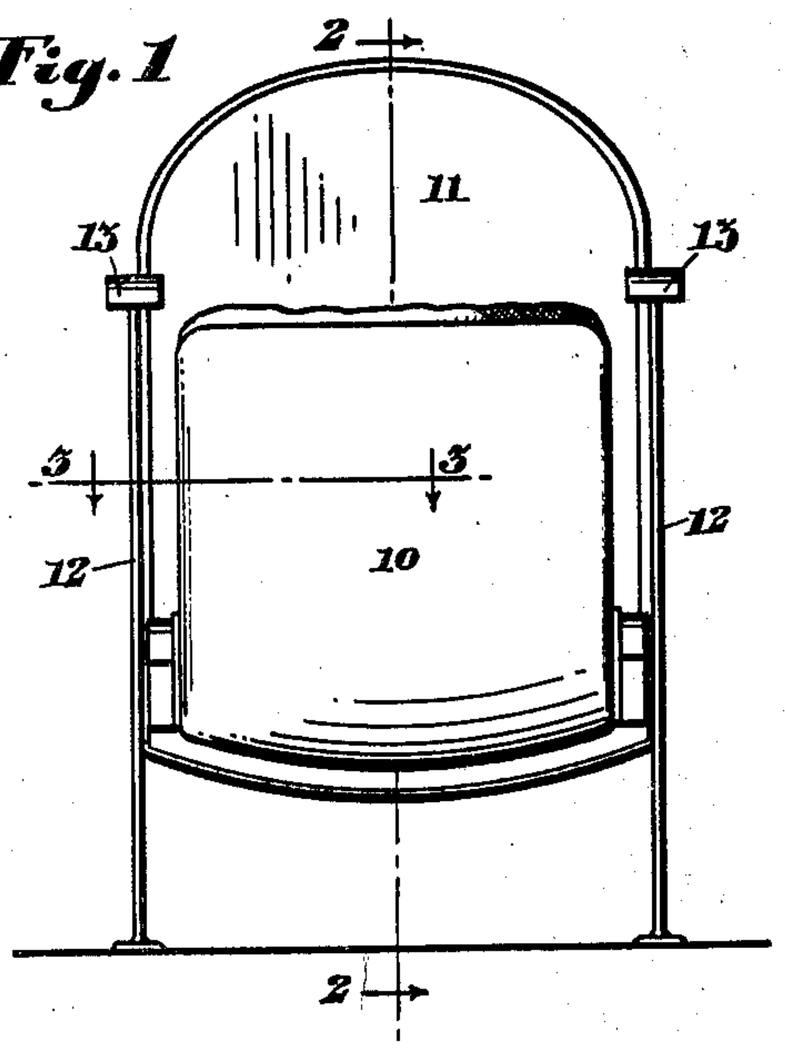
March 7, 1944. S. J. GEDRIS 2,343,505

CHAIR

Original Filed Nov. 30, 1940

Fig. 1



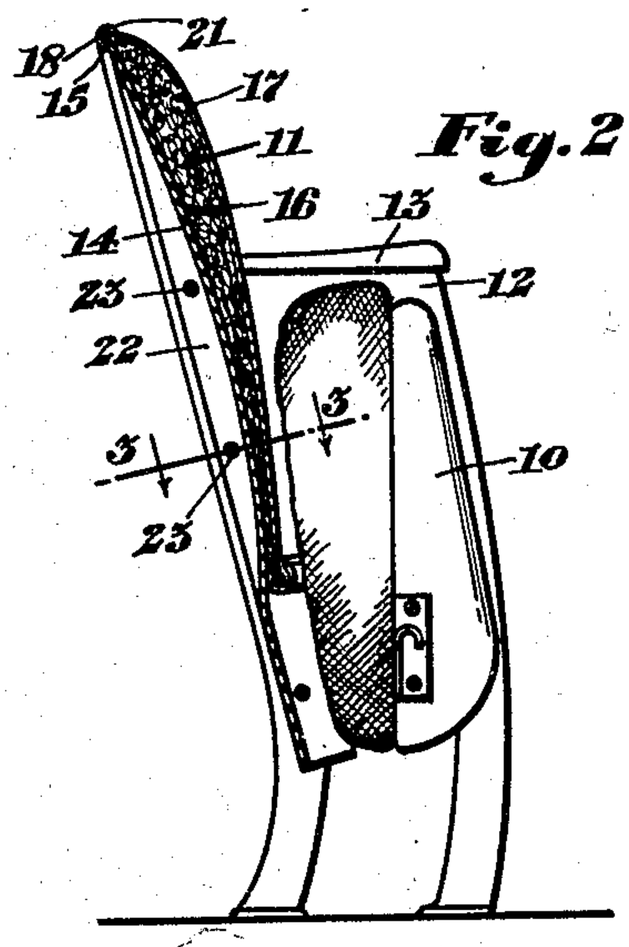


Fig. 2

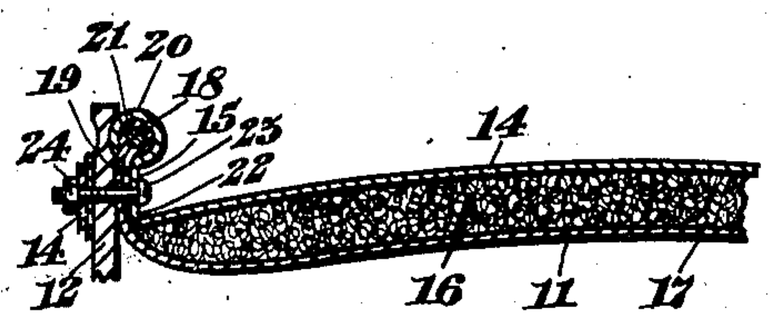


Fig. 3

Fig. 7

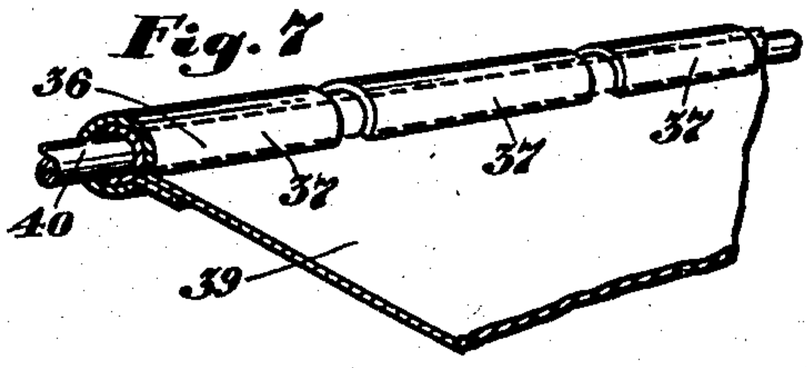


Fig. 4

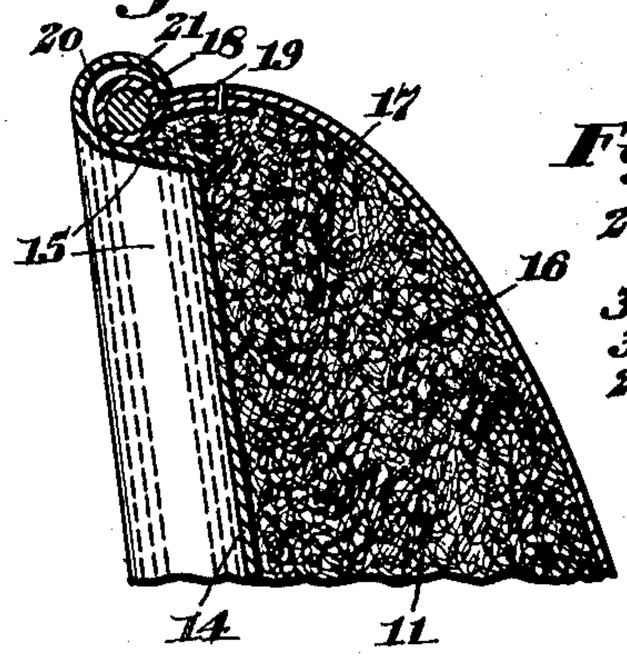


Fig. 5

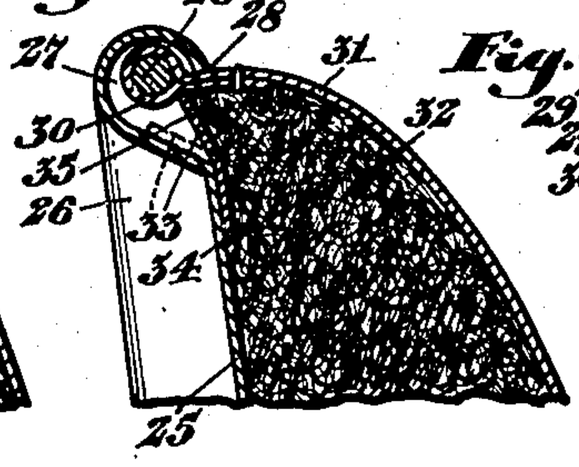


Fig. 8

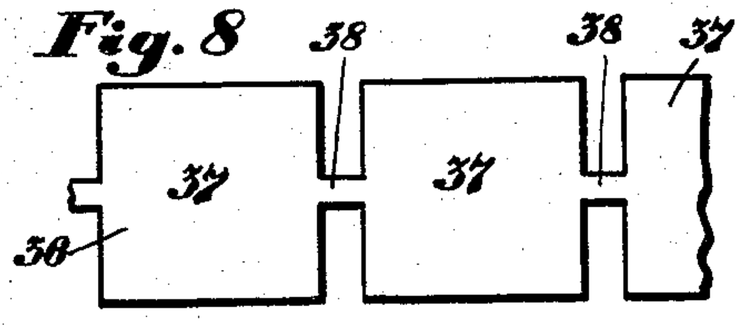
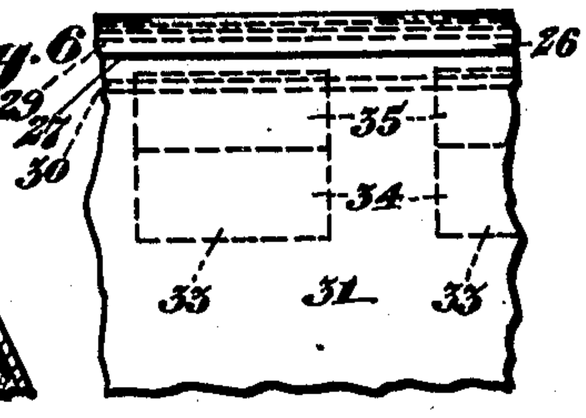


Fig. 6



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2,343,505

CHAIR

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Original application November 30, 1940, Serial No. 367,903. Divided and this application October 25, 1941, Serial No. 416,477

6 Claims. (Cl. 155—184)

The present invention relates to chairs and more particularly to chairs of the theater type such as are installed in rows in motion picture houses, opera houses, auditoriums and the like.

The primary objects of the invention are to provide a theater chair having improved means for attaching upholstering material to the chair back and for mounting the chair back on its supporting standards; and in general to provide such an improved theater chair which is convenient in assembly, economical in manufacture, and attractive in appearance. This is a divisional application carved out of my co-pending application Serial No. 367,903, filed on November 30, 1940, which issued as Patent No. 2,305,074 on Dec. 15, 1942.

