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HOSPITAL STRETCHER

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Fig. 1.

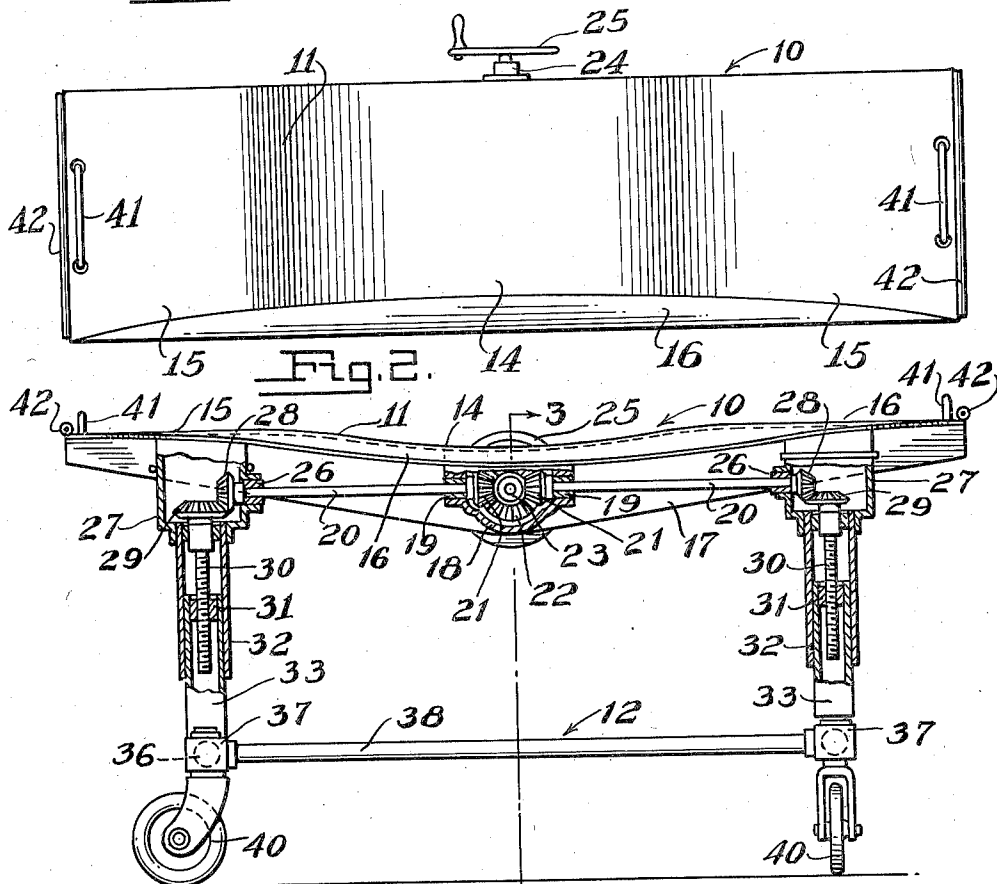


Fig. 2.

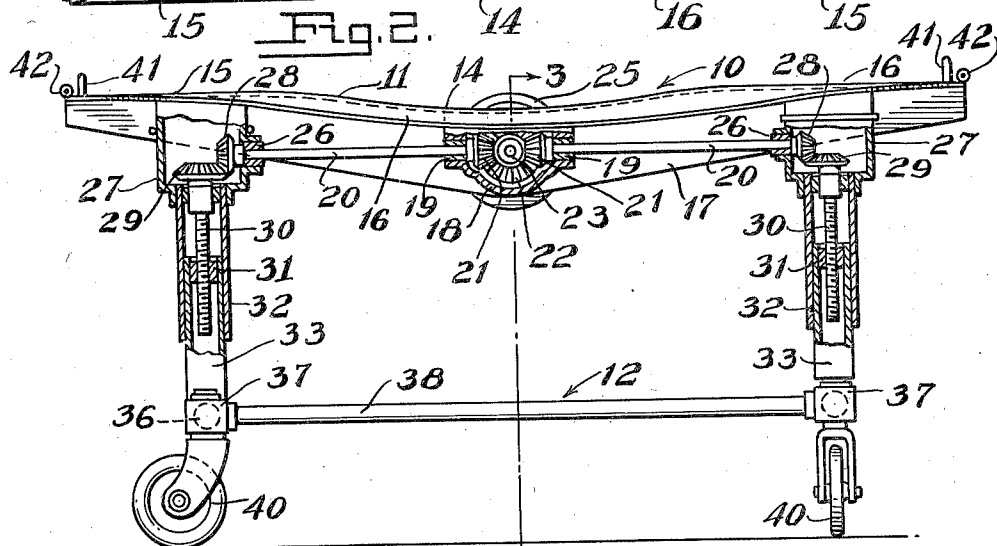
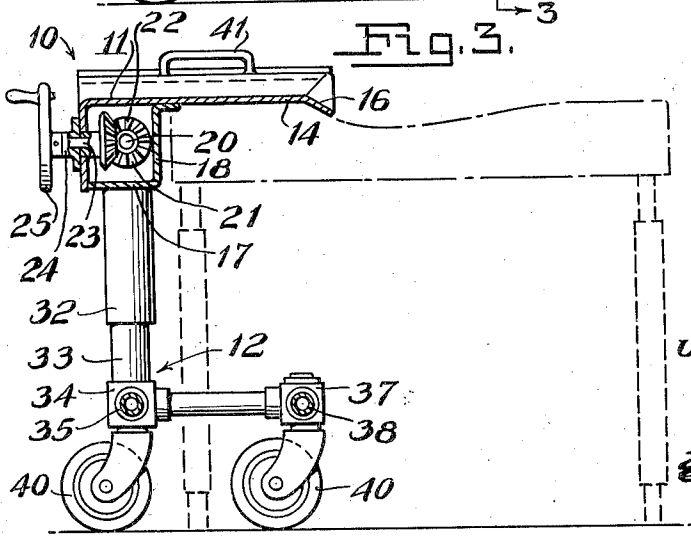


