Jan. 3, 1933. J. McI. FORTUNE 1,893,165

APPARATUS FOR ERECTING STAGING, PLATFORMS, AND THE LIKE

Filed Oct. 1, 1928 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

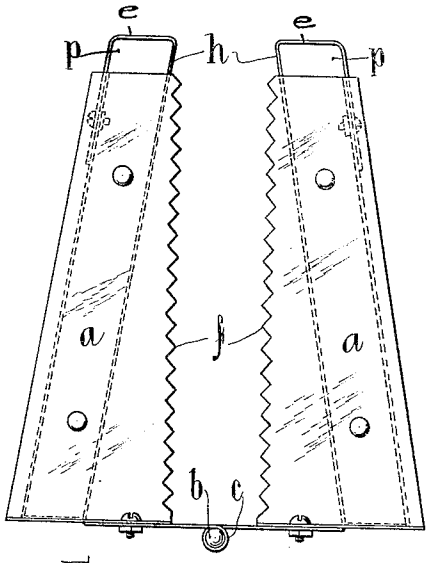



Fig. 1.

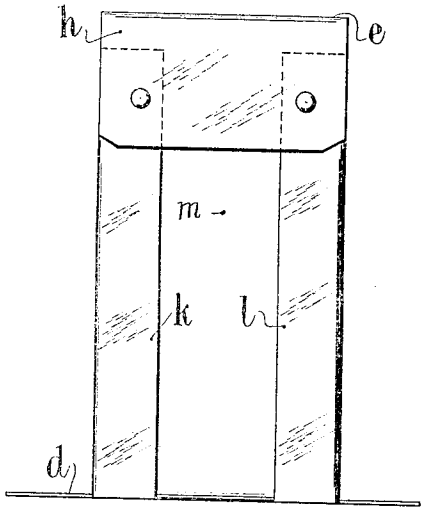



Fig. 4.

Fig. 2.

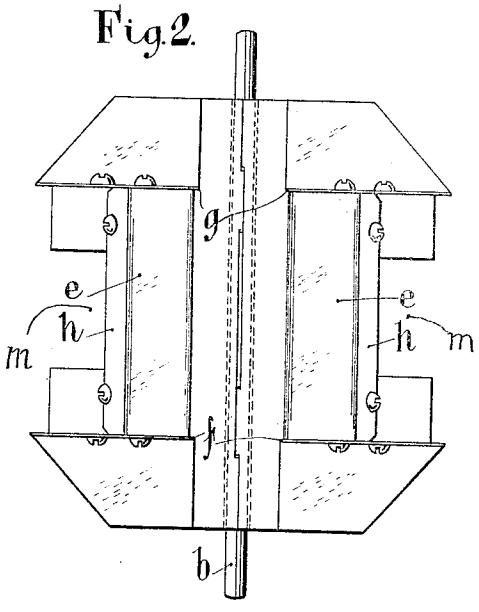
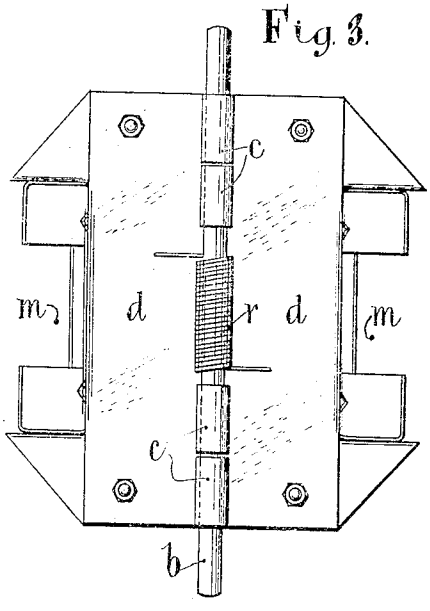



Fig. 3.




