Aug. 19, 1952 D. E. UPDYKE 2,607,129

TORPEDO LEVEL CASE

Filed June 23, 1950 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1

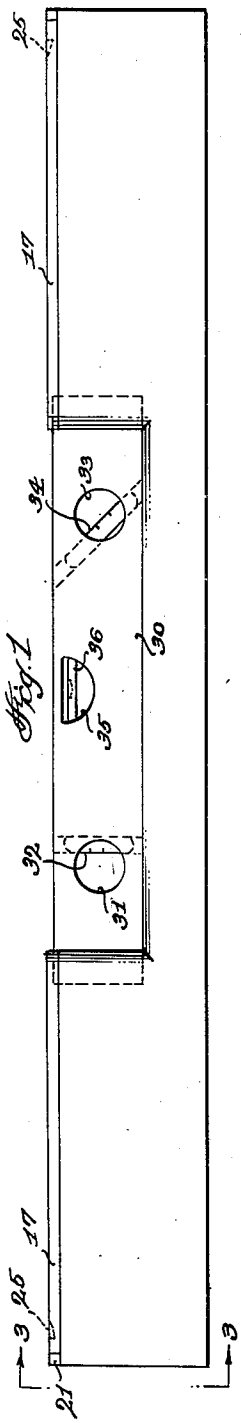


Fig. 1.

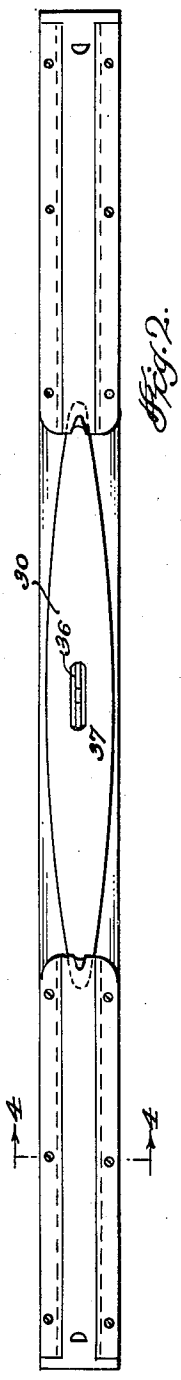


Fig. 2.

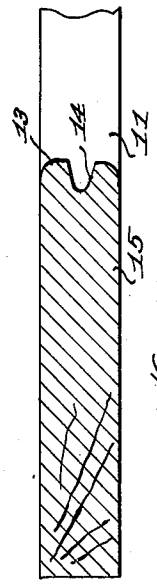


Fig. 5.

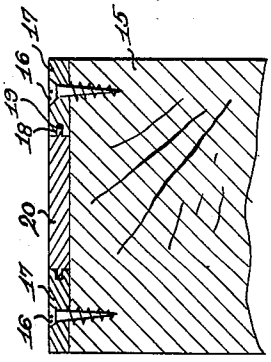


Fig. 4.

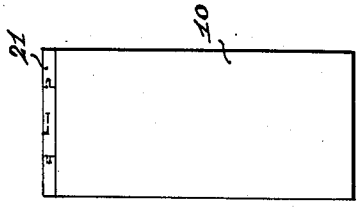


Fig. 3.

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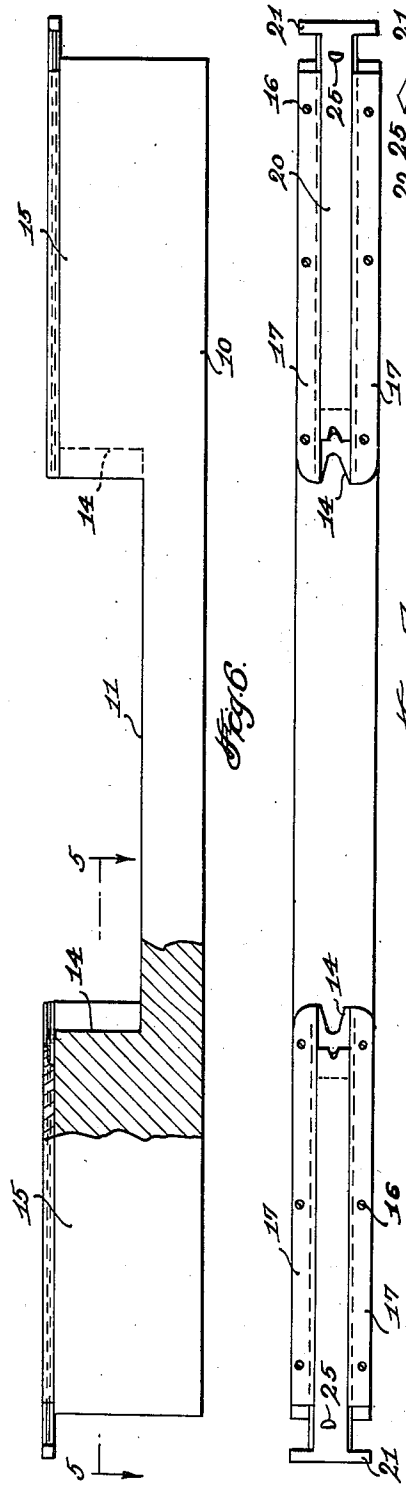


