Oct. 26, 1948. W. T. CLAWSON 2,452,182

WRITING ARM FOR COLLAPSIBLE CHAIRS

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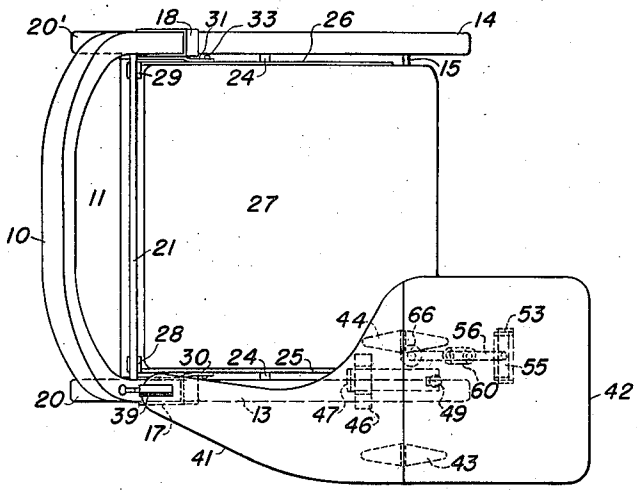

FIG. 1

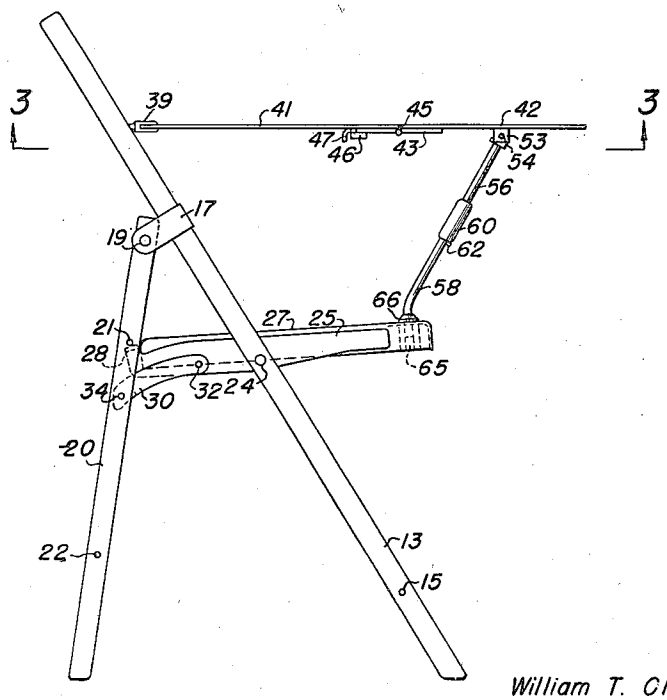

FIG. 2

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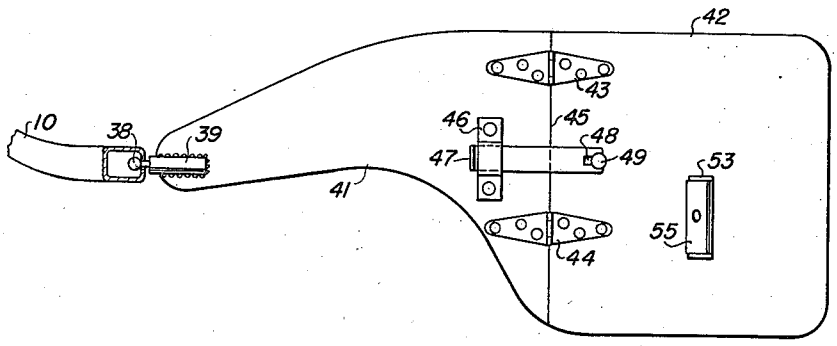

