Dec. 16, 1958 W. A. STARK 2,864,391

BOAT HOOD

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Fig. 1

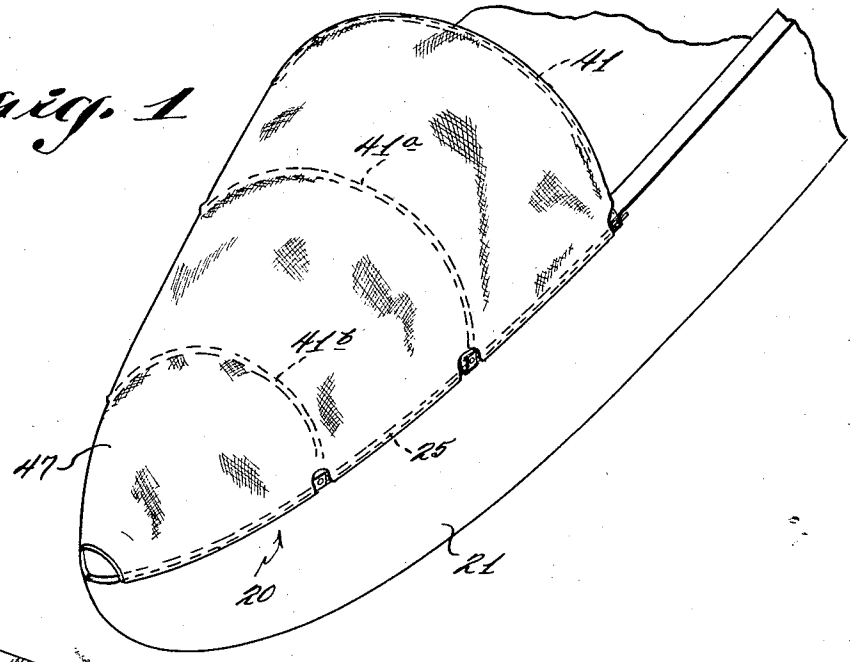
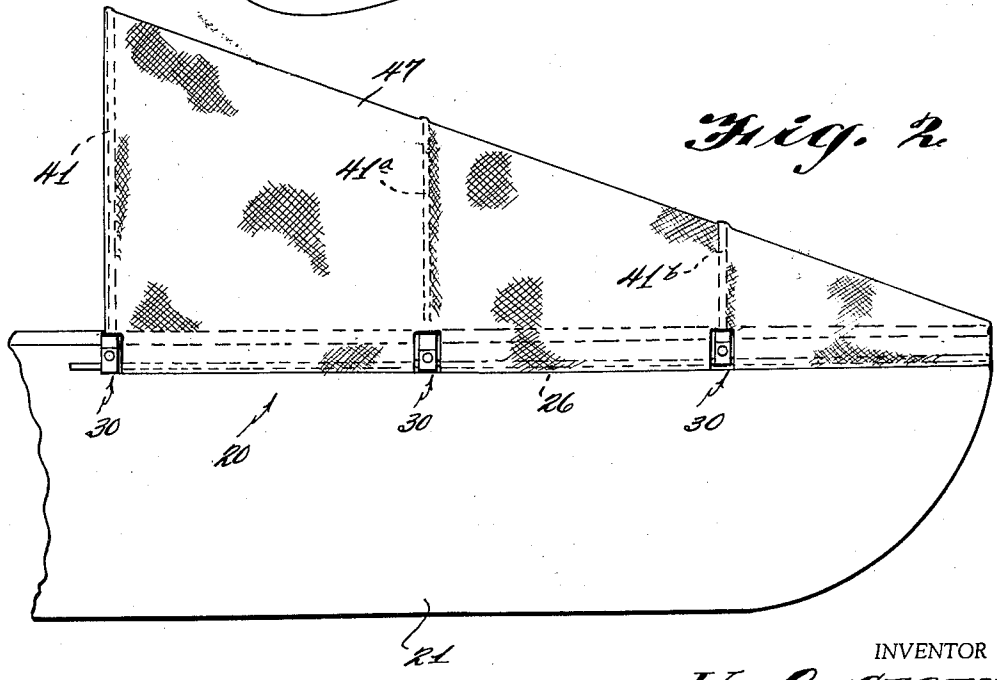


