D. T. ABERCROMBIE.

PACK CARRIER.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 4, 1916.

1,217,262. Patented Feb. 27, 1917.

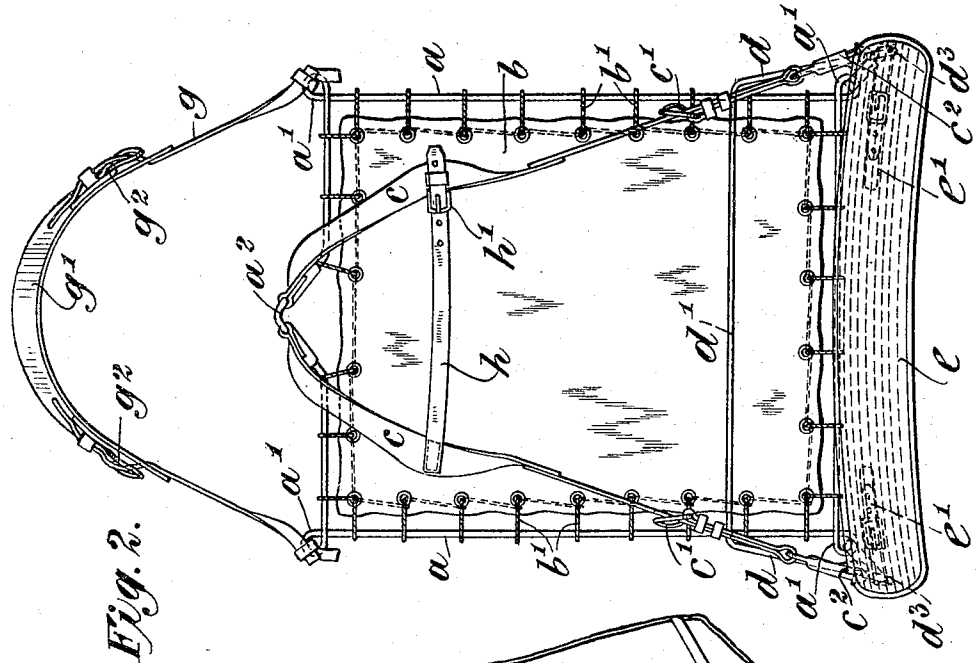

Fig. 2.

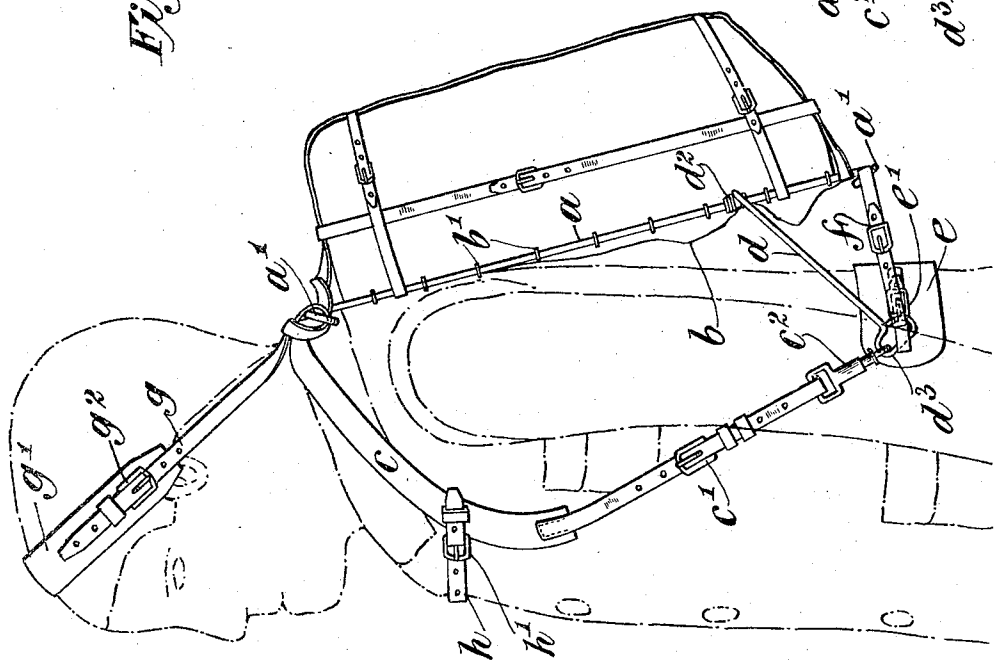

Fig. 1.

WITNESS

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PACK-CARRIER.

1,217,262. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 27, 1917.

