Dec. 23, 1952 L. C. MORGAN 2,622,658

COMBINATION ROCKING CHAIR AND LADDER

Filed Nov. 14, 1949

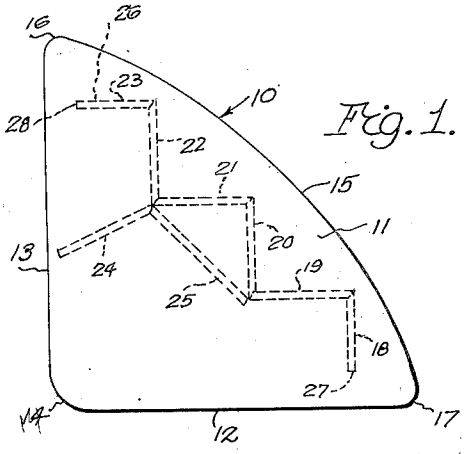

Fig. 1.

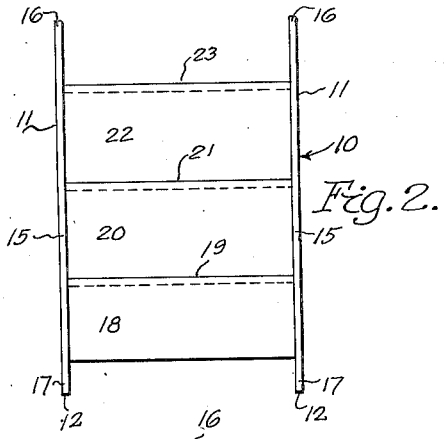

Fig. 2.

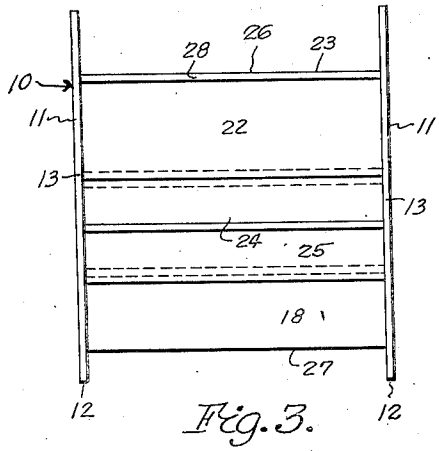

Fig. 3.

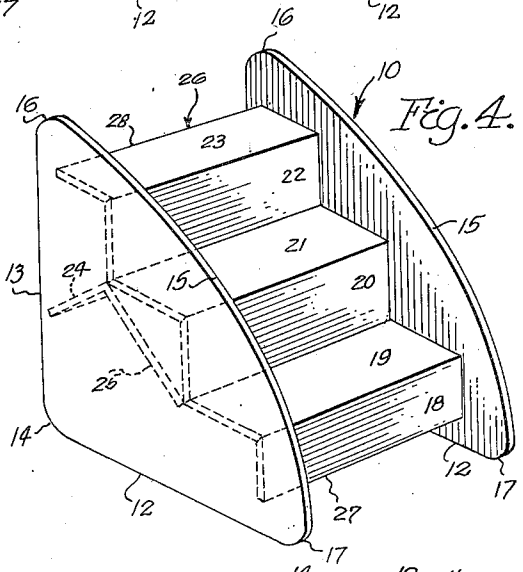

Fig. 4.

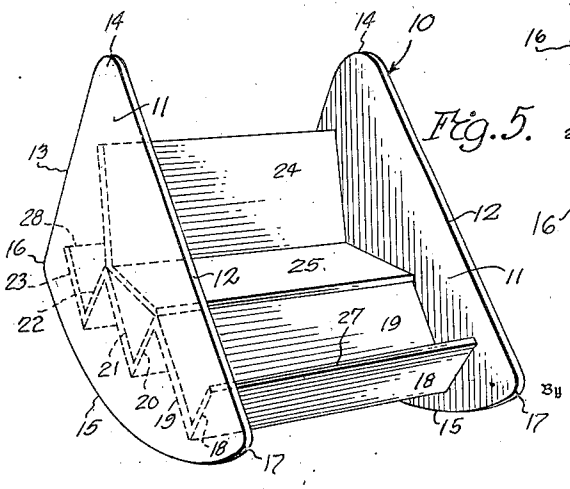

Fig. 5.

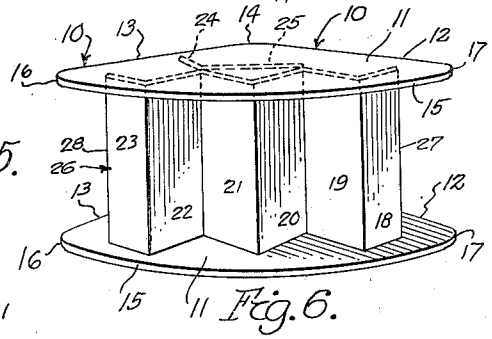

Fig. 6.

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COMBINATION ROCKING CHAIR AND LADDER

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1 Claim. (Cl. 155—42)

1

This invention relates to furniture and, in particular, to combination furniture.

One object of this invention is to provide an article of furniture which, when arranged in different positions or used on different sides will serve a number of different purposes, such as a ladder, a rocking chair, a table, a bookcase or a desk.

Another object is to provide a combination furniture article which, when placed in an upright position, serves as a ladder or a pair of stairs, or as a bookcase; when placed in an inverted position, serves as a rocking-chair.