Fig. 2



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Fig. 3

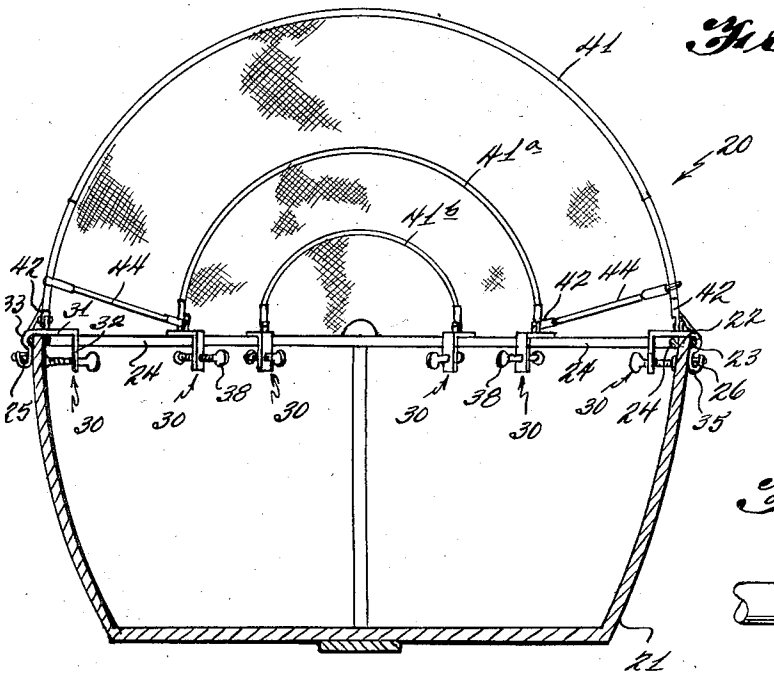


Fig. 5

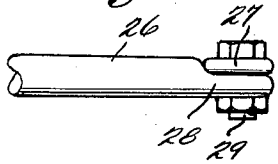
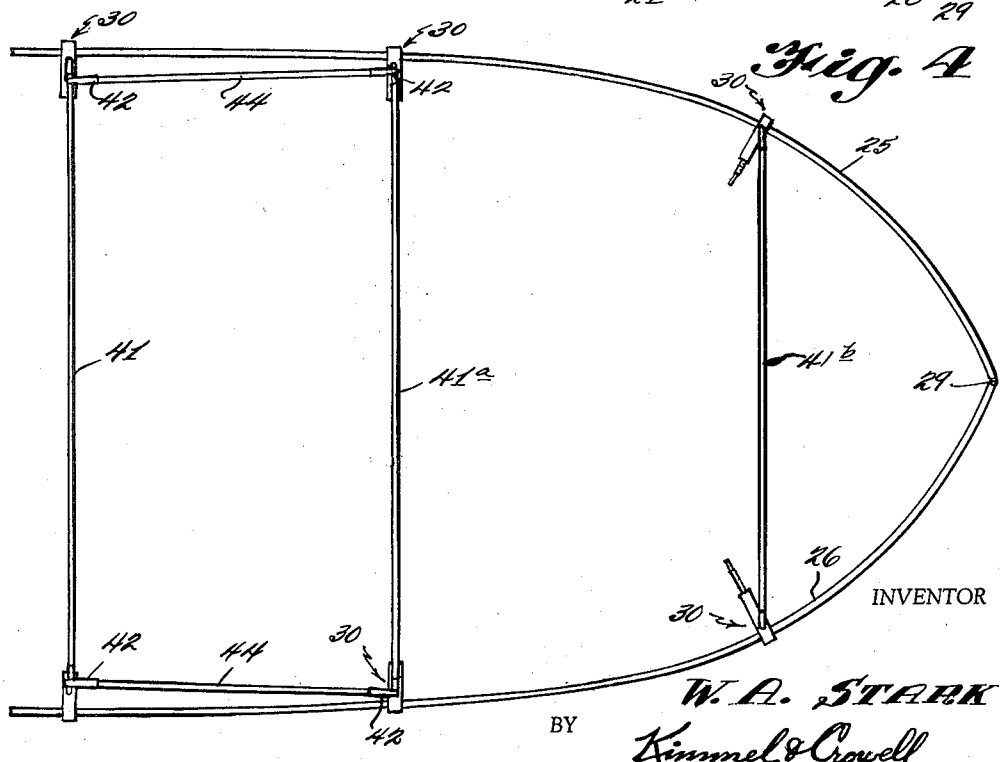


