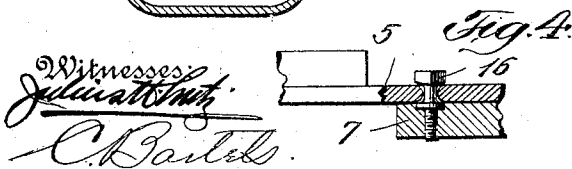
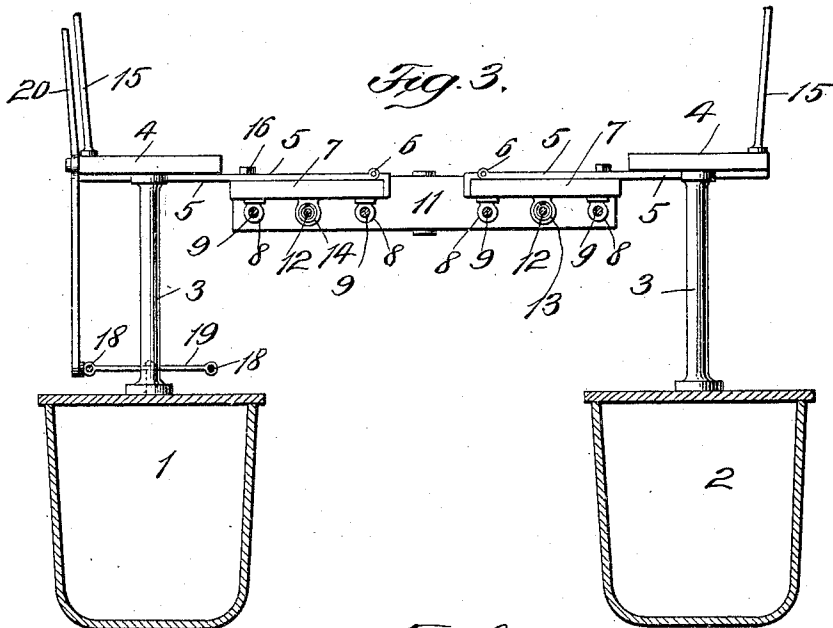
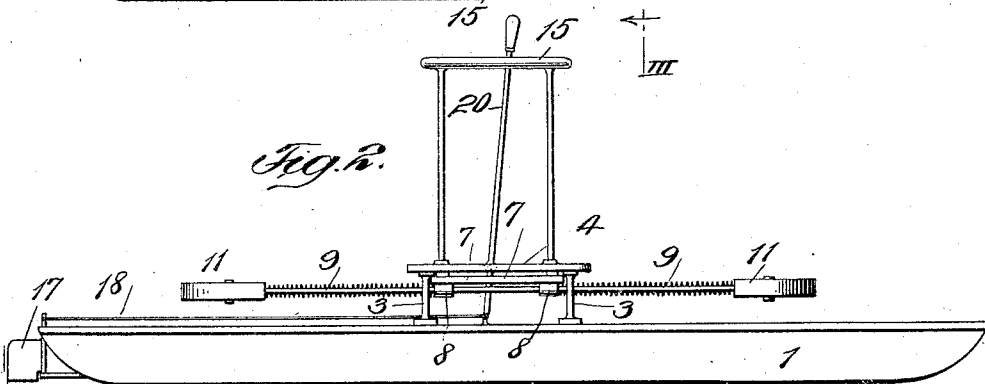
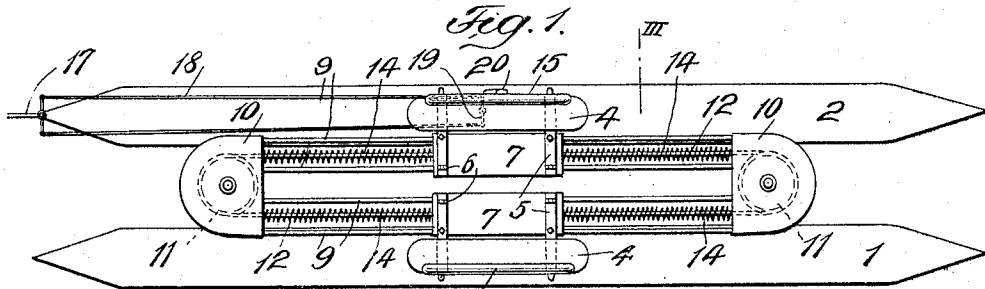


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WATER SKATE.
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 9, 1912.

1,057,731.

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WATER-SKATE.

1,057,731.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 1, 1913.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GUSTAV HALBOW, a subject of the Emperor of Germany, and a resident of New York, borough of Brooklyn, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Water-Skates, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

10 This invention relates to certain improvements in devices by means of which a person may skate or glide on water in a manner somewhat similar to skating on ice; and one of the principal objects of the invention is to provide a simple device of this character which will be simple in construction and which will support a considerable weight.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this kind which may be readily steered or guided so that the operator may easily travel in the desired direction.

25 There are other important objects and advantages of the invention, all of which will appear hereinafter.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a plan view of the device; Fig. 2 a side elevation thereof; Fig. 3 a transverse sectional view on the line III-III of Fig. 1; and Fig. 4 a detail sectional view showing the means for adjusting the float or skate.

