

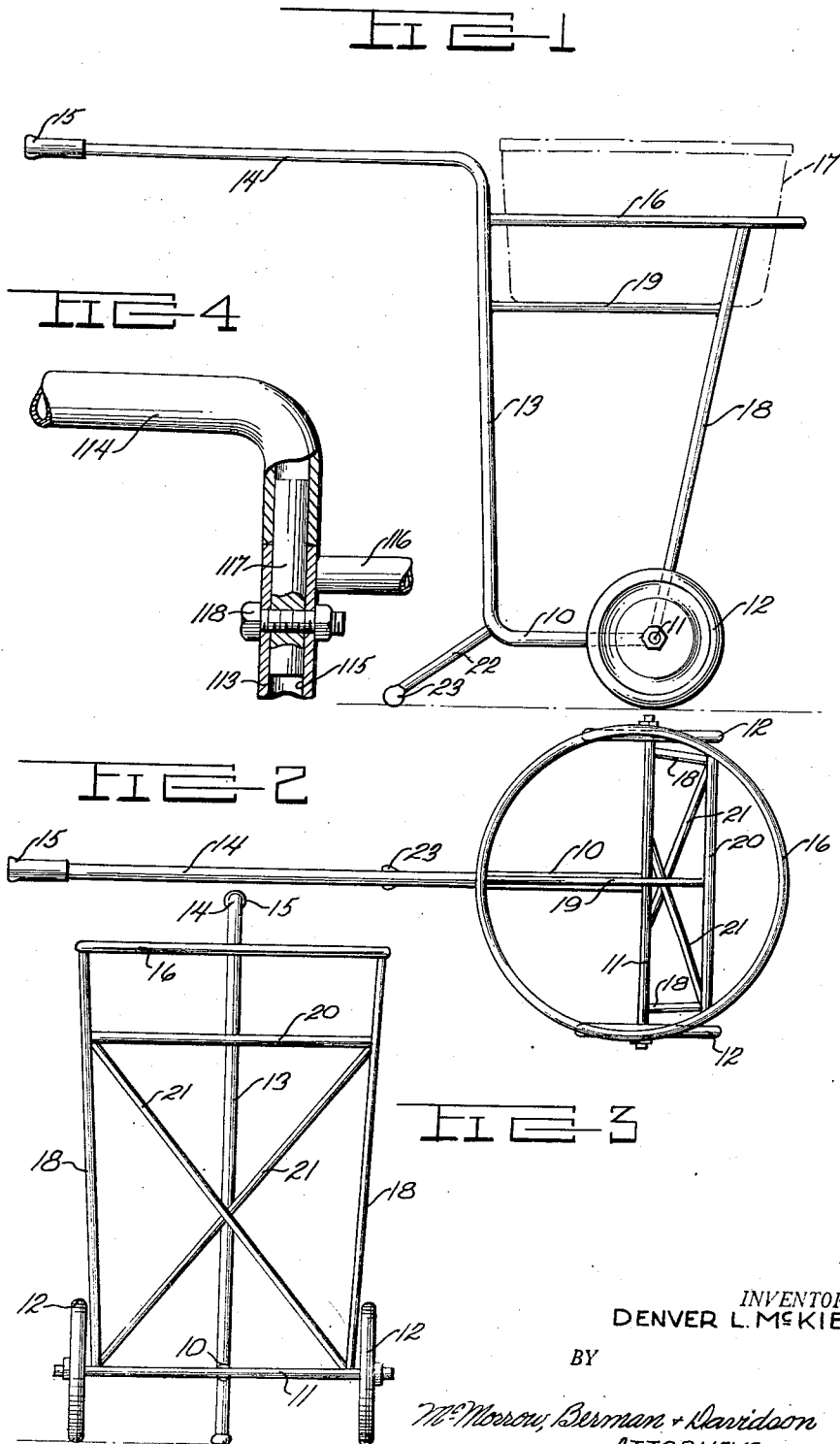
April 4, 1950

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2,502,579

BASKET CART

Filed Aug. 24, 1948



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,502,579

BASKET CART

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Application August 24, 1948, Serial No. 45,872

1 Claim. (Cl. 280—53)

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My invention relates to basket carts of general utility, and more specifically to a cart for a laundry basket. The usual laundry basket is normally filled with wet wash and manually transported to the region of the clothes line, at which point it is placed on the ground while the contents thereof are hung on the clothes line to dry. This necessitates constant stooping on the part of the laundress, and also necessitates the basket being continually hauled or lifted and carried to successive points along the clothes line until all of the clothes are hung.

With the foregoing in view, it is an object of my invention to provide an improved basket cart of the class described.