Fig. 6.

Fig. 7.

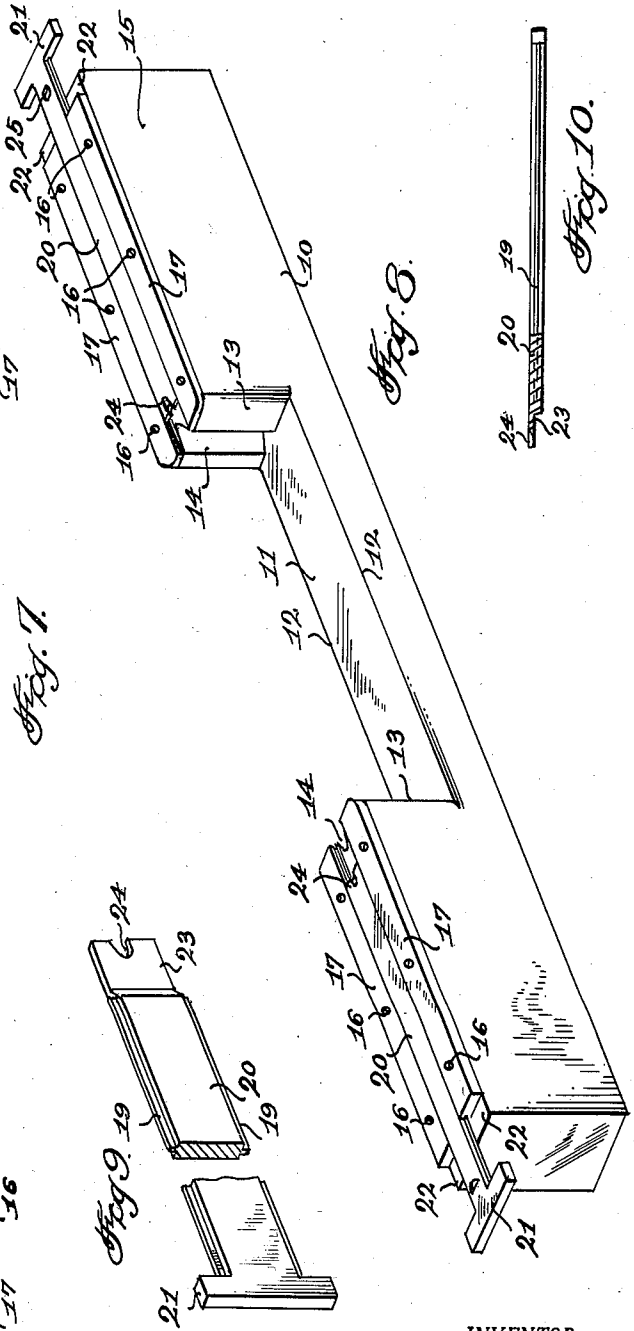


Fig. 8.

Fig. 10.

Fig. 9.

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TORPEDO LEVEL CASE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 33—207)

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The present invention relates to a torpedo level case and it consists in the combinations, constructions and arrangements of parts herein described and claimed.

Generally there is provided a torpedo level case comprising an elongated body provided with a centrally disposed recess and having the unrecessed portions of its upper face provided with trackways in each of which is slidably and longitudinally mounted a locking plate. The recess is adapted to receive therein a pocket sized spirit level particularly that type known as a torpedo level and the plates, when moved inwardly, are adapted to hold such level within the recess so that the composite device may be utilized as a unit.

It is accordingly an object of the invention to provide a device of the character set forth which is simple in construction, inexpensive to manufacture and yet effective and efficient in use.

Another object of the invention is the provision, in a device of the character set forth, of novel means for locking the spirit level therein.

Another object of the invention is the provision, in a device of the character set forth, of novel locking plate forming a part of the invention.

