J. C. GREER.

BOAT.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 29, 1920.

1,370,959.

Patented Mar. 8, 1921.

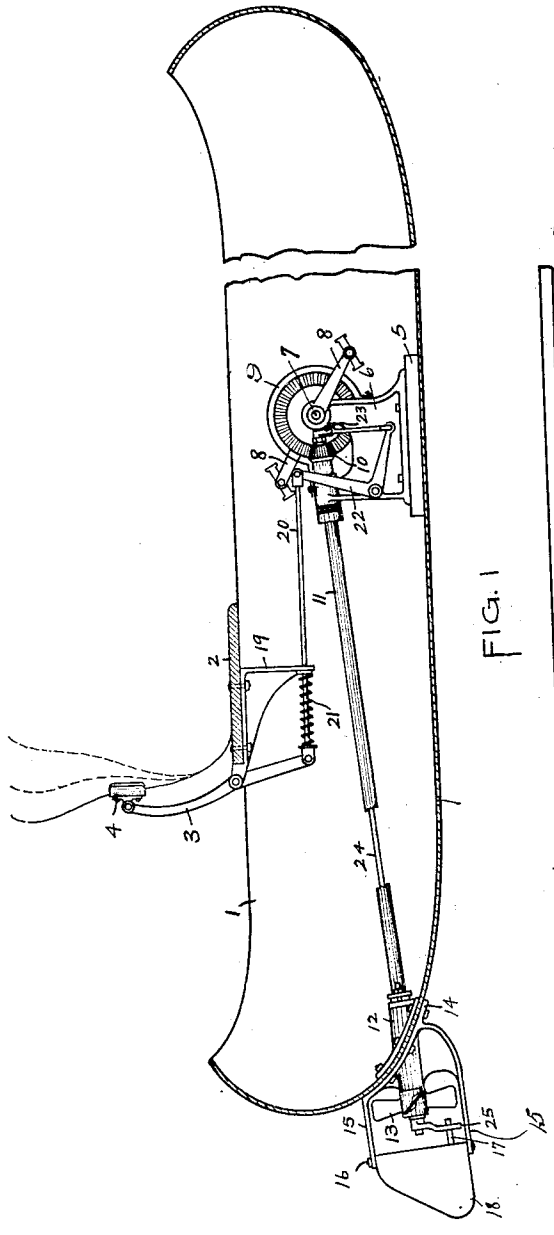


FIG. 1

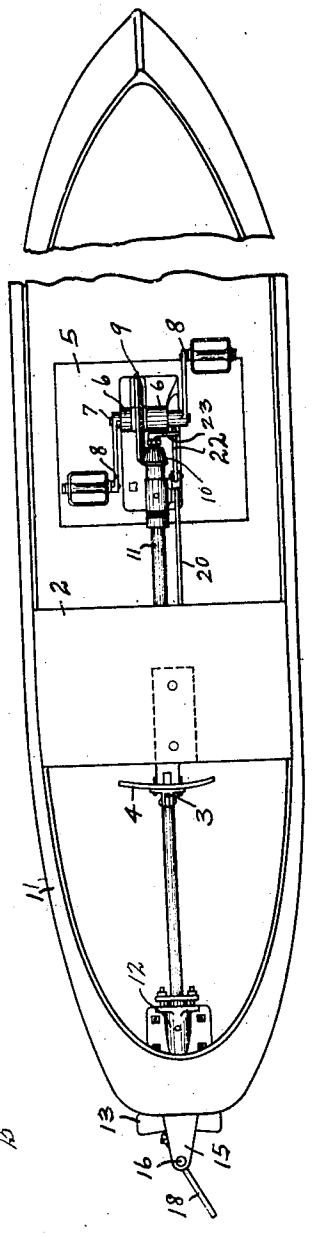


FIG. 2

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BOAT.

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Application filed May 29, 1920. Serial No. 385,329.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. GREER, citizen of the United States, residing at Houston, in the county of Harris and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Boats, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in a boat.

One object of the invention is to provide a boat equipped with a propeller arranged to be manually driven, and having a rudder through which the direction of the movement of the boat can be controlled by the operator with ease. The boat is specially designed for the use of sportsmen in hunting and fishing and is arranged to be driven by the feet and guided by the body movements of the driver.

With the above and other objects in view the invention has particular relation to certain novel features of construction, operation, and use, an example of which is given in this specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein:—

Figure 1 shows a longitudinal sectional view, and,

Fig. 2 shows a plan view.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings wherein like numerals of reference designate similar parts in each of the figures, the numeral 1 refers to the shell of the boat which is of any conventional form. This shell has a transverse seat 2, and pivoted to the rear of this seat is a lever 3 whose upper end carries the back rest 4. Secured in the bottom of the shell in front of the seat there is a casting 5 having the upstanding spaced bearings 6, 6 in which the transverse shaft 7 is rotatably mounted and fastened to the ends of the shaft are the foot pedals 8, 8. Fixed to the shaft 7 between its bearings there is the bevel gear wheel 9 in mesh with a small pinion 10 which is fixed on the front end of the shaft 11. This shaft 11 has a bearing in the casting 5, and its rear end extends through the stuffing box 12, carried by the rear end of the shell. The projecting rear end of the shaft 11 has the propeller 13 fixed thereon which is rotated through the shaft 11. The boat may thus be propelled through the foot pedals 8, 8. The rear end of the shell has a casting 14 secured thereto which has the vertically alined bearings 15, 15 in which the rudder shaft 16 rotates. This shaft has a forwardly projecting arm 17, secured thereto and also carries the rudder 18.

Depending from the seat is a bearing 19 through which the rod 20 slides. The rear end of this rod is pivoted to the lower end of the lever 3, and surrounding said rod and interposed between the bearing 19, and the lever 3 there is a coil spring 21. The forward end of the rod 20 is pivoted to one arm of the bell crank 22, which is pivoted to the casting 5, and the other arm of the bell crank is connected to a lateral arm 23 which is fixed to the front end of the rudder-controlling rod 24. This rod extends through the hollow shaft 11 and its rear end carries a depending arm 25 which is connected to the arm 17 of the rudder shaft 16.

The operator, by leaning back against the back rest 4 will operate the rudder through the mechanism described in one direction but by leaning forwardly the back rest is released releasing the spring 21 which operates the rudder in the other direction.

The sportsman's hands will thus be free for fishing, hunting, or other purposes while propelling and guiding the boat.

What I claim is:—

A boat, including a shell, a tubular propeller shaft working through a stuffing box in the rear end of the shell, a propeller attached to the rear end of said shaft, foot pedals geared to said shaft through which the shaft and propeller may be manually rotated, a pivoted back rest, a rudder pivoted to the rear end of the shell, a rudder controlling rod working through said tubular shaft, an actuating mechanism connected to said back rest and also to said rod through which said rod is partially rotated in one direction, through the manipulation of said back rest, a yieldable member normally tending to actuate said mechanism to rotate said rod in the other direction, and an operative connection between said rod and rudder, through which the rudder is actuated as said rod is rotated.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN C. GREER.

Witnesses:
WM. A. CATHEY,
LORENA FAHRENTHOLD.