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SPORTSMAN'S LANTERN HOLDER

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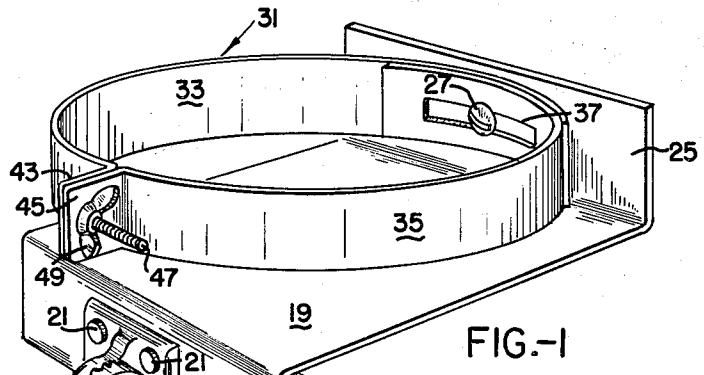

FIG.-1

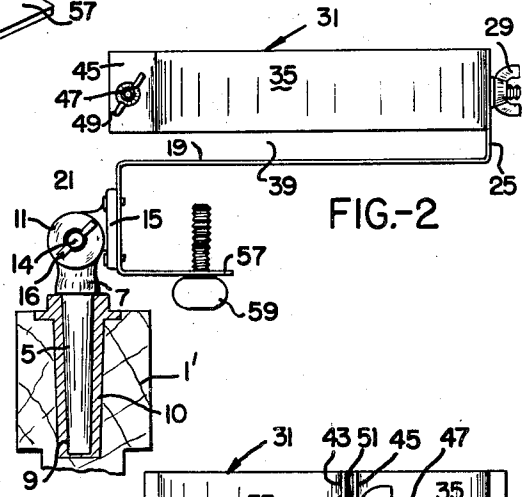

FIG.-2

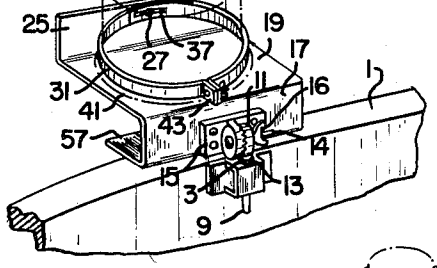

FIG.-3

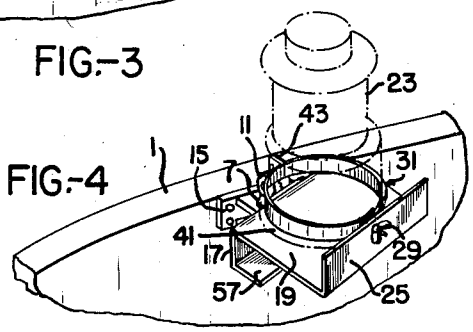

FIG.-4

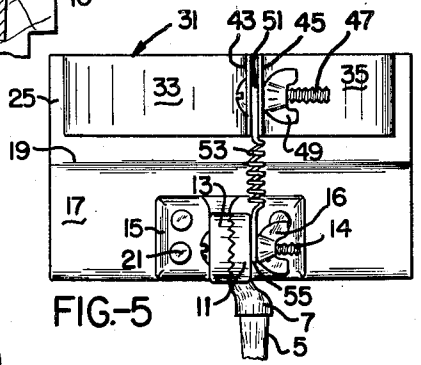

FIG.-5

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SPORTSMAN'S LANTERN HOLDER

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Application April 7, 1954, Serial No. 421,502

1 Claim. (Cl. 248—310)

This invention relates to improvements in lantern holders, and refers more specifically to lantern holders useful in conjunction with small boats, particularly row boats.

The invention contemplates primarily the provision of a lantern holder having means to fixedly secure a lantern to a boat. A preferred method of effecting the above is to provide the lantern with means engageable in an opening of the boat such as the opening normally provided for an oar lock. This position is extremely advantageous as it permits the lantern to be located outboard and provides means whereby the lantern holder and a lantern thereon may swing readily inboard.

With the lantern positioned outboard of the boat the same is in a most convenient position for night fishing where is is desired to provide as much light as possible on the water. When desired either to provide intense light within the boat or to pass obstacles the holder may be readily swung inboard by hand or in the event an obstruction is encountered which strikes the holder, the holder mounted in accordance with the invention will itself usually freely swing inboard without damage to the holder or the lantern thereon.

A particular object of the invention is to provide the holder with means which securely retains a lantern thereon under the most severe of impacts, which impacts may be occasioned, for example, by water conditions, the striking of obstacles or hard usage.

Another object of the invention is to provide the holder with means which securely retains a lantern and simultaneously provides against the striking of the lantern itself on the holder by obstacles.

Yet another object of the invention is to provide a lantern holder for small boats which requires no change in the structure of the boat for mounting; and which lantern holder is simple and reliable in construction having interchangeability of parts, is of low manufacturing cost, and yet also incorporates adjustable features for retention of various size lanterns, and in addition has further means for adjustably positioning the lantern itself with respect to the boat on which it is carried.

The invention will be more fully understood by reference to the following detailed description and accompanying drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the structure of invention;

Figure 2 is a side elevational view of the structure of invention mounted in one type of oar-lock opening;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the holder and a lantern mounted on a row boat with the holder secured in another arrangement of an oar-lock opening of a boat, the holder being located outboard;

Figure 4 is a view similar to that of Figure 3 with the holder swung inboard; and

Figure 5 is a view in front elevation of a modification of the structure of Figure 1.

