June 11, 1946. H. C. TALBOTT 2,401,986

PACK CART

Filed April 15, 1944

Fig. 3

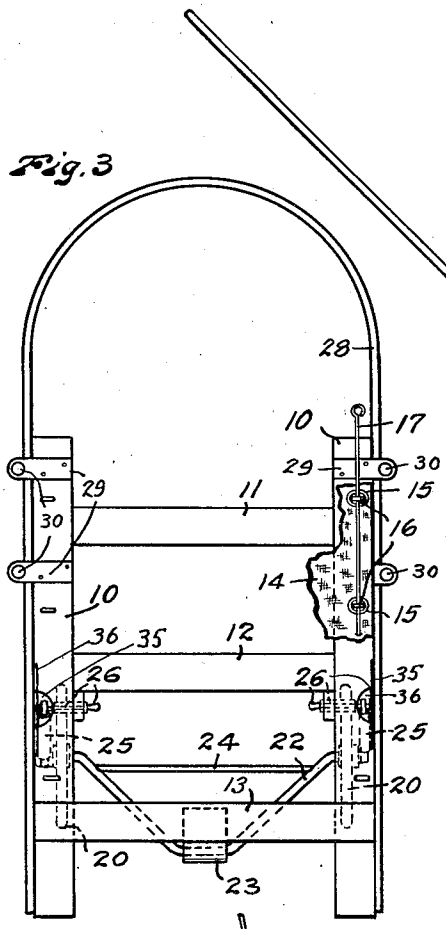


Fig. 1

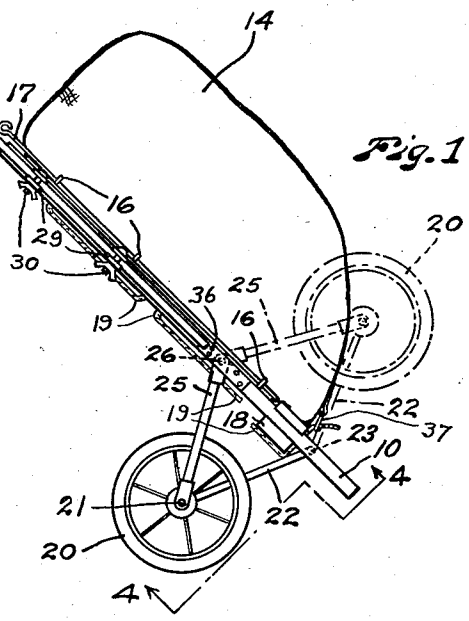
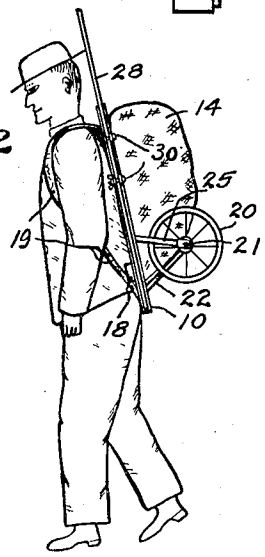


Fig. 2



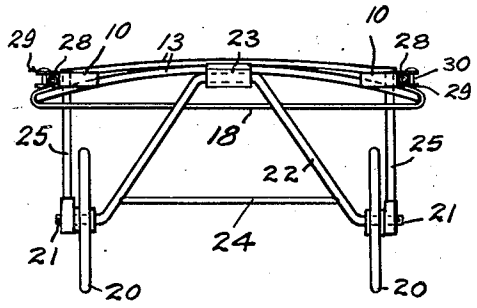


Fig. 4

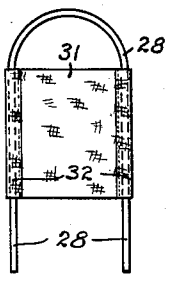


Fig. 5

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PACK CART

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4 Claims. (Cl. 280—41)

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This invention relates to a pack cart of a type adapted to be used as a cart for wheeling a pack over the ground or as a pack frame for carrying a pack on the back.

An object of this invention is to provide a pack carrying device of simple construction that is very quickly and easily convertible from a pack cart to a pack frame and vice versa.

