Oct. 16, 1962 G. J. ROGALLA 3,058,542

ROOF PLATFORMS AND CARRIERS

Filed June 23, 1961 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

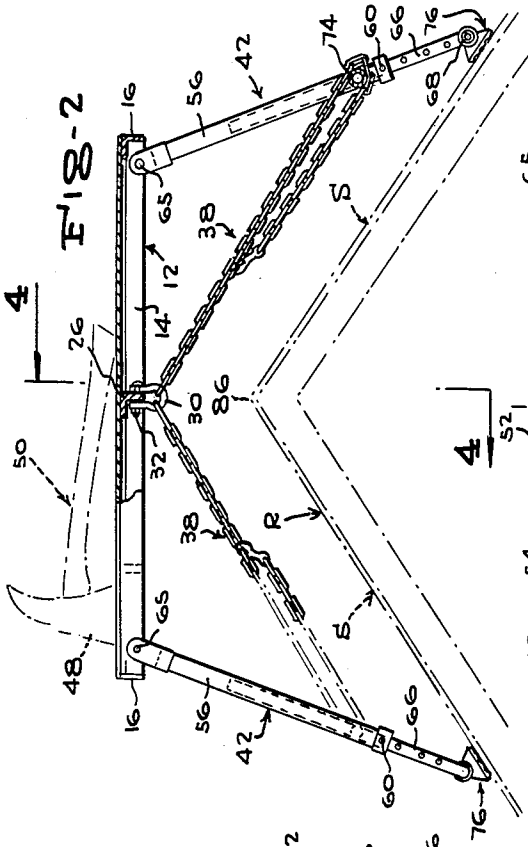


FIG. 2

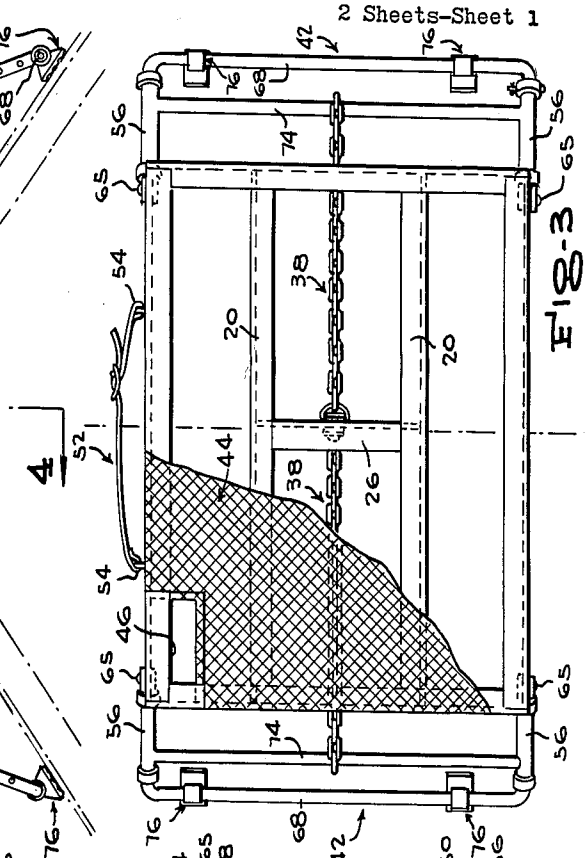