FIG. 3

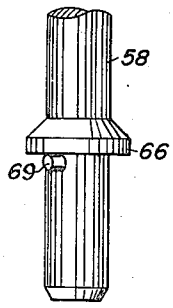

FIG. 5

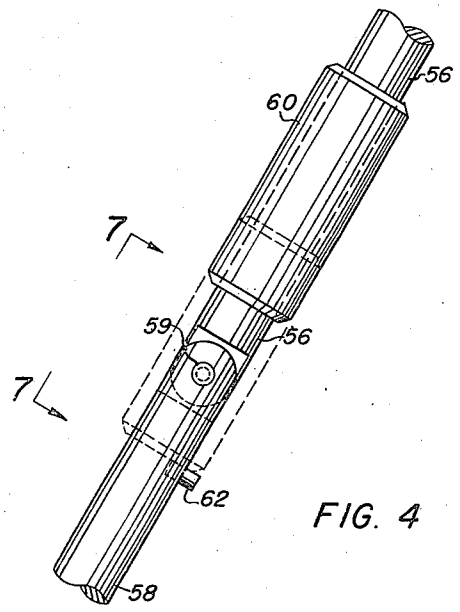

FIG. 4

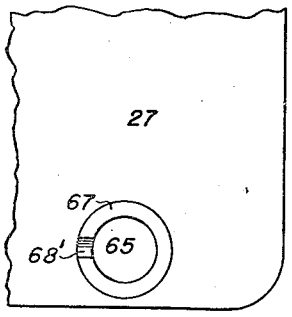

FIG. 6

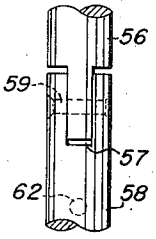

FIG. 7

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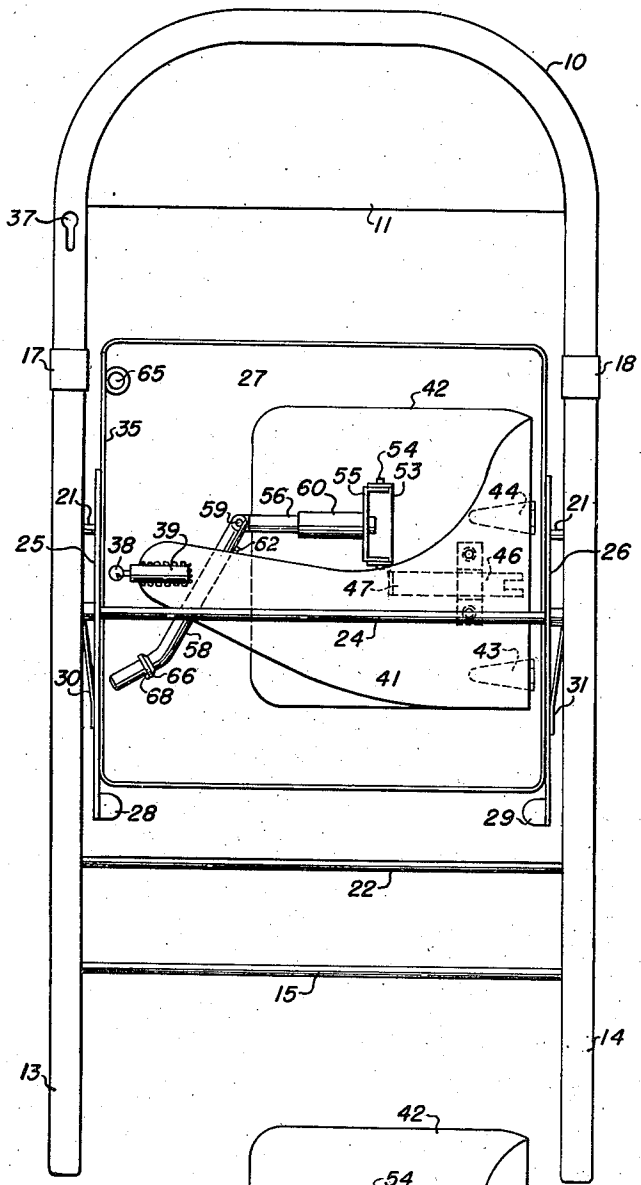

FIG. 9

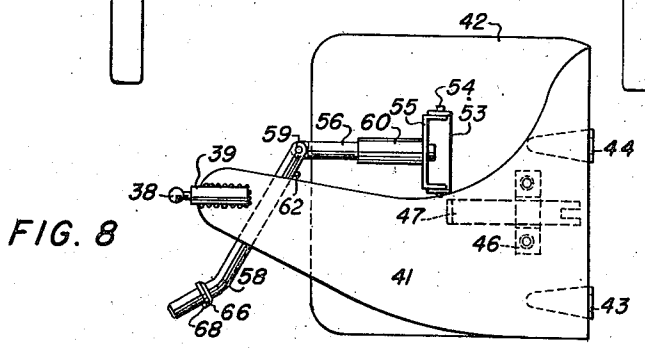

FIG. 8

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WRITING ARM FOR COLLAPSIBLE CHAIRS

