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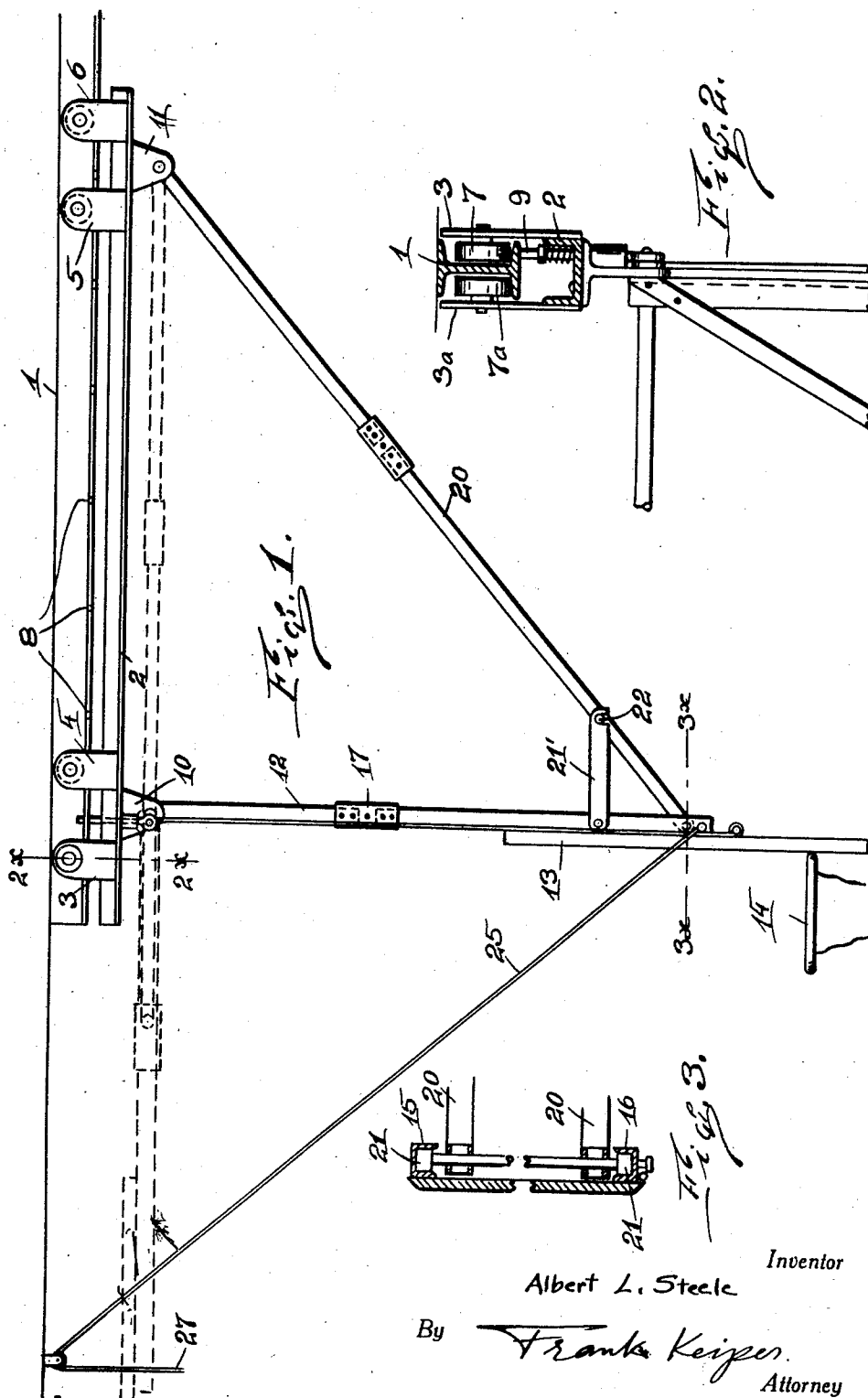
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Original Filed May 3, 1928