FIG. 3

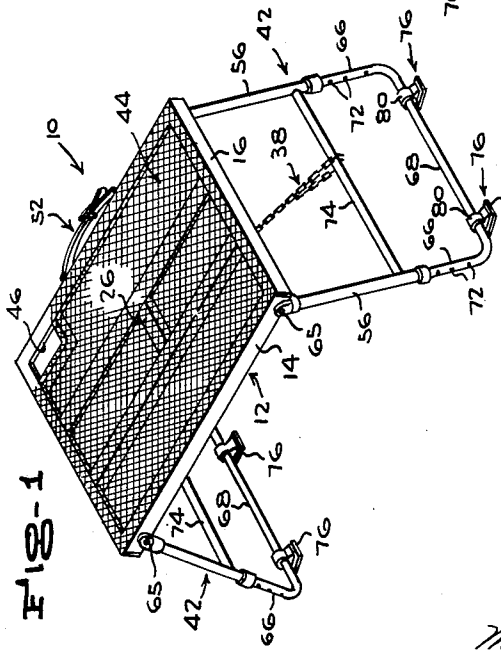


FIG. 1

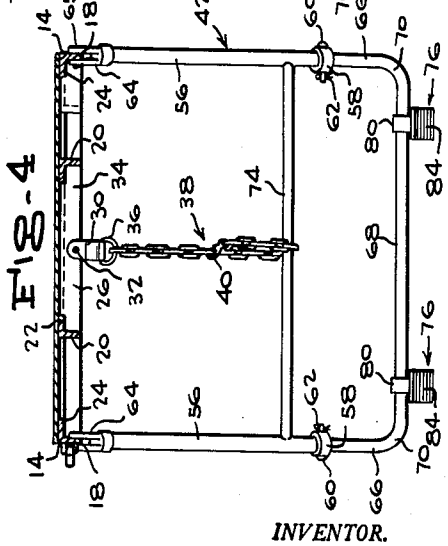


FIG. 4

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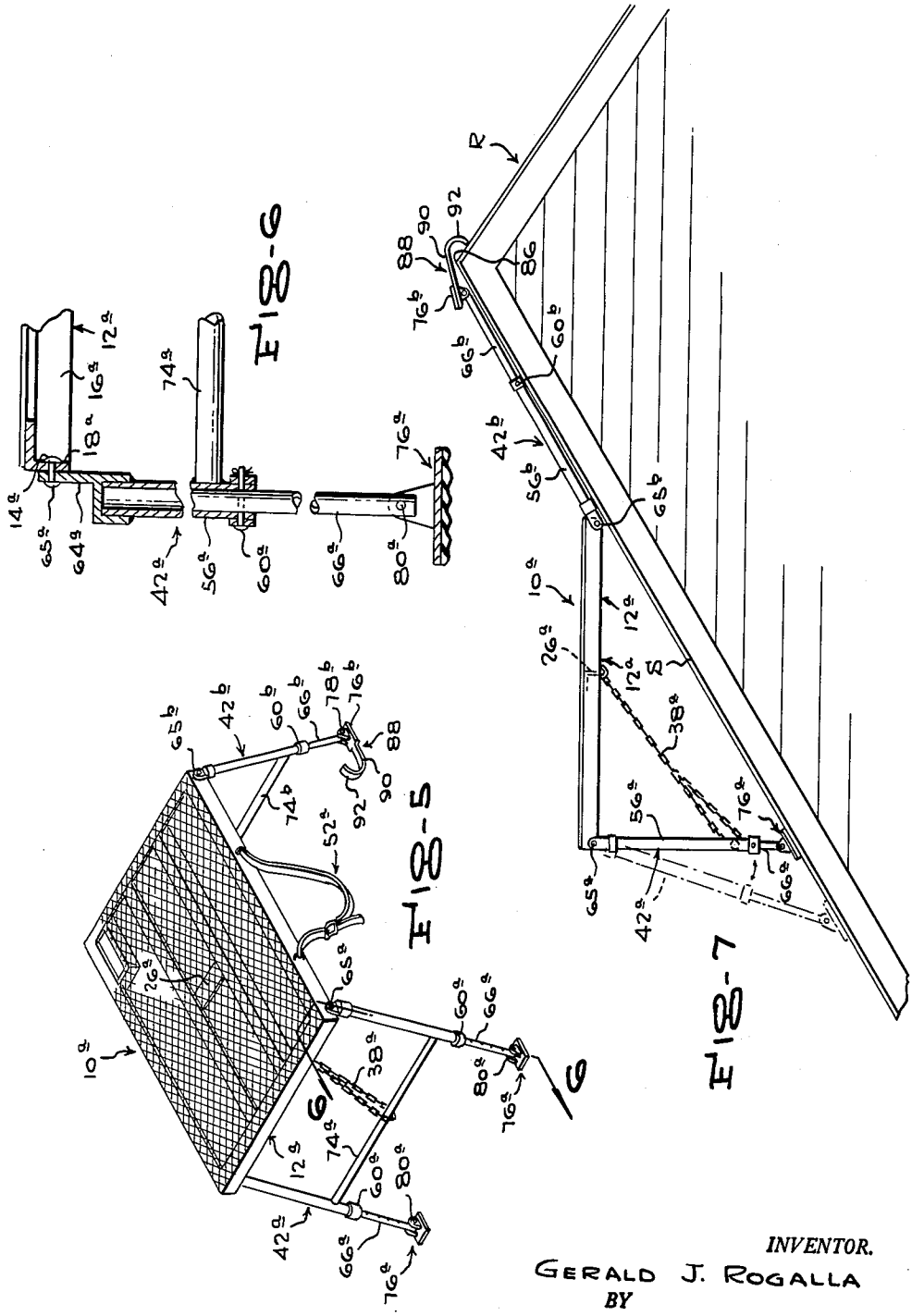


