

Oct. 29, 1929.

H. F. STOVER  
COLLAPSIBLE SUPPORT  
Filed Feb. 3, 1927

1,733,172

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

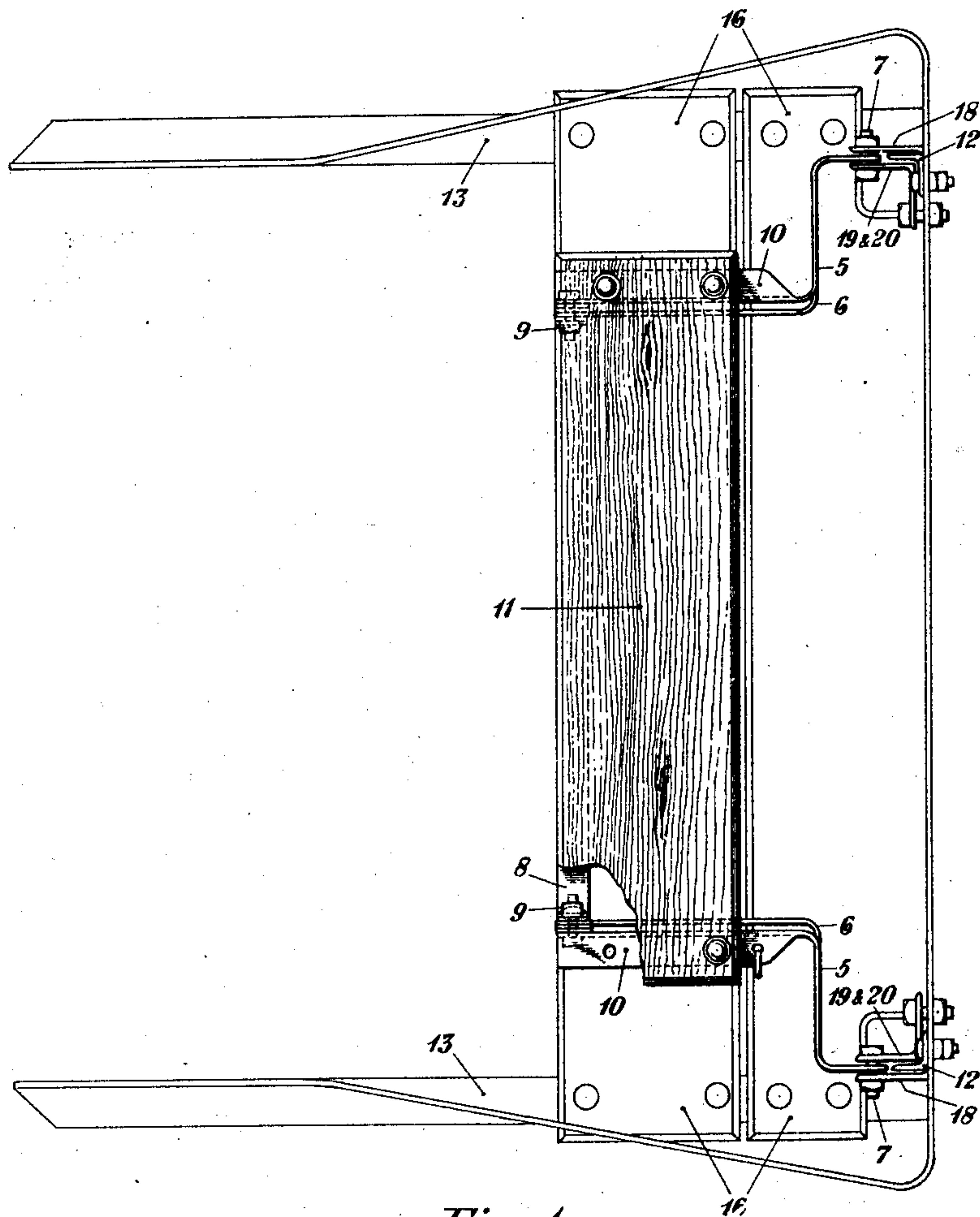


Fig. 1