3 Sheets-Sheet 1



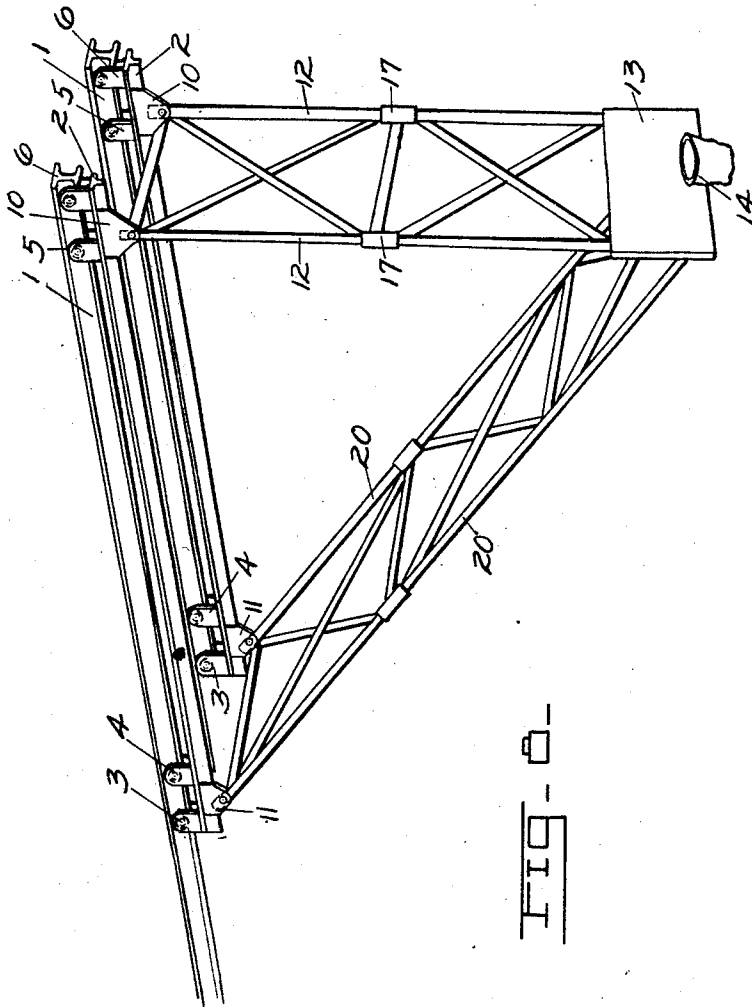
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OVERHEAD SUPPORT FOR BASKETS USED IN GAME OF BASKETBALL

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The object of this invention is to provide an overhead support for the bank board and basket that is used in the game of basketball, which support is adjustable forward and back and up and down and is collapsible, in that it can be folded up out of the way.

This and other objects of the invention will be illustrated in the drawings, described in the specification, and pointed out in the claims at the end thereof.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved support.

Figure 2 is a vertical section on the line 2^x, 2^x of Figure 1 partly broken away.

Figure 3 is a horizontal section on the line 3^x, 3^x of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a side elevation of a fixed support for the bank board and basket, to be used in connection with a movable support, at the opposite end of the court therefrom.

Figure 5 is a side elevation of a modified form of the support shown in Figure 1.

Figure 6 is a front elevation of the support shown in Figure 5, Figure 5 being viewed from the left.

Figure 7 is a bottom plan view of a portion of the folding brace.

Figure 8 is a skeleton perspective view of the assembly of the carriage and the support.

In the drawings like reference numerals indicate like parts.

In the drawings reference numeral 1 indicates a track supported overhead by any suitable manner, which track is preferably of the shape of an I beam. Two of these tracks are used. Mounted to travel under these tracks is a carriage 2, which carriage is made preferably of a channel or angle shaped bar, the parts 1 and 2 being shown in section in Figure 2. To this carriage are fastened brackets 3, 4, 5 and 6 as shown at the top of Figure 1, with corresponding brackets 3^a, etc., on the opposite side of the carriage 2 and the track 1, as shown in cross section in Figure 2. Each of these brackets carries a roller 7 which engages with the lower flanges of both of the I beams 1, by which the carriage is supported therefrom and on which it is adapted to travel. The lower flange of the I beam is

perforated with holes as indicated at 8, 8 etc. spaced suitably apart. The carriage is provided with a spring pressed pin 9 which is adapted to engage one of these holes and lock the carriage adjustably in place on the I beam. This adjustment of the carriage is provided so that the carriage may be set forward or back. This carriage carries a bank board and a basket. One of these baskets is provided at each end of the basketball court and it is desired to have these baskets spaced apart a distance of 70 to 90 feet, and it is therefore desirable to make one of them adjustable forward and back so as to get the correct distance between the baskets.