Fig. 4



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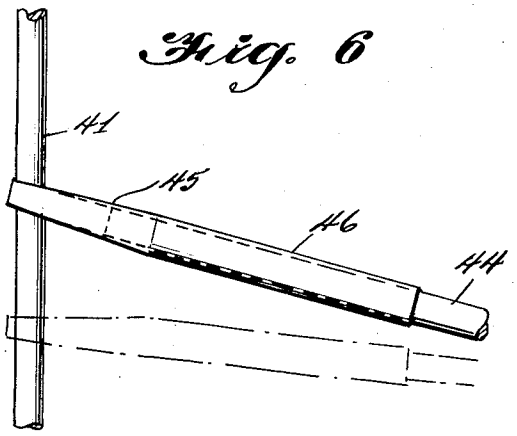
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BOAT HOOD

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Fig. 6



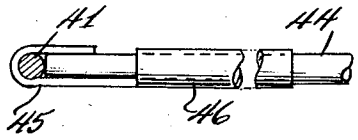


Fig. 7

Fig. 8

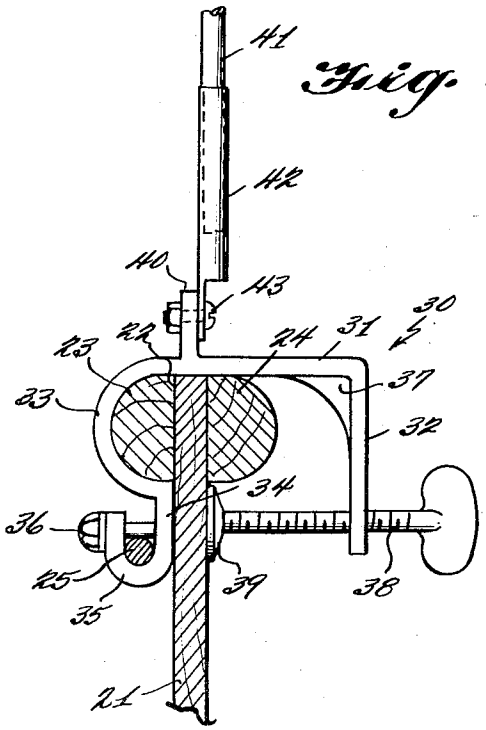
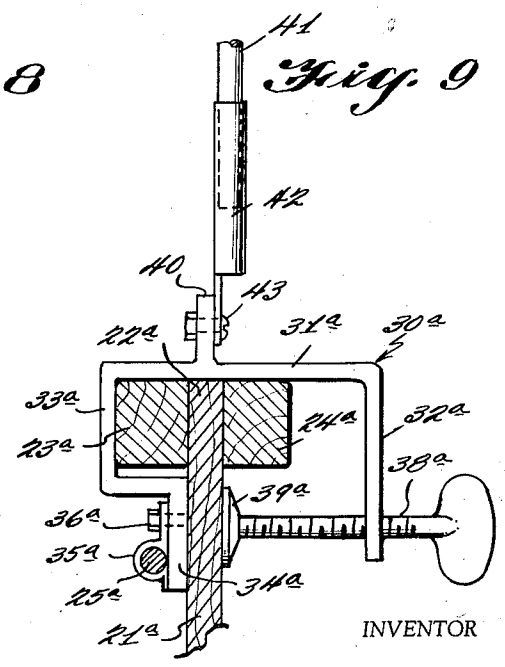


Fig. 9



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United States Patent Office 2,864,391 Patented Dec. 16, 1958

2,864,391

BOAT HOOD

William A. Stark, Appleton, Wis.