Illustrative embodiments of the invention are shown in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a front elevational view of a theater chair, the seat thereof being shown in a raised position of non-use;

Figure 2 is a view thereof shown partially in section taken on line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view thereof taken on lines 3—3 of Figures 1 and 2;

Figure 4 is an enlarged central vertical sectional view through the top portion of the chair back;

Figure 5 is a sectional view similar to Figure 4 but showing a modified construction of the chair back;

Figure 6 is a fragmentary front elevational view of the modified form of a chair back shown in Figure 5;

Figure 7 is a fragmentary perspective view of securing means for attaching the marginal edge of chair back upholstery material to a peripheral rod; and

Figure 8 is a fragmentary plan view of the securing means shown in Figure 7 prior to its application to the upholstery material.

Referring now in detail to this drawing wherein like parts are designated by the same numerals in the several views, the theater type chair there shown comprises a chair seat generally designated 10 and a chair back generally designated 11 independently mounted between and supported by a pair of horizontally spaced vertically disposed chair supporting standards 12 having arm rests 13 secured thereto. Such chairs are conventionally installed in rows, each standard 12 serving as a support for the two chairs on opposite sides thereof.

The chair back as shown in Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4 comprises a horizontally rearwardly bowed and vertically forwardly bowed metal back plate 14 having a continuous rearwardly extending flange 15 at the top and sides thereof. Padding 16 of cushioning material such as cotton, hair or sponge rubber is disposed over the front surface of the back plate 14 and an upholstery sheet 17 of suitable material such as fabric or leather covers the padding 16. An elongated semi-rigid member such as the rod or wire 18 is secured as by stitching 19 within the continuous hem 20 at the top and side margins of the upholstery sheet 17, and the continuous rearwardly extending flange 15 on the back plate 14 is curled outwardly, forwardly and then inwardly to form a pocket 21 embracing and firmly retaining therein the rod 18 and the hem 20 at the top and side margins of the upholstery sheet 17 (see Figure 4).