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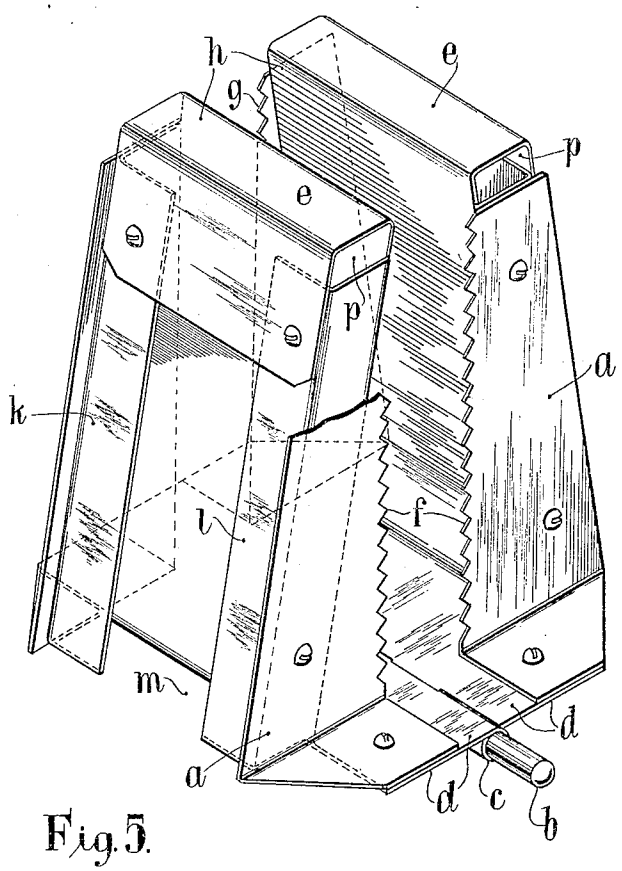



Fig. 5.

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Patented Jan. 3, 1933 1,893,165

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JAMES McINTYRE FORTUNE, OF GRANTWOOD, NEW JERSEY

## APPARATUS FOR ERECTING STAGING, PLATFORMS, AND THE LIKE

Application filed October 1, 1928, Serial No. 309,473, and in Great Britain September 19, 1928.

This invention relates to an apparatus for erecting staging, platforms and the like.

One object of the present invention is to provide a simple form of trestle member occupying a minimum of space. A further object of the present invention is to provide a trestle member which can be utilized for supporting working platforms by merely inserting pieces of timber to serve as legs in sockets provided for the purpose, so that no adjusting or spacing members are necessary.

One form of device made according to the present invention is illustrated by way of example in the accompanying drawings wherein:—

Fig. 1 is an elevation;

Fig. 2 is a plan; and

Fig. 3 is an underneath plan.

Fig. 4 is an end view of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is an isometric drawing.

Referring to the drawings the device comprises two jaw portions *a* adapted to be hingeably connected in co-operative relationship by a pin *b* which passes through channels *c* formed in base plates *d* by stamping away the material at the edges of the plates *d* to form tongues which are then rolled up to form the channels *c*. Each jaw *a* is formed of two vertical plates *f* and *g* riveted on either side of a socket portion *e*. The latter is stamped from one piece of metal the top and sides being folded inwards as shown at *h*, *k*, *l*, to form sockets *m* (see Fig. 3), the bottom portion *d* being bent outwards on the other side to form the base plate *d*. The top *h* is bent so that spaces *p* are formed between the top *h* and the jaw portions *a*. The opposing edges of the side members *f* and *g* are of saw-like formation for the purpose hereafter described. A coiled spring *r* is disposed around the pin *b*, the ends of the spring *r* extending over the plates *d* and tending normally to close the jaws *a*.

In use when it is desired to erect the horizontal working platform a piece of timber is inserted into each of the sockets *m* and the pieces of timber are supported on the ground, the timbers being inclined to each other and being wider apart at the bottom than at the top, thus forming a firm support. Another piece of timber is now inserted edge on into the space formed between the saw-like edges of the plates *f* and *g* and is securely clamped therein by reason of the teeth on the said members penetrating the timber. The whole now forms a strong and rigid support for the horizontal platform and the heavier the dead weight of the latter the tighter the timber between the edges of the plates *f* and *g* will be clamped. Obviously, any number of devices made according to the present invention may be utilized for any working platform.

By the use of the present invention horizontal working platforms are quickly erected and dismantled, and when dismantled they take up very little space when being transported.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A trestle head comprising two base plates hingeably connected together and an upwardly extending jaw portion fixed to each base plate, each jaw portion consisting of two vertical plates in spaced relationship and each base plate having a portion extending upwards between the vertical plates constituting the jaw portions and formed so as to constitute a socket adapted to receive timber to constitute the trestle legs.

2. A trestle head comprising two spring pressed base plates hingeably connected together and an upwardly extending jaw portion fixed to each base plate, each jaw portion consisting of two vertical plates in spaced relationship, and each base plate having a portion extending upwards between the vertical plates constituting the jaw portions and formed so as to constitute a socket adapted to receive timber to constitute the trestle legs.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification.

JAMES McINTYRE FORTUNE.