June 26, 1962 G. F. BUNKER 3,040,693

OAR PADDLE, BOAT HOOK AND OAR

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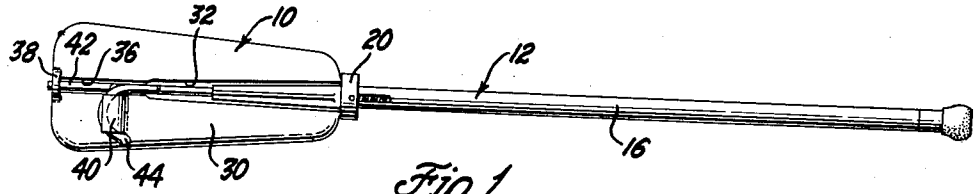


Fig. 1

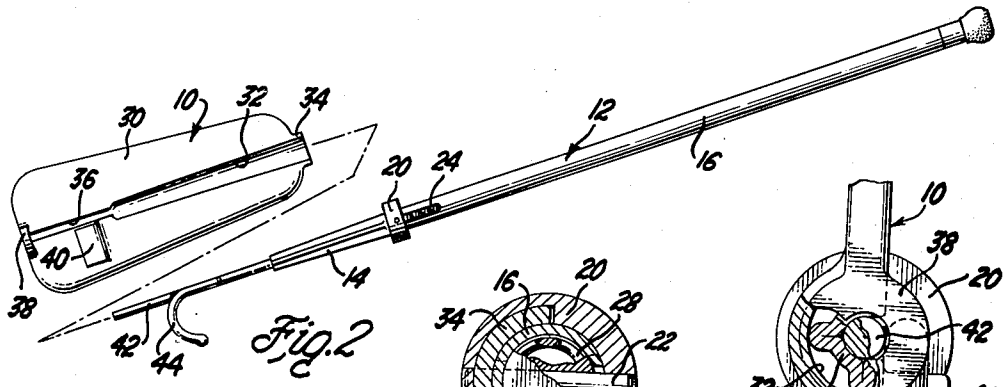


Fig. 2

Fig. 5

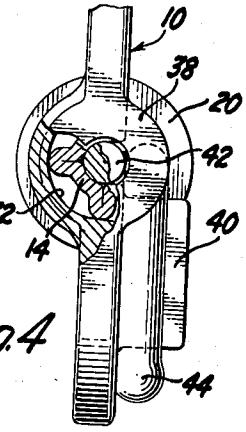


Fig. 4

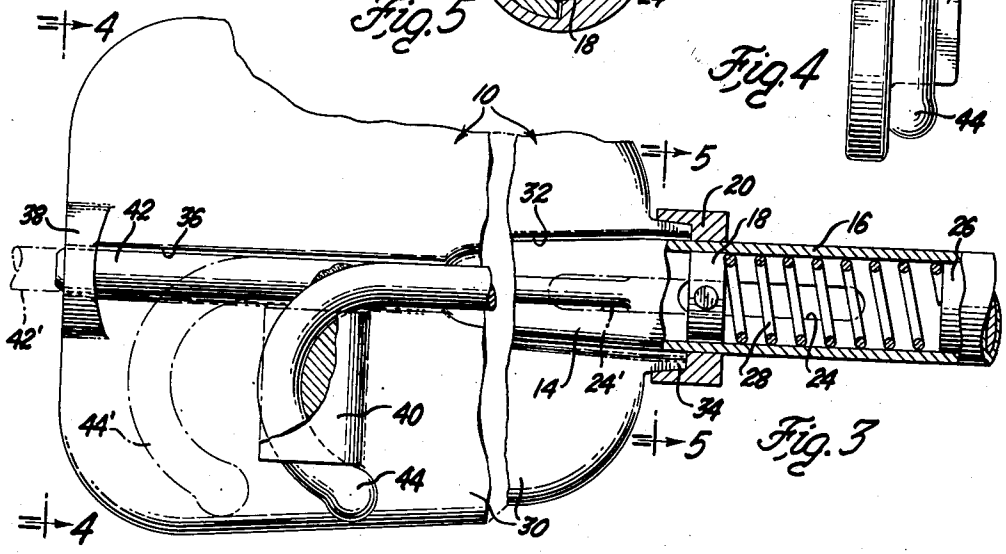


Fig. 3

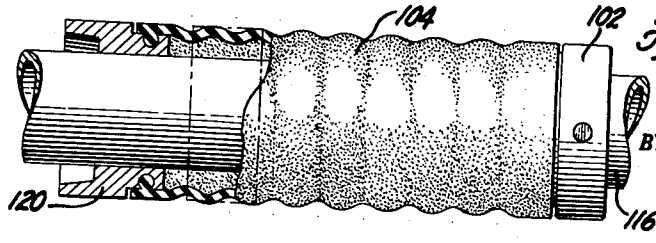


Fig. 6

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OAR PADDLE, BOAT HOOK AND OAR

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The present invention relates to an improved construction of oar paddle, boat hook and oar.

The principal object of the present invention is the provision of an improved oar paddle and boat hook which can be optionally converted by combination of the two into an improved oar. This and other objects of the invention will become apparent during the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings:

FIG. 1 is a side elevational view of an improved oar embodying the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a view similar to FIG. 1 with the parts thereof shown separately in elevation;

FIG. 3 is an enlarged broken view partly in section and partly in elevation of certain structure of FIG. 1;

FIG. 4 is an end elevational view partly in section of the structure of FIG. 3 as viewed along the line 4—4 and in the direction of the arrows thereof;

FIG. 5 is a transverse vertical sectional view partly in elevation of the structure of FIG. 3 taken along the line 5—5 thereof; and

FIG. 6 is a modified form of securing mechanism on the improved boat hook embodying the present invention.

Referring to the drawings in greater detail, **10** indicates the improved oar paddle and **12** the improved boat hook embodying the present invention.

The boat hook **12** is conventional except for the improvement of the present invention provided on it in the form of a securing mechanism inwardly of its hooked shank portion **14** where the latter joins the handle portion **16**. The securing mechanism in the form shown in FIGS. 1–5 comprises a cylindrical member **18** slidably carried in the hollow of the joined end of the handle portion **16** and cap **20** which is united to the member **18** by a pin **22** that extends between a pair of slots **24** formed in the wall of the handle