At each end of the carriage is provided the T shaped hangers 10 and 11. From the hanger 10 is pivotally suspended the vertical frame work 12, on which is carried the bank board 13, which in turn supports the basket 14. This framework 12 is made of two channel irons 15 and 16, one on each side of the frame, which are shown in cross section in Figure 3. These channel irons do not run continuously the whole length of the frame but each side comprises two sections of channel iron which are joined together by the yoke 17, which is made as a short channel of larger size that embraces the two sections of angle iron placed end to end. Perforations are provided in the short channel 17 and in the ends of the two longer sections, which permit the longer sections to be brought together or spaced apart a suitable distance, so as to place the baskets 14 at the proper elevation above the floor.

A diagonal brace 20 is provided pivoted at the top to the T shaped hanger 11. This brace 20 is a frame and at its lower end is provided with a spindle having rollers 21, 21 thereon which engage with the channels 15 and 16. These rollers can travel up or down in these channels. On the upright frame 12 are provided latches 21' which engage pins 22 on the diagonal brace 20. These latches serve to lock the upright frame and the diagonal brace 20 in relation to each other, as shown in Figure 1.

To the lower end of the frame 12 a cable 25 is fastened, which cable passes up over a pul-

ley 26 and then passes down as shown at 27, so that it can be fastened to a winch or windlass by which the cable may be drawn for the purpose of swinging the frame 12 to the left, as shown in Figure 1, carrying all the swinging parts up to the ceiling and out of the way.

In Figure 4 I have shown the stationary support for a basket which would be used with the swinging support shown in Figure 1. The stationary support is placed at one end of the room and the swinging adjustable support at the other end of the room, although it will be understood that adjustable supports may be used at both ends of the room. In Figure 4 reference numeral 30 indicates a bracket which is fastened to the overhead timbers. From this depends the frame 31, similar to that shown in Figure 3, having an adjusting member 32 therein, similar to the part 17. On the lower end is provided the bank board 33 and the basket 34. Back of the frame 31 is provided a bracket 35 which connects the lower part of the frame 31 to the end wall and rigidly supports it with reference thereto.

In Figure 5 I have shown a modified form of the support shown in Figure 1. In this figure reference numeral 41 indicates the track and 42 indicates the carriage on which the support is mounted. 43 indicates the upright frame having the bank board 13 and basket 14 on the bottom thereof, all of which are supported from the carriage 42 by the T shaped hanger 10. At the other end of the carriage is provided the T shaped hanger 11, from which is supported the jointed frame 44 which is connected to the upright frame 43 at the bracket 45. This jointed frame 44 serves as a diagonal brace. A cable 46 is connected to the bracket 45 on the upright frame 43 and passes up over the pulley 47 and down thereon, so that the frame 43 can be swung up and to the right. This cable 46 passes under a bracket 49 which extends down from the jointed frame 44 at the middle thereof, so that when the cable 46 is pulled the jointed frame 44 will be swung up in the middle, breaking the frame at the joint thereof, so that the two sections of the frame 44 and the upright frame 43 will all fold together and collapse against the ceiling or against the horizontal members that support the apparatus. The bracket 49 is provided with a roller with which the cable makes contact as it passes under it and raises it.

A latch 50 is provided locking the upright frame 43 and the diagonal brace 44 with reference to each other when the parts are in the position shown in Figure 5. It will also be understood that the pivot on which the diagonal brace 44 breaks in the middle is adjustable to lengthen or shorten the frame, as is shown by the pin holes provided in one of the members, as

indicated at 48. The upright frame 43 can be lengthened or shortened and for this purpose a coupling channel or angle 51 is provided therein, to which the upper and lower sections of each side bar can be connected at different intervals, so as to lengthen or shorten the frame as may be desired. In this way both the upright frame and the diagonal brace are adjustable in length so that they will properly coordinate with each other to hold the basket 14 at the correct elevation, and to hold the upright frame 43 and the bank board 13 in the correct upright position.

I claim:

1. A bank board and basket support comprising overhead rails, an elongated carriage movably supported from said rails, said carriage having a bank board and basket thereon, said rails having perforations therein, a pin carried on the carriage adapted to engage the perforations in said rail to lock the carriage adjustably in place thereon.

2. A bank board and basket support comprising overhead rails, an elongated carriage supported from said rails and adjustable longitudinally thereon, an upright frame depending from the forward end of said carriage, an upright bank board carried on said frame, a ring extending forward from said bank board, a basket supported by said ring.