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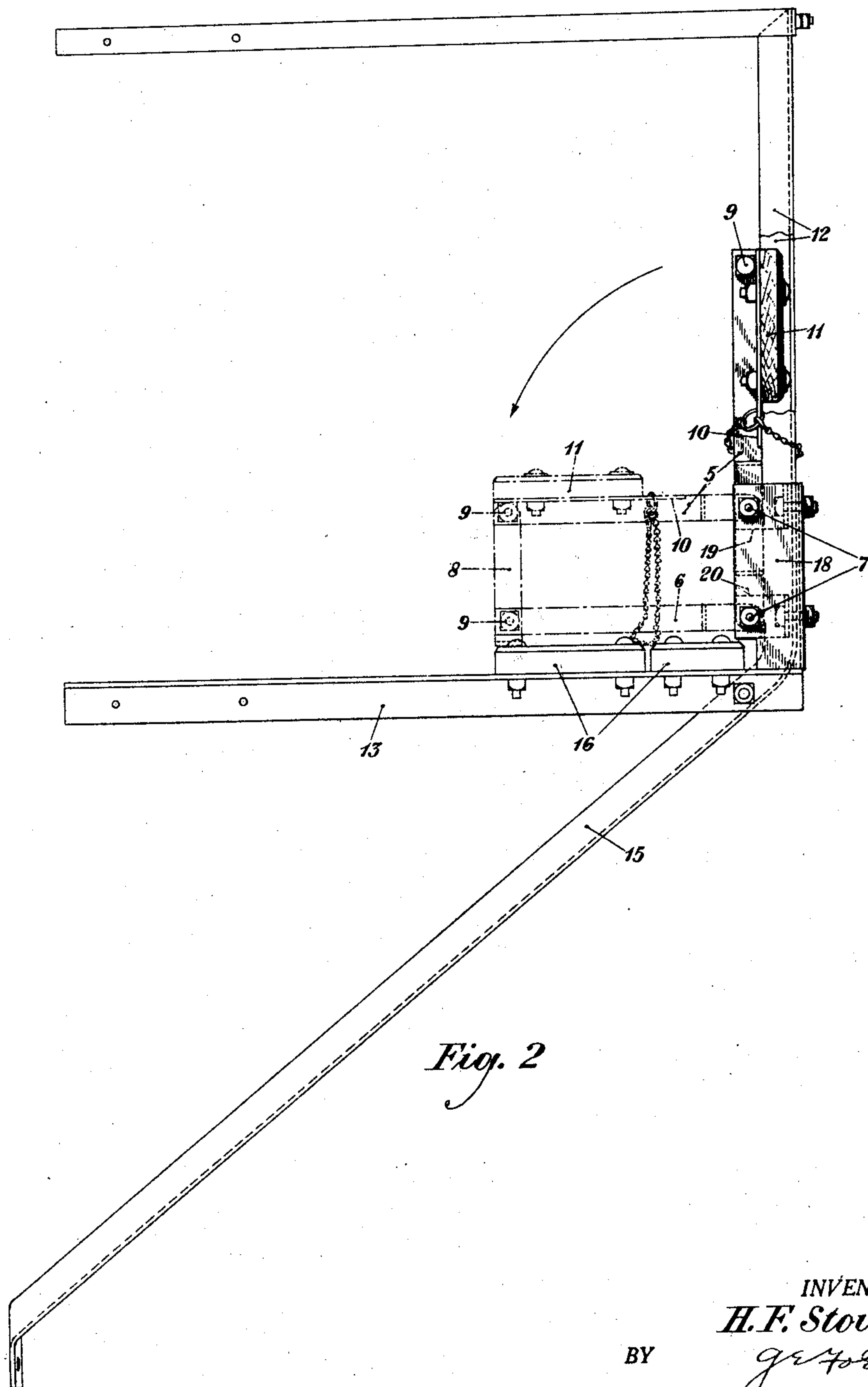
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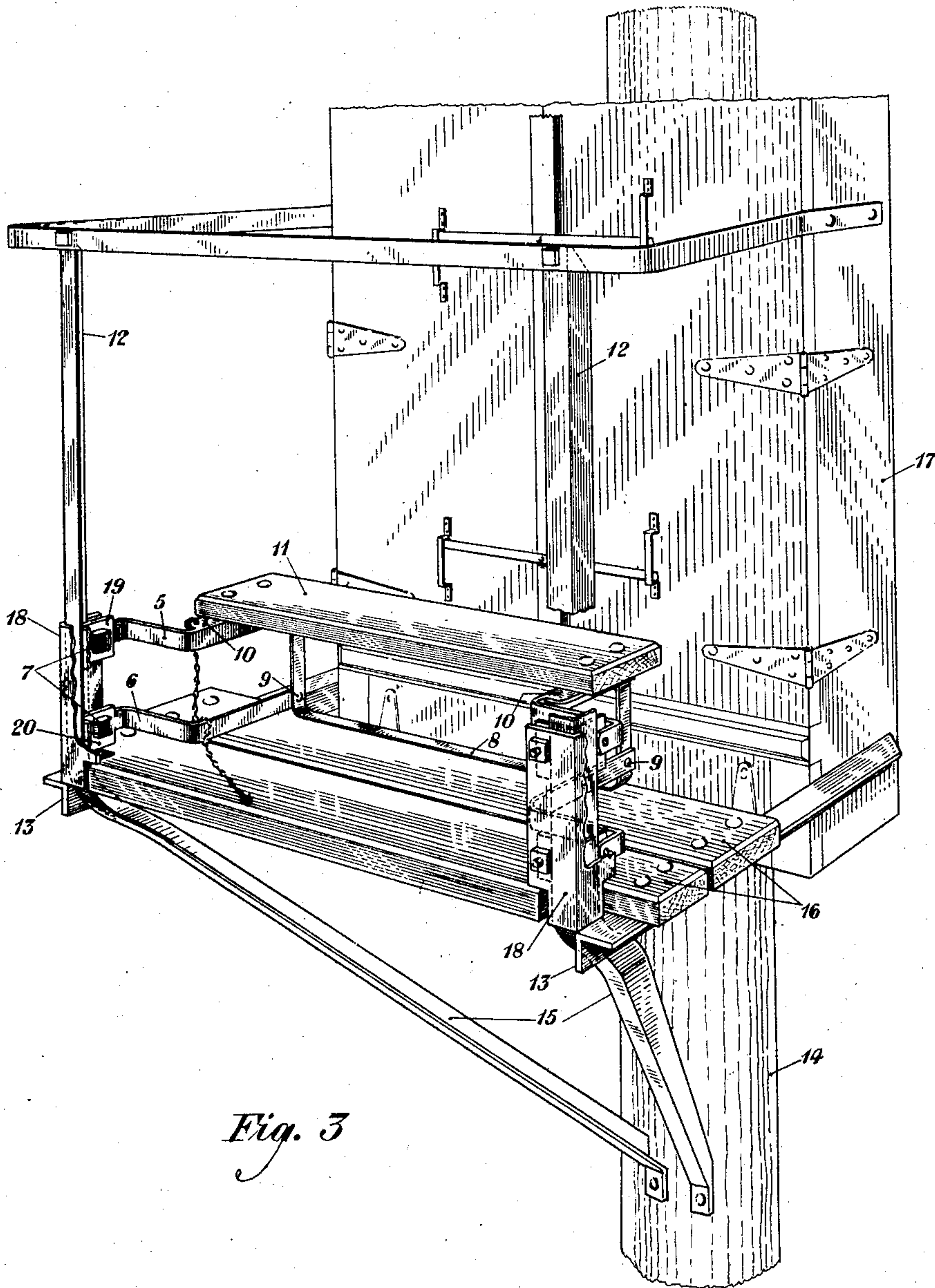
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*Fig. 3*

