M. NIEĆ.

WATER SKATE.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 13, 1918.

1,275,727. Patented Aug. 13, 1918.

FIG. 1.

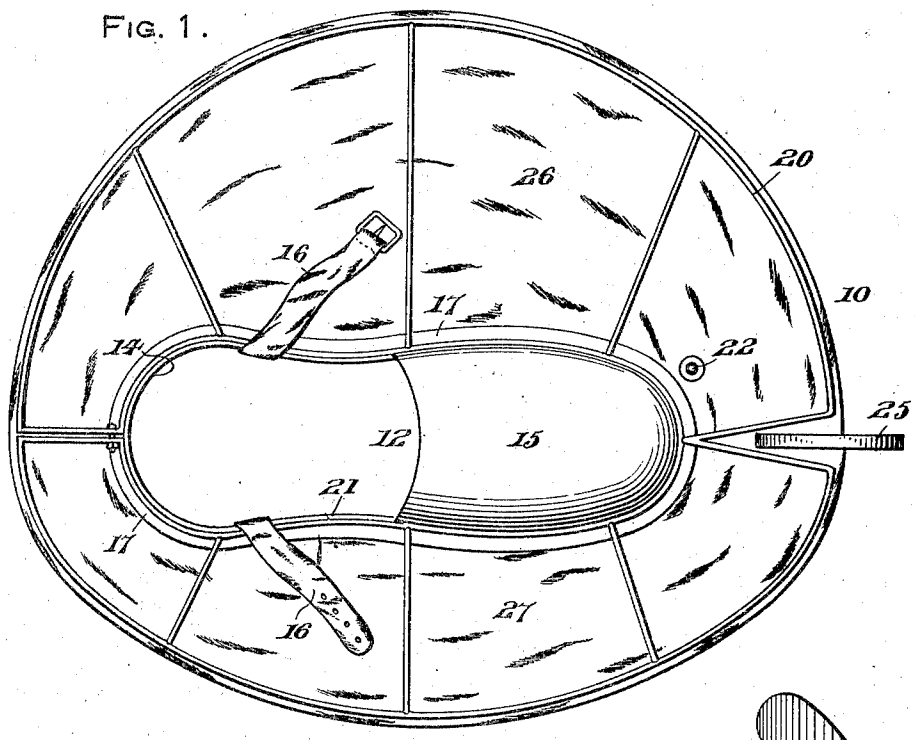


FIG. 2.

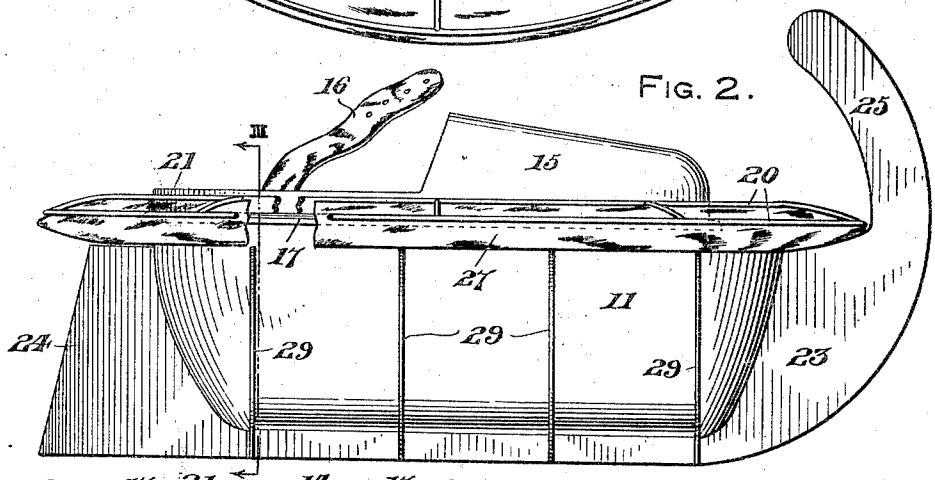


FIG. 3.

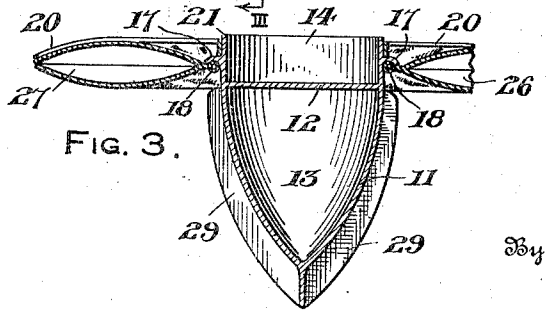
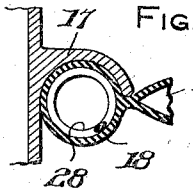


FIG. 4.



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MICHAL NIEĆ, OF ST. CATHARINES, ONTARIO, CANADA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO JAN KOLACZYNSKI, OF ST. CATHARINES, ONTARIO, CANADA.

WATER-SKATE.

1,275,727. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 13, 1918.

Application filed April 13, 1918. Serial No. 228,507.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MICHAL NIEĆ, a subject of the Emperor of Austria, residing at St. Catharines, in the Province of Ontario and Dominion of Canada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Water-Skates, of which the following is a specification.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a device adapted to be worn on the feet for the purpose of traveling upon the surface of the water without sinking beneath the surface thereof.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a floating shoe or skate adapted for wearing upon the feet permitting a person to walk or slide upon the surface of a body of water, the structure being simple and inexpensive to manufacture although of sufficient strength for the uses for which it is designed.

