

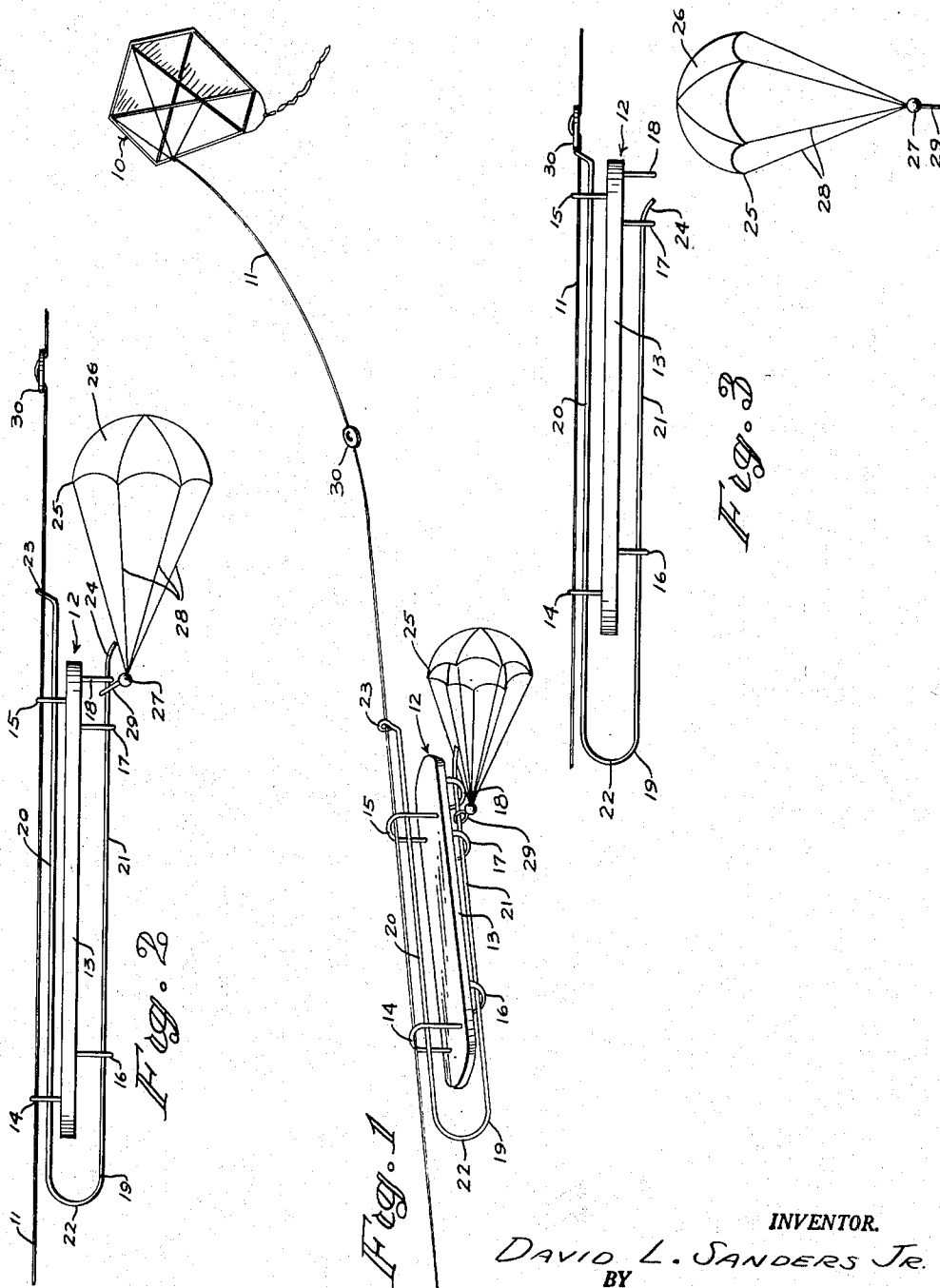
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KITE STRING TRAVELER

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KITE STRING TRAVELER

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1 Claim. (Cl. 244—155)

1

This invention relates to kite string travelers and more particularly to a traveler which carries a miniature parachute device and automatically releases the parachute when the traveler reaches a position adjacent the kite.

It is among the objects of the invention to provide a traveler which can be easily mounted on a kite string to travel along the kite string from a location adjacent the person holding the kite string to a location adjacent the associated kite and carries a miniature parachute device along the kite string; which utilizes the force of the wind on the parachute device itself to move the traveler along the kite string from the holder toward the associated kite; which automatically releases the parachute device when the traveler reaches a position near the kite and returns to the kite string holder where a new parachute device can be attached to the traveler; which includes a frame comprising a flat plate and spaced apart staples secured to the plate and slidably receiving the kite string, and a clip mounted on the plate and movable to automatically release the associated parachute device when the traveler reaches a predetermined position along the kite string; and which is simple and durable in construction, economical to manufacture, easy to use, and positive and effective in operation.

Other objects and advantages will become apparent from a consideration of the following description and the appended claims in conjunction with the accompanying drawing wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing a kite and associated kite string with a traveler illustrative of the invention slidably mounted on the kite string;

Figure 2 is a side elevational view of the traveler and a fragmentary portion of the kite string illustrated in Figure 1; and Figure 3 is a side elevational view of the traveler in a different operative position from that illustrated in Figure 2 and with a miniature parachute device carried by the traveler shown released therefrom.

With continued reference to the drawing, the numeral 10 indicates a kite of known construction having a kite string 11 extending therefrom to a person standing on the ground and holding the kite string, and the numeral 12 generally indicates a traveler slidably mounted on the kite string for movement along the kite string from the holder of the kite string to a location adjacent the kite and back to the kite string holder.

The traveler 12 comprises a flat plate 13 of elongated shape having substantially parallel side edges and arcuately rounded ends, staples

2

14 and 15 secured to the plate and extending transversely thereof and substantially perpendicularly from one side thereof, one near each end of the plate, these staples slidably receiving the kite string 11 to slidably mount the traveler on the kite string. Eye elements 16, 17 and 18 are secured to the plate 13 and extend from the side of the plate remote from the staples 14 and 15. The eye elements are disposed transversely of the plate and are spaced apart longitudinally of the plate in a manner such that the eye element 18 is disposed adjacent the end of the plate 13 nearest the kite 10, the eye element 17 is disposed near the eye element 18, but at the side of this eye element remote from the end of the plate nearest the kite, and the eye element 16 is disposed near the other end of the plate.

A resilient U-shaped wire spring clip 19 has substantially parallel, straight legs 20 and 21 and an arcuately curved intermediate portion 22 and the leg 20 extends through