Referring to the drawings, there is indicated at **1** (Figure 3) and also at **1'** (Figure 2), a portion of a

row boat having an oar-lock opening in which a lantern holder is mounted.

Referring first to Figure 3 the opening **3** receives a pivot pin **5** in the form of a tapered somewhat conical shank position and the pin has a peripheral protuberance **7** which engages an upper portion of the oar-lock and suitably limits the entry of the pin **5** into the opening **3**. The lower end **9** of the pin is free and in the more conventional oar-lock opening (Figure 2) the pin **5** is received in a metal sleeve **10**; in either mounting pin **5** is freely pivotal. The pin and the remaining portions of the holder mounted therein and now to be described are as a unit, freely pivotally mounted, and accordingly the unit is readily movable from the position shown in Figure 3 to that illustrated in Figure 4.

The upper end of pivot **5** is provided with means integral therewith for fixedly positioning the angle of the pin or shank with respect to the remaining portions of the holder. This adjustable means includes a first radially serrated disc **11** integral with the pin and a second radially serrated disc **13** fixedly secured to the plate **15**, the two discs being secured together by a bolt **14** and wing nut **16**. The plate **15** is itself mounted on the depending flange **17** which is integral with the base **19**; the plate **15** is itself secured to the depending flange **17** by suitable bolts indicated at **21**. Rotation of the disc **11** with the pin **5** relative to the fixed disc **13** attains the angle between the base **19** and a lantern **23** thereon, and the pin **5** and the serrations of the discs provide for ready locking in any adjustable position by means of the bolt and wing nut.

The base **19** which is preferably of sheet metal is provided on the side opposite the flange **17** with an upstanding flange member **25** which is apertured to receive a headed bolt **27** having a wing nut **29** thereon. Secured to the upstanding flange by said bolt and nut is a collar **31**, also of sheet metal, and having a degree of resiliency, the collar being formed into two substantially equal portions **33**, **35**, the latter of which is slotted as at **37** to provide for adjusting the length of the collar.

The nut and bolt combination **27**, **29** are positioned approximately centrally of the flange and sufficiently far above the base **19** that the collar **31** extends over the base to defin a spacing **39** (Figure 2) therewith.

Gasoline lanterns which are commonly employed (Figures 3 and 4) in outdoor activities in connection with boating, and particularly fishing, are normally provided with a lower extending lip as at **41** and this lip extends beneath the collar **31** toward the edge of the base and may in fact suitably extend slightly beyond the base if desired.

Collar **31** engages about the lantern at the area of the lip and securely retains the same in conjunction with the holder base.

To effectively secure tightening of the collar **31** about a lantern the free extending portion of the collar is provided at **43**, **45** with radially extending elements which are apertured to receive bolt **47** and nut **49**. Tightening of the nut **49** securely draws the resilient sheet metal portions together to securely retain a lantern within the spacing defined by the collar **31** and the base **19**.

Referring briefly now to Figure 5, as shown therein means may be provided to securely retain the free extending portion of the collar **31** from any tendency towards vibratory movement which may be experienced under severe conditions as of rough water, for example. Thus there is secured about the bolt **47** an eyelet **51** of a spring member **53**, which spring is tensioned and drawn down about the bolt **14** and secured by a hook **55**. The eyelet is positioned on bolt **47** between the members **43**, **45** when the same are bolted together and the hook **55** of the spring member is retained by a wing

nut **16** in the operative position of the device. The spring is effective to tightly unite the base of the holder, the collar and a lantern retained by the collar and base.

As most clearly shown in Figures 1 and 2 the holder is provided with a rearwardly extending lower flange **57** which extends the full width of the holder and is suitably apertured to receive a threadedly headed bolt **59**, which bolt in the Figure 2 arrangement is shown positioned upwardly to pass the gunwale when the lantern is swung inboard. The flange and bolt together are useful to secure the lantern holder to, for example, a seat of a row boat. The threaded bolt **59** is readily removable from the flange **57** should the boat be of such construction that the bolt **59** would interfere with the free swivellable movement of the holder when the same is positioned in an oar lock opening; the flange being preferably so constructed and arranged with respect to the pivot pin **5** that the flange will pass the boat side when the holder is pivotally secured in the oar lock opening.

There has thus been described a novel lantern holder for boats which is simple in construction, readily adaptable to various conditions, and which is inexpensive to manufacture.

In the use of the device described it is to be noted that ordinarily when rowing to a preferred location for fishing the lantern may be securely fixed to a seat within the boat to provide light for operations, such as arrangement of lines, etc. Upon arrival at the said location the oars will normally be removed from the oar locks and the lantern may be readily positioned in an oar lock opening. With most row boats a double set of oar lock openings are provided and if desired the lantern may be always carried with the same positioned in the oar lock opening. When thus mounted the freely swivellable feature is of particular importance for when approaching piers or other obstacles the holder may readily accidentally contact the obstacle, and with the structure of

invention the holder and lantern swing easily inboard and are protected from damaging effects.

It will be understood that the invention is susceptible to modification in order to adopt it to different usages and conditions and accordingly, it is desired to comprehend such modifications within this invention as may fall within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

In a lantern holder for use on small boats: a substantially horizontal base for the support of a lantern, a flange integral with the base extending along one edge of the base vertically upward therefrom, a collar secured to the flange and extending over said base thereabove and completely free of the base to define a spacing therewith through which a lower edge of a lantern may pass to be retained by the collar and base, a second flange depending from an edge of the base opposite the one edge, and means, including a pivot pin, extending downwardly of the base from the second flange for supporting the second flange, base and collar, the pivot pin being of circular cross-section and having a lower free end thereof receivable in an oar-lock opening of a boat for swinging movement of the holder as a unit with respect to the boat.

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