July 3, 1956 E. I. RUNNER 2,752,974

ARTICLE CARRIERS

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Fig. 1.

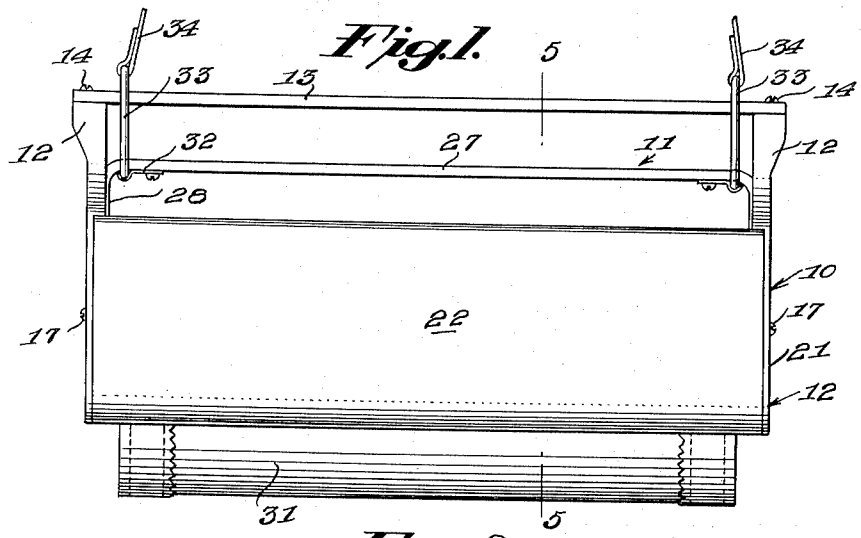


Fig. 2.

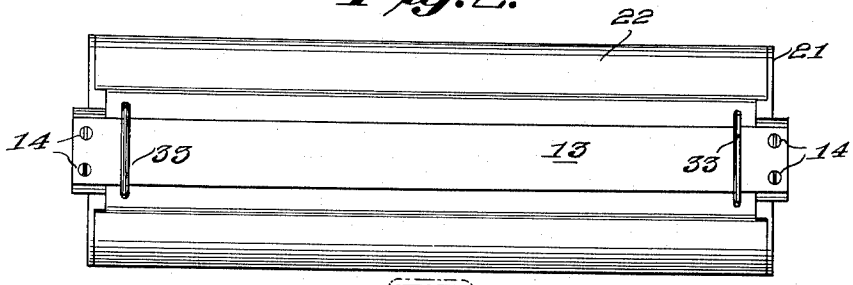
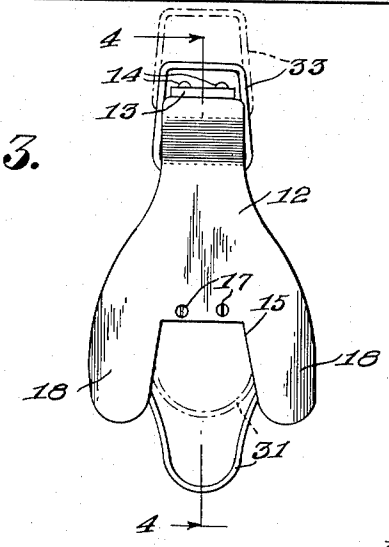


Fig. 3.



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Fig. 4.

