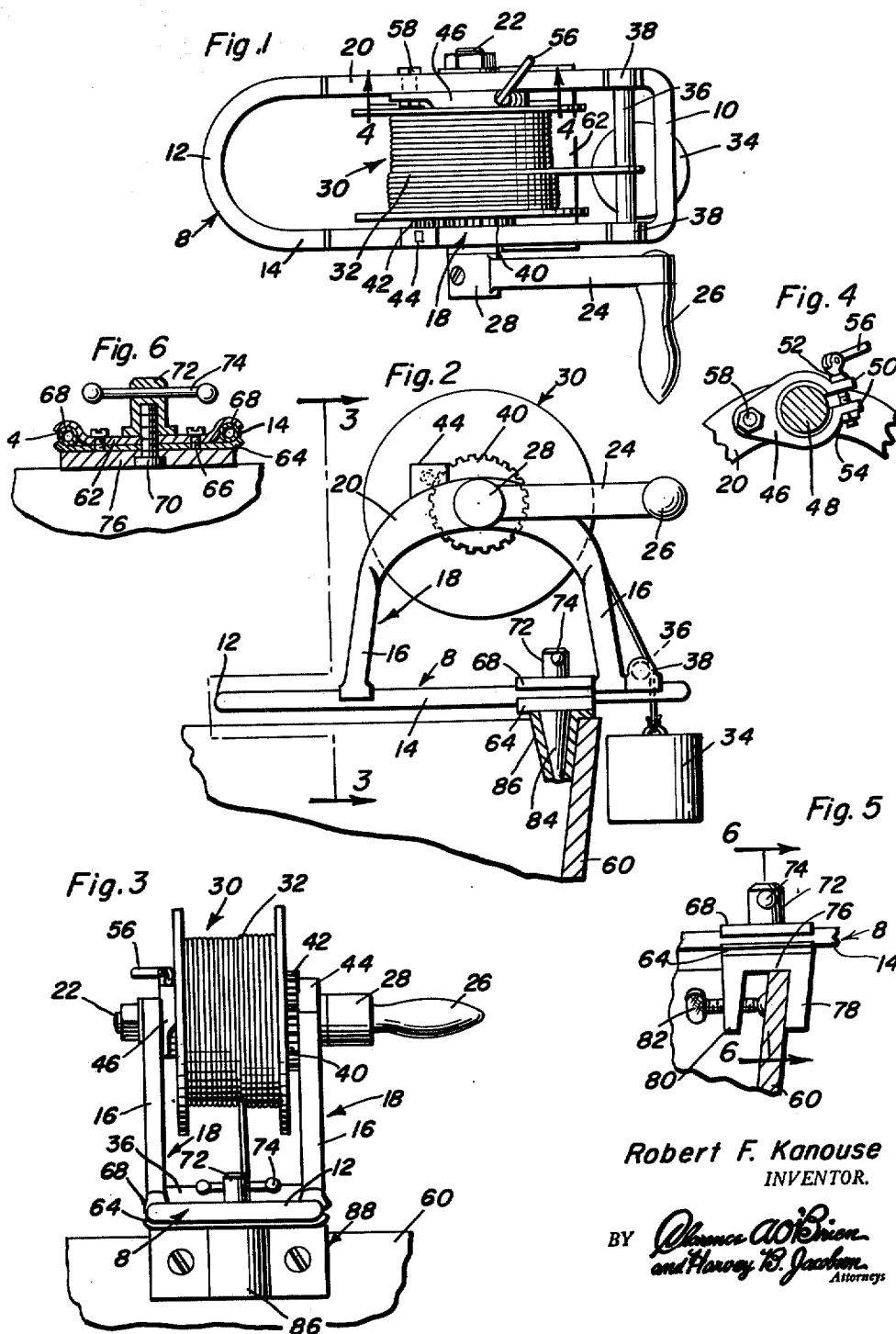


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PORTABLE ANCHOR WINCH
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PORTABLE ANCHOR WINCH

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4 Claims. (Cl. 254—186)

The present invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in a portable-type winch which is especially, but not necessarily, adapted to enable the user thereof to readily raise and lower an anchor, that is, an anchor which is customarily used on a small boat such as, for instance, a rowboat in use by a fisherman.

