

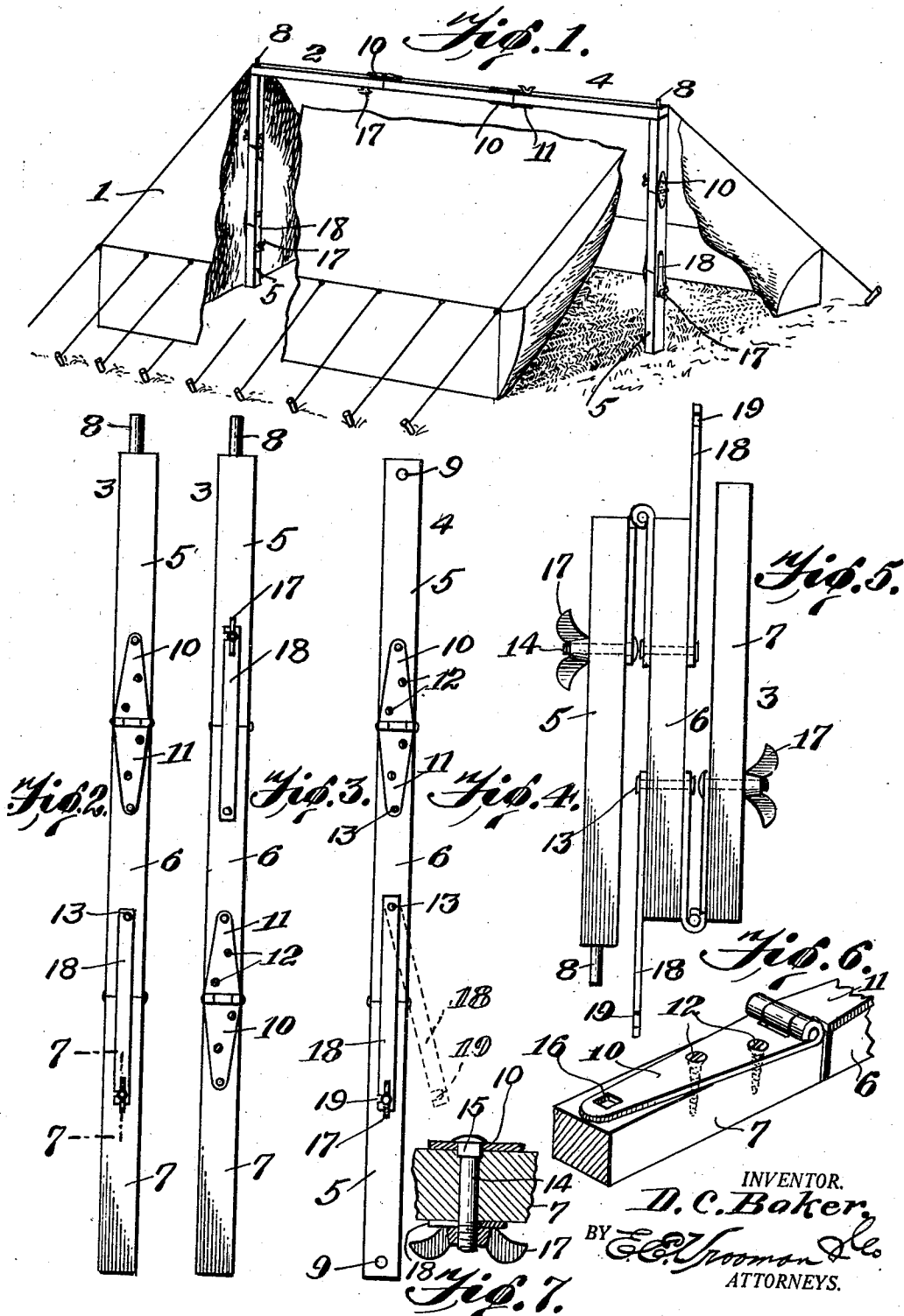
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FOLDABLE OR COLLAPSIBLE TENT POLE

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FOLDABLE OR COLLAPSIBLE TENT POLE

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This invention relates to a tent frame structure and more particularly to a foldable or collapsible tent pole. It is to be understood that I use the term "pole" in a broad sense, designating either the ridge pole or the up-
rights constituting the frame.