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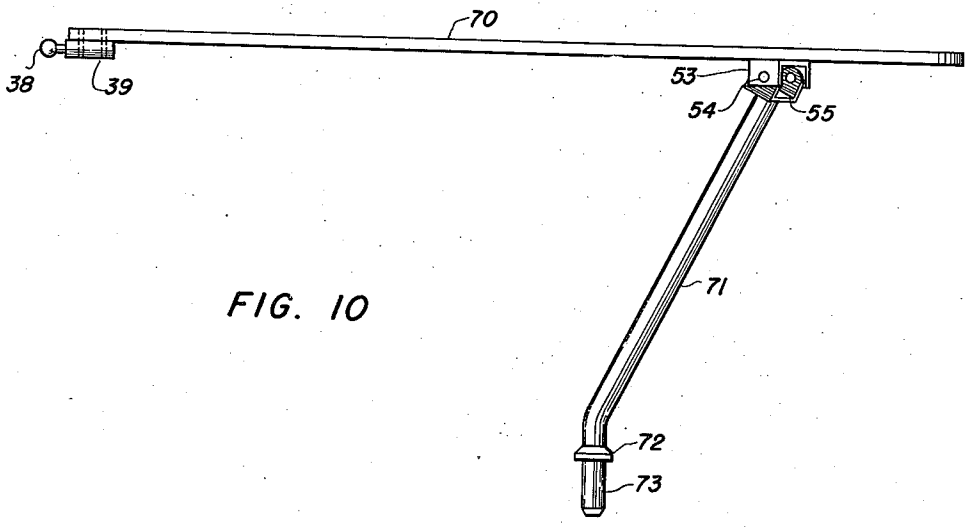

FIG. 10

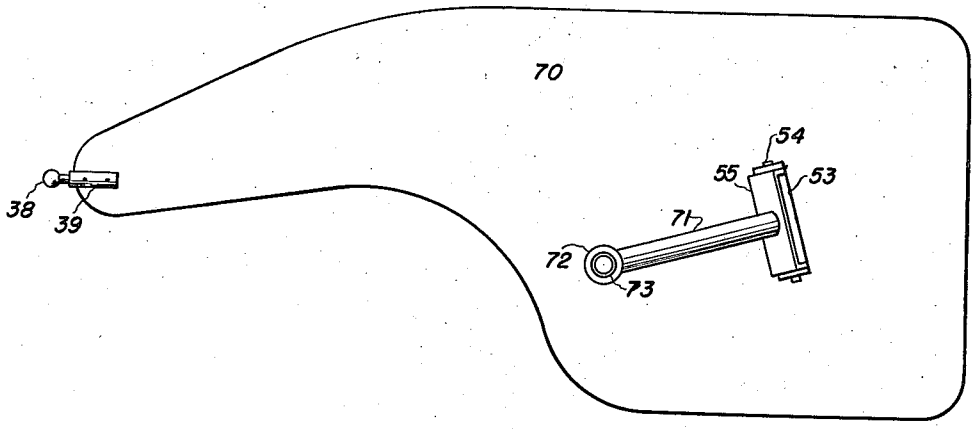

FIG. 11

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Patented Oct. 26, 1948

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,452,182

WRITING ARM FOR COLLAPSIBLE CHAIRS

William T. Clawson, Rock Hill, S. C.

Application May 15, 1946, Serial No. 669,955

3 Claims. (Cl. 155—125)

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This invention relates to a collapsible chair having a removable, and if desired, a collapsible writing arm associated therewith.

An ordinary armchair employed for use in schools, auditoriums, and the like comprises a rigid non-collapsible chair having a rigid arm associated therewith for writing and when it is necessary to transport these chairs from one building to another, as by placing them on a truck and hauling them from one location to another, only a very few of these chairs, comparatively speaking, can be placed in a truck for transport, as they fill up a great amount of space.