FIG. 6

FIG. 5

FIG. 7

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United States Patent Office 3,058,542
Patented Oct. 16, 1962

3,058,542

ROOF PLATFORMS AND CARRIERS

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Filed June 23, 1961, Ser. No. 119,074
1 Claim. (Cl. 182—45)

This invention relates to novel portable combined platforms and equipment carriers, for use on peaked or gabled roofs, primarily by firemen for fighting roof fires, but also by roofing men and others, including television antenna installers.

The primary object of the invention is the provision of simple, efficient, and compactly collapsible devices of the kind indicated, which enable the users thereof to carry the same, in collapsed condition, as by means of shoulder straps or handles provided, in ascending ladders to a gabled roof, and quickly and easily erect the same on such roofs, provision being made for carrying equipment on the devices, such as firemen's axes and other tools.

Another object of the invention is the provision of safe and stable devices of the character indicated above, which are devised to either straddle the peaks or ridges of roofs, or be installed on slopes thereof, with anchor hooks engaged over the peaks or ridges.

A further object of the invention is the provision of devices of the character indicated above, which have leg assemblies which are pivotally adjustable and vertically adjustable, and have non-slip feet which are pivoted on the lower ends thereof, for accommodation to different angles of roofs.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of devices of the character indicated above, wherein leg assemblies are equipped with roof ridge engaging hooks, instead of feet, at one end thereof.

Other important objects and advantageous features of the invention will be apparent from the following description and the accompanying drawings, wherein, for purposes of illustration only, a specific form of the invention is set forth in detail.

In the drawings:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of a device of the present invention, in erected condition;

FIGURE 2 is an enlarged side elevation, partly broken away and in section, showing said device installed on a gabled roof straddling the ridge thereof;

FIGURE 3 is a top plan view of FIGURE 2, partly broken away;

FIGURE 4 is a vertical transverse section taken on the line 4—4 of FIGURE 2;

FIGURE 5 is a perspective view, on the scale of FIGURE 1, of another device of the present invention;

FIGURE 6 is an enlarged, contracted and fragmentary vertical section taken on the line 6—6 of FIGURE 5; and

FIGURE 7 is a schematic view, showing the device of FIGURE 5, in side elevation and installed on a roof slope, with the hooks of said device engaged over the ridge of the roof.

Referring in detail to the drawings, wherein like and related numerals designate like and related parts throughout the several views, and first to FIGURES 1 through 4, the device therein shown and generally designated **10**, comprises an elongated rectangular frame **12**, preferably composed of angle iron side and end members **14** and **16**, respectively, which have outside pendant vertical flanges **18**. A pair of laterally spaced, centered longitudinal braces **20** extend between the frame end members **16**, and have horizontal flanges **22** which are on a level with the horizontal flanges **24** of the side and end members. At the mid-length points of the braces **20**, a transverse angle iron strut **26** extends therebetween, and has its ends suitably fixed to the vertical and horizontal flanges of the braces.

A sleeve **30** is pivoted, as indicated at **32**, to a mid-length part of the vertical flange **34** of the strut **26**, to which are removably connected, as indicated at **36**, the inner ends of adjustable control chains **38**, which have hooks **40**, on their free ends, and which are provided to limit the spread away from each other of leg assemblies **42**. The top of the frame **12** has suitably secured thereon a plate **44**, preferably perforated, and a metal mesh, which can have one or more equipment securing accessories, such as a receiver **46** for the head **48** of a fire axe **50**, whereby such equipment can be carried on the device to its location of use on a roof. An adjustable strap handle **52** is secured, at its ends as indicated at **54**, to the outer side of the vertical flange **18** of a frame side member **14**, and can be elongated to serve as a shoulder carrying strap, whereby the device **10**, and equipment, can be carried to a roof, while the hands of the user are free to grasp a scaling ladder.

The leg assemblies **42** comprise tubular upper leg sections **56** which have collars **58** on their open lower ends, which are diametrically traversed by removable headed pins **60** adapted to be held in place, as by means of cotter pins **62**. The upper leg sections **56** have clevises **64**, on their upper end, which straddle the vertical flanges **18** of the frame side members **14**, at locations close to the end members **16**, and are pivoted thereto, as indicated at **65**.