Another object of this invention is to provide a pack carrying device comprising a pack frame having a pair of wheels connected with one end portion thereof in such a manner that they can be quickly and easily swung from one side to the other of said pack frame without disturbing the pack to render the pack carrying device suitable to be carried on the back or to be wheeled on the ground, depending on the wishes of the user.

Other objects of the invention will be apparent from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a pack carrying device constructed in accordance with this invention, showing in full lines the wheels in the position they would occupy when the device is to be used as a cart and showing by dot and dash lines the wheels in the position they would occupy if the device were to be carried on the back and showing a pack secured to the pack carrying device.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation on a smaller scale than the other figures showing this pack carrying device supported on the back of a person with the wheels properly positioned for carrying.

Fig. 3 is a plan view showing the top side of the pack cart with all except a fragment of the pack removed therefrom, the wheels being properly positioned to adapt the device for use as a cart.

Fig. 4 is an end view taken substantially on broken line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a detached view of a handle member with a load carrying sling thereon.

Like reference numerals designate like parts throughout the several views.

This pack carrying device comprises a pack frame preferably formed of two side frame members 10 and a plurality of cross frame members, such as cross members 11, 12 and 13. The cross members 11, 12 and 13 extend between the side frame members 10 and are rigidly secured thereto.

A pack 14 is adapted to be secured to the outermost side of the pack frame. One manner of securing the pack to the pack frame is to provide eyelets or gromets 15 in the marginal edge portions of the pack and to provide eye members 16 which are rigid with the side bars 10 of the pack frame and protrude outwardly therefrom. The gromets 15 are fitted over the eye members 16 and key wires 17 are inserted through said eye members to secure the pack to the frame.

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Preferably the lowermost cross bar 13 of the pack frame is curved, as shown in Fig. 4, and a relatively wide strap 18 of pliable material, such as cotton webbing, is stretched across said cross bar 13 like the string of a bow and secured to said cross bar 13 at both ends. This strap 18 is adapted to rest on the hips of the user when the pack carrying device is being carried on the back.

The usual straps 19 on the pack frame are preferably used in carrying the pack and frame. These straps 19 are usually adjustable, are connected with the upper and lower end portions of the pack frame and pass around the shoulders of the user, as indicated in Fig. 2 when the pack is being carried on the back. When the cart is to be wheeled with the pack on it the straps 19 may be tucked between the pack and one of the cross members 11 or 12.

Two wheels 20 are rotatively mounted on axles 21 formed by out-turned end portions of a wheel carrying bracket 22. The bracket 22 is of approximately U shape. The medial portion of the bracket 22 is pivotally supported in bearing means 23 that is secured to the medial portion of the lowermost cross frame member 13.

Preferably a cross brace 24 is secured to the U shaped axle member 22 near the open end thereof to strengthen said axle member.

Two truss members 25 cooperate in forming the supporting means for the wheels. Each truss member 25 has one end portion rotatively fitted over the end portion of one of the axle members 21 and the other end portion releasably secured to one of the side frame members 10. The releasable means for securing one end portion of each truss member 25 to one of the side members 10 may be a spring window fastener of well known form having a pin 26 that is normally held in an engaged position relative to the truss member but which may be quickly and easily retracted to release the truss member 25. To facilitate engaging the end portions of the truss members 25 with the pins 26 from either side of the truck frame the frame members 10 preferably have notches 35 extending inwardly from their outer edges and have metal plates 36 secured to the members 10 and extending across said notches.

A shaft member 28 of U shape serves as a

means by which the cart may be pulled or pushed. The shaft member 28 is adjustably secured to the side frame members 10 of the pack frame by clips 29 having readily releasable clamp screw means 30 connected therewith. When the pack carrying device is being used as a cart this shaft member may be extended as much as desired by the user. When the device is to be carried on the back, as shown in Fig. 2, this shaft member will usually be retracted, see also Fig. 3. This shaft member is shown partially extended in Fig. 1.

