Aug. 28, 1962 R. R. MOON 3,050,751

BOAT STRUCTURE

Filed July 20, 1959

FIG. 1

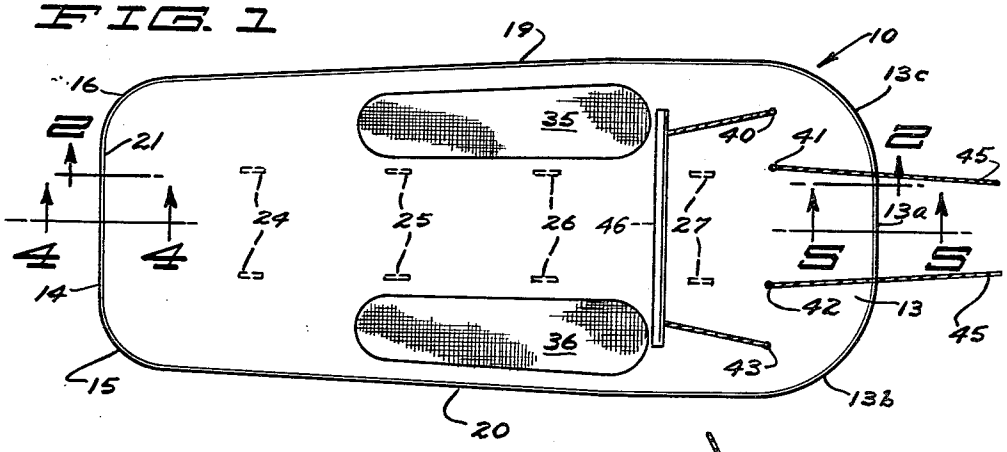


FIG. 2

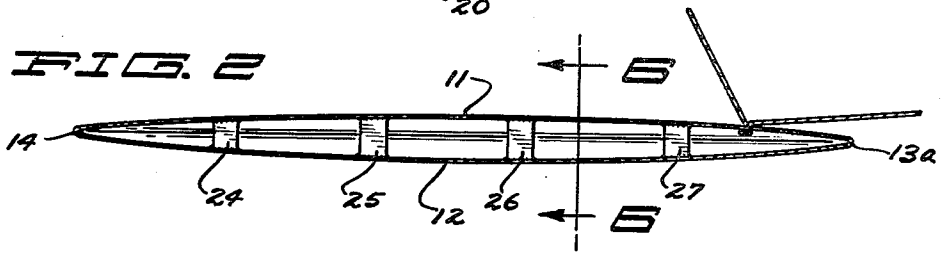


FIG. 3

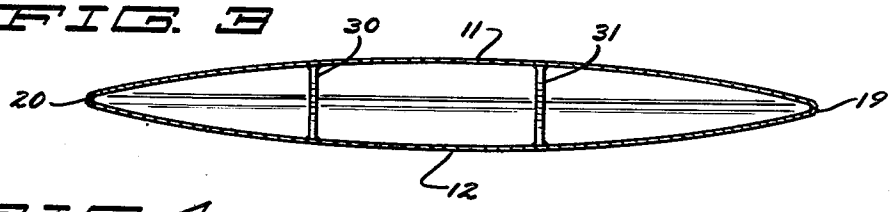


FIG. 4

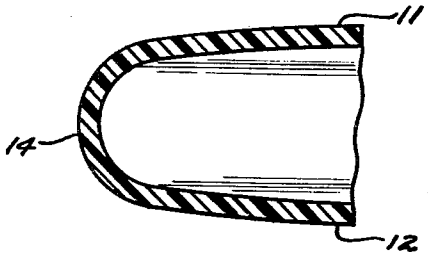
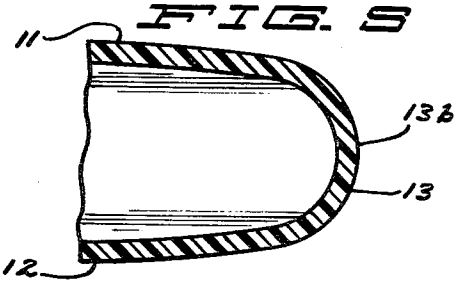