3. A bank board and basket support comprising overhead rails, an elongated carriage supported from said rails, and adjustable longitudinally thereon, an upright frame depending from the forward end of said carriage, said frame having a bank board and a basket thereon, a brace extending from the lower end of the upright frame to the rear end of the carriage.

4. A bank board and basket support comprising overhead rails, an elongated carriage supported from said rails, and adjustable longitudinally thereon, an upright frame depending from the forward end of said carriage, said frame having a bank board and a basket thereon, a brace extending from the lower end of the upright frame to the rear end of the carriage, both the frame and the brace being adjustable lengthwise.

5. A bank board and basket support comprising overhead rails, an elongated carriage supported from said rails and adjustable longitudinally thereon, an upright frame depending from the forward end of said carriage, said frame having a bank board and a basket thereon, a brace extending from the lower end of the upright frame to the rear of the carriage, a latch supported on the frame and adapted to engage the brace to hold the frame and brace in fixed relation to each other.

6. A bank board and basket support comprising overhead rails, an elongated carriage

supported from said rails and adjustable longitudinally thereon, an upright frame depending from the forward end of said carriage, said frame having a bank board and a basket thereon, a brace extending from the lower end of the upright frame to the rear end of the carriage, said brace having a traveling engagement with the frame that permits both the frame and the brace to be swung up to horizontal position parallel with the carriage.

7. A bank board and basket support comprising overhead rails, an elongated carriage supported from said rails and adjustable longitudinally thereon, an upright frame depending from the forward end of said carriage, said frame having a bank board and a basket thereon, said upright frame having channel bars on each side thereof, a brace extending from the lower end of the upright frame to the rear end of the carriage, a shaft on the lower end of the brace, said shaft making traveling engagement with the channel bars of the upright frame.

8. A bank board and basket support comprising overhead rails, an elongated carriage supported from said rails and adjustable longitudinally thereon, an upright frame depending from the forward end of said carriage, said frame having a bank board and a basket thereon, said upright frame having two channel bars on each side thereof, the two channel bars on each side being placed end to end, a coupling channel connecting the two channel bars by which they are held together or adjustably spaced apart.

9. An adjustable basket and bank board support comprising fixed overhead guide rails, an elongated roller suspended frame work adapted to move back and forth on said guide rails, an upright frame suspended from said roller suspended frame work and means for locking said roller suspended frame work in place on said guide rails.

10. An adjustable basket and bank board support comprising fixed overhead guide rails, an elongated roller suspended frame work adapted to move back and forth on said guide rails, an upright frame suspended from said roller suspended frame work and means for locking said roller suspended frame work in place on said guide rails, and means for holding said frame in a vertical position and means for holding it in a horizontal position.

11. A combination of a bank board and a basket for the game of basket ball of an overhead support therefor, adjustable means connecting the overhead support with the basket and board and adapted to support the board firmly in an upright position, at a suitable height above the floor with the basket in place thereon for the purpose of playing the game of basket ball, said supporting means and bank board being adapted to be folded up out of the road against the overhead sup-

port, said overhead support comprising a track, an elongated carriage suspended therefrom and being adjustable longitudinally along the track, said board being hung from one end of the carriage and being braced against horizontal movement from the other end of the carriage.

12. A combination of a bank board and a basket for the game of basket ball of an overhead support therefor, adjustable means connecting the overhead support with the basket and board and adapted to support the board firmly in an upright position, at a suitable height above the floor with the basket in place thereon for the purpose of playing the game of basket ball, said supporting means and bank board being adapted to be folded up out of the road against the overhead support, said overhead support comprising a track, an elongated carriage suspended therefrom, said board being hung from one end of the carriage and being braced against horizontal movement from the other end of the carriage, said carriage being adjustable along the track, means for locking it in various positions on the track to vary the position of the bank board and basket lengthwise under the track and thereby change the length of the basket ball court.

13. A bank board and basket supported for the game of basket ball comprising an elongated overhead carriage, a vertically depending frame pivotally mounted at one end of the carriage and supporting the bank board and basket on the lower end thereof, said board being supported in an upright position thereon, a diagonally depending frame pivotally supported at the other end of the carriage and at its lower end attached to the vertically depending frame, said frames being adapted to be folded up out of the road against the overhead carriage.