In use, if this device is to be operated as a cart, the wheels 20 are positioned on the under or lower side of the pack frame, as shown in Fig. 1, a pack 14 is fastened to the upper side of the pack frame and the shaft member 28 is extended to suit the user. The device may then be easily pulled or pushed over reasonably level ground or over any ordinary road or trail or pavement. When the user desires to carry the device he will first retract the pins 26 thereby releasing the end portions of the truss links 25 that are connected with the frame bars 10. He will then swing the axle bracket 22 and wheels 20 past the lower end portion of the pack, without disturbing or removing the pack, and position them on the other side of the pack as shown by dot and dash lines in Fig. 1 and by full lines in Fig. 2. He will then re-engage the end portions of the truss links 25 with pins 26. This positions and secures the wheels 20 on the same side of the pack frame as the pack. Also the user will preferably retract the shaft members 28 to a position as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. After this has been done the user may insert his arms through the shoulder straps 19 and position the pack on his back with the shoulder straps passing from the upper portion of the pack frame over his shoulders and thence downwardly and rearwardly under his arms and down to the lower portion of the pack frame. The lower end portions of the shoulder straps 19 are preferably detachably secured to the lower portion of the pack as by buckles 37, Fig. 1.

When the wheels are positioned on the same side of the the pack frame as the pack the lower end portion of the pack will ordinarily occupy a position between the wheels as shown in Fig. 2 and by broken lines in Fig. 1, and may rest against the wheel carrying bracket 22 so that said bracket 22 thus helps to support the pack.

The wheels 20 and mounting means therefor and the shaft member 28 are preferably of light weight but strong construction and these parts do not add an objectionable amount of weight to the pack frame when the same is being carried. However these parts relieve the user of a great amount of labor by making it possible for said user to wheel or trundle the pack whenever the road or trail over which he is traveling is suitable for the wheels to run on. The wheels can be quickly and easily shifted from one side of the pack frame to the other without disturbing the pack on the pack frame.

In some instances it may be desirable, when using this device as a cart, for the user to transport articles in addition to the pack 14 on said cart. Or it may be desirable to remove the pack 14 from the pack frame and transport longer articles on the cart. To facilitate such use of the cart any suitable supporting means may be placed on the U shaped shaft or handle member 28 in such a manner as to extend crosswise between the

two side portions of this handle member 28. One supporting means that may be used for this purpose is the canvas sling 31, shown in Fig. 5. This sling 31 is made with wide enough hems 32 along its edges so that the side portions of the handle 28 can easily be slipped through the tubular passageways formed by these hems when the handle 28 is detached or removed from the cart. Thus the sling 31 may be quickly and easily put on or taken off and may be used to help support a load in addition to, or in place of, the pack 14.

The foregoing description and accompanying drawing clearly discloses a preferred embodiment of my invention but it will be understood that this disclosure is merely illustrative and that such changes in this pack cart may be made as are fairly within the scope and spirit of the following claims.

I claim:

1. In pack carrying means, a pack frame adapted to have a pack secured to one side thereof; axle bracket means; pivot devices connecting said axle bracket means with said pack frame providing for movement of said axle bracket from one side to the other of said pack frame; wheels carried by said axle bracket means; and strut members swingingly movable with said wheels operable to support said wheels in an operative position on either side of said pack frame.

2. In pack carrying means, a pack frame adapted to have a pack secured to one side thereof; U shaped axle bracket means pivotally connected with said pack frame near one end portion of said pack frame and swingingly movable from one side to the other of said pack frame; wheels carried by the end portions of said U shaped axle bracket means; and readily releasable strut means swingingly movable with said wheels from one side to the other of said pack frame to support said U shaped bracket on either side of said pack frame.

3. In pack carrying means, a pack frame adapted to have a pack secured on one side thereof; an approximately U shaped axle bracket having its medial portion pivotally connected with said pack frame near one end of said frame and having outwardly protruding axle members on its end portions, said U shaped axle bracket being swingingly movable from one side to the other of said pack frame; wheels carried on said axle members; two struts each having one end portion pivotally connected with one of said axle members; and readily releasable means adapted to detachably connect the other end portion of each strut with said pack frame from either side of the pack frame.

4. In pack carrying means, a pack frame adapted to have a pack secured to one side thereof; wheels swingingly mounted on said pack frame and adapted to be swingingly moved from one side to the other of said pack frame without disturbing a pack on said frame; a U shaped handle member having straight portions positioned alongside of the sides of said pack frame and said handle having a U shaped end portion connecting said straight side portions and positioned at the rear of said pack frame; clamp means adjustably holding said straight side portions of said handle member; and load supporting means adapted for attachment to the two straight side portions of said handle member so as to extend crosswise therebetween.

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