Other and further objects of the invention will become apparent from a reading of the following specification taken in conjunction with the drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of an embodiment of the invention showing a torpedo level mounted therein,

Figure 2 is a plan view of Figure 1,

Figure 3 is an enlarged end elevational view of Figure 1 taken along line 3—3 of Figure 1 in the direction of the arrows,

Figure 4 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken along line 4—4 of Figure 2,

Figure 5 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken along line 5—5 of Figure 6,

Figure 6 is a side elevational view, partly broken away, of the device illustrated in Figures 1 and 2 but showing the same in opened condition with the spirit level removed therefrom.

Figure 7 is a plan view of Figure 6,

Figure 8 is an isometric view of the device shown in Figures 6 and 7,

Figure 9 is an exploded isometric view of a locking plate forming a part of the invention, and

Figure 10 is a side elevational view, partly

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broken away, of the locking plate illustrated in Figure 9.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, there is shown therein a level case comprising an elongated wooden block 10 having a centrally disposed recess 11 provided with rounded edges 12 formed therein. Each of the vertical walls 13 forming the sides of the recess 11 is provided with a vertically extending centrally disposed rounded groove 14.

It will be seen that the recess 11 leaves an unrecessed portion 15 of the block 10 adjacent each end thereof and the upper surface of each of the unrecessed portions has mounted adjacent each side thereof by means of screws 16 or the like a stationary plate 17 each of whose inner sides is provided with a groove 18.

The opposed pairs of grooves 18 upon each of the unrecessed portions 15 together form a trackway for the reception of tongues 19 formed on opposite sides of a locking plate 20 which is provided at its outer end with an integrally formed T-shaped handle 21. It will be noted that the stationary plates 17 do not extend fully to the outer edges of the unrecessed portions 15 thus providing a space 22 at either side of the locking plate 20 for the reception of the handle 21 when the plate 20 is moved to its extreme inward position.

The inner ends of each of the locking plates 20 are recessed on their outsides, as indicated at 23, and are each centrally provided with a notch 24 in the outer edge thereof. A finger grip 25 is formed in the upper face of each of the locking plates 20 adjacent the handle 21 thereof.

In Figures 1 and 2 of the drawings there is shown a pocket-sized spirit level known as a "torpedo" level having a body 30 of generally ovular shape when viewed from above and provided with a transverse opening 31 wherein is exposed a vertically extending bubble level 32 mounted in suitable manner within the body 30, a transverse opening 33 wherein is exposed a bubble level 34 which extends at an angle of 45° with reference to the upper surface of the body 30 and a transverse opening 35 wherein is exposed a bubble level 36 mounted in such body in parallel relation to the upper surface thereof. A longitudinally extending slot 37 is formed in the upper face of the body 30 in order that the bubble level 36 may be viewed therethrough.

In operation, it will be apparent that the torpedo level may be positioned within the recess 11 in the body 10 in such manner that the narrowed ends thereof are received in the vertical

grooves 14 after which the locking plates 20 may be moved inwardly by means of the handles 21 whereupon the outer portions of the upper side of the torpedo level may be frictionally engaged by the recessed portions 23 of the locking plates 20 whereby to securely lock the torpedo level as a unit with the case forming the present invention so that the same may be utilized as a comparatively larger level and at the same time present a protective means for the pocket-sized level against accidental breakage. The finger pieces 25 may be utilized to move the locking plates outwardly when it is desired to remove the pocket-sized level from the case. It will be understood that the locking plates 20 are held in their trackways and against the upper faces of the unrecessed portions 15 in close frictional engagement so that the same will remain in whatever position they are moved and against accidental displacement from such positions.

While but one form of the invention has been shown and described herein, it will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art that many minor modifications may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A device of the character described comprising an elongated block having a centrally disposed recess in its upper face and having a vertical groove in each wall of said recess, a trackway mounted upon the upper face of each of the unrecessed portions, and a longitudinally extending clamp member slidably mounted in each of said trackways and adapted to hold a pocket-type spirit level in said recess, said clamp members each being provided with a handle at its outer end, and said handles being T-shaped and formed integrally with said clamp members.

2. A device of the character described comprising an elongated block having a centrally disposed recess in its upper face and having a vertical groove in each wall of said recess, a trackway mounted upon the upper face of each of the unrecessed portions, and a longitudinally extending clamp member slidably mounted in each of said trackways and adapted to hold a pocket-type spirit level in said recess, said clamp members each being provided with a handle at its outer end, and each having its inner end recessed on the underside thereof, and a finger-receiving recess in the upper face of each of said clamp members adjacent the handle thereof.

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