Briefly, the invention in a preferred embodiment thereof is characterized by a frame structure embodying a horizontal base frame having a pair of spaced parallel uprights, said uprights serving to support a reel therebetween and said reel serving to accommodate the windings of a line which is employed in conjunction with the weighted anchor.

In carrying out a preferred embodiment of the invention, means is provided for detachably clamping the frame structure to the gunwale of a boat and to thus locate the reel at an advantageous position. In addition, the concept contemplates the use of an attaching device which, provided with a tapered pin, may be conveniently connected to a conventional-type oarlock such as is used on most rowboats. This aspect of the invention is desirable in that it allows the winch, as an entity, to swivel in a horizontal plane about the vertical axis provided by the swivel pin arrangement.

The invention also features the incorporation in the frame structure of a horizontally disposed line guide for the sinker-equipped end of the cable or anchor rope and which is so arranged that it facilitates enabling the user of the winch to uniformly control the position of the windings of the cable on the reel.

Other objects, features and advantages will become more readily apparent from the following description and the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing wherein like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the views:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a winch constructed in accordance with the principles of the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a view in side elevation showing how it looks when mounted on one of the walls of a rowboat or the like, this being the swivel arrangement.

Fig. 3 is a section on the irregular line 3—3 of Fig. 2, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 4 is an exaggerated section showing the clamping brake, the section being taken on the plane of the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a view similar in some respects to Fig. 2 but fragmentarily drawn and showing a modified boat clamp.

Fig. 6 is a section on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5.

Referring now to the drawings, the frame structure or framework as it is alternatively called is made up primarily of three components; namely, an endless rectangular frame or base 8 having transverse outward and inward frame members 10 and 12 with the inward portion 12 functioning as a convenient handle for the occupant-user. The longitudinal spaced parallel side members 14 serve to accommodate the depending legs 16 of a pair of upstanding inverted U-shaped uprights 18. The bight portions 20 of the uprights are provided with appropriate

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bearings to accommodate a suitably mounted rotatable shaft 22. This shaft is turned by a hand crank 24 having a handle 26 and a head 28 which is connected with the cooperating end of the shaft. Mounted on the shaft between the uprights is a suitably constructed reel 30 for the cable or rope 32 which has its outer or free end connected with the anchor 34. The anchor-equipped end of the cable is trained over a guide rod or bar 36 mounted in brackets 38 carried by the side members of the base frame. The numeral 40 designates a gear keyed on the shaft and operating a pinion 42 which in turn serves to operate a suitable indicator 44, that is, an indicator which may be used if desired to denote the number of revolutions taken by the reel in either direction and thus enable the user to estimate the footage of the cable, and consequently the depth of the body of water being fished.

The numeral 46 in Fig. 4 designates a brake, the jaws of which surround the portion 48 of the shaft. The jaw portions 50 are joined by a flanged bolt 52 and nut 54 turned by way of a pivoted handle or hand grip 56. This arrangement is such that the brake jaws may be clamped more or less firmly around the shaft portion 48. The brake itself is bolted at 58 to the bight portion of one of the uprights, for example, the upright at the left in Fig. 3.

Clamping means is provided for either swivelly or fixedly mounting the base frame on the wall 60 of a boat (not detailed). This clamp means, as shown perhaps best in Fig. 6, comprises top and bottom cleats or plates 62 and 64 fastened by screw threaded headed fasteners 66 and with the top plate having suitably curved end portions 68 to partially embrace the frame side members in the manner shown. There is a headed assembling bolt 70 passing through the plates or cleats and a nut 72 is mounted thereon and the nut in turn is provided with a turning handle 74. The plates may be connected to the bight portion 76 (Fig. 5) of a clamp of the type having jaws 78 and 80 with the jaw 80 carrying a setscrew 82. This adaption provides a stationary U-type clamp.