14. A bank board and basket supported for the game of basketball comprising an elongated overhead carriage, a frame pivotally mounted at one end of the carriage and depending therefrom and supporting the bank board and basket in an upright position thereon, means for bracing said board from the carriage in an upright position, said frame and bracing means being adapted to be folded up out of the road against the overhead carriage.

15. In a suspension of a bank board and a basket for the game of basketball, the combination of an overhead support comprising a pair of overhead rails, a brace supported thereby, connections between the brace and the rails, by which the brace is adapted to swing downwardly from said rails to a diagonal position, a bank board supported on a level with the lower end of said brace and braced thereby, supports connected to said overhead support and fixing the position of said bank board and brace.

16. In a suspension of a bank board and a basket for the game of basketball, the combination of a pair of overhead rails, a brace supported thereby, connections between the brace and the rails, by which the brace is adapted to swing downwardly from said rails to a diagonal position, a bank board supported on a level with the lower end of said brace and braced thereby, supports connected to said rails and fixing the position of said bank board and brace, said connections between the brace and the rails permitting said brace to be fastened at various points along the rails.
17. In a suspension of a bank board and a basket for the game of basketball, the combination of a pair of overhead rails, a brace supported thereby, connections between the brace and the rails, by which the brace is adapted to swing downwardly from said rails to a diagonal position, a bank board supported on a level with the lower end of said brace and braced thereby, auxiliary brace bars connecting between the bank board and the first named brace and adapted to lock the bank board in an upright position.
18. In a suspension of a bank board and a basket for the game of basketball, the combination of a pair of overhead rails, a brace supported thereby, connections between the brace and the rails, by which the brace is adapted to swing downwardly from said rails to a diagonal position, a bank board supported on a level with the lower end of said brace, auxiliary brace bars connecting between the bank board and the first named brace, and adapted to lock the bank board in an upright position, supports connected to said rails and limiting the downward swing of the brace.
19. In a suspension of a bank board and a basket for the game of basketball, the combination of an overhead support, a brace supported thereby, connections between the brace and the overhead support by which the brace is adapted to swing downwardly from said overhead support to a diagonal position, a bank board supported on a level with the lower end of said brace, auxiliary brace bars connecting between the bank board and the first named brace and adapted to lock the bank board and the first named brace in relation to each other.
20. In a suspension of a bank board and a basket for the game of basketball, the combination of an overhead support, a brace supported thereby, connections between the brace and the overhead support by which the brace is adapted to swing downwardly from said overhead support to a diagonal position, a bank board supported on a level with the lower end of said brace, auxiliary brace bars connecting between the bank board and the diagonal braces and forming a triangle therewith and adapted to lock the bank board and the first named braces in relation to each other, the middle line of the bank board being substantially on a line with the lower end of the first named brace and the auxiliary brace bars being attached above the middle line of the bank board on one side of the bank board and the basket being supported on the other side of the bank board below the middle line of the bank board.
21. In a suspension of a bank board and a basket for the game of basketball, the combination of an overhead support, said support comprising a pair of overhead rails extending from beyond one end of the basketball court towards the other end, a brace supported by said overhead support, said brace having a connection with the overhead support by which the brace is adapted to swing downwardly from said support to a diagonal position, a bank board supported from said overhead support, on a level with the lower end of said brace, means connecting the brace and bank board together so that the bank board will be braced thereby.
22. In a suspension of a bank board and a basket for the game of basketball, the combination of an overhead support, said support comprising a pair of overhead rails extending from beyond one end of the basketball court towards the other end, a brace having connections with said overhead support, by which the brace is adapted to swing downwardly from said support to a diagonal position, a bank board supported on a level with the lower end of said brace, means connecting the brace and bank board together so that the bank board will be braced thereby, means by which the upper end of said brace can be fastened at various points along said overhead rails.
23. In a suspension of a bank board and a basket for the game of basketball, the combination of a pair of overhead rails extending from beyond one end of the basketball court toward the other end, a bank board and means by which it is supported from said rails and held in a vertical position, said board and its supporting means being adjustable along the rails to vary the length of the court and being adapted to be swung up toward the rails, to get it out of the road, a basket on one side of said board, a brace on the other side of said board, means by which the brace is supported from the rails, said brace being adapted to swing down to a diagonal position, the bank board being supported on a level with the lower end of said brace and being braced thereby.
- In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
- ALBERT L. STEELE.