By providing a collapsible chair with a removable or collapsible arm associated therewith, it is possible to remove the arm and to collapse the chair and to store or haul the chairs and arms in a much smaller amount of space than would be the case where the arm is not removable and the chair not collapsible. If desired, and in one form of the invention, it is shown, the arm itself can be collapsed and folded or nested into the lower portion of the seat, where it will be held in position and the entire assembly of chair and arm will be kept together as a unit during transport or storage.

It is, therefore, an object of this invention to provide a collapsible chair with a removable and collapsible arm, adapted to be nested and stowed in the lower surface of the seat portion of the chair, so as to permit a great number of these chairs to be stacked within a very small space, either for transport purposes or for storage purposes.

It is another object of this invention to provide a collapsible chair provided with a removable arm so that the chair can be collapsed and the arm can be removed for transport or storage purposes, thus resulting in the chair and arm occupying less than one-fourth of the space which would be occupied by the conventional rigid armchair.

Some of the objects of the invention having been stated, other objects will appear as the description proceeds, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a collapsible chair equipped with my invention;

Figure 2 is a side elevation of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a bottom plan view looking upwardly from along the line 3—3 in Figure 2 and showing a portion of the chair in section;

Figure 4 is an enlarged detail of the joint in the support for the free end of the arm for the chair;

Figure 5 is an enlarged detail of the lower end

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of the support and showing that portion, which fits into a hole in the chair seat;

Figure 6 is a top plan view showing a detail of the corner of the chair seat having the hole therein for reception of the lower end of the supporting rod shown in Figure 5;

Figure 7 is an elevation showing a detail of the forked joint between the upper and lower portions of the supporting rod for the free end of the arm of the chair, taken along line 7—7 in Figure 4;

Figure 8 is a view showing the arm in folded position ready for a nesting in the seat of the chair;

Figure 9 is a front elevation of the chair in collapsed position, and showing the folded arm in nested position;

Figure 10 is a side elevation of a modified form of arm which is not collapsible, that is, it is not formed into two sections with hinges connecting the two sections together;

Figure 11 is a bottom plan view of the form of rigid arm shown in Figure 10.

Referring more specifically to the drawings, the numeral 10 indicates the bowed upper portion of the main frame of the chair, having a back portion 11 secured therein, and this bowed upper portion has integral therewith legs 13 and 14. The lower end of these legs 13 and 14 are joined together by a suitable rod 15.

Secured to the legs 13 and 14 are cuff members 17 and 18, which have pivoted thereto, as at 19, conventional rear legs 20 and 20', between which rods 21 and 22 are secured for bracing these rear legs 20.

Secured to and spanning the distance between the legs 13 and 14 is a rod 24 on which are pivotally mounted the intermediate portions of strap iron members 25 and 26. These strap iron members are spot welded or otherwise secured to a chair seat 27. The rod 24 passes through the strap iron members 25 and 26 and forms a pivot point for the seat 27. The rear ends of the strap iron members 25 have enlarged portions 28 and 29, which are adapted to rest against the cross rod 21, when the chair is in erected position.

Pivotally secured to the strap iron members 25 and 26, as at 32 and 33, are links 30 and 31, whose rear ends are secured, as at 34, to the rear leg 20. The seat 27 has a downturned flange 35 extending around the edges thereof, thus forming a pocket on the underneath surface of the seat 27. The use of this pocket will be later referred to.

The structure thus far described is a conven-

tional foldable chair preferably made of suitable metal. It is my purpose to convert this chair into an arm chair by providing a collapsible foldable arm adapted to be removably secured to the conventional collapsible chair.

In the upper portion of leg 13, or if a left hand armchair is desired, the same can apply to the upper portion of leg 14, I provide a bayonet slot 37 into which a ball 38 on a member 39 is fitted into the upper enlarged portion and adapted to be pressed down into the lower restricted portion to confine the same. This member 39 is suitably secured by welding or otherwise to an arm member 41, which has pivoted thereto another portion 42 as by means of suitable hinges 43 and 44, these sections 41 and 42 being foldable along the line 45. On portion 41, I mount a guide and support 46 in which a slidable bar 47 is mounted for sliding movement. The bar 47 is forked as at 48 and adapted to fit over a pin 49 on the lower surface of the portion 42 for locking the portions 41 and 42 in parallel position.

