

Aug. 18, 1925.

1,549,879

J. JEIDEL

TRUNK DOLLY

Filed Nov. 1, 1924

Fig. 1.

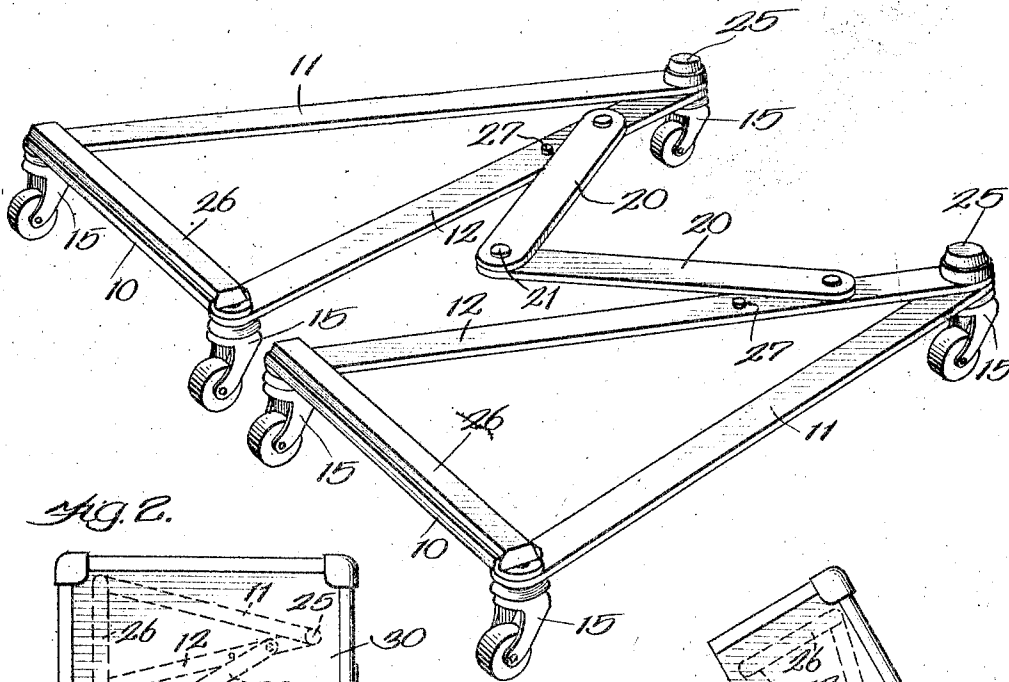


Fig. 2.

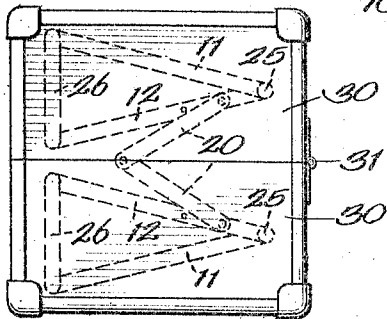


Fig. 3.

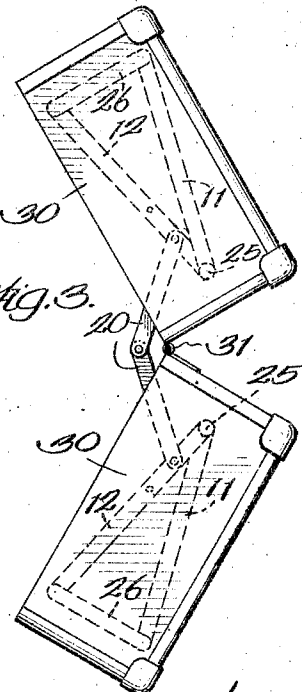
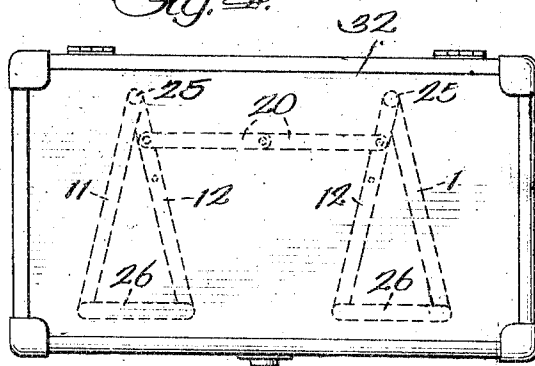


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JULIUS JEIDEL, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

TRUNK DOLLY.

