July 15, 1952 K. F. EARNHART 2,603,080

OUTBOARD MOTOR LOCK

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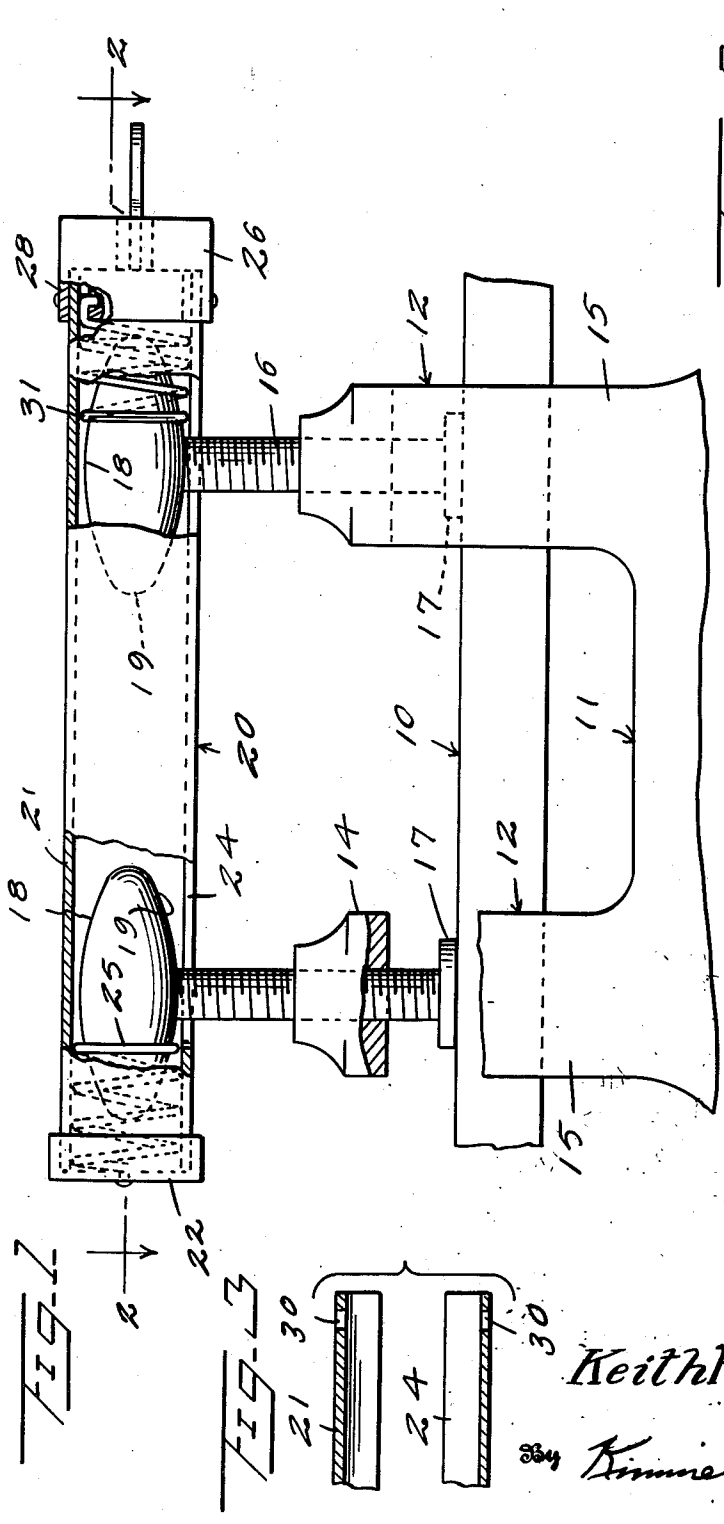


FIG. 1

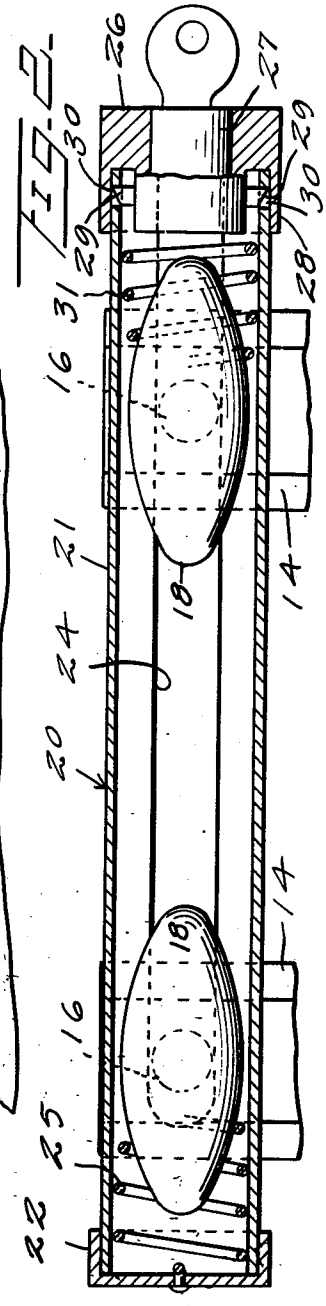


FIG. 2

FIG. 3

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OUTBOARD MOTOR LOCK

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1 Claim. (Cl. 70—232)

1

This invention relates to a lock for outboard motors and the like.

It is an object of this invention to provide a lock of the kind to be more particularly described hereinafter for engagement with the clamp of an outboard motor to secure the motor against unauthorized removal from its mounting on a boat or stand.

