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PATENT SPECIFICATION

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PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in Resilient Surfaces for Seats, Cushions and Upholstery.

I, ARTHUR ERNEST WEBER, of Dalmain Road School, Forest Hill, London, S.E. 23, a British Subject, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

This invention relates to the construction of seats, cushions and upholstery according to the invention I mould to any desired shape or form, hair or fibre, (such as horse or pigs' hair, coconut fibre, kapoc or any other similar material) by sticking the strands or fibres of the material together at the points where they cross or touch each other with rubber or other adhesives which remain flexible on drying. They thus retain air spaces between them, as in ordinary horsehair, etc., but are located in position by the method described, and retain their moulded shape even without the assistance of covering material, which however can be provided if desired.

Dated the 24th day of September, 1929.

ARTHUR ERNEST WEBER.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in Resilient Surfaces for Seats, Cushions and Upholstery.

I, ARTHUR ERNEST WEBER, of Dalmain Road School, Forest Hill, London, S.E.23, British Subject, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to upholstery stuffing materials for imparting resilient surfaces to seats, cushions and other upholstered objects and articles of upholstery including mattresses.

It has already been proposed for various purposes to impregnate animal and vegetable upholstery fibres with adhesives including rubber and rubber latex.

The object of the present invention, however, is to enable definite inherent shapes to be imparted to pads of upholstery stuffing materials and, incidentally, to enable a minimum quantity of such stuffing material to be employed to obtain a maximum distending effect.

For the above purpose, a mass of intermingled ordinary upholstery stuffing fibres, such as for instance horsehair, pigs' hair or the substitutes therefor such as, for example, algerian grass or coconut fibre, is wetted with a flexible adhesive, and according to the present invention, is in an expanded condition confined approximately without compression in a mould of the desired shape and dried. The result is an open mass of upholstery stuffing capable of resiliently yielding under compression yet permanently tending to retain or acquire the shape imparted thereto by the mould. Thus with a quantity of upholstery stuffing material normally sufficient in the unconfined, i.e. loose condition to occupy the volume of the space to be stuffed, such space can be permanently stuffed, without, as is usual, packing into the space several times the quantity of stuffing in a compacted condition.

The adhesive, by wetting the individual fibres more or less removes from such fibres any tendency to assume fresh configurations so that on the fibres drying they are set in the configurations which they have individually assumed by confinement of the mass in the mould. Moreover the adhesive when dry itself forms a flexible sheath or coating on, and conforming to the acquired configuration of each fibre, which sheath also tends when distorted to return to such acquired configuration. These effects are additional to the mere adherent interconnection of the fibres, in causing the pad constantly to tend to retain its moulded shape.

Any adhesive which, in the small quantities employed, is flexible when dry and

be used, such as, for instance, india rubber solution, partly coagulated rubber latex, gutta-percha, glue and the like.

When rubber in any suitable form is employed it may be vulcanised at a temperature non-injurious to the fibre.

It is obvious that mixed fibres may be employed, either homogeneously mixed or in layers of different fibres. For example, the outer or upper layer of the pad may be of horsehair, whereas the middle or lower portion may be of a horsehair substitute.

A representative example of a pad for distending the arm of a motor car seat is illustrated on the accompanying drawing. From this drawing it can be seen that a loose mass of horsehair acquires a sharply defined shape, which it can retain.

The dried pad is covered with or enclosed in and distends a fabric covering as usual.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. An upholstery pad consisting of a dry moulded loose mass of intermingled upholstery fibres, such as horsehair, pigs' hair, algerian grass, coconut fibre or the like approximately in its normally expanded condition incorporated with a flexible adhesive, preferably rubber latex.

2. A method of producing an upholstery pad, comprising wetting with flexible adhesive, perferably rubber latex, a loose mass of intermingled upholstery fibres, such as horsehair, pigs' hair, algerian grass, coconut fibre or the like, in which such wetted mass is confined and dried, approximately without compression in a mould.

3. The improved resilient upholstery pad substantially as described.

Dated this 6th day of February, 1930.

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[Wt. 8002A.—125/8/1934.]

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It is obvious that mixed fibres may be employed, either homogeneously mixed or in layers of different fibres. For example, the outer or upper layer of the pad may be of horsehair, whereas the middle or lower portion may be of a horsehair substitute.

A representative example of a pad for distending the arm of a motor car seat is illustrated on the accompanying drawing. From this drawing it can be seen that a loose mass of horsehair acquires a sharply defined shape, which it can retain.

The dried pad is covered with or enclosed in and distended by fabric covering as usual.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. An upholstery pad consisting of a dry moulded loose mass of intermingled upholstery fibres, such as horsehair, pigs' hair, algerian grass, coconut fibre or the like approximately in its normally expanded condition incorporated with a flexible adhesive, preferably rubber latex.

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