Application July 11, 1957, Serial No. 671,352

3 Claims. (Cl. 135—6)

The present invention relates to a boat hood, and more particularly to a detachable hood for small boats.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a boat hood detachably secured to small boats to prevent the boat from shipping water and to keep a person dry in raining and rough weather.

Another object of the invention is to provide a boat hood detachable framework which can be applied and removed from the boat by one man.

A further object of the invention is to provide a boat hood of the class described above which utilizes flexible fabric material and which can be collapsed into a relatively small space when removed from the boat.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a boat hood of the class described above which is inexpensive to manufacture, simple to apply and remove, and which is quite effective in protecting the boat during rough weather, rain, high winds, and the like.

Other objects and advantages will become apparent in the following specification when considered in the light of the attached drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a framentary perspective view of the invention shown attached to a small boat.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary side elevation of the invention.

Figure 3 is a rear elevation of the invention shown attached to a boat in transverse cross-section.

Figure 4 is a top plan view of the framework shown with the cover removed.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary enlarged side elevation of the apex portion of the framework.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary side elevation of the bracing structure.

Figure 7 is a top plan view of the bracing structure with the bow shown in horizontal cross-section.

Figure 8 is an enlarged end elevation of one of the clamp members shown attached to the gunnel of a boat, the gunnel being shown in transverse cross-section.

Figure 9 is a view similar to Figure 8 of a modified form of clamp structure constructed to conform to the shape of a gunnel, differing from that illustrated in Figure 8.

Referring now to the drawings in detail wherein like reference characters indicate like parts throughout the several figures, the reference numeral **20** indicates generally a boat hood constructed in accordance with the invention.

The boat hood **20** is illustrated in Figures 1, 2, and 3, in use attached to a small boat **21**. The boat **21** may be of any conventional type such as a rowboat, skiff, utility boat, or the like, and includes a gunnel **22** having outwardly and inwardly projecting wear strips **23** and **24**, respectively, secured thereto.

An elongated arcuate horizontal foundation rod **25**, and a similar but reversely curved elongated horizontal foundation rod **26** are provided with flattened forward end portions **27**, **28**, respectively, which are pivotally secured together by a pivot bolt **29**. The arcuate foundation rods **25**, **26** have a curvature corresponding to the curvature of the prow of the boat **21** and are positioned just below the outer wear strip **23** of the gunnel **22**.

A plurality of clamps, generally indicated at **30**, are arranged in longitudinally spaced relation along the foundation rods **25**, **26** and each include a horizontal portion **31** arranged in engagement with the gunnel **22**, and inner depending flange portion **32** integrally joined to the inner end of the horizontal portion **31** and extending downwardly into the boat **21**. The clamp **30** also includes an arcuate portion **33** engaged about the outer wear strip **23** and having a depending upright portion **34** extending therebelow and contacting the side of the boat **21**.

A hook **35** is formed on the end of the vertical portion **34** and the foundation rod **25** engages therein. A bolt **36** extends through the hook **35** locking the foundation rod **25** in the hook **35**. A web **37** extends between the horizontal portion **31** and the depending flange **32** to reinforce the corner therebetween, as is shown in Figure 8.

A thumb screw **38** is threaded through the lower end of the flange **32** and has a tab **39** on its inner end for engaging the inner surface of the boat **21** opposite to the upright portion **34** of the clamp **30**. Cooperation of the thumb screw **38** and the upright portion **34** of the clamp **30** clamps the boat **21** therebetween and secures the clamp **30** in position thereon. Each of the clamps **30** are provided with upstanding ears **40** extending transversely thereacross, as seen in Figure 8.