Another object of this invention is to provide a lock of this kind which may be readily applied to the clamping means of an outboard motor or other similar clamping devices to hold the clamps secure against inadvertent movement towards a loose condition and for securing the clamps against unauthorized use.

A further object of this invention is to provide a lock of this kind which is to be fabricated entirely independent of the device on which it is used whereby it may be employed on other similar structures as desired.

Yet another object of this invention is to provide a lock of this kind which by its structure is readily adaptable for use on pairs of clamps while providing for securely locking clamps of various sizes with a wide range of application.

To the foregoing objects, and others which may hereinafter more fully appear, the invention consists of the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts, as will be more specifically referred to and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, but it is to be understood that changes, variations, and modifications may be resorted to which fall within the scope of the invention as claimed.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a top plan view, partly broken away and partly in section, showing an improved lock for an outboard motor, constructed according to an embodiment of my invention.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal section taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary detailed longitudinal section of the open end of the lock housing.

Referring to the drawing, the numeral 10 designates generally a support or standard for an outboard motor which support may be a display support or the rear end of a boat to which the outboard motor may be attached. The outboard motor frame 11 is secured to the support 10 by a pair of C-clamps 12 which are fixed to or formed integrally with the motor frame 11. The C-clamps 12 are of conventional design wherein one jaw or abutment member is constituted by the frame 11 itself and the other jaw member is formed of a screw threaded in an arm spaced

2

away from the frame. As the frame 11 forms one clamping jaw member, the arms 14 which are spaced away from the frame by a bight or connecting member 15 complete the formation of the clamp and a screw as 16 is threaded through the arms for securing the outboard motor to a support. The screws 16 are provided with a pad as 17 on the inner end thereof between the arm 14 and the frame to provide the actual clamp therebetween. A head as 18 is provided on the outer end of the screws 16 to provide a finger grip for tightening the clamp. The heads or finger grips 18 are elongated so that an extension 19 thereof extends radially from the sides of the screws 16.

I have provided a clamp locking device for engagament with the heads 18 of such screws to lock the clamp against unauthorized removal either from a display stand or from a mounting on a boat. The lock 20 of my invention is formed of an elongated tubular housing 21 which is open at one end thereof. The other end of the housing 21 is closed as by a cap 22 which is fixed thereon. The housing 21 is also formed with an elongated slot 24 which extends along the length of the housing and opens at the open end thereof. The screws 16 are adapted to be slidingly engaged within the slot 24 so that the housing 21 may be slid from one end over both of the heads 18 for enclosing them within the lock. A spring or resilient cushioning member 25 is fixed at one end to the cap 22 and is disposed within the closed end of the housing 21. The spring 25 is adapted to engage the head 18 of the screw for holding the housing 21 against vibrating and sliding when it is mounted loosely on the screws.

A cap or closure 26 is provided for closing the open end of the tubular housing 21. The cap 26 is provided with a central barrel lock 27 which is adapted to extend inwardly of the housing 21 at its open end. The cap 26 is formed with a peripheral flange 28 which is radially spaced from the inner end of the barrel 27 and is adapted to engage about the outer surface of the housing 21 at the open end.

A conventional lock is mounted in the barrel 27 and is provided with radially extending lugs 29 for engagement in slots or radial openings 30 adjacent the extreme outer end of the housing 21. The lugs 29 are adapted to be moved inwardly so that the cap 26 may be removed upon rotation of a key in the barrel 27. A spring or resilient cushioning member 31 is fixed at one end to the inner end of the cap 26 and is adapted to be engaged within the housing 21 for pressing against the head 18 of the screw adjacent the

open end of the housing. The spring 31 being fixed to the cap 26 is removable with the removal of the cap for the application of the lock 20 to the clamp or for its removal therefrom.

In the use and operation of this lock 20 the heads 18 of the screws 16 are disposed in substantial alignment and with the cap 26 removed the housing 21 is slid from one of the screws 16 over the other for enclosing both of the heads 18 therein. The spring 25 abuts one of the heads 18. The cap 26 may be then attached to the housing by sliding it into engagement with the open end thereof. The spring 31 will then resiliently engage the other head and the lugs 29 of the lock will engage in the openings 30 for securing the cap thereto. In this manner one of the clamps 12 may not be loosened as long as the housing 21 is mounted between the two screws 16. In order to loosen either one of the clamps 12 the lock 20 must be totally removed from engagement between both of the heads of the screws 16.

I claim:

An improved locking device for securing the elongated head screws of an outboard motor clamp against unauthorized movement comprising an elongated tubular body open at one end, a slot formed along the length of said body open at the open end of said body, said screws being slidable in said slot whereby the elongated heads thereof may be disposed in relative longitudinal alignment within said body, said body having oppositely spaced apertures therethrough adjacent said open end, a flanged circular cap for said body including an annular groove formed in one side thereof adapted to receive the open end of said body, the flange of said cap extending exteriorly of said body and closing said apertures exteriorly of the casing, a locking barrel in said cap, extensible lugs carried by said barrel engageable in said apertures, a resilient coil spring cushioning member carried by said one side of said cap and adapted to extend into said open end for abutment against the adjacent one of the elongated heads, a closure cap fixedly secured to the other end of said body, and a second resilient coil spring cushioning member carried by said closure cap for abutment against the other of the elongated heads whereby movement of said locking device relative to said clamp will be substantially cushioned.

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