

R. A. W. FOX.
SUPPORTING APPARATUS.
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1,207,154.

Patented Dec. 5, 1916.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

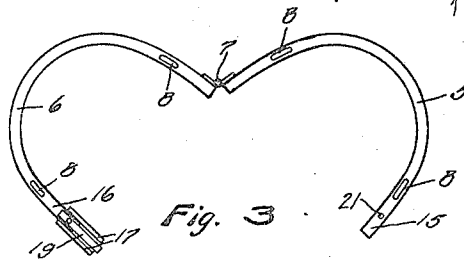


Fig. 3

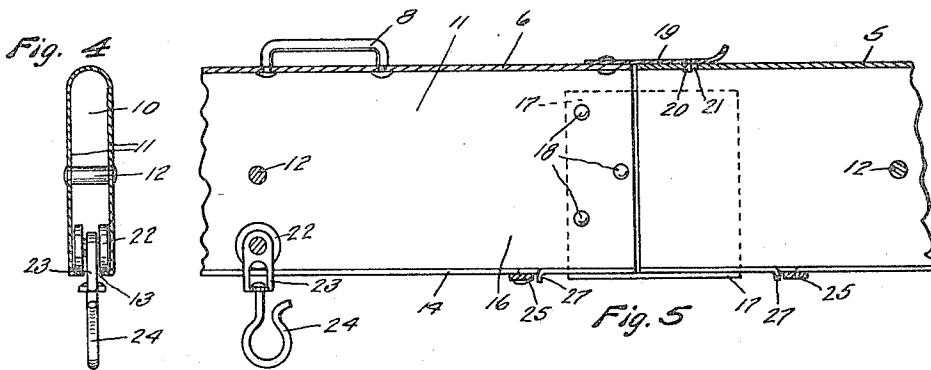


Fig. 4

Fig. 5

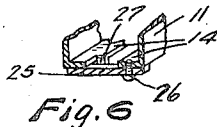


Fig. 6

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SUPPORTING APPARATUS.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROSALIE A. W. FOX, a citizen of the United States, residing at Seattle, in the county of King and State of Washington, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Supporting Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in devices for supporting articles about the person in a convenient manner, and has for its principal object the provision of means whereby mail-carriers and others carrying a variety of packages may dispose them conveniently and with regard to balance so that packages aggregating relatively heavy weights may be carried with comparative ease.

The invention consists in the novel construction, adaptation and combination of a supporting attachment, as will be fully described in the following specifications, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and finally set forth in the appended claims.

In said drawings, Figure 1 is a front view of my invention shown pictorially. Fig. 2 is a rear view of the same. Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the frame shown in open condition. Fig. 4 is a cross sectional view through the frame showing one of the hanger members in front elevation. Fig. 5 is a fragmentary vertical cross-section through the frame. Fig. 6 is a fragmentary perspective view of the end of one of the frame members illustrating a method of locking the hanger members from leaving the trackway.

Referring to said views, the reference numerals 5 and 6 indicate, respectively, two cooperating frame members which are hinged together at their rear ends, as at 7, and adapted to be releasably secured together at their front ends, as will be presently explained, to afford a continuous frame adapted to be worn about the body under the arms from which articles can be conveniently and adjustably suspended, as will be hereinafter more fully described. Said frame is provided with suitably disposed loops 8 or equivalent devices, to which straps 9 are secured, which are worn over the shoulders or in any convenient manner. Said straps may be provided with buckles, not shown, whereby the frame may be raised or lowered at will to adjust its height to the desires of the operator. Said frame is desirably formed of sheet metal with a continuous in-

terior chamber 10. Said frame, in cross-section, is desirably of considerably greater vertical height than in its transverse dimensions affording a belt-like structure which will not readily be deflected or twisted under relatively heavy weights to incommode the wearer. The side walls 11 of said frame are substantially parallel and are spaced apart by spacing pins 12. The bottom wall of said frame is formed substantially at right angles to said side walls and is formed with a continuous medial slot 13 affording a continuous ledge or trackway 14 upon either side.

The frame members 5 and 6, when joined together at their opposite ends, may desirably conform substantially to an ellipse or to a form which best accommodates itself to the configuration of the body. The front ends 15 and 16, respectively, of said members 5 and 6, are adapted to be secured together so that in front as well as in the rear at the joint 7, the slot 13 and trackways 14 are continuous. The form of front connection illustrated includes side plates 17 secured upon either side of the end 16 by means of rivets 18, which plates project to receive therebetween the frame end 15 and align the same with the frame end 16. A spring snap 19 is provided upon the frame end 16 which is formed with a pin 20 adapted to engage in a hole 21 of the frame end 15 to secure the ends in locked engagement.

Hanger-members of any suitable form may be utilized. Those illustrated herewith consist in a duplex roller 22 adapted to track on the ledges 14, and a swivel hanger 23 suspended therefrom. Said hanger includes a spring hook 24 adapted to receive and safely retain packages and other articles engaged therewith. Said hanger-members are inserted into the trackways through the opened frame ends 15 and 16 and thereupon may be adjusted anywhere about the frame and shifted from time to time as the wearer may determine, to balance the weights or for any other reason.

The manner of utilizing the device is believed to be obvious from inspection of Figs. 1 and 2. A device that may be employed to prevent the hanger from leaving the trackways when the frame ends 15 and 16 may be separated is indicated in Figs. 5 and 6, wherein arms 25 are pivoted at 26 and adapted to be swung across the slot 13 and abutted against a lug 27, whereupon said

arm 25 will be held by frictional engagement. Thus when the frame members are separated, as shown in Fig. 3, as when the wearer is divesting the frame, the hanger-members will be prevented from escaping from the slot.

What I claim is:

1. In supporting apparatus, a rigid frame adapted to be worn about the body of a person, and means to support the frame about said body, said frame having a trackway formed therein, and hanger-members adapted to be retained in said trackway.

2. In supporting apparatus, a rigid frame adapted to be worn about the body of a person, and means to support the frame about said body, said frame having a continuous trackway formed therein, and hanger-members associated with said trackway and movable to any desired position therein.

3. In supporting apparatus, a pair of hinged hollow frame-members adapted to be positioned about the body of a person to afford a continuous chamber therein, said frame having a slot formed therein, a ledge associated with said slot to support a plurality of hanger-members, said hanger-members, and means to suspend said frame from said body.

4. In supporting apparatus, a hinged hollow frame, adapted to be positioned about the body of a person, said frame having a continuous chamber and an open slot in its lower portion affording a trackway upon

each side thereof, a plurality of hanger-members supported upon said trackways and movable to any position about said frame, and means to suspend said frame from said body.

5. In supporting apparatus, a pair of opposed frame-members hingedly connected at one of their ends and detachably connected at their other ends to afford a continuous frame-structure adapted to be worn about the body of a person, means to support the frame about said body, said frame when in operative condition affording a continuous trackway, and devices adjustably retained in said trackway for the attachment and support of various articles.

6. In supporting apparatus, a frame formed of two members hinged at one of their ends and provided with releasable connections at their opposite ends, said frame having a continuous interior chamber and a slot in its lower wall provided with trackways upon each side thereof, hanger-members extending through said slot and movable upon said trackways to any position about said frame, means to prevent the removal of said hanger-members when said frame-members are separated.

Signed at Seattle, Washington, this 30th day of December, 1915.

ROSALIE A. W. FOX.

Witnesses:

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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."