying the chair can rock with added comfort inasmuch as his feet are not raised from the floor when the chair moves backwardly. An armrest 24 is fixed on the top bar 8, and this arm-rest is provided with an elongated perforation 25. On the bottom of the said bar 8 is mounted an adjusting bracket 26 in

which a rod 27 is placed, and this rod is by a cord 28 connected with a knob 29, which seats in the said perforation 25. The back-rest 30 of the chair is pivoted to the seat and is thus held in position by said rod. The person occupying the chair, and wishing to adjust the position of the back-rest, needs only pull the knobs 29 to release the rod 27 from the grooves in the bracket 26, and he can pull the back-rest to its forward position, or with his back shove it rearward. In this manner a very simple and easily operated means is provided for adjusting the back-rest of the chair in both directions, without the necessity of the person leaving the chair.

I claim:

In a rocking chair in combination, a stationary support, a chair mounted to oscillate in said support around a point near the front thereof, a seat carried by said chair, said chair at the rear thereof adapted to form a brace, and a spring mechanism for cushioning the movements of said chair comprising a spring engaging said chair at the rear of said brace, a spring attached to said chair in front of said brace and a buckle connecting said springs, said buckle being arranged substantially beneath said brace.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed my signature.

ELMER ROBBINS.

Witnesses:
OAK NOLAN,
O. O. MARTIN.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents. Washington, D. C."