May 9, 1961 J. A. COOLEY 2,983,415

BOOK CARRIER

Filed July 16, 1958

Fig.1

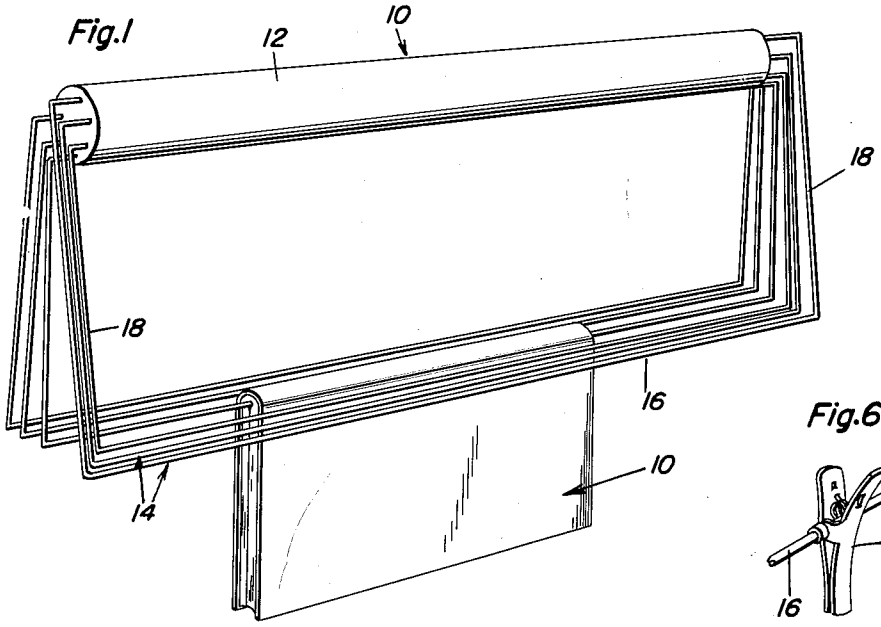


Fig.6

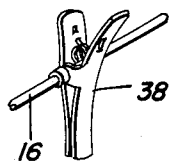


Fig.2

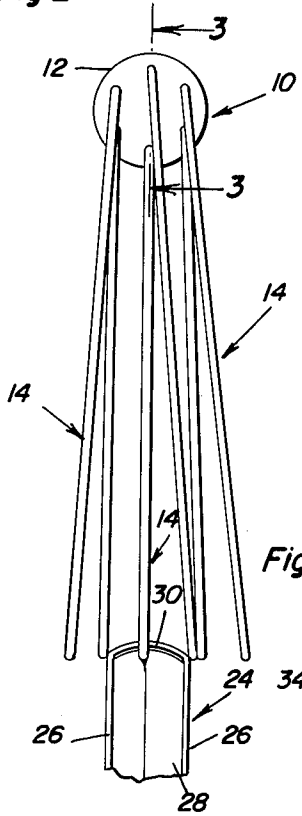


Fig.3

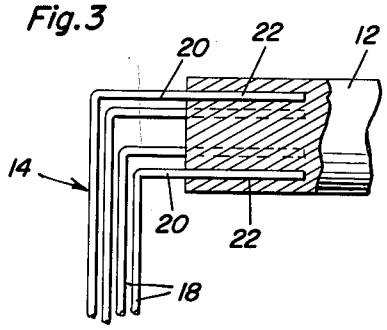


Fig.4

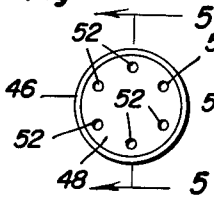


Fig.5

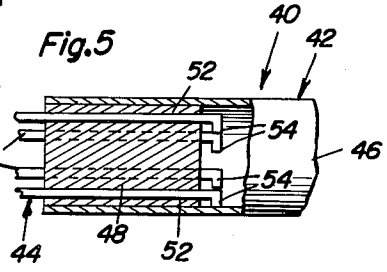
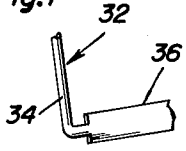


Fig.7



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BOOK CARRIER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 224—45)

This invention relates in general to new and useful improvements in carrying devices, and more specifically to an improved book carrier.