Application filed November 1, 1924. Serial No. 747,137.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JULIUS JEIDEL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Trunk Dollies, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to dollies or low-wheeled trucks or trundles useful primarily for trunks. While my device is useful for ordinary trunks to enable them to be moved around readily, it is especially useful for wardrobe trunks. One of the disadvantages of a wardrobe trunk is that it requires a good deal of strength on the part of the user to open and close it. There is also the disadvantage that the act of opening and closing the trunk is apt to scratch a polished or painted floor or is apt to damage a rug or carpet. One of the objects of my invention is to provide a light low frame upon which a wardrobe trunk may be set, and which will enable the trunk to be readily opened and closed or trundled from one part of the room to another without damage to the floor covering. Another object is to provide a device of this character which may be expanded so as to firmly support a steamer trunk or similar packing trunk having a liftable lid, and a larger base than the end of a wardrobe trunk. Still another object of the invention is to provide a device of this character which shall be light, inexpensive to make and foldable so that it may occupy a small compass when not in use.

I accomplish my objects by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the complete device.

Figure 2 is a top plan view of a wardrobe trunk mounted upon my device, the latter being shown in dotted lines beneath the trunk. The trunk is shown in closed position.

Figure 3 is similar to Figure 2 but shows the trunk in open position.

Figure 4 is a plan view of an ordinary steamer trunk, showing my device in dotted lines beneath.

Referring to the drawings, my device includes two frames composed in the present instance of flat bars 10, 11, 12 fastened together at the ends to form triangles. By preference these frames are alike in size and shape and so designed that the bars lie flat-

wise in the plane of the frame. Swivel castors 15 are mounted at each corner of each frame. The rollers of these castors may have treads of felt or rubber or any other material which will not tend to damage a floor or floor covering.

The frames are flexibly connected near their apexes, the means here shown being two flat bars or links 20 pivoted together at the point 21 and pivoted at their free ends to the bars 12 of the triangular frames. By preference these links are also arranged so as to lie flatwise with the frames.

It is desirable to mount a rubber knob 25 at the apex of each of the triangular frames and also to mount a strip 26 of rubber or felt upon the top of the bars 10 which form the base of the triangular frame. However, these anti-marring means may be considerably varied. In the present case they perform an additional function in that they support the trunk high enough to prevent interference with the movement of the connecting links 20.

In order to prevent the frames from being brought too near together at their apexes I have provided stop pins 27 on the bars 12 in position to limit the movement of the links 20.

In practice when it is desired to support a wardrobe trunk the two triangular frames are brought approximately to parallel position beneath the ends of the two sides of the trunk as shown in dotted lines in Figure 2. Then when it is desired to open the trunk as illustrated in Figure 3 the two sides may be swung open about their hinges 31. As the two frames are flexibly connected or linked together they are independently movable and the consequence is that the trunk may be opened with very little effort, the castors rolling freely on the floor. Thus the trunk may be easily closed or opened without damage to the floor and without requiring the user to exert much strength. The links 20 move freely because the anti-marring devices 25, 26 hold the trunk clear of them. It will be evident that it is not necessary to exercise any great care in placing the two halves of the trunk upon the two frames of the dolly because of the double link connection between the frames, which permits a wide latitude of movement.

If the user has a steamer trunk or ordinary storage trunk 32 as shown in Figure 4 the dolly may be extended in various ways,

either by straightening the two links 20 and bringing the frames with their perpendicular parallel or by arranging the frames with their perpendiculars more or less in alignment with each other. By "perpendiculars" I mean the lines dropped from the apex of each triangle to the base line 10.

When the device is not in use the dolly may be folded or collapsed in the sense that the frames may be swung to a position one upon the other. This is made possible by the fact that the connecting links 20 are slightly resilient and may be warped or twisted sufficiently to permit such arrangement.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A dolly for wardrobe trunks consisting of two independently movable rigid frames, each for supporting a portion of the trunk, and a plurality of links pivoted together and to the frames to render one of them movable relatively to the other in two non-coincident directions in the same plane.

2. A dolly having two separate polygonal frames, castors therefor, and a plurality of links pivoted together and to the frames, the axes of the pivots being perpendicular to the plane of the frames whereby one of said frames is capable of movement both of rotation and translation relatively to the other in its own plane and in the plane of the other frame.

3. A dolly having two triangular frames provided with castors and a pair of links pivotally connected to each other and to said frames near the apexes thereof.

4. A device for supporting trunks and the like having two flat independent frames, castors for movably supporting them, and a pair of links for flexibly connecting them together, said links holding said frames in a common plane, said links being partially resilient to enable them, by being slightly warped or twisted, to permit the frames to be swung to a position one upon the other.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name.

JULIUS JEIDEL.