March 3, 1959 J. F. ALBERT 2,875,974

LANTERN HOLDER

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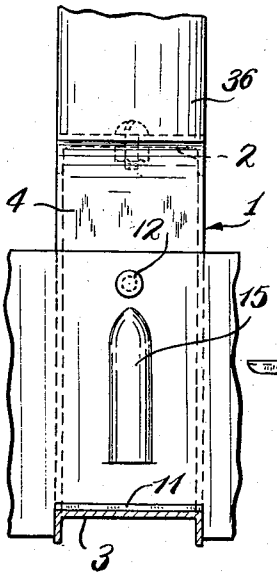


FIG. 4

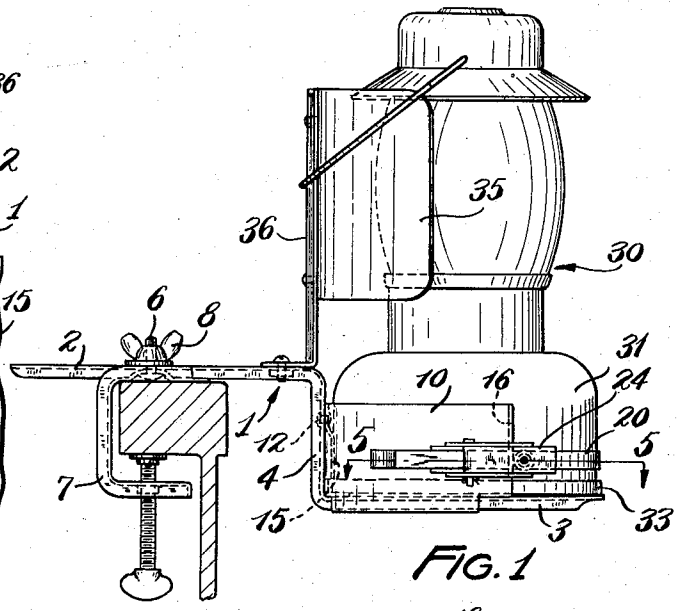


FIG. 1

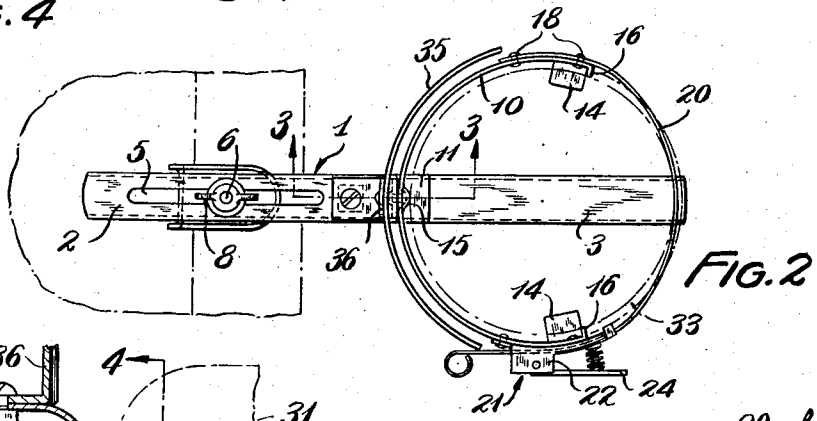


FIG. 2

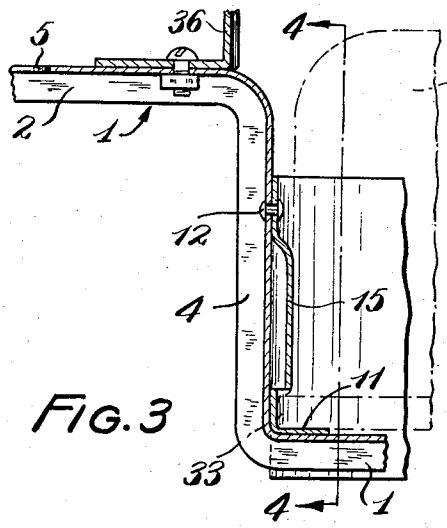


FIG. 3

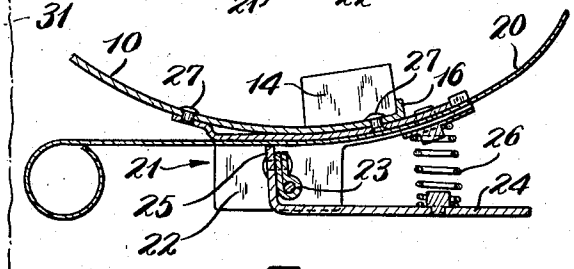


FIG. 5

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LANTERN HOLDER

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5 Claims. (Cl. 248—229)

This invention relates to lantern holders, particularly of the class used by fishermen for attaching a lantern, usually in an outboard position, to the side or stern of a boat, or to any other suitable support.

