March 3, 1931. A. M. BARRETT 1,794,665

PLATFORM

Filed Sept. 16, 1927

Fig. 1.

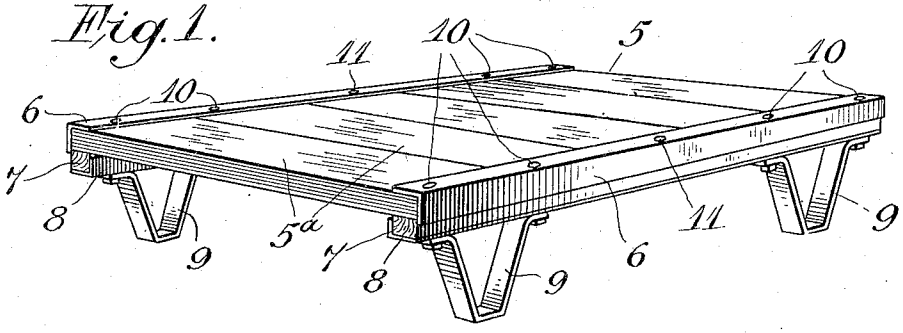


Fig. 2.

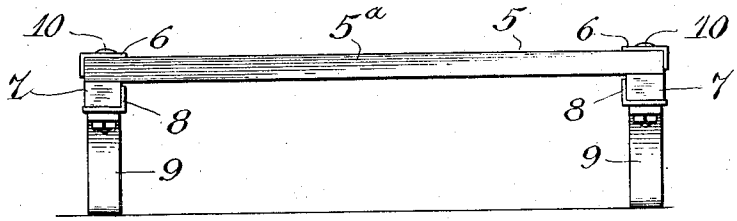


Fig. 3.

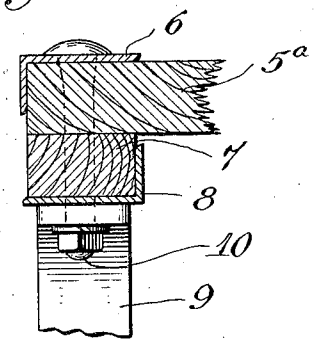
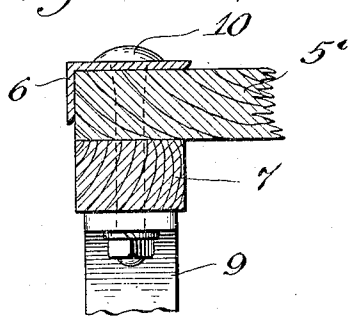


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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PLATFORM

Application filed September 16, 1927. Serial No. 219,841.

This invention relates to a platform, or portable skid, of the kind designed for use with a lift truck. Such platforms or skids are also utilized for storage purposes.

These platforms as known in the art comprise a wooden load carrying platform supported at each corner by a steel leg, whereby the platform is elevated to permit a lift truck to enter therebeneath. In present day platforms relatively long legs are used to give the necessary platform clearance above a floor. Should these platforms be subjected to a heavy load, or sudden shock, it frequently happens that these steel legs bend and become distorted. Also the wood platform is usually directly carried on these legs and as a result load shocks are directly transmitted to the legs, also frequently causing the objectionable bending mentioned. It is desirable, therefore, that means be provided to overcome these deficiencies in present day platforms.

Accordingly, it is an object of this invention to provide an improved platform of the kind stated in which shorter, and therefore stronger, supporting legs may be utilized without sacrificing floor clearance or preventing use of standard lift trucks therewith.

Another object is to provide a shock absorbing member for the platform whereby load shocks cannot be directly transmitted to the legs, due to the insulating function of said shock absorbing member.

Still another object of the invention is generally to improve platforms of this kind, by providing structure which can readily be manufactured and one in which the replacement of broken platform boards will be facilitated and made easy.

A final object is to produce lightness in these platforms without sacrificing necessary strength.

Briefly, these desirable objects are achieved in a platform comprising a floor formed of transverse platform boards bound together at their edges by a longitudinal angle bar along each side of the platform. Underneath the boards, at their ends, a wooden insulator bar and shock absorbing member of substantial thickness is placed, and to these bars, at each end, are connected the short supporting steel legs, there being one leg at each corner of the platform. Thus, a load on the platform has its weight absorbed by these wooden bars thereby protecting the supporting legs. These insulating wooden bars permit use of shorter legs, which consequently will be stronger, without sacrificing the necessary floor clearance. Further these insulator bars may or may not be reinforced by an under angle bar as will later appear.

An embodiment and modification of the invention are set forth in the accompanying sheet of drawings, but it is to be understood that the construction therein disclosed is for the purpose of illustration only and not as defining the limits of this invention.

Referring to the drawings:

Figure 1 is a general perspective view of the improved platform;

Figure 2 is an end view;

Figure 3 is a detail, vertical sectional view through one side of the platform as seen at one of the legs; and

Figure 4 is a view similar to the showing of Figure 3, but showing a slight modification where greater lightness is desired.

The improved platform is adapted for use with either a lift truck or for storage purposes and comprises a rigid floor or platform 5 embodying a side by side arrangement of transverse wooden platform boards 5^a. At their ends these boards are bound, as shown by an outer iron angle bar 6, there being one at each side, said angle bars serving to protect the board ends against splintering. Underneath the board ends, at each side of the platform is a longitudinally arranged wooden bar 7 which bars are bound and strengthened by longitudinally disposed under and innerly disposed angle bars 8. At each corner of the platform is arranged a steel supporting leg 9 secured by bolts 10 in any approved manner to the angle bars 8, said bolts also being passed through the wooden insulator bars 7 and upper angle bars 6, as shown. An additional bolt 11 may be used to secure the center board 5^a as indicated.

An obvious advantage resides in the provision of separate upper and lower angle

edgings 6 and 8, together with a single wooden shock strip 7, as such construction permits of the use of various thicknesses of boards. In other words, adjustments in height can easily be accomplished.

In Figure 4 a modification is illustrated in which the inner under angle bars 8 are eliminated. This structure will suffice where lighter loads are handled. It makes a less heavy platform.

From this detailed description it can now be appreciated that this platform employs relatively short supporting legs 9 which result in greater leg strength, thereby materially minimizing leg bulging and bending. Further the wooden bars 7 act as shock absorbers in insulating the platform from the legs, thus further protecting the legs. In addition, if a floor board 5^a should become broken, it is an easy matter to replace it as will be obvious. The built up, laminated, structure described makes for a very strong, rigid platform having the necessary lightness without in any way sacrificing strength.

What is claimed as new is:

In a platform, a floor comprising transverse boards, an angle iron edging for the board ends having a horizontal flange on the tops of the boards and a vertical depending flange at the ends of the boards, a shock absorbing bar underneath the edge of the floor, another and separate angle iron upon which the bar rests, said angle iron having an upright flange abutting the inner side of the bar, relatively short legs having horizontal flanges carrying the last mentioned angle iron, and bolts passed through the leg flanges, angle irons, bar and boards to secure the parts together.

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