FIG. 5



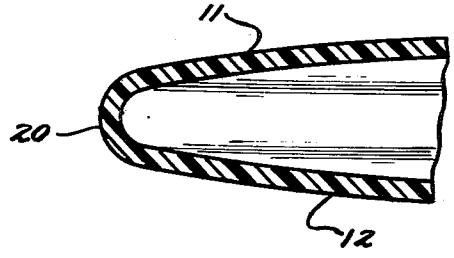


FIG. 6

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United States Patent Office

3,050,751
Patented Aug. 28, 1962

3,050,751

BOAT STRUCTURE

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Filed July 20, 1959, Ser. No. 828,157
2 Claims. (Cl. 9—310)

This invention relates to an improvement in a boating device and more particularly to a surfboard type of boating device having a longitudinal and transverse taper resulting in an edge portion of small dimension giving the device an unusual degree of maneuverability. There are many commonly used similar types of boating devices which have longitudinally tapered upper and lower surfaces but which are provided with vertically disposed side portions of some width which side portions substantially reduce maneuverability.

It is desirable to have a device having its upper and lower surface tapered longitudinally and transversely providing a substantially knife like edge portion thereabout whereby such a craft may easily skim the surface of water or skim along just below the surface of water and be well adapted for slicing through the water in making sharp turns.

It is therefore an object of this invention to provide a boating device of the surfboard type having both a longitudinal and a transverse taper resulting in a knife like edge portion thereabout.

It is another object of this invention to provide a surfboard type of boating device tapering in width from the front to the rear and having both a longitudinal and transverse taper respectively in its upper and lower surfaces to provide an edge portion of small dimension thereabout.

It is a further object of this invention to provide a surfboard type of boating device comprising a pair of mating plate-like members respectively having their surfaces tapering longitudinally and transversely towards the sides and the ends thereof from center points thereon resulting in a substantially knife like edge portion thereabout and a pair of transversely spaced non-skid foot pads molded in one surface thereof to be flush with said surface.

It is more specifically an object of this invention to provide a surfboard type of boating device forming a completely enclosed shell having an upper and lower surface, said device having a substantially rounded front edge portion and substantially rounded corners at the rear end thereof, said device tapering in width from the front to the rear thereof and tapering longitudinally and transversely at each surface respectively from central points thereof to provide an edge portion of small dimension thereabout, a pair of transverse non-skid foot pads on one of said surfaces embedded to be flush with said surface and means in connection with said device to aid in supporting an operator thereon.

These and other objects and advantages of the invention will be fully set forth in the following description made in connection with the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a top plan view of the applicant's device;

FIG. 2 is a view in longitudinal vertical section;

FIG. 3 is a view in transverse vertical section;

FIG. 4 is a broken view of an enlarged scale in a vertical section taken on line 4—4 of FIG. 1 as indicated by the arrows;

FIG. 5 is a broken view on an enlarged scale taken on line 5—5 of FIG. 1 as indicated by the arrows; and

FIG. 6 is a broken view on an enlarged scale in vertical section taken on line 6—6 of FIG. 2 as indicated by the arrows.

In the drawings, like reference characters are used throughout the several views to indicate identical parts.

Referring to the drawings, applicant's boating device **10** is indicated. Said device may be variously formed. In the present embodiment, applicant's invention is shown as

being substantially rectangular in plan comprising an elongated plate member **11** forming the upper surface thereof and a mating plate member **12** forming the lower surface thereof. Thus, said device is formed as a shell having a small central vertical dimension. Said device as formed has a substantially rounded front end portion **13** and a substantially rectilinear central rear end portion **14** having rounded corners **15** and **16** at either side thereof.