The object of my invention is the provision of simple and efficient means for hingedly connecting the sections of a unit, whether it be the ridge pole or the uprights, whereby the unit can be held in its operable or extended position, or quickly folded for storage or transportation purposes.

Another object of my invention is the improvement of the hinged structure and its co-operating elements in a collapsible or foldable sectional tent frame unit.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, my invention comprises certain novel constructions, combinations and arrangements of parts as will be hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and more particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a tent, showing the frame structure or support, constructed in accordance with the present invention, the tent being partly broken away.

Figure 2 is a view in side elevation of one of my uprights, while

Figure 3 is a similar view looking at the opposite side thereof.

Figure 4 is a top plan view of the ridge pole.

Figure 5 is a view in side elevation of one of the uprights in a collapsed or folded position.

Figure 6 is an enlarged fragmentary, perspective view of one of the units, showing particularly part of a hinge.

Figure 7 is an enlarged, sectional view taken on line 7-7, Figure 2.

Referring to the drawings by numerals, 1 designates the tent which is supported upon the frame structure 2 constituted by the two uprights or vertical poles 3 and the ridge pole 4.

Each of the units of the frame 2, whether it be one of the uprights 3 or the ridge pole 4

comprises three sections 5, 6 and 7. The difference between the uprights 3 and the ridge pole 4 is that said uprights are provided with the upstanding pins 8 that are positioned in the vertical apertures 9 of the ridge pole 4.

Each of the foldable or collapsible units have two hinges, connecting the three sections thereof. Each hinge comprises an outer leaf 10 and an inner leaf 11. These leaves are partly fastened to the sections by screws 12, and are fully fastened by rivets 13 (extending through leaves 11) and bolts 14. The bolts 14 (Fig. 7) have their squared portion 15 set in a square aperture 16 (Fig. 6), and extend down into wood section 7, whereby the bolt is kept from turning, when nut 17 is tightened, thereby making a very efficient connection. On each rivet 13 is a latch 18. This latch is provided with a notch 19 adapted to receive bolt 14 and permit the nut 17 to tightly clamp it when said nut is screwed tightly, for locking the parts in their assembled or open position, as shown in Figures 1 to 4.

It will, therefore, be understood that each two contiguous sections of each unit is hingedly connected with a latch spanning the contiguous or abutting ends when the sections are in their expanded or open position. Further, it is to be understood that the rivets 13 of each hinge partly fastens the hinge to a section, as well as constituting the retaining and pivotally-supporting means for the latch 18. Further, each hinge has its bolt fastening means 14, which is efficiently assembled with the hinge and section, in the manner specified, and is efficient in practical operation.

By reversing the position of the two hinges on each unit, the three sections of the unit are folded parallel together in a relatively small space, as shown in Figure 5, for facilitating storage, or transportation.

While I have described the preferred embodiment of my invention and illustrated the same in the accompanying drawings, certain minor changes or alterations may appear to one skilled in the art to which this invention relates, during the extensive manufacture of

the same, and I, therefore, reserve the right to make such alterations or changes as shall fairly fall within the scope of the appended claim.

5 What I claim is:

As a new article of manufacture, a foldable tent pole, comprising a series of aligned sections normally adapted to have their contiguous ends in an abutting position, hinges on
10 opposite sides of said sections, and extending across the abutting ends of said sections, each hinge provided at one end with a rivet extending through a section and at its other end with a square aperture, a bolt provided
15 with an outer threaded end and with a squared portion, said bolt extending through said square aperture and the section, said squared portion in said square aperture and also partly extending into said section under
20 said hinge, a long latch pivotally mounted at its inner end on said rivet, said latch provided in its outer end with a notch straddling the threaded end of said bolt, a nut on said threaded end for tightening against said
25 notched end of said latch, and screws extending through said hinge into said sections between said rivet and bolt, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my
30 signature.

DANIEL C. BAKER.

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