A bow **41** formed of an arcuate rod has each of its opposite ends engaged in a socket **42** secured at its lower end to the ear **40** by means of a bolt **43**. The bow **41** extends substantially above the gunnel **22** of the boat **21** in a generally upright relation.

A bow **41*a*** is arranged parallel to the bow **41** forwardly thereof and has a size somewhat smaller than the bow **41** to fit the boat **21** across a narrower point of the beam. The bow **41*a*** is supported at its opposite ends by clamps **30** in the same manner as the bow **41** is supported.

A bow **41*b*** is arranged forwardly of the bow **41*a*** in parallel relation thereto and is similarly supported at its opposite ends on clamps **30**. The bow **41*b*** is formed still smaller than the bow **41*a*** to fit a narrower portion of the boat **21**.

A brace rod **44** has its forward end positioned in a socket **42** secured to an ear **40** by a bolt **43** and extends between the lower ends of the bow **41*a*** to points spaced above the lower ends of the bow **41**. A sliding hook **45** has a sleeve portion **46** which is telescopically engaged over the brace rod **44**. The hook **45** encompasses the bow **41** to support the brace rod **44** thereon.

A fabric cover **47** is engaged over the bows **41**, **41*a*** and **41*b*** and is provided with a hem encompassing the foundation rods **25**, **26** to secure the cover **47** thereto. The rear edge of the cover **47** is similarly hemmed and has the bow **41** extending therethrough.

In mounting the boat hood **20** to a boat, the forward end of the foundation rods **25**, **26** are engaged under the forward end of the gunnel **22** and the clamps **30** are engaged over the gunnel **22**, as illustrated in Figures 3, 4 and 8, to lock the bows **41**, **41*a*** and **41*b*** in upright position supporting the cover **47** above the gunnel **22** of the boat **21**.

In Figure 9, a modified clamp **30*a*** is illustrated by way of example of the form that will be taken by the clamp **30** to cooperate with gunnel **22*a*** and wear strips **23*a***, **24*a*** on boats **21*a*** wherein these parts have a different shape than that illustrated in the preferred form of the invention. In the modification, the clamp **30*a*** has a horizontal portion **31*a*** and a generally rectangular portion **33*a*** arranged to encompass the wear strip **23*a***.

The rectangular portion **33*a*** has a depending vertical portion **34*a*** to which a foundation rod **25*a*** is secured by

a clamp 35*a* by means of a securing bolt 36*a*. The thumb screw 38*a* and the tab 39*a* is threaded through the flange 32*a* in the same manner as is the preferred clamp 30.

Obviously, the shape of the clamp 30 and the clamp 30*a* will be governed by the construction of the boats 21, 21*a*.

Having thus described the preferred embodiments of the invention, it should be understood that numerous additional structural modifications and adaptations may be resorted to without departing from the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A boat hood comprising a flexible fabric panel having converging opposite side edges and a transversely extending rear edge, a hem formed in each of said side edges and in said rear edge, a pair of arcuate foundation rods pivotally secured together at one end and diverging rearwardly horizontally therefrom supported respectively in the hems in said opposite side edges of said panel, an upright arcuate bow extending through the hem in said rear edge, clamp means for detachably securing the lower ends of said arcuate bow rigidly to opposite gunnel portions of a boat and rigidly to the rear end portions of said foundation rods, a plurality of arcuate bows arranged parallel to and forwardly spaced from said first named arcuate bow, and clamp means for detachably securing the lower ends of each of said last named bows rigidly to opposite gunnel portions of a boat and rigidly to said foundation rods with said last named bows supporting said panel above said boat.

2. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein detachable brace rods extend between the opposite ends of a pair of said bows to brace said bows in upright position.

3. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said first named clamps comprise a generally U-shaped member engaged over the gunnel of a boat, a screw shaft threaded into said U-shaped member for clamping against the side of a boat, a bow supporting socket extending upwardly from said clamp, means for adjustably securing said socket to said clamp, and means for rigidly securing said foundation rod to said clamp.

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