The relatively wide side portions 22 of the rearwardly extending flange 15 on the back plate 14 are secured to the supporting standards 12 as by means of bolts 23 extending through the side portions 22 of flanges 15 on adjacent chair back plates 14 and through the supporting standard 12 therebetween and provided with nuts 24. The chair back 11 as thus constructed possesses sufficient flexibility to adapt itself to the angularly positioned standards in a curved row of chairs.

Figures 5 and 6 illustrate a modification of the means for securing the upholstery sheet to the back plate. In these views, the back plate 25 is provided at the top and sides thereof with a continuous rearwardly extending flange 26 which is curled outwardly, forwardly and then inwardly prior to the assembly of the chair back to form a pocket 27 having a forward opening 28 of sufficient width to permit insertion therein of a rod 29 and the hem 30 of an upholstery sheet 31 covering the padding 32. In this instance, a plurality of spaced clips 33 are provided, each having a portion 34 secured to the back plate 25 and a springable portion 35 extending into the pocket 27. These springable portions 35 of the clips 33 normally press forwardly and upwardly toward the inwardly curled portion of the flange 26. It will be seen that the springable portions 35 of the clips 33 will yield to the position indicated in dotted lines in Figure 5 when the rod 29 and hem 30 of the upholstery sheet 31 are inserted into the pocket 27, but after such insertion, these springable portions 35 of clips 33 spring forwardly and upwardly to securely retain the rod 29 and the hem 30 of the upholstery sheet 31 within the pocket 27.

Figures 7 and 8 disclose modified means for securing a flexible sheet like the upholstery sheet of the chair back previously described, to the rod within the marginal edge of the sheet to eliminate stitching of the sheet. A thin sheet metal strip **36** is formed with wide portions **37** and narrow connecting portions **38** as shown in Figure 8. The marginal edge of the flexible upholstery sheet **39** is folded over the rod **40**, and the wide portions **37** of the metal strip **36** are then independently curled around both the flexible sheet and the rod thus gripping the sheet between the metal strip **36** and the rod **40**.

While but several specific embodiments of the invention have been herein shown and described, it will be understood that certain details thereof may be altered or omitted without departing from the spirit of the invention as the same is defined by the following claims:

I claim:

1. In a chair structure of the class described, a pair of horizontally spaced vertically disposed chair supporting standards, a chair back supported by said standards and comprising a back plate provided with a continuous flange at the top and sides thereof extending rearwardly and then curled outwardly, forwardly and inwardly to form a pocket, a plurality of clips each having a portion secured to the back plate and a springable portion extending into said pocket and normally pressing forwardly-upwardly toward the inwardly curled portion of said flange, padding over the back plate, an upholstery sheet covering the padding, a rod secured within a continuous hem at the top and side margins of the upholstery sheet, said rod and the hem of the upholstery sheet being inserted within the pocket in the back plate, the springable portions of said clips yielding to permit the insertion of the rod and the hem of the upholstery sheet into the pocket and springing forwardly-upwardly to retain the rod and the hem of the upholstery sheet within the pocket after such insertion.

2. In combination, a sheet of covering material having an enlarged bead at its periphery, a body having a peripheral channel to receive said bead, said channel being larger in cross section than said bead and having a restricted entrance throat at least as wide as the diameter of said bead and a plurality of clips attached to said body and having flexible portions located within said channel and engageable with the inner edge of said bead when said bead is inserted into said channel.

3. A sheet of covering material having an enlarged bead at its periphery, a body having a peripheral channel formed therein to receive said bead, said channel having a continuous entrance throat, a portion of said body being turned inwardly to restrict the width of said entrance throat, a plurality of clips attached to said body at said entrance throat opposite said inturned portion and having flexible portions extending into said body and engageable with the inner edge of said bead when the bead is inserted into said channel.

4. The combination of elements defined in claim 3, combined with resilient padding material inserted between said body and said covering material, said beading being yieldable to permit insertion of said bead into said channel and resilient to retain said bead in contact with said clips.

5. In combination, a plate provided with a continuous flange at its periphery extending rearwardly and then curled outwardly, forwardly and inwardly to form a channel having a continuous restricted throat, a plurality of clips each having a portion secured to the plate and a flexible portion extending inwardly into said channel and normally pressing toward the inwardly curled portion of the flange, an upholstery sheet covering the plate, an enlarged bead formed at the periphery of said sheet, said bead being inserted into said channel, the flexible portions of said clips engaging the inner edge of said bead.

6. The elements in combination of claim 5 in which said bead comprises a rod confined within a hem at the periphery of said upholstery sheet.

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