One object of the invention is to provide a lantern holder that can be easily and quickly attached to a support, and wherein a lantern may be firmly secured with equal facility.

Other objects are to provide a lantern holder that is of relatively simple and inexpensive construction; that is substantial and thoroughly reliable; that is durable in service, and that is adjustable and reversible with respect to a support to which it is attached.

These objects, with other more limited ones that will appear as this description proceeds, are attained in the embodiment of the invention illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein like parts are designated by like reference characters throughout the several views.

In the drawing,

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of my improved lantern holder attached to the gunwale of a boat with a lantern mounted in and secured to the holder;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the holder;

Fig. 3 is a sectional detail on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2, drawn to a considerably larger scale than the preceding views;

Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3; and

Fig. 5 is an enlarged sectional detail through the retainer by which one end of the lantern holding strap is adjustably fastened to one side of the saddle.

A bracket, designated generally by the reference numeral 1, is formed from an elongated channel member to provide horizontal branches 2 and 3 that lie in different planes and whose adjacent ends are connected together by a vertical part 4. The branch 2 of the bracket has a longitudinal slot 5 through which is extended a bolt 6 for securing said branch to a C-clamp 7 at any desired position within the length of the slot 5, a wing nut 8 being applied to the bolt 6.

10 designates a saddle that is desirably made of sheet metal. It is substantially semi-cylindrical in form and of suitable height, and substantially midway of the ends on its lower edge it is provided with slits that are spaced apart a distance substantially equal to the width of the branch 3 and that set off a lug or projection 11 that is turned inwardly. A notch is thus provided, and the saddle is arranged with said notch embracing said branch 3 and with the portion of the saddle thereabove in contact with the vertical part 4 of the bracket 1. The saddle is suitably secured near its upper edge to the part 4, as by means of a rivet 12, and the saddle is held against turning about said rivet by reason of the engagement of the aforesaid notch with the horizontal branch 3. At its ends, the saddle is slit upwardly from its lower edge and the adjacent corner portions of the saddle are turned inwardly to provide lugs or projections 14 that are in the same plane as the lug or projection 11. Above said lug or projection 11, the saddle is formed

with a vertical bead 15, the lower end of which is suitably spaced from said lug and is defined by a short horizontal slit so as to enable said end to be abruptly offset from the adjacent part of the saddle. The ends of the saddle are shown as turned inwardly to provide flanges 16 whose lower ends are suitably spaced above the lugs or projections 14.

Fastened, as by rivets 18, to one side of the saddle 10 is one end of a metal strap 20, the opposite end of which extends through a retainer 21 that is secured to the opposite side of the saddle. The retainer 21 may be of any suitable character, although I presently prefer a construction including a housing 22 by which is supported a pivot 23 whereon is mounted an L-shaped lever that includes a finger piece 24 and a nose 25. Said nose is adapted to engage and bite the strap 20, where the latter is extended through the housing 22, when the lever is rocked upon the pivot 23 by a spring 26 that is compressed between the finger piece 24 and an underlying part of the housing 22. The housing is shown as fastened to the adjacent side of the saddle 10 by rivets 27.

A lantern, generally designated 30, which is of conventional type, is adapted to be placed over the branch 3 of the bracket 1 in a position to rest upon said branch and upon the projections 11 and 14 of the saddle 10. The lantern base or font 31 has a cylindrical portion that is partially embraced by the saddle 10 and bears against the bead 15 and is adapted to be contacted by the flanges 16, a ridge or seam 33, adjacent the bottom of the base 31, extending beneath the lower ends of said bead and flanges. It will be understood that the strap 20 is in expanded condition when the lantern is placed within the holder, and now, by grasping the free end of the strap 20 and pulling it, the strap may be drawn taut and it will automatically be held by the retainer 21 in taut condition thereby to firmly secure the lantern within the holder. When it is desired to remove the lantern, the finger piece 24 is depressed against the action of the spring 26 so as to release the nose 25 from the strap 20, when the strap may be expanded beyond the radius of the ridge 33.