Referring to the various parts by numerals, 1 and 2 designate a pair of long narrow floats preferably pointed at their ends as shown clearly in plan view in Fig. 3. These floats are hollow, as shown in Fig. 3, and may be of any suitable material and construction. They are preferably proportioned to float and sustain a considerable weight. Each float is provided with upwardly extending rods 3, said rods being located substantially midway between the ends of the floats. These rods at their upper ends carry foot plates 4. To the under side of each foot plate is rigidly secured inwardly extending bars 5, the inner ends of which are hinged at 6 to a slide plate 7. Each slide plate is provided with depending slides 8 which are adapted to receive longitudinally extending horizontal slide rods 9, so that said plates are adapted to reciprocate upon said rods. The ends of the slide rods 9 are rigidly secured in end frames 10, said frames having the grooved wheels 11 journaled within them. The slide

rods 9 are of considerable length but are somewhat shorter than the floats or skates 1 and 2. An endless band or cord 12 passes around the grooved wheels 11 and longitudinally of the slide frame midway between the slide rods. The slide plates 7 are provided with depending connectors 13 to which the endless band 12 is permanently secured. It is, therefore, manifest that if one of the slide plates is moved forwardly the other plate will be moved rearwardly a corresponding extent. To normally maintain the slide plates midway between the end frames 10, coil springs 14 are placed around the band 12 between each end frame and the connectors 8 of the slide plates. These springs being thus confined normally tend to center the slide plates. The springs 14 are light and may be readily compressed so that they do not offer any excessive resistance to the movement of the slide plates along the slide rods, while at the same time they are of sufficient strength to gradually return the slide plates to their normal central positions. It is manifest that there will always be one spring exerting an influence upon each slide to return it to its normal position.

To the outer edge of each of the foot plates 4 is secured an upwardly extending hand rail 15, said rail being carried to a sufficient height to permit the operator to readily grasp the same without stooping or bending, to any material extent, from a vertical position. Extending through suitable openings in the bars 5 and screwing into the slide plates 7 are adjusting screws 16 by means of which the angular relation of the bars 5 and the slide plates may be regulated. By adjusting the screws 16 to place the bars 5 so that they extend upwardly and outwardly with respect to the slide plates, the float-carrying bars will extend downwardly and outwardly. It is desirable to place the foot plates and floats normally in this angular position so that when the weight of the user is placed on the foot plates the tendency will be to bring the foot plates to a horizontal position, the floats being depressed slightly. Of course, if the floats are of sufficient size to prevent any material change in their position when the weight of the operator is placed thereon it would be unnecessary to place them in the angular position described, and the bars 3 will remain vertically or substantially ver-

tical at all times. The adjusting screws 16 are provided so that the angular position of the floats will be adjusted to bring them to a vertical position when the weight of the operator is placed thereon.

Either one of the floats or skates may be provided at its rear end with a small steering device or rudder 17, the cross arm of said rudder being connected by suitable rods 10 or cords 18 to a pivoted cross arm 19 carried by the float directly under the foot plate. Pivoted on the foot plate is a steering lever 20 whose lower end is suitably connected to the cross bar 19. It is manifest that by moving the steering lever 20 in the proper direction the rudder 17 will be properly turned to guide the skate or float to which it is attached. It is manifest that this steering device may be arranged on both of the skates or floats if it be desired.

In operating the device, the user stands on the foot plates 4 and grasps the hand rails 15. He then moves one foot forward carrying with it the foot plate and the attached float. He then brings forward the other foot and the foot plate engaged thereby and the float attached to said foot plate. This operation is repeated, the user sliding first the one foot forward and then the other. The springs surrounding the cord 12 normally tend to return the slide plates to their normal central positions and consequently tend to bring the floats into a position directly opposite each other so that the two floats are automatically returned to a position adapted to furnish the most stable support for the user.

It is manifest that the posts 3 between the foot plates and the floats may be of any desired height and that the slide rods 9 may be of any desired length. It is also manifest that any suitable form of devices

for adjusting the angular positions of the plates 7 and the bars may be employed.

I claim—

1. The combination of a pair of reciprocable floats, means for maintaining said floats parallel and guiding them in their reciprocable movement, foot rests carried by said floats, and means for varying the angular regulation of said floats to each other.

2. The combination of a pair of floats, foot rests carried thereby, slide plates connected to said foot plates, slide bars for each of said slide plates, and an endless band connecting said slide plates together, substantially as described and for the purposes set forth.

3. The combination of a pair of floats, foot rests carried thereby, slide plates connected to said foot plates, slide bars for each of said slide plates, an endless band connecting said slide plates together, and means for normally returning the slide plates to a position directly opposite each other on the slide bars.

4. The combination of a pair of floats, foot plates carried thereby, slide plates connected to the foot plates, a pair of slide bars for each of said slide plates, end frames connected to the ends of the slide bars, a wheel carried by each of said frames, an endless band extending around said wheels and connected to the slide plates, and springs for normally returning the slide plates to central positions between the end frames.

This specification signed and witnessed this 8th day of November, A. D. 1912.

GUSTAV HALBOW.

Witnesses:

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