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DETACHABLE MOUNTING FOR BOAT SEATS

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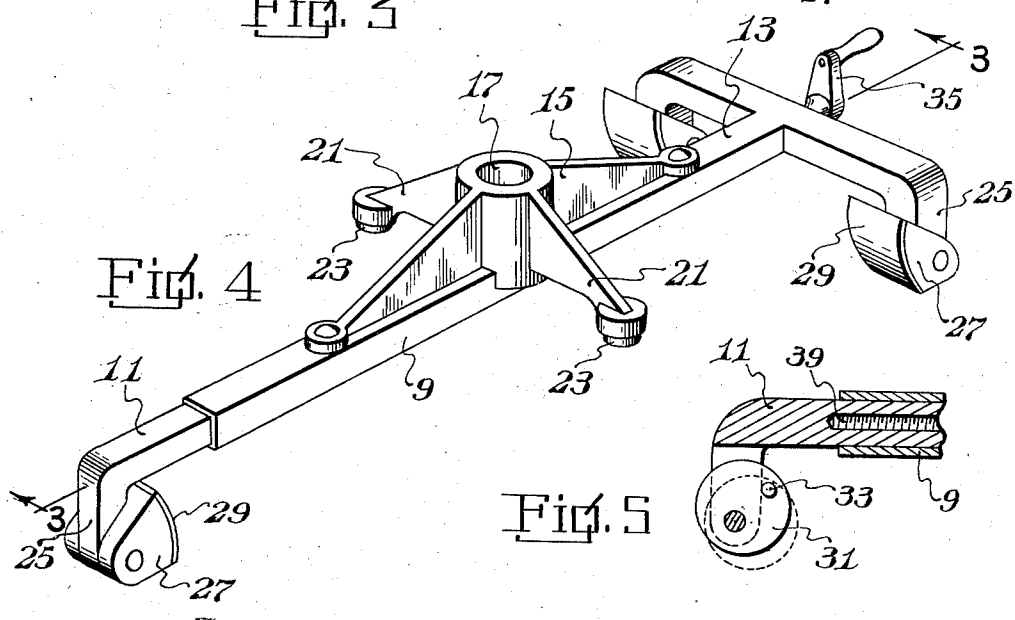
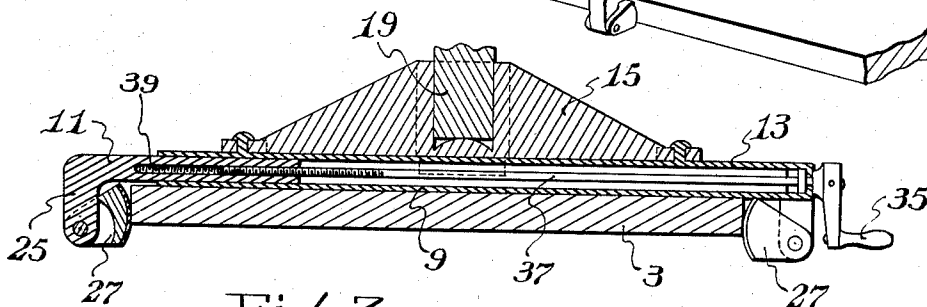
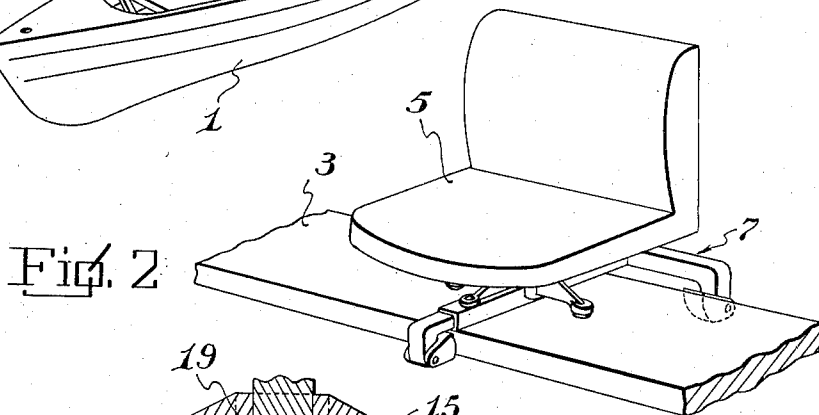
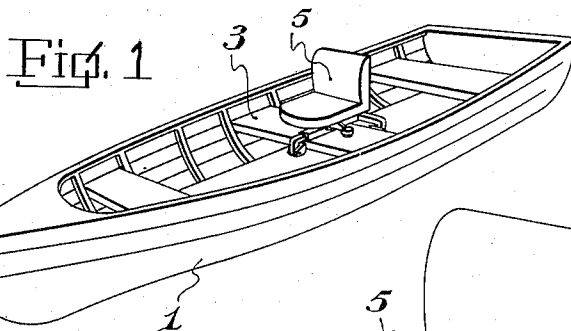
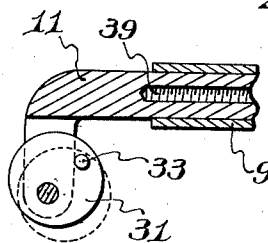