The branch 2 of the bracket 1 is shown as attached by the bolt 6 and nut 8 to an end of the C-clamp 7, so that the clamp may be engaged laterally with the gunwale of the boat. Provisions are also made for attaching the branch 2 of the bracket 1 to the central portion of the clamp 7, as when it is necessary to engage the clamp downwardly over a support.

If desired, a light shield or reflector 35 may be supported by a standard 36 from the branch 2 of the bracket 1 adjacent the vertical part 4. The standard is preferably detachably secured to the bracket, so that it may be removed when not needed, or so that the parts of the lantern holder may be compactly arranged for packing and storage purposes.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A holder for a lantern of the kind having a ridge about the lower portion of its base, said holder comprising a bracket including a substantially vertical part, means connected to the bracket for attaching the holder to a support, a saddle carried by said vertical part and arranged to embrace one side of the base of a lantern, a plurality of lantern sustaining lugs projecting inwardly from the lower portion of the saddle in spaced relation to one another thereabout and arranged to project beneath a lantern base, bearing means adjacent each lug and extending inwardly from the saddle a distance substantially equal to the radial extent of said ridge and spaced substantially the width of such ridge above said sustaining lugs, a strap secured at one of its ends to one side of the saddle and adapted to be drawn about a

lantern base, and retaining means carried by the other side of the saddle for holding the strap taut.

2. A lantern holder comprising a bracket including substantially horizontal branches and a vertical part intermediate the branches by which the branches are secured together and are respectively sustained in different planes, a generally semi-cylindrical sheet metal saddle arranged substantially horizontally and having its middle portion secured to said vertical part of the bracket, the saddle in the region of said middle portion being slit upwardly from its lower edge at laterally spaced points, and the part between the slits being turned inwardly to provide a lug that rests upon the lower branch of the bracket adjacent said vertical part, the saddle being similarly slit near its ends and the parts therebeyond being turned inwardly to provide opposed lugs in the plane of the former lug, a strap secured at one of its ends to one side of the saddle, retaining means fastened to the other side of the saddle for holding the opposite end of the strap, and means connected to the upper branch of the bracket for attaching the holder to a support.

3. The combination and arrangement of parts set forth in claim 2, and, in addition thereto, a standard consisting of a metal strap having a right angle bend at its lower end to provide a foot that is detachably connected to the first branch of the bracket, the standard rising from said branch in the region of said vertical part, and a light shield carried by said standard.

4. A lantern holder comprising a bracket including substantially horizontal branches and a vertical part intermediate the branches by which the branches are secured together and are respectively sustained in different planes, a generally semi-cylindrical sheet metal saddle arranged substantially horizontally and having its middle portion secured to said vertical part of the bracket, the saddle in the region of said middle portion being slit upwardly from its lower edge at laterally spaced points, and the part between the slits being turned inwardly to provide a lug that rests upon the lower branch of the bracket adjacent said vertical part, the saddle being similarly slit near its ends and the parts therebeyond being

turned inwardly to provide opposed lugs in the plane of the former lug, bearing means adjacent each lug extending inwardly from the saddle for contact with the base of a lantern a distance above the plane of said lugs, a strap secured at one of its ends to one side of the saddle, retaining means fastened to the other side of the saddle for holding the opposite end of the strap, and means adjustably connected to the upper branch of the base for attaching the holder to a support.

5. A lantern holder comprising a bracket including substantially horizontal branches and a vertical part intermediate the branches by which the branches are secured together and are respectively sustained in different planes, a generally semi-cylindrical saddle arranged substantially horizontally and having its middle portion secured to said vertical part of the bracket, the saddle being slit along its lower edge at laterally spaced points, and the part between the slits being turned inwardly to provide a lug that rests upon the lower branch of the bracket adjacent said vertical part, lugs turned inwardly from the opposite sides of the saddle in the plane of the former lug, a strap secured at one of its ends to one side of the saddle, retaining means fastened to the other side of the saddle for holding the opposite end of the strap, said retaining means consisting of a manually releasable spring operated friction clamp in operative relation with said opposite end of the strap, and means connected to the upper branch of the bracket for attaching the holder to a support.

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