portion **16** on opposite sides thereof at its said joined end. Said mechanism further comprises a plug which is fixed within the same hollow a distance from the member **18** and closer to the free end of the handle portion **16**. Completing the mechanism is a compression spring **28** which yieldably biases the cap **20** toward the free end of the hooked shank portion **14** via the member **18** as best shown in FIG. 3. A modified form of securing mechanism is shown fitted on handle indicated at **116** in FIG. 6 of a boat hook which comprises a sleeve **102** fixed on said handle portion closer to its free end than the cap **120**. The cap **120** is slidably carried on the handle portion and yieldably urged toward the free end of the hooked shank portion (not shown) of the modified boat hook shown in FIG. 6 by an elastomeric member such as the rubber hand grip **104**. The moveable end of the rubber grip **104** is secured to the cap **120** as shown and its other end operates against the fixed sleeve **102**.

The oar paddle **10** has locking structure integrally formed in it for reception of the hooked shank portion **14** of the boat hook **12** and such structure comprises a central open groove opening to a face **30** of the oar paddle and extending longitudinally over the length thereof. The open groove is of two parts differentiated in width over its length. The part of the open groove extending inwardly from the inner end of the oar paddle is indicated at **32** and tapers in width decreasingly from the semi-cylindrical neck **34** which is formed at this end of the

oar paddle as best shown in FIG. 2. The neck **34** is tapered on its outer surface oppositely of the taper on the inner surface of the caps **20** (and the cap **120** also) for locking engagement of the two as shown in FIG. 3. The part of the open groove extending inwardly from the outer end of the oar paddle is designated **36** and is of constant diameter from where it joins the groove part **32** to where it enters a cylindrical ring **38** formed at this end of the oar paddle. On one side of the open groove is an integral detent **40** which extends outwardly from the face **30** and is bent over so that the free end of the detent is spaced from said face **30** and projects toward the outer end of the oar paddle.