The leg assemblies **42** further comprise lower leg sections **66** which have a transverse cross member **68** extending between and connected at its ends to the lower ends thereof, as by elbows **70**. The lower leg sections **66** have vertically spaced bores **72** extending therethrough, which, when the sections **66** are upwardly engaged in the upper leg sections **56**, are adapted to selectively receive the pins **60**, whereby the lower leg sections are maintained in selected vertical adjustments relative to the upper leg sections.

Transverse spreader bars **74** extend between and are suitably fixed, at their ends, to lower portions of the upper leg sections **56**, around which the control chains **38** are adapted to be looped, with their hooks **40** engaged in selected links of the chains, for retaining the leg assemblies **42** in desired spread relationships.

Feet **76** for the lower leg sections **66** comprise plates **78** having thereon upstanding pivot means, such as eyes **80**, which are journaled on the cross member **68**, adjacent to the lower sections **66**, and have corrugated rubber or rubber-like anti-slip pads **84** on the undersides of their plates **78**.

As shown in FIGURE 2, the device **10** is adapted to be installed on a gabled roof R, straddling the ridge **86** thereof, with the leg assemblies **42** spread at similar and opposite angles relative to the frame **12**, with the frame in horizontal position, and with the feet **76** engaging the slopes S of the roof, at equal distances from the ridge **86**, where the slopes are disposed at similar angles to each other.

The form of the invention shown in FIGURES 5 through 7, and generally designated **10***a*, is generally similar to the device of FIGURES 1 to 4, except that the leg assemblies **42***a* and **42***b* have lower leg sections **66***a* and **66***b*, respectively, which do not have a cross member extending therebetween, and the feet **76***a* of the leg assembly **42***a* are pivoted, as indicated at **80***a*, directly to the lower ends of the lower leg sections **66***a*; and the feet for the lower leg sections **66***b* of the leg assembly **42***a* are replaced by hooks **88**.

The hooks **88** comprise feet **76***b* which are similar to the other feet, except that their plates **78***b* have longitudinally extending shanks **90**. on the longitudinally inward ends,

which terminate in crooks **92**. This arrangement provides for installing the device **10***a* on one slope S of the roof R, with the leg assembly **42***a* bearing upon the slope S, in either an erect or an outwardly angled position, as shown in full and in phantom lines in FIGURE 7, and with the leg assembly **42***b* pivoted outwardly and upwardly relative to the frame **12***a*, to lie upon the slope S, with its chain **38***a* disengaged from its spreader bar **74***b*, and with the crooks **92** engaged over the roof ridge **86**. The lengthwise adjustability of the sections of the leg assembly **42***b* enables locating the device **10***a* at different distances, along the roof slope, below the roof ridge **86**.

It will be understood that the above described devices are adapted to be collapsed to relatively flat compact forms, so that they can be easily and comfortably carried by the user both to the work site, and up to and around a roof, and, when not in use, can be stored and transported in minimum spaces.

While there have been shown and described preferred forms of the invention, it is to be understood that the invention is not necessarily confined thereto, and that any change or changes in the tructure of and in the relative arrangements of components thereof are contemplated as being within the scope of the invention as defined by the claim appended hereto.

What is claimed is:

A foldable platform for use on gabled roofs, the platform comprising:

(*a*) a generally rectangular frame having side and end members;

(*b*) leg assemblies pivotally secured to the side members of the frame adjacent the end members thereof;

(*c*) each leg assembly comprising a pair of legs and a spreader bar extending therebetween;

(*d*) at least one of the leg assemblies being pivotal in an arc greater than 180 degrees;

(*e*) height adjustment means for each of said legs;

(*f*) a pair of elongated, flexible control elements, each having a plurality of openings therein, secured to the frame intermediate its ends, and each being of a length sufficient to adapt it for looping about the spreader bar;

(*g*) anti-slip feet for each of the leg assemblies, each of said feet comprising a pivotally mounted plate having a resilient pad on its underside;

(*h*) said one leg assembly having gable engagement means on the feet of the legs thereof, said gable engagement means comprising shank extending inwardly from the plates which terminate in crooks engageable about said gables; and

(*i*) said control element having hooking means secured to its outer end and adapted to engage one of the openings therein whereby, with the control element looped about the spreader bar and hooked in itself, it serves to limit pivoting of the leg assemblies.

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