In some arrangements, instead of using the U-type clamp in Fig. 5, a pivoted spindle or pin 84 (Figs. 2 and 3) is substituted and is fixed to the cleat 64. This adapts the device to be mounted swivelly and removably in the socket portion 86 of an oarlock bracket 88 of the type seen in Fig. 3.

It will be evident that the frame structure with its clamping and attaching means may be either clamped fixedly as seen in Fig. 5 or swivelly as seen in Figs. 2 and 3 on the side wall or gunwale of a rowboat. It will be arranged in such a way that the bar-equipped end, that is, the end with the bar 36, overhangs the boat wall, allowing the anchor to descend into the water or be raised and the cable wound on the reel or drum in an obvious manner. The inner end portion 12 of the base frame 8 serves as a convenient handle when the device is swivelly mounted and assists in angling the frame structure for more satisfactory handling of the over-all device. The brake means facilitates controlling the speed of rotation of the reel. It will be evident, therefore, that the invention comprehends the adoption and use of a simple, practical and reliable winch which, it is believed, will satisfactorily serve the purposes for which it is primarily intended.

With further reference to the stationary clamp, it is to be noted that it allows (Fig. 6) the winch to swivel about the axis of the bolt 70 and then locked in any position by merely tightening the nut 72. In the tapered pin arrangement (Fig. 2), there is no need for a locking device.

Since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. A winch for use on a side wall of a rowboat or the like comprising a generally flat base frame having coplanar side members and transverse inner and outer end members, the inner transverse end member constituting a handle for use in sliding and adjusting the frame toward and from a relatively stationary support, the side wall of a boat for example, and otherwise handling said base frame, a pair of opposed upstanding uprights mounted on median portions of the respective side members of said base frame, a cable winding reel mounted on a shaft supported between the respective uprights, a transverse guide rod for a cable mounted on the outer end portion of the base frame but spaced inwardly from the adjacent transverse outer end member of said frame, a clamp, the side members of said frame being adjustably and removably mounted on said clamp, and additional means for detachably and swivelly mounting said clamp on one of the side walls of said boat, whereby the outer end of the frame and said guide are permitted to overhang the boat wall and be manually adjusted toward and from said wall.

2. For use on the side wall of a rowboat or wherever the act of paying out or reeling in a heavy anchor may be hazardous, a winch comprising clamp means embodying a pair of cooperating superposed plates clampingly connected with each other, means connected with and depending from the bottom one of the plates whereby said bottom one may be swivelly and removably mounted on the side wall of the boat, a horizontally elongated base frame having spaced parallel side members removably and slidably clamped between said plates, a transverse outward frame member connecting the outward ends of the side members and adapted to project outwardly and beyond the boat side wall, an inner transverse member connecting the inner ends of the side members and constituting a handle which may be conveniently used in slid-

ing the base frame relative to the clamping plates and may also be conveniently employed in swivelling the frame in a horizontal plane, a transverse guide rod mounted between the side members of said frame but inwardly of the first named transverse end member, said guide rod spanning the space between the side members and being adapted to accommodate the weighted end of a cable, a cable winding reel having crank means, and a pair of cooperating oppositely disposed substantially U-shaped uprights mounted on median portions of the respective side members of the frame and between the bight portions of which the reel is supported for operation.

3. The structure defined in claim 2 and wherein the means attached to the bottom plate of the clamp comprises a U-shaped jaw-equipped clamp having a setscrew and adapted to be releasably mounted on the boat side wall.

4. The structure defined in claim 2 and wherein said means on the bottom plate comprises a depending tapered swivel pin adapted to be detachably and swivelly mounted in a conventional type oar lock bracket, commonly in use on the side wall of a rowboat.

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