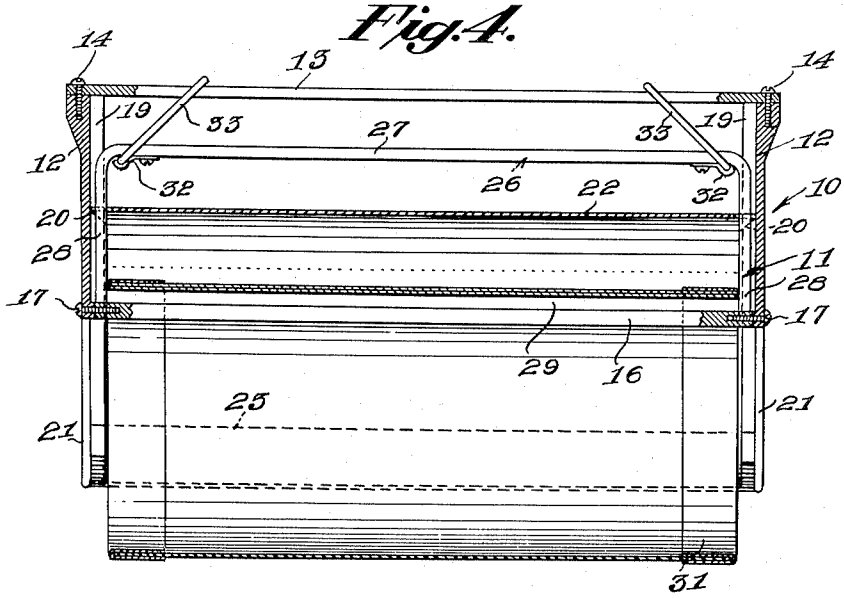
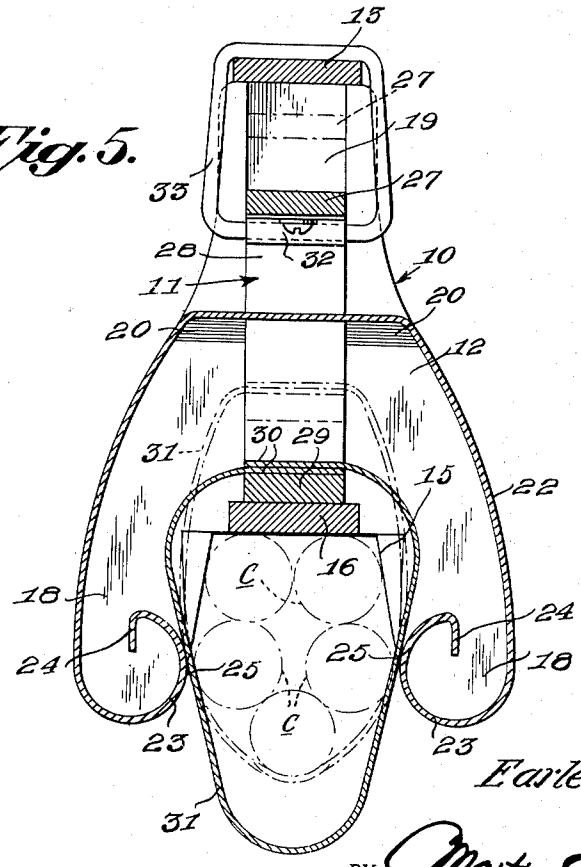


Fig. 5.



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ARTICLE CARRIERS

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Application June 1, 1955, Serial No. 512,478

4 Claims. (Cl. 150—1.5)

This invention relates to an article carrier.

The invention is more particularly concerned with a manually transportable carrier for golf clubs and other elongated articles and a primary object thereof is to provide a carrier including a club supporting means and a club clamping means.

A further object of the invention is to provide a carrier embodying an elongated housing having an elongated bar rigid therewith, and an elongated flexible article supporting member carried by a second elongated bar supported by the housing for movement relative to the first bar, and wherein the housing is open at its lower side and includes opposite end article receiving and clamping means, and wherein said flexible article supporting member is movable through said open side of the housing toward and from said clamping means with a consequent variation of the article receiving space available from opposite ends of the housing.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent in the course of the following detailed description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of the improved carrier in accordance with a preferred structural embodiment thereof, and wherein the view is substantially one-half actual size.

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the carrier shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is an end elevational view of the carrier wherein the operative position of parts is indicated in dot-and-dash lines.

Fig. 4 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view as observed in the plane of line 4—4 on Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a transverse vertical sectional view as observed in the plane of line 5—5 on Fig. 1 and wherein the carrier is shown in actual size.

Referring now in detail to the drawings, the carrier will be seen to include a pair of relatively movable parts, viz, a rigid housing member **10** and an article supporting member **11**.

The housing member **10** comprises a pair of opposite relatively heavy end plates **12** to the upper ends of which are secured the opposite ends of a bar **13** as by means of screw bolts **14**.

The said end plates **12** are provided with longitudinally aligned recesses **15** opening through their lower ends and the plates are rigidly connected by a second bar **16** disposed at the closed ends of the recesses and whose opposite ends are connected to the plates by screw bolts **17**. The said recesses **15** provide depending legs **18** on the end plates **12** and the plates are provided with vertically disposed channels **19** in their opposed inner faces and which channels extend from the upper ends of the plates to the second or lower bar **16**. The plates **12** are further provided in their inner faces with transversely disposed notches **20** and same are further provided with ribs **21** along their outer faces which extend around the lower arcuate ends of the legs **18**.

A casing **22** of generally inverted U-form is disposed between the end plates **12** and the opposite ends thereof engage within said notches **20** and about said ribs **21** The casing is maintained in position by the releasable rigid connection between the end plates **12** and the lower bar **16**.

The lower opposite portions of the casing are rolled inwardly and vertically as at **23** and terminate in radial extensions **24**. The rolled portions **23** provide laterally opposed cylindrical surfaces **25** for a purpose later referred to.