Application filed January 4, 1916. Serial No. 70,108.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID T. ABERCROMBIE, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Newark, county of Essex, in the State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pack-Carriers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

The object of this invention is to provide an improved pack-carrier for the use of prospectors, hunters, etc., by which the load shall be kept out of contact with the back of the user, thereby permitting free circulation of air between the load and the back, whereby the load shall be carried at such an angle with respect to the body of the user that its center of gravity shall have a substantially fixed relationship with respect to the vertical axis of support of the body in different positions, whereby the weight of the load may be distributed properly between the shoulders and the hips and, if desired, the head also, and whereby loads of irregular contour may be carried without distress to the user. The improved pack-carrier comprises a rigid frame to which the load may be secured, and means by which the carrier is held to the shoulders at its upper end and by which a portion of the weight is transmitted to the shoulders, and thrust rods with a saddle-web by which the lower end of the carrier is held away from the back of the user and a portion of the weight of the load is transmitted to the hips. There may also be added, if desired, a tump strap by which a portion of the weight of the load may be transmitted to the head of the user, as well as a breast strap. The invention will be more fully explained hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawing in which it is illustrated and in which,—

Figure 1 is a view of the improved carrier in side elevation, the body of the user being indicated by broken lines.

Fig. 2 is a view of the carrier in elevation as seen from the left hand in Fig. 1 but removed from the body of the user.

The rigid frame a, which forms a part of the improved carrier, may be of any suitable shape and size and of any suitable material. Preferably it is substantially rectangular and is formed of a light steel rod, which may be looped at the corners, as at a', for the convenient attachment of certain straps to be referred to. The upper bar of this frame may be bent upward at its middle portion, as indicated at a^2, for the convenient attachment of the shoulder straps. The frame is preferably provided with a flexible filler b, which may be of any suitable material, such as a piece of light canvas, secured to the frame by lacing b', such flexible filler conforming somewhat at its upper portion to the shoulders of the user and also furnishing a support for the load should it be narrower or shorter than the frame.

To the upper bar of the frame, as to the upwardly bent portion a^2, are secured in any suitable manner the ends of two shoulder straps c which, for purposes of adjustment are provided with strap and buckle portions c', and at their lower ends are provided with suitable means, such as ordinary snap hooks c^2 to engage other devices to be mentioned.

At the sides of the frame a, near the lower ends, are pivotally secured thrust rods d, the two thrust rods d being preferably united by a transverse rod d' so that the three parts form something like a bail which may be secured to the frame to permit relative swinging movement by wire bearings, one of which is indicated at d^2 in Fig. 1. Each arm or thrust rod d is provided at its free end with a loop or eye d^3 which serves for engagement with the shoulder straps c through the snap hooks c^2, with a saddle-web e, through short adjustable straps e', and with adjustable limiting straps f, which are secured to the frame at its lower corners.

It will be observed that when the carrier is in position the thrust rods d, which are hingedly secured to the frame at points above the lower end, are held from swinging upward too far by the limiting straps f and serve to transmit a portion of the weight of the load to the hips of the user through a saddle-web e which bears across the back of the user just above the hips. A portion of the weight of the load is thus transmitted through a diagonal component to the hips of the user, where the greatest portion of the load can be borne most easily and with least inconvenience to the user. Moreover, while a portion of the weight of the load may be transmitted through the shoulder straps c to the upper, forward portions of the shoulders of the user, the shoulder straps serve partly to hold the load in position,

while a portion of the weight of the load, by reason of the inclination at which it is supported, is transmitted directly to the back of the shoulders of the user.

If it is desired to take weight still further from the shoulders by transmitting a portion to the head of the user, this may be accomplished by a tump strap g secured to the loops a' at the upper corners of the frame a and provided with a head strap g' and suitable adjusting devices, such as ordinary buckles, as at g^2.

For those who desire to use it a breast strap h provided with a buckle h' may be secured to the forward portions of the shoulder straps c.

The mode of use of the improved carrier, as well as its advantages in use, will be readily understood without further explanation. It will also be understood that changes may be made in the details of construction to suit different conditions of use or convenience in manufacture without departing from the spirit of the invention, and that the invention is not limited to the precise construction shown and described herein.

I claim as my invention:

1. A pack-carrier comprising a rigid back frame, means to hold the upper end thereof to the shoulders of the user, a saddle-web to bear across the hips of the user, and thrust rods hingedly secured to the back frame near its lower end and hingedly connected to the saddle-web.

2. A pack-carrier comprising a rigid back frame, means to hold the upper end thereof to the shoulders of the user, a saddle-web to bear across the hips of the user, thrust rods hingedly secured to the back frame near its lower end and connected hingedly to the saddle-web, and means to limit the swinging movement of the thrust rods.

This specification signed this 31st day of December A. D. 1915.

DAVID T. ABERCROMBIE.