In the drawing forming a part of this application and in which like numerals refer to corresponding parts throughout the several views:—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the device;

Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof partially broken away;

Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view taken upon line III—III of Fig. 2; and

Fig. 4 is an enlarged transverse sectional view of a side portion of the device.

Referring more in detail to the drawing, it will be first understood that the device 10 in the nature of a float is designed for wearing upon the feet, being arranged in pairs after the manner of shoes, with slightly different arrangement for the right and left shoe, the skate herein illustrated being designed for use upon the left foot of the person.

The skate 10 consists of a boat-shaped shoe 11 having a transverse partition 12 arranged therein forming a lower air-compartment or chamber 13 imparting buoyancy to the device while the inclosure 14 above the partition 12 is adapted to receive the foot of the wearer seated upon the said partition and beneath a toe-covering 15 provided therein. Straps 16 are carried by the opposite sides of the shoe for securing the foot of the wearer within the inclosure 14.

An outwardly projecting arcuate flange 17 is provided entirely encircling the shoe 11 at a point above the level of the partition 12 adapted to receive a securing tube 18 therebeneath while an air cushion 19 is carried by the said tube and projecting outwardly when inflated entirely surrounding the shoe 11 and of substantially flat arrangement for seating upon the surface of the water. A keel spring 28 is arranged within the tube 18 for resiliently bending the tube in its seating arrangement beneath the flange 17 and with the cushion 19 arranged in its operative position.

A frame 20 is secured around the shoe 11 above the cushion 19 adapted for preventing the cushion from rising above the level of the edge 21 of the inclosure 14 and whereby the weight of the person when wearing the shoe 11 is maintained upon the surface of the water by means of the cushion 19 and the air-chamber 13 of the shoe. An inflating valve 22 is arranged for the cushion 19 whereby the cushion may be filled with air or a suitable gas for imparting buoyancy thereto.

A keel in the form of a skate blade 23 is mounted upon the shoe 11 from the stem to the stern thereof, the said shoe being in the form of a hull. The rear portion 24 of the skate blade or runner 23 serves as a stationary rudder while the forward portion 25 of the runner extends upwardly above the level of the top of the shoe after the manner of an ice socket. A person being provided with a pair of devices 10 may travel upon the water being supported by said skates, it being understood that the wider side portion 26 of the cushion 19 is positioned at the outer side of the person while the inner portion 27 thereof will be arranged between the feet of the wearer for offering less obstruction to the movements of the feet when traveling with the skates 10 secured thereon.

Outwardly projecting ribs 29 are carried by the shoe 11 beneath the tube 18 whereby the person is able to travel through the water after the manner of walking by elevating one foot at a time out of the water and then replacing it in an advanced position. The ribs 29 offer resistance to the water also permitting the shoe 11 to be forcibly moved through the water during a partial walking and sliding movement. A serviceable structure is arranged for ready use of a person desiring to travel upon the surface of the water, it being understood

that the devices may be made of any desired size and that any suitable attaching means such as the toe piece 15 and straps 16 may be provided for securing the device upon the foot.

What I claim as new is:—

1. A water skate comprising a boat-shaped shoe adapted for wearing upon the foot of a person, an outwardly projecting arcuate flange surrounding the shoe adjacent the top thereof, a pneumatic cushion surrounding the said flange adapted for flat positioning upon the water when the shoe is positioned therein, and a resilient tube carried by the cushion seated against the side of the shoe beneath the said flange.

2. A water skate comprising a boat-shaped shoe adapted for wearing upon the foot of a person, an outwardly projecting arcuate flange surrounding the shoe adjacent the top thereof, a pneumatic cushion surrounding the said flange adapted for flat positioning upon the water when the shoe is positioned therein, a resilient tube carried by the cushion seated against the side of the shoe beneath the said flange, a transverse partition arranged within the shoe forming an air-chamber in its lower portion, a frame carried adjacent the upper edge of the shoe overlying the said cushion, and a keel arranged upon the bottom of the shoe from the stem to the stern thereof.

3. A water skate comprising a shoe in the form of a hull, a partition within the shoe providing a lower air-chamber and an upper foot-receiving inclosure, a toe covering and restraining straps carried by the top of the shoe, a keel arranged upon the exterior of the shoe longitudinally thereof having a rear rudder portion and a forward stem portion, outwardly projecting ribs upon the shoe attached to said keel, and a pneumatic float surrounding the shoe resiliently attached to the exterior thereof.

4. A water skate comprising a shoe in the form of a hull, a partition within the shoe providing a lower air-chamber and an upper foot-receiving inclosure, a toe covering and restraining straps carried by the top of the shoe, a keel arranged upon the exterior of the shoe longitudinally thereof having a rear rudder portion and a forward stem portion, outwardly projecting ribs upon the shoe attached to said keel, an outwardly projecting curved flange upon the shoe above the level of said partition, a resilient tube seated beneath the said flange, a pneumatic cushion carried by said tube outwardly of the flange adapted for resting upon the surface of the water during the operation of the device, and a retaining frame for the cushion secured surrounding the shoe above the said flange.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

MICHAL NIEĆ.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."