The article supporting member **11** comprises a bail **26** which includes a horizontal bar portion **27** disposed intermediate the casing **22** and the bar **13** and parallel therewith and which further includes opposite end legs **28** which are slidably disposed within the channels **19**. The lower ends of the legs **28** are rigidly secured to opposite ends of a bar **29** which normally rests on bar **16**.

Suitably secured to the upper face of the bar **29** are the lapped edges **30** of a flexible loop member **31** which is preferably of leather but which may be of any other desired material, and said member **31** depends into or through the space between said surfaces **25**.

The bail **26** is preferably provided with a bracket **32** adjacent each end thereof and pivotally supported by each bracket is a loop **33** to which an end of a shoulder strap **34** may be connected.

From the above description, it will be apparent that the improved carrier operates similarly to opposing jaw members for clamping a plurality of elongated members, such as golf clubs into frictionally restrained position and that the clamping pressure is substantially equal to the weight of the housing member **10**.

Normally the parts are in the position illustrated in Figs. 1 and 4, and in solid lines in Figs. 3 and 5, wherein the flexible loop **31** depends a substantial distance below the rolled edges **23** of the casing **22** and it is to be especially observed that the convex surfaces **25** of such rolled edges provide a rest for the side walls of the loop member **31**.

In this normal position the bail **26** is in its lowermost position with bar **29** resting on bar **16** and the bail bar portion **27** is spaced vertically below the top housing bar **13**. This normal position provides ready access to the supporting loop member **31** since a substantial space area is provided at each end thereof, as is apparent upon inspection of Fig. 5.

After insertion of several articles such as golf clubs C into the distended loop member, the bail **26** is elevated with a resulting upward movement of bar **29** to which the lapped ends of the looped member are secured, and the bottom of such loop member is elevated as is illustratively shown in Fig. 5 whereby the clubs are wedged into the recesses **15** whose opposite edges upwardly converge and are firmly held in position.

The bar **27** may be grasped by a hand for raising the loop member **31** or if it be desired to carry the device from a shoulder, a strap **34** connected to the loops **33** may be used.

In any event the member **11** is supported while the housing member **10** is free to place its entire weight on the clubs which are supported by the member **11**.

The distension of the loop member **31** is limited by engagement of bars **16** and **29** and bar portion **27** of the bail **26** will not necessarily contact the top housing bar **13** when articles being transported are in clamped position, as is apparent from the dot-and-dash position of bar portion **27** in Fig. 5.

While the supporting loop member **31** is necessarily flexible, it may be resilient whereby the carrier will be capable of clamping articles through a maximum range from a small to a large number of the articles. The en-

tire carrier, except for the flexible loop member, is constructed of metal which may be aluminum or other desired material.

While the device is disclosed as for carrying golf clubs only or similar elongated articles, a suitable pouch may be attached to the carrier for transportation of balls, tees, etc.

While I have disclosed my invention in accordance with a single specific structural embodiment thereof, such is to be considered as illustrative only, and not restrictive, the scope of the invention being defined in the subjoined claims.

What I claim and desire to secure by U. S. Letters Patent is:

1. A carrier for elongated articles, comprising a housing member including opposed vertical end plates whose upper ends are rigidly connected by an elongated horizontal bar, a second bar disposed below and parallel with said first bar and having its opposite ends connected to said plates intermediate the upper and lower ends thereof, a vertical channel in the inner wall of each plate intermediate said first and second bars, an article supporting member including means having a vertical slidable engagement in said channels and said end plates having downwardly opening article receiving recesses whose opposite edges converge upwardly, whereby the articles are clamped in frictional engagement with each other upon contractive movement of said housing and article supporting members.

2. The structure according to claim 1, wherein said article supporting member comprises a bail including a horizontal bar portion disposed intermediate said first and second bars, and legs depending from said bar portion slidably disposed in said channels, the lower ends of said legs being interconnected by a horizontal bar normally engaged with the upper face of said second bar, and said article supporting member further including an elongated article receiving loop member comprising a relatively wide sheet of flexible material having its opposite edges secured to the upper face of said last bar.

3. The structure according to claim 2, wherein said housing member further includes an elongated casing of generally inverted U-form in cross section, and said casing having opposed convex surfaces engageable with said loop member.

4. The structure according to claim 2, wherein said bar portion is provided with a bracket adjacent each end thereof, and a shoulder strap end engageable loop pivotally connected to each bracket and encompassing said first bar, whereby upon vertical upward movement of said bar portion said article receiving loop member will be moved upwardly with a resulting wedging action on said articles by the converging edges of said recesses.

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