The present invention relates to new and useful improvements in clamps for attaching an outboard motor to a boat.

An important object of this invention is to provide a bracket carried by an outboard motor and constructing the bracket to rest on the upper edge of the stern of a boat, together with a lever or handle pivoted to the bracket with its inner end positioned for gripping the stern of the boat to clamp the bracket in position thereon.

Another object of the invention is to provide means for locking the lever or handle in its clamping position.

A still further object is to provide a lever or handle clamping member which may be adjusted in accordance with variations in the width of the stern of the boat to which the bracket is clamped.

A still further object is to provide a device of this character of simple and practical construction, which is strong and durable, efficient and reliable in use, relatively inexpensive to manufacture and otherwise well adapted for the purposes for which the same is intended.

Other objects and advantages reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view showing the clamp in position on a boat, and with the latter shown in sections.

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the clamp with the motor removed.

Figure 3 is an enlarged vertical sectional view taken on a line 3—3 of Figure 2, and:

Figure 4 is a vertical transverse sectional view taken on a line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Referring now to the drawings in detail wherein for the purpose of illustration I have disclosed a preferred embodiment of my invention, the numeral 5 designates a substantially U-shaped inverted bracket for resting on the upper edge of the stern 6 of a boat 7.

One leg of the bracket extends downwardly on the outside of the stern 6, and is formed with a pair of spaced apart aperture ears 9 at the upper portion of leg 8, in which a transverse pin 10 is positioned for pivotally attaching to the upper portion of a shaft housing 11 of an outboard motor 12.

The lower end of leg 8 is formed with a pair of spaced parallel upwardly curved arms 13 having an arcutately arranged group of openings 14 wherein to selectively receive a transverse pin 15 against which the shaft housing of the motor rests to support the motor in a desired position in accordance with variations in the slope of the stern 6 of the boat.

The bracket 5, also includes a pair of spaced apart downwardly extending legs 18 positioned inwardly of the boat and provided with a transverse pin 17 for pivotally supporting a handle or lever 18 positioned between the legs 16.

The handle or lever 18 is of substantially arcuate construction with a hand grip 19 at its front end and a transversely toothed or corrugated plate 20 secured at its rear end by screws or the like 21, the plate 20 being positioned for gripping the inner surface of the stern 6 of the boat.

The handle of lever 18 is formed with teeth 22, engaged by the free end of a dog 23 a positioned between the upper portion of leg 16 and pivotally thereto by a transverse pin 24. A leaf spring 25 is secured to bracket 5 above the dog 23 with the free end of the spring bearing against the dog to hold the same downwardly in engagement with teeth 22. A knob or handle 26 projects upwardly from dog 23 to facilitate the releasing thereof from the teeth 22.

The handle or lever 18 is formed with a plurality of openings 27 for selectively receiving the pivot pin 17, the openings 27 being arranged to adjust the handle or lever 18 on the bracket in accordance with variations in the thickness of the stern 6 of the boat.

In the operation of the device, the bracket 5 is positioned on the upper edge of the stern 6 of a boat and one end of the handle or lever 18 is forced downwardly to cause the clamping plate 20 to bear against the inner surface of stern 6 in a clamping position by the dog 23 engaging teeth 22.

In view of the foregoing description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings it is believed that a clear understanding of the device will be quite apparent to those skilled in this art. A more detailed description is accordingly deemed unnecessary.

It is to be understood, however, that even though there is herein shown and described a preferred embodiment of the invention the same is susceptible to certain changes fully comprehended by the spirit of the invention as herein described and the scope of the appended claim.

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

A clamp for outboard motors comprising an inverted U-shaped bracket adapted to rest on a part of a boat including inner and outer down-
wardly extending legs, said outer leg adapted to support a motor, an arcuate lever pivotally connected to the inner leg for swinging into clamping engagement with said part of the boat, means for adjusting the pivotal connection of said lever on the inner leg for adjusting said lever toward or away from said part of the boat, and pawl and ratchet means for locking said lever in adjusted position.

CARL WILLIAMS.

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