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## COLLAPSIBLE SUPPORT

Application filed February 3, 1927. Serial No. 165,688.

This invention relates to a collapsible arrangement, more particularly adapted for use in connection with stands, platforms or the like.

5 An object of the invention consists in providing a collapsible support which is adapted to be placed in an extended position for use, and in a folded position when not in use, so that it may be entirely out of the way.

10 A further object consists in the provision of an arrangement of the above character which shall be comparatively inexpensive and simple in construction and efficient in operation.

15 These and further objects will be apparent from the following description when considered in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which a certain embodiment of the invention is illustrated.

20 Referring to the drawing, Figure 1 is the top plan view of the improved arrangement in an extended position; Fig. 2 is an end view thereof showing the support in an extended position and ready for use in dotted lines and in folded or collapsed position in full lines. Fig. 3 is a perspective view illustrating the support in connection with a cable balcony.

In Fig. 3 of the drawings, the improved support is shown as applied to a cable balcony for the purpose of illustration. This cable balcony is of the well known type which is commonly attached to poles and is used by linemen as a platform in connection with work on cable terminal boxes mounted on the poles. Binding posts are contained within the cable terminal boxes and are mounted on panels so that the vertical series of such binding posts extend from the top to the bottom of said boxes. The binding posts positioned at the upper portion of the cable terminal boxes are frequently so high that they cannot be reached from a platform ordinarily employed with the balcony.

45 An auxiliary platform is needed in such cases, and for this purpose the present support is particularly adapted.

The support comprises a plurality of parallel links in the form of angular brackets.

50 The upper pair of links, 5, 5, and the lower

pair of links, 6, 6, have an opening at one of their ends through which bolts, 7, 7, may pass to pivotally associate said links with framework or other means to support the links. These links are adapted to be placed in a horizontal extended position or a vertical collapsed or folded position and, in either position, the links lie in practically the same parallel relation with respect to each other. The opposite ends of the links are also provided with openings which coincide with openings in a supporting member, 8, and bolts 9, 9, pass through these openings to pivotally connect the links and supporting member. The member 8 may be of substantially U-shape and the closed end thereof rests upon a supporting surface when the links are in an extended position and folds up with the links when they are in a collapsed position.