Fig. 3.



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HOSPITAL STRETCHER

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2 Claims. (Cl. 5—86)

This invention relates to an apparatus for conveying patients from one place to another, commonly known as a stretcher.

In employing the usual stretcher for the above stated purpose it is necessary to bodily lift the patient which requires the services of at least two attendants.

The patients are often injured while being handled in this way, especially so if they have been operated upon.

It is therefore the principal object of the present invention to provide an apparatus of the character stated so constructed that a patient may be placed thereon and removed from a bed without being bodily lifted.

Another object is to provide portable stretcher construction arranged in such a manner that a patient may be removed and conveyed from one bed to another by a single person.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which,

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of the improved stretcher construction.

Fig. 2 is a front elevation parts being broken away and shown in section.

Fig. 3 is a vertical section taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Referring more specifically to the drawing, 10 generally designates the improved apparatus which comprises a table or the stretcher proper 11 that is mounted for upward and downward movement on a frame work 12 by means of gearing hereinafter described.

Table 11 is formed preferably from a single piece of metal die stamped into the shape shown, said table having a downwardly curved central portion 14 that converges into flat end portions 15.

The forward edge of the table is slightly bent downwardly on an angle of approximately 30° as indicated at 16, while the opposite or rear edge has a downwardly extending flange 17 disposed at right angles to the top. Removably connected to the underside of the table midway of its ends is a gear box or housing 18 having oppositely disposed bearings 19 in which are rotatably mounted horizontally disposed shafts 20 to which are secured bevel gears 21 that mesh with a master gear 22. The master gear is secured to short shaft 23 rotatably mounted in a bearing 24 fixed to the flange 17 and secured to the outer end of this shaft is crank or hand wheel 25. The outer ends of shafts 20 are journaled in bearings 26 carried by gear boxes 27 that are secured to the flange 17

of the table by U-bolts or straps, each shaft 20 having a bevel gear 28 on its outer end 27 that mesh with complementary gears 29 secured to the upper ends of screws 30.

Jack screws 30 are threaded into nuts 31 mounted in the upper ends of tubular members 32 that telescopically engage tubes 33 carried by frame 12, it being noted that screws have threads of opposite pitch in order that the table may be raised and lowered during turning of wheel 25 through the transmission above described.

Tubes 33 are rigidly secured to fittings 34 which in turn are connected together by rods or tubes 35. Extending from fittings 34 at right angles to tubes 35 are bars 36 that are connected to fittings 37 which are connected together by rods 38 disposed in parallel relation to rods 35.

Swivelly connected to fittings 34 and 37 are usual wheels or rollers 40 provided with resilient tires.

The table is provided with handles 41 and rubber bumper 42 at each end thereof to prevent any damage to other objects while moving the apparatus.

Operation.—Table 11 is adapted to be adjusted to a position so that it will lie in a plane slightly above the surface of the mattress as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 3. The apparatus is then pushed over to the bed with the table portion extending over the mattress, the wheels 40 passing underneath the bed and the table lowered until edge 16 engages and slightly depresses the mattress, it being noted that the downwardly curved portion 14 then rests in the depression usually formed in mattress that has been used.

The patient who has been previously turned upon his side with his back facing the table is then turned over upon it, the table is then raised sufficiently to clear the mattress whereafter the apparatus may be moved where desired.

I claim:

1. A hospital stretcher comprising a frame having a table top mounted thereabove, the table top being concaved transversely midway of its ends, its outer longitudinal edge having a downwardly extending lip or flange, and means to manually adjust the table top vertically.

2. A hospital stretcher comprising a movable frame having a rigid table top mounted thereabove, said top being curved downwardly between its ends, and gearing to adjust said top vertically.

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