Fig. 5



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DETACHABLE MOUNTING FOR BOAT SEATS

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2 Claims. (Cl. 248—194)

The present invention relates to detachable mountings for boat seats, and more particularly to boat seat mountings which may be attached to or removed from the ordinary plank seat of small boats such as rowboats, dinghies, sailboats or the like.

The conventional plank seats of small boats cause great personal discomfort during protracted periods of use, particularly when the occupant is fishing. Heretofore, the art has sought to provide more comfortable seats by mounting chairs in the boat; but of course these have increased the cost of the boat and have been subject to theft. The art has also sought to provide portable seats which could be used on conventional plank seats; but these have been unstable and subject to tipping and accidental dislodgement from the plank seat, particularly when the occupant is engaged with casting or with landing a fish.

Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide a detachable mounting for boat seats which may be readily engaged with or disengaged from a conventional plank seat of a boat.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a detachable mounting for boat seats, which when engaged with a conventional plank seat of a boat will not be subject to accidental dislodgment.

The invention also contemplates provision of a detachable mounting for boat seats, which will maintain the boat seat stable against tipping.

Finally, it is an object of the invention to provide a detachable mounting for boat seats, which will be inexpensive to construct, easy to attach or remove, dependable in operation, and rugged and durable in use.

Other objects and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from the following specification, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a boat showing the mounting of the present invention in use;

Figure 2 is an enlarged perspective view of a portion of Figure 1, showing the position of a mounting according to the invention in use;

Figure 3 is an elevational cross-sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 4;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of a detachable mounting for boat seats according to the invention; and

Figure 5 is an elevational fragmentary cross-sectional view showing a modified form of cam.

Referring now to the drawings in greater detail, there is shown a small boat 1 having a conventional plank seat 3, and a boat seat 5 mounted thereon by means of my novel detachable mounting indicated generally at 7. Mounting 7 comprises an elongated, longitudinally extensible member 9 disposed transversely of plank seat 3 and comprising a pair of telescoping inner and outer members 11 and 13 respectively, which are of polygonal cross-section so as to prevent rotation relative to each other. Ex-

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tensible member 9 has a lower surface adapted to lie flat on the upper surface of plank seat 3.

Mounted on top of member 9, on outer member 13, is a spider 15 having a vertical socket 17 for receiving and rotatably supporting the lower end of a swivel post 19 of boat seat 5. Spider 15 has a plurality of radially extending webs, two of which are fastened to and extend along outer member 13, and the other two of which extend laterally outwardly of member 9 and comprise stabilizer legs 21 which terminate downwardly and outwardly in stabilizer feet 23, the lower surfaces of which are coplanar with the aforementioned lower surface of member 9.