The upper pair of links are each provided with a flange 10 which may be extended outwardly therefrom as illustrated. The flanges serve to support a platform 11 which is suitably fixed thereto by bolts or the like. When the links are in an extended position this platform lies in a horizontal position and provides a surface upon which to stand. The U-shaped member 8 is positioned directly below the platform and supports it when it is in extended position. The platform 11 assumes a vertical position when the links are collapsed, as is more clearly indicated in full lines in Fig. 2.

In the application of the improved support to a cable balcony which is shown in the present instance by way of illustration, the bolts 7 pivotally secure the upper and lower pairs of links to uprights 12, 12. The members 12, 12, are attached in any suitable fashion to framework including a horizontal base 13. The base may be secured to a pole 14 and brackets 15 may be provided for supporting said base. Suitable footboards or flooring may be affixed to the base as indicated by the character 16 and the U-shaped member 8 may be supported on said flooring when the improved arrangement is in operative or extended position.

The cable terminal box 17 is associated with the pole 14 and supported thereon in the



customary manner. This box is of the usual construction and forms an enclosure for terminal binding posts which are suitably mounted therein.

5 It will be obvious that the lower binding posts within the cable terminal box may be readily reached by standing on the floor 16 of the cable balcony and that the binding posts positioned higher in said terminal box and not within reach may be made accessible  
10 by placing the improved support in an extended position. The distance between the lower and upper parallel links of the support can be so arranged that any required  
15 elevation may be obtained.

The improved device can be secured safely to the uprights 12, 12 of the balcony by means of clamps which may be made from sections of angle irons. These angle iron sections may  
20 be any suitable combination, and are shown in the present instance, for the purpose of illustration, as being composed of elongated angle iron members 18 positioned on the outer corners of the uprights 12, 12 and smaller  
25 sections of angle iron members positioned on the inner corners of said uprights. The latter angle iron members may be divided into pairs comprising an upper section 19 and a lower section 20 for each upright, as more  
30 clearly indicated in Fig. 3 of the drawings. The outer corner angle iron members 18 and the inner lower angle members 20 are supported upon the horizontal base 13 of the cable balcony to prevent their downward  
35 movement. Lateral movement of the support is prevented in an obvious manner. With the form of clamps provided it is not necessary to drill holes in the framework of the balcony and the labor of performing this work is  
40 thereby eliminated. Besides securing the links of the collapsible support, the bolts 7, 7, placed through the clamps act as hinge pins about which the links may rotate and permit said support to swing upward and rest  
45 against the uprights 12 in collapsed position. The collapsible feature provides clearance for the doors of the cable terminal box which swing outward when opened. The support, in its folded position as shown in full lines  
50 of Fig. 3 of the drawings, may be secured to the uprights of the balcony by means of a sash chain and snap hook.

While the arrangement of this invention has been illustrated as embodied in a certain  
55 specific form and shown as applied to a cable terminal balcony, it will be understood that it is not limited to this specific construction or use. It is also adapted to be used in other forms and connections where an auxiliary  
60 support is required with stands, platforms, steps, and the like.

What is claimed is:

1. The combination of a cable balcony having a platform, an auxiliary platform associated therewith, supporting members, pairs

of links movable in parallel relation with respect to each other and pivotally associated with the supporting members, said links being adapted to assume a folded position in parallel planes with respect to each other and an extended position, said platform being affixed to certain of said links and adapted to assume positions in accordance with the positions of all of said links, and a support for said platform in its extended position, said support being pivotally associated with each pair of links and adapted to be folded therewith.

2. The combination of a cable balcony having framework including uprights, a platform and an auxiliary platform, supporting members extending vertically from the first mentioned platform, clamping means for securing the supporting members to the uprights, an upper pair of links arranged in parallel relation with respect to each other, and a lower pair of links arranged similarly to said first pair of links, each pair of links being pivotally associated with the clamping means for the supporting members and being adapted to assume a folded position and an extended position, said links in their folded position being in parallel planes with respect to each other, said auxiliary platform being affixed to the upper pair of links and adapted to assume positions in accordance with the positions of both pairs of links.

3. The combination of a cable balcony having framework including uprights, a platform and an auxiliary platform, supporting members extending vertically from the first mentioned platform, clamping means for securing the supporting members to the uprights, an upper pair of links arranged in parallel horizontal relation with respect to each other, a lower pair of links arranged similarly to said first pair of links, each pair of links being pivotally associated with the clamping means for the supporting members and uprights and being adapted to assume a folded position in parallel planes with respect to each other and an extended position in a parallel horizontal plane, said auxiliary platform being affixed to the upper pair of links and adapted to assume positions in accordance with the positions thereof, and a support for said platform in its extended position.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification this 29th day of January, 1927.

HERBERT F. STOVER.