

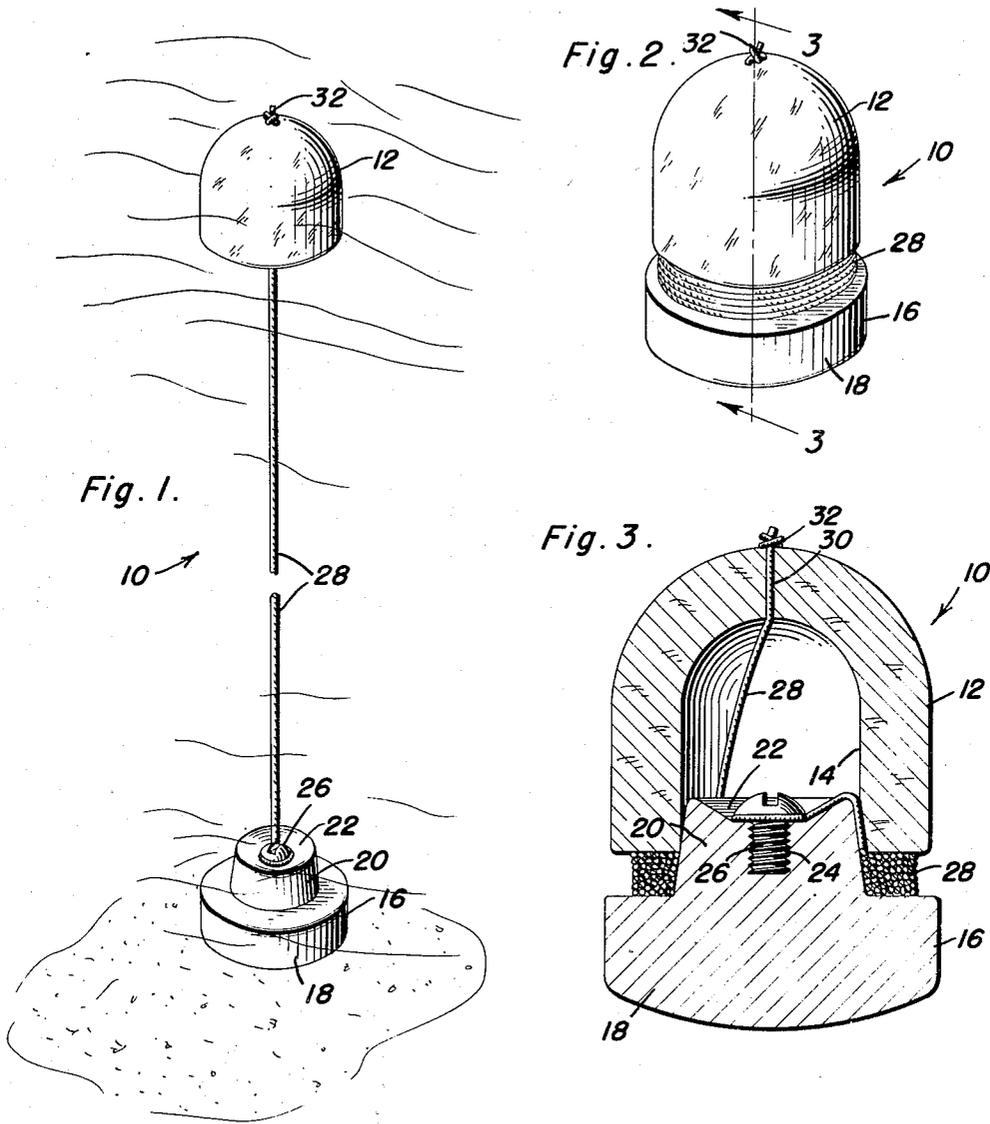
Aug. 7, 1951

F. C. KIST

2,562,922

MARKING BUOY

Filed June 13, 1949



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,562,922

## MARKING BUOY

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Application June 13, 1949, Serial No. 98,825

1 Claim. (Cl. 9-9)

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements and structural refinements in marking buoys, and the principal object of the invention is to provide a device of the character herein described, such as may be conveniently and effectively employed by fishermen, or the like, for the purpose of marking the location of certain areas, such as for example, schools of fish, or the like, on the surface of lakes, rivers, and similar bodies of water. Moreover, the invention may also be employed by other persons desiring to designate a certain location in a body of water, such as for example, where certain articles were dropped to the bottom, or the like.