Another object is to provide a combination furniture article of the foregoing character which, when laid on one of its ends, serves as a corner table.

Another object is to provide a combination furniture article of the foregoing character which, when approached from the front serves as a pair of stairs or a bookcase, and when approached from the rear, serves as a desk or drawing table.

Another object is to provide a combination furniture article of the foregoing character which is especially adapted for use by children and which is safe and practical for their use.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a combination furniture article, according to one form of the invention;

Figure 2 is a front elevation of the combination furniture article shown in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a rear elevation of the combination furniture article shown in Figures 1 and 2;

Figure 4 is a front perspective view of the combination furniture article of Figures 1 to 3 inclusive, in position for use as a ladder, bookcase or writing or drawing desk;

Figure 5 is a front perspective view of the combination furniture article of Figures 1 to 4 inclusive in its inverted position for use as a rocking chair; and

Figure 6 is a front perspective view of the combination furniture article placed on one of its ends for use as a corner table.

Referring to the drawings in detail, Figures 1 to 6 inclusive show a combination furniture article, generally designated 10, capable of use for different purposes in different positions or, when approached from different directions, as explained below. The furniture article 10 is made from wood, metal or other suitable material and is provided with a pair of side members 11 of quadrant shape having mutually perpendicular edges 12 and 13 connected to one another by

2

rounded corners 14 and connected to an arcuate edge 15 by rounded corners 16 and 17 respectively. The arcuate edge 15 is preferably the arc of a circle of such a radius as to permit the edges 15 to function as the rockers of a rocking chair.

The side members 11 are preferably routed or grooved to receive the ends of cross members 18 to 25 inclusive, these ends being secured therein by a suitable adhesive. This renders the furniture article easy and inexpensive to manufacture, but it will be understood that fasteners may optionally be used to secure the various members together.

In the upright position of the furniture article (Figures 2 and 4), the cross members 19, 21 and 23 serve as treads of a stairway, generally designated 26, of which the cross members 18, 20 and 22 serve as risers. As seen from Figure 1, the free edges 27 and 28 are terminated short of the edges 12 and 13 or, in other words, are spaced inwardly therefrom so that the furniture article 10 will be perfectly stable when a child or other person is standing on either the member 23 or the member 18, depending upon which edge 12 or 13 is upright. In other words, the edge 27 or 28 must not extend over a point directly above the junction of the curved corner 14 with the respective edge 12 or 13 in order to provide stability in this manner. The stairway 26 formed by the members 18 to 23 inclusive may alternatively be used as a bookshelf with the books supported on the treads 19 and 21 against the backs or risers 20 and 22. It will also be obvious that a third row of books may be placed on the topmost tread 23, but these books will lack a back member corresponding to the risers 20 and 22. Obviously, also, the stairway 26 may be formed with either of the pairs of edges 12 or 13 resting upon the floor or ground, in which case the cross members which were previously treads become risers, and vice versa.

The cross members 24 and 25 are arranged at an obtuse angle relatively to one another, with the cross member 25 substantially parallel to the chord of the arcuate edges 15. With this arrangement, the cross member 25 becomes a horizontal seat and the cross member 24 the back for that seat when the furniture article is inverted (Figure 5), so that the arcuate edges 15 rest upon the floor or ground. In this position, furthermore, the cross member 18 becomes a foot rest for a person, such as a child, sitting on the seat 25. When the furniture article is arranged in this position, a person occupying it can rock to and fro, using the arcuate edges 15 as rockers.

When the furniture article is in its upright position (Figures 1 to 4 inclusive) and approached from the rear (Figure 3), the child or other person may sit on a low chair, cushion or stool facing the shelf-like member **24** with his legs extending beneath the stairway **26**. In this position, the cross member **24**, being inclined, serves as the top of a drawing table or desk.

Finally, when the furniture article **10** is laid on one of its sides or ends **11** (Figure 6), it serves as a corner table with the other side or end **11** serving as a table top. The furniture article can then be pushed into a corner and thus caused to extend across the corner, with its edges **12** and **13** against the mutually perpendicular walls of the room. In this position, the cross members **18** to **25** serve as a pedestal structure for supporting the uppermost side or end **11** which serves as the table top.

The use of the furniture article **10** has been described in connection with its construction. It will be seen that the present invention provides a very flexible furniture article which is especially well adapted for use by children in schools, playrooms and other places frequented by children. Practical experience in the use of this furniture article has proved it to be eagerly sought after and enthusiastically used by children because of its versatility and adaptability to different uses. The combination furniture article may also be constructed in miniature form and used in doll houses or playhouses.

What I claim is:

A combination furniture article comprising a pair of laterally spaced plate-like side members of approximately quadrant shaped outline having side edges arranged substantially at right angles to one another and arcuate hypotenuse edges interconnecting the ends of said side edges, a stairway comprising a multiplicity of elongated mutually perpendicular tread and riser members secured at their opposite ends to said side members in an alternately vertical and horizontal stepped formation, said tread and riser members being substantially perpendicular to one of said side edges and substantially parallel to the other side edge, an elongated plate-like seat member secured at its opposite ends to said side members and arranged on the rearward side of said stairway obliquely to said tread and riser members, and an elongated plate-like back member secured at its opposite ends to said side members and arranged on the rearward side of said stairway at an obtuse angle to said seat member, the ends of said tread and riser members at the ends of said stairway terminating short of the adjacent side edges of said side members.

LEONARD C. MORGAN.

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