The average student, particularly college students, find it necessary to carry a large number of books. Because of the bulk of the books and their particular shape, it is extremely difficult and uncomfortable to carry a number of such books. Heretofore in order to facilitate the carrying of books, there have been devised carrying devices such as brief cases, straps, etc. However, brief cases are not only expensive, but also bulky and require large storage space. On the other hand, straps are not only time consuming in positioning, but also difficult to securely position on books.

It is therefore the primary object of this invention to provide a bookcarrier which includes a handle which may be readily gripped and a plurality of depending hangers, the hangers being of such a nature that they may be passed through a book between the pages thereof and below the binder so that a book or books may be supported in dependent fashion from one or more of the individual hangers.

Another object of this invention is to provide an improved book carrier, the book carrier including a handle which has depending therefrom a plurality of generally U-shaped hangers, the hangers being so constructed that they are adapted to be slipped between pages of a book so as to support a book with the binding thereof disposed uppermost.

Another object of this invention is to provide an improved book carrier, the book carrier being so constructed that a plurality of books may be simultaneously carried therewith, the book carrier being extremely compact and readily adaptable for storage purposes.

A further object of this invention is to provide an article carrying device, the article carrying device being primarily designed for carrying books and the like, but also being so modified that articles of clothing and the like may be carried simultaneously with the carrying of books.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the book carrier which is the subject of this invention and shows a book positioned on one of the hangers thereof;

Figure 2 is an enlarged fragmentary end view of the book carrier of Figure 1 and shows the relationship of the book with respect to its respective hanger;

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical longitudinal sectional view taken substantially upon the plane indicated by the section line 3—3 of Figure 2 and shows one manner in which the individual hangers may be attached to the handle of the book carrier;

Figure 4 is an end view of a modified form of handle, the view being on an enlarged scale;

Figure 5 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical longitudinal sectional view taken through one end of the handle of Figure 4 along the plane indicated by the section line 5—5 and shows the manner in which the ends of the hangers are attached to the modified form of handle.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary perspective view of a portion of one of the hangers and shows an article retaining clip which may be carried thereby; and

Figure 7 is an enlarged fragmentary perspective view of a portion of a modified form of hanger.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, it will be seen that there is illustrated the book carrier which is the subject of this invention. A preferred form of book carrier is illustrated in Figures 1, 2 and 3, and is referred to in general by the reference numeral **10**. The book carrier **10** includes a handle **12** which has depending therefrom a plurality of hangers **14**. The handle **12** is in the form of an elongated rod which is of a size and shape to be gripped in one's hand. The length of the handle **12** will vary depending upon the particular requirements of the book carrier.

Each of the hangers **14** is of a generally U-shaped outline and includes a lower horizontal part **16**, vertical legs **18** at opposite ends of the lower horizontal part **16**, and inturned opposed upper ends **20**. The ends **20** are received in longitudinal holes **22** formed in the handle **12**.

As is best shown in Figure 2, the holes **22** are formed in the ends of the handle **12** in circumferentially spaced relation. Thus when the hangers **14** are spread apart, they are disposed in a fan-shaped relation. It will be readily apparent that the vertical legs **18** of the hangers **14** vary in length so that the lower ends thereof and the horizontal parts **16** are disposed generally in the same common plane. Furthermore, it is desirable that the uppermost ones of the hangers **14** be of a slightly greater width than the other of the hangers **14** in order that the vertical legs **18** thereof may overlap each other in the manner best shown in Figures 2 and 3.

Referring once again to Figure 2 in particular, it will be seen that there is carried by one of the hangers **14** a conventional type of book which is referred to in general by the reference numeral **24**. The book **24** includes covers **26** and pages **28** which are connected together by a suitable binding **30**. When the book **24** is to be carried by the book carrier **10**, the pages **28** are separated in approximately the center of the book **24** and the lower horizontal part **16** of the respective hanger **14** is inserted between the pages **28**. The book **24** is then slid down onto the hanger **14** until it assumes the position illustrated in Figure 2. It is to be understood that the binding **30** of the book **24** will be of sufficient strength to prevent damage to the book during the carrying thereof. Incidentally, it is to be understood that the hangers **14** are of such a gage that the pages **28** are not unduly spread apart so as to destroy the shape of the book **24**.