The above object is achieved by the provision of the instant device which includes in its construction a float and a ballast connected to the float by a flexible element such as a length of cord, and an important feature of the invention resides in the provision of means whereby the cord may be conveniently wound upon the ballast and stored in the float, thus not only preventing the possibility of the cord twisting or becoming entangled, but also, facilitating convenient attachment of the ballast to the float when the device is not in use.

Some of the advantages of the invention lie in its simplicity of construction, in its convenient operation, and in its adaptability to economical manufacture.

With the above more important objects and features in view, and such other objects and features as may become apparent as this specification proceeds, the invention consists essentially of the arrangement and construction of parts as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the invention in use;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the invention when not in use; and

Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view, taken substantially in the plane of the line 3-3 in Figure 2.

Like characters of reference are employed to designate like parts in the specification and throughout the several views.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings in detail, the invention consists of a marking buoy designated generally by the reference character 10, the same embodying in its construction a hollow float 12 formed from any suitable buoyant material and providing a storage chamber 14 having an open bottom, as is best shown in Figure 3.

In addition, the invention includes a ballast 16 which is preferably in the form of a disk-shaped

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base portion 18 provided on its upper surface with a substantially frusto-conical spool portion 20, the upper surface of the latter, in turn, preferably being dished or concaved as at 22 and provided with a screw-threaded bore 24 to accommodate an anchor screw 26, the purpose of which will be hereinafter more fully described.

A flexible element, preferably in the form of a cord 28, has one end thereof secured by means of the anchor screw 26 to the spool portion 20 of the ballast 16, while the remaining end portion of the cord 28 extends into the chamber 14 of the float 12 and passes outwardly from the chamber 14 through a bore 30 with which the upper portion of the float is provided, the extremity of the cord being knotted as indicated at 32.

When the invention is placed in use, the ballast 16 is simply dropped into water so that it rests on the bottom, while the float 12, connected to the ballast by the cord 28, will effectively indicate the location of a predetermined area in the body of water where the ballast has been dropped.

However, when the invention is not in use, the cord 28 is simply wound around the lower region of the spool portion 20 of the ballast 16 as shown in Figure 3, after which the upper region of the spool portion is inserted into the chamber 14 of the float 12, so that the wound cord is disposed between the base portion 18 of the ballast and the lower end of the float, as shown.

Needless to say, in this manner the cord 28 is prevented from twisting or becoming otherwise entangled, but it is to be noted that the device is available for instant use by simply withdrawing the spool portion 20 of the ballast from the chamber 14 of the float and unwinding the cord from the spool portion as will be clearly understood.

The substantially frusto-conical configuration of the spool portion 20 provides a taper to facilitate insertion thereof into the chamber, and it is to be noted that a portion of the cord which extends from the screw 26 to the spool is frictionally held between the spool and the side wall of the chamber, so as to hold the float and the ballast together.

It is believed that the advantages and use of the invention will be clearly apparent from the foregoing disclosure and, accordingly, further description thereof at this point is deemed unnecessary.

While in the foregoing there has been shown and described the preferred embodiment of this invention it is to be understood that minor

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changes in the details of construction, combination and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

In a marking buoy, the combination of a dome-shaped float provided with a chamber open at the bottom thereof, a ballast including a frusto-conical spool and a diametrically enlarged base affording an outturned marginal flange at the lower end of said spool, a fastening element provided at the center of said spool, and a cord having one end thereof secured to said fastening element, the other end portion of said cord extending into said chamber and being anchored to the upper portion of said float, said cord being adapted to be wound around the lower portion of said spool and the upper portion of the spool inserted in the bottom of said chamber, whereby

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the wound cord is sustained between said flange and the lower edge of the float and whereby a portion of the cord extending from said element to said spool is frictionally held between the upper portion of the spool and the wall of the chamber to separably hold the float and the ballast together.

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#### REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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