Said layers **11** and **12** may be formed of various suitable materials. It has been found desirable to mold said layers of a fiber glass material which provides substantial rigidity and has a tough resilience making it well adapted for hard usage and is air tight which results in applicant's device being a buoyant light weight structure.

Said layers **11** and **12** are respectively adapted to have a convex taper from their central portions to their peripheries forming convex surfaces longitudinally and transversely thereof whereby the mating edges of said members **11** and **12** form a substantially knife like edge portion having a small radial dimension. In the present embodiment, the central portion **13***a* of the front end portion **13** is indicated as having a radius of approximately ¾ of an inch. Said edge portion **13***a* tapers to a radius of approximately ⅜ of an inch at either side **13***b* and **13***c* thereof. The side edge portions **19** and **20** for substantially the full length of said device **10** each have a radius of approximately ⅜ of an inch. The rear end edge portion **21** has a radius of approximately ⅝ of an inch which tapers to the dimension of the side edge portions **19** and **20**.

Said layers **11** and **12** are held supported in their tapered spaced positions by transversely extending struts **24**, **25**, **26** and **27**. Said transversely extending struts are held secured in position in their spaced relation to one another by the longitudinally extending struts **30** and **31** which will respectively intersect and hold in position said transversely extending struts. Said struts may be formed of any suitable material such as laminated plywood which has been found to be very desirable for this purpose. Applicant's device in being formed of fiberglass, has said struts somewhat embedded in the inner sides thereof which is done during the molding process of said device. Said struts will conform in shape to the contour of said members.

Formed integral with the member **11** and embedded therein are the transversely spaced elongated foot pads **35** and **36** which are formed to have a non-skid surface to form a gripping surface for the feet of the operator. The surfaces of said foot pads **35** and **36** are flush with the surface of said member **11** so there will be no danger present to the part of the operator such as of a stubbing of the foot. Said foot pads **35** and **36** may be variously formed but are here indicated as having a roughened or embossed surface.

Said upper member **11** has a pair of spaced apertures **40** and **41** at one side of said device **10** as indicated in FIG. 1 and a second pair of apertures **42** and **43** at the opposite side through which a cable **45** is secured at its free ends and a bar type handle **46** is formed at the closed end of said cable. The length of said cable is easily adjusted.

Applicant's device is here indicated as being formed as a molded device but may be otherwise formed as may be desired. The principal area of novelty lies in the configuration of the applicant's device. The applicant's device as constructed has light weight and substantial buoyancy. A specimen of applicant's device having a length of approximately six feet and a width of thirty inches at its front end tapering to a width of 26 inches at its rear end was formed to have a weight of approximately thirty-five pounds and this supports a weight of 160 pounds thereon, it then being barely submerged beneath the surface of the water. This device with its tapering construction forming a relatively thin edge portion thereabout is particularly

adapted for skimming through the water very nicely and its knife like front side edge portions 13*b* and 13*c* along with the thin edge portions 19 and 20 permit applicant's device to slice through the water in being turned very sharply either to the left or to the right.

Thus, it is seen that I have provided a very compact and effectively formed surfboard type of boating device for skimming through the water and for very easily turning sharply therein. Applicant's device has been thoroughly tested and has been found to perform satisfactorily.

It will, of course, be understood that various changes may be made in the form, details, arrangement, and proportions of the parts without departing from the scope of applicant's invention, which, generally stated, consists in a device capable of carrying out the objects above set forth, in the parts and combinations of parts disclosed and defined in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A surfboard type of boating device having in combination, a completely enclosed shell of small central vertical dimension being convexly curved in transverse and longitudinal section uniformly at its upper and lower sides, said sides tapering to form a medial peripheral edge portion of small radial dimension, said shell having a slightly rounded front end portion and a substantially rectilinear

rear end portion and having a substantially uniform width with a slight taper as to said width in the direction from the front end portion toward the rear end portion of said shell.

2. The structure set forth in claim 1, and a pair of spaced non-skid foot pads recessed in the upper side of said shell to be flush with the surface thereof.

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