A further object is to provide an improved basket cart which is adapted to support a basket or a like container at a substantial height above the ground.

A further object is to provide an improved cart of the class described which is of rigid construction, relatively light weight yet which is strong and sturdy in use and capable of being constructed of low-cost materials.

Other objects and advantages reside in the particular structure of the invention, combination and arrangement of the several parts thereof, and will be readily understood by those skilled in the art upon reference to the attached drawing in connection with the following specification, wherein the invention is shown, described and claimed.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is an elevational view of the cart according to the invention;

Figure 2 is a plan view thereof;

Figure 3 is a front view looking from the right of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is an enlarged fragmentary view showing a modified form of structure, parts being broken away and shown in longitudinal vertical section.

Referring specifically to the drawing, wherein like reference characters have been used throughout the several views to designate like parts, and referring at first to the form of invention of Figures 1 to 3, inclusive, 10 designates a single frame member which is preferably of tubular construction and which is relatively short in length. The forward end of the frame member 10 is rigidly secured in any suitable manner, as by being welded, to an intermediate portion of a horizontally-disposed axle 11. The axle 11 has journaled on the ends thereof any suitable wheels 12. The rear end of the frame member 10 is

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upwardly directed to provide a relatively long, upwardly-directed frame portion 13, the upper end of which is rearwardly directed to provide an elongated handle 14. Any suitable hand grip 15 may be detachably secured to the free end of the handle 14.

A horizontal loop 16 is rigidly secured to the upwardly-directed frame portion 13 in the region of the upper end thereof. The loop 16 extends horizontally forwardly over the axle 11. In the embodiment shown, the loop 16 is circular, whereby it is adapted to receive the substantially cylindrical basket 17 therein. However, it is to be understood that the loop 16 may be of other shapes so as to be substantially complementary to the profile of any basket with which the device is adapted to be used. The loop 16 is supported at its forward ends by any suitable laterally-spaced struts 18 which are rigidly secured thereto in any suitable manner. The lower ends of the struts 18 are rigidly secured to the axle 11 inwardly of the wheels 12. A substantially T-shaped floor member connects the struts 18 and the upwardly-directed frame portion 13 in adjacent downwardly-spaced relation to the loop 16. Such floor member includes a leg 19 extending forwardly from the upwardly-directed frame portion 13 and a runner 20 connecting the struts 18 adjacent their upper ends. If desired, additional braces for the frame may be provided in the form of the cross-braces 21 extending diagonally between the upper and lower ends of the struts 18.

The location of the floor member and loop 16 is such that the basket 17 is supported with its center of gravity rearwardly of the axle 11. To maintain the basket 17 substantially horizontal, I have provided a prop 22 which extends downwardly from the frame member 10 in the region of the upwardly-directed frame portion 13. The free end of the prop 22 may be provided with a rubber foot 23 or the like.

In the modification of Figure 4, an upwardly-directed frame portion 113 corresponding to the portion 13 of the first-described form of invention has its upper end formed to provide a socket 115 adapted to receive a cylindrical stem 117. The stem 117 is rotatable in the socket 115, but may be locked against rotation by means of a pin 118 which is insertable in alignable transverse holes formed in the socket and in the stem. The loop 116 is rigidly secured to the upper end of the frame portion 113 and corresponds substantially to the loop 16 of the first-described form of invention. A horizontally-directed handle 114 is

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rigidly secured to the stem 117 in any suitable manner. Except as so far described, it is to be understood that this modified form of the invention is essentially the same as the first-described form. The advantage of this modified structure is that the handle 114 is readily removable for storage or shipment. Likewise, with the pin 118 removed, the handle 114 may be rotated 180° in a horizontal plane so as to extend forwardly of the cart or laterally thereof, to facilitate storage of the cart when the same is not in use.

While I have shown and described what is now thought to be a preferred embodiment of the invention, it is to be understood that the same is susceptible of other forms and expressions. Consequently, I do not limit myself to the precise structure shown and described hereinabove except as hereinafter claimed.

I claim:

A basket cart comprising a transverse axle, a rearwardly-extending frame member fixed at one end on the center of said axle; an upwardly-extending frame member on the other end of said first frame member perpendicular thereto, a han-

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dle on said latter member, a basket-receiving horizontal ring on the upper end of said latter member parallel to said first frame member and extending forwardly over said axle, a pair of transversely-spaced-apart struts fixed between the forward edge of said ring and the opposite ends of said axle, a transverse bottom bar fixed between said struts below said ring, and a second bottom bar fixed between said transverse bar and said upwardly extending frame member below said ring.

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