Member 9 is provided at both ends with downwardly depending legs 25, one at the outer end of inner member 11 and two on a cross piece at the outer end of outer member 13. Means are provided for engaging with the opposite side edges of plank seat 3, comprising cams 27 mounted for rotation on lower ends of legs 25 about axes transverse to member 9. In use, cams 27 will extend inwardly; and in this sense, they have inner arcuate cam surfaces 29 which may if desired be covered with rubber or the like for a better grip. As seen in Figure 3, in the position of use, the upper portions of cam surfaces 29 are spaced farther from their associated axes of rotation than are the lower portions of cam surfaces 29.

In Figure 5, a modified form of cam is shown, comprising an eccentrically rotatably mounted circular disc 31, the rotation of which is limited by a detent pin 33. It will be noted that the effective cam surface and cam action of this modified form is the same as in the previous form described above.

A crank 35 is journaled for rotation in the outer end of outer member 13 and is in unitary assembly with a rod 37 disposed within outer member 13 and having a screw-threaded inner end disposed in a complementary screw-threaded recess 39 in the inner end of inner member 11.

Rotation of crank 35 rotates rod 37; and hence, to engage the mounting with a plank seat, the mounting is laid flat on the upper surface of the seat with cams 27 or 31 disposed inwardly, and crank 35 is turned in one direction to adjust the length of member 9 by retracting inner member 11 into outer member 13, thereby to grip the opposite side edges of plank seat 3 between cams 27. By virtue of the particular configuration of cam surfaces 29, the cams will attempt to turn to relieve the outward pressure against them, and in doing so will pull down on their associated legs 25, thus securing the lower surface of member 9 firmly against the upper surface of plank seat 3. To disengage the mounting from the plank seat, the crank is merely turned in the opposite direction.

In use, any tendency of the mounting to ride up and off the seat by virtue of twisting forces resulting from movements of the occupant is resisted by the opposed cams 27, which cannot by virtue of the configuration of their surfaces 29 ride up and over center so long as plank seat 3 remains substantially intact. Moreover, a large part of the twisting stresses imparted by movements of the occupant is transmitted directly from socket 17 through stabilizer feet 23 to a separate portion of plank seat 3, with the result that the stresses on the plank seat are well distributed. Thus, it is not necessary to make member 9 so rigid and cumbersome as if all the stresses were transmitted to the edges of the plank seat.

Although the present invention has been described in conjunction with preferred embodiments, it is to be understood that modifications and variations may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention, as those skilled in the art will readily understand. Such modifications and variations are considered to be

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within the purview and scope of the invention and appended claims.

I claim:

1. A mounting for a boat seat, comprising in combination, an elongated, longitudinally extensible member adapted to be positioned transversely of a plank seat of a boat, said member having a lower surface adapted to lie flat on the upper surface of said plank seat; a spider mounted on top of said extensible member and intermediate the ends of said extensible member, said spider having a vertical, cylindrical, upwardly-open socket for receiving and rotatably supporting the lower end of a swivel post of a boat seat, said spider having a plurality of webs extending radially from said socket, two of said webs being fastened to and extending along the top of said extensible member on either side of said socket, two others of said webs extending laterally outwardly of said extensible member and comprising stabilized legs terminating downwardly and outwardly of said socket in stabilizer feet, the lower surfaces of said stabilizer feet being coplanar with said lower surface of said extensible member and being adapted to contact said upper surface of said plank seat, downwardly depending legs disposed at both ends of said extensible member, inwardly extending cams mounted for rotation on said legs about axes trans-

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verse to said member, said cams having inner arcuate cam surfaces, the upper portions of said cam surfaces being spaced farther from their associated said axes than the lower portions of said cam surfaces, and means for adjusting the length of said extensible member, to cause said cams selectively to grip the opposite side edges of said plank seat between said cams and draw said mounting down onto said plank seat with said stabilizer feet in contact with said upper surface of said plank seat to brace said mounting against lateral tipping, or to release said plank seat.

2. The invention of claim 1, said extensible member comprising a pair of telescoping members, said telescoping members being complementary to each other and polygonal, to maintain said axes of said cams parallel to each other.

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