Referring now to Figure 7 in particular, it will be seen that there is illustrated a modified form of hanger which is referred to in general by the reference numeral **32**. The hanger **32** has a vertical leg **34** and a lower horizontal part **36**. The lower horizontal part **36** is of a flattened construction. By so constructing the hanger **32**, it will be seen that a book engaging portion of a minimum cross-section has been provided and at the same time the horizontal lower part will have sufficient strength to support the necessary book without cutting the binding. Incidentally, if it is so desired, the entire hanger **32** may also be of a flattened cross-section, al-

though the opposed upper ends of the hangers **32** normally should be rounded so as to facilitate the pivoting thereof relative to the handle **12**.

Referring now to Figure 6, it will be seen that the horizontal lower part **16** of one of the hangers **14** is provided with a conventional type of spring clip **38**. The spring clip **38** permits articles of clothing and other loose articles to be suspended from the book carrier **10** either independently of the carrying of books or simultaneously with the carrying of books. Incidentally clothing may be hung directly on the hangers **32**.

Referring now to Figures 4 and 5 in particular, it will be seen that there is illustrated a modified form of book carrier which is referred to in general by the reference numeral **40**. The book carrier **40** includes a handle which is referred to in general by the reference numeral **42** and a plurality of hangers which are referred to in general by the reference numeral **44**. The handle **42**, in lieu of being in the form of a solid member, such as is the handle **12**, includes a tubular member **46** which has end plugs **48**. The hangers **44** are substantially identical with the hangers **14** and include upper end portions **50**. The end portions **50** extend through bores **52** in the plugs **48**. However, extreme ends of the end portions **50** are offset as at **54** to retain them in the plugs **48**.

It is to be understood that the number and arrangement of hangers for each of the book carriers may be varied as is desired. Also, the length of the hangers may vary in accordance with the books to be carried. While in a majority of the uses of the book carrier, a plurality of books will be carried and thus a plurality of hangers have been provided, under certain circumstances a book carrier could be provided with but a single hanger. For example, in libraries where extremely large books are being handled and it is extremely awkward to carry such books, there could be provided a book carrier which includes a handle with a single hanger, of a size to support the particular book to be carried. Thus the large books may be readily carried utilizing a form of this invention.

One of the advantages of the present invention is that a large number of books may be readily carried utilizing a book carrier which may be readily gripped in one's hand. In addition to this, the book carrier **10** is of such a size and construction, whereby although it is adapted to accommodate a large number of books, it requires a minimum of space and may be readily stored. Furthermore, because of the shape of the book carrier **10**, it may be conveniently hung on the edge of tables, desk or on coat hangers. In addition to these advantages, the construction of the book carrier is such that papers and folders may be carried in books by merely engaging the papers or folders over the hangers and then placing the books over these papers. If desired, several hangers may support one book.

A further advantage of the book carrier, which is the subject of this invention, is the extreme simplicity thereof. In view of the extreme simplicity, the cost of the book carrier in such that it is economically feasible.

The foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous

modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. A book carrying device comprising an elongated handle, said handle having a plurality of holes pierced in both ends thereof, a plurality of hangers, the ends of said hangers being freely pivotally cooperative with said holes, said hangers having an extended lower portion, said portion being substantially parallel with said handle, said hangers having vertical contiguous legs substantially normal to said lower portion, said vertical legs being shorter than said lower portion, said lower portion having a cross-section with its transverse horizontal width being smaller than the vertical height of said lower portion.

2. A book carrying device comprising an elongated straight smooth rod-like handle having a plurality of openings in each of the opposite ends thereof, said openings being spaced circumferentially about the longitudinal axis of said handle, a plurality of hangers for supporting books mounted on said handle, each hanger comprising a U-shaped member consisting of a straight lower portion of greater length than that of said handle and being parallel thereto, a pair of parallel legs on the opposite ends thereof and perpendicular to said handle, said legs at the opposite ends thereof from said lower portion having inturned end portions extending toward each other and overlying said lower portion, the inturned end portions of each hanger being pivotally received in a pair of said openings in the opposite ends of said handle, the legs of different hangers being of sufficiently different lengths whereby to dispose the lower portions of all of said hangers in a common plane perpendicular to the plane containing the legs of one hanger and parallel to the axis of said handle.

3. The combination of claim 1 wherein the holes in each end of said handle are disposed in circumferentially spaced relation about the longitudinal axis of the handle, the legs of each hanger being of such length as to dispose the lower portions of the hangers in substantially a common plane perpendicular to the plane containing the legs of one hanger and parallel to the axis of the handle.

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