In operation of the invention, the boat hook **12** is inserted into the oar paddle **10** via the hooked shank portion **14**, the straight end **42** of which is threaded through the ring **32** on the oar paddle **10** and pushed beyond the outer end of the oar paddle far enough so that the laterally projecting reversely bent hook **44** is beyond the detent **40** as shown in dotted outline in FIG. 3 for these and other parts of the boat hook which are there indicated by like numerals prime. The boat hook **12** is then drawn back on the oar paddle **10** until the hook **44** is within the detent **40** as shown in full lines in FIG. 3 and at the same time the cap **20** is manually drawn back on the handle portion **16** against the urging of the spring **28** until it clears the neck **34** on the oar paddle and is then released. The hook **44** is drawn tightly into the detent **40** through the action of the spring **28** which forces the cap **20** in one direction over the neck **34** while drawing the boat hook in the opposite direction inwardly on the oar paddle. The oar paddle **10** and boat hook **12** are thus secured together against movement relative to each other in all directions forming an oar which cannot be disassembled accidently or otherwise except in one manner which is the reverse of that in which the two are assembled and cannot be carried out unless it is intended.

It will thus be seen that there has been provided by the present invention an improved oar paddle which can be stowed in a minimum of space and a boat hook carrying structure cooperative with the oar paddle which doesn't impair in any way the usefulness of the boat hook alone and an oar that has all of the advantages and full function of one made specially for this purpose but which is formed simply and easily by combination of the oar paddle and boat hook.

What is claimed is:

1. The combination of separable oar paddle and boat hook, said oar paddle having structure receiving the hooked end of the boat hook so that said hooked end is disposed entirely within the confines of the oar paddle perimeter, said boat hook having structure which cooperates with said oar paddle structure to detachably lock the oar paddle and said hooked end in said received disposition against relative movement in every direction.

2. The mechanism claimed in claim 1 and in which the oar paddle structure includes detent means operative on the hook of said hooked end and in which the boat hook structure includes apparatus on it inwardly of said hook operative on the inner end of the oar paddle, said apparatus pulling the hook against the detent means by pushing on the inner end of the oar paddle.

3. The mechanism claimed in claim 2 and in which said apparatus comprises a member slidably axially on the boat hook inwardly of said hook, and yieldable means yieldably urging said member toward said hook.

4. The mechanism claimed in claim 3 and in which said yieldable means comprises a compression spring.

5. The mechanism claimed in claim 3 and in which said yieldable means comprises an elastomeric member.

6. The mechanism claimed in claim 2 and in which

said detent means comprises an integral member projecting from one face of the oar paddle.

7. The mechanism claimed in claim 6 and in which said oar paddle structure includes open grooving formed in said one face in which said hooked end interfits.

8. An oar paddle having structure for receiving the hooked end of a boat hook so that said hooked end can be disposed entirely within the confines of the oar paddle perimeter, said oar paddle structure including detent means between its ends operative on the hook of said hooked end, said detent means comprising an integral member projecting from one face of the oar paddle, said oar paddle structure including open grooving formed in said one face in which said hooked end interfits.

9. The mechanism claimed in claim 8 and in which said oar paddle structure includes a ring on its outer end and a half ring on its inner end which are coaxially connected by said open grooving.

10. A boat hook having structure for locking an oar paddle on its hooked end, said boat hook structure including apparatus on it inwardly of the hook on said hooked end comprising a member slidable axially on the boat hook inwardly of said boat hook, and yieldable means yieldably urging said member toward said hook.

11. The combination of separable oar paddle and boat hook, said oar paddle having structure receiving the hooked end of the boat hook so that said hooked end is entirely disposed within the confines of the oar paddle perimeter, said boat hook having structure which cooperates with said oar paddle structure to lock the oar paddle and said hooked end in said received disposition against relative movement in every direction, said oar paddle structure comprising an integral detent member projecting from one of its faces which is operative on the hook of said hooked end and including open grooving formed in said one face in which said hooked end interfits, said boat hook structure comprising a member slidable axially on the boat hook inwardly of said hook and yieldable means urging said member toward said hook, said yieldable means pulling the hook against said detent member by pushing on the inner end of the oar paddle via said slidable member.

12. The mechanism claimed in claim 11 and in which said oar paddle structure includes a ring on its outer end through which the free end of said hooked end is threaded and a half ring on its inner end over which said slidable member is engaged.

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