Secured on the lower surface of portion 42 is an inverted U-shaped bracket 53, having pivotally secured thereto, as at 54, a similar U-shaped bracket 55 to which is secured a rod 56, whose lower end is flattened and enters into forked portion 57 of another rod 58, and the portions 56 and 58 are pivotally secured to each other by means of a pivot pin 59. A slidable cuff 60 is provided on rod 58, which is adapted to slide down over the pivot point 59, and be arrested by a pin 62 disposed in rod 58 to make the joint between the rods 56 and 58 a rigid connection.

The chair seat 27 has therein a hole 65, into which the lower end of rod 58 is adapted to fit. This rod 58 has a shoulder 66 adapted to rest on a raised rim 67 surrounding the hole 65. The raised rim 67 has a depression 68' therein, into which a pin 68 on the lower end of rod 58 is adapted to rest to prevent turning of rod 58 in the hole 65.

In the modified form of the invention, shown in Figures 10 and 11, like reference characters will apply to like parts, but the arm is indicated as a solid piece by reference character 70, and the supporting rod is in one piece and indicated at 71. This portion 71 has a shoulder 72 similar to shoulder 66 in the other form of the invention, and a shank portion 73 adapted to fit into the hole 65 in the chair seat. In this form of the invention, the arm would not be folded and nested in the bottom of the chair seat, as in the other form of the invention, but would be transported or stored separately.

When it is desired to collapse the chair and arm for transport or storage purposes, the arm, such as shown in Figures 10 and 11 can be removed from the chair and stored or transported separately and then the chair can be collapsed in a conventional manner. However, if it is desired to keep the arm with the chair, then the collapsible arm would be employed and this would be collapsed to the position, shown in Figure 8. It would then be slipped between the lower surface of the chair seat 27, and the transverse rod 24, which would wedge it in position and from whence it cannot be dislodged without being removed on purpose.

In the drawings and specification, there has been set forth a preferred embodiment of the invention, and although specific terms have been employed, they are used in a generic and descriptive sense only, and not for purposes of limitation, the scope of the invention being defined in the claims.

I claim:

1. A collapsible chair having a main frame and rear legs pivotally secured to the main frame and a seat member pivotally secured to the main frame and pivotally secured to the rear legs, a writing arm, a bayonet slot in the main frame, and a member mounted on the rear end of the arm and adapted to be releasably secured in the bayonet slot, a front corner of the seat member having a vertically disposed hole therein, a supporting arm pivotally secured to the front lower surface of the writing arm and having its lower end shaped to fit into the hole in the seat, the upper surface of the seat having a cavity extending from the wall of said hole, and a projection on the lower end of the supporting arm adapted to rest in said cavity for preventing rotative movement of the supporting arm.

2. A collapsible chair having a main frame and rear legs pivotally secured to the main frame and a seat member pivotally secured to the main frame and pivotally secured to the rear legs, a writing arm, a bayonet slot in the main frame, a member mounted on the rear end of the arm and adapted to be releasably secured in the bayonet slot, a front corner of the seat member having a vertically disposed hole therein, a supporting arm pivotally secured to the front lower surface of the writing arm and having its lower end shaped to fit into the hole in the seat, means on the lower end of the supporting arm for engaging said seat for preventing rotation of the supporting arm, the writing arm being divided transversely into front and rear sections hingedly connected together so that the writing arm can be folded and stowed beneath the seat portion.

3. A collapsible chair having a main frame and rear legs pivotally secured to the main frame and a seat member pivotally secured to the main frame and pivotally secured to the rear legs, a writing arm, a bayonet slot in the main frame, a member mounted on the rear end of the arm and adapted to be releasably secured in the bayonet slot, a front corner of the seat member having a vertically disposed hole therein, a supporting arm pivotally secured to the front lower surface of the writing arm, and having its lower end shaped to fit into the hole in the seat, the support which is pivotally secured to the lower surface of the front portion of the writing arm comprising upper and lower portions pivotally secured together and a slidable cuff member disposed on said support for sliding over the pivotal point connecting the upper and lower portions of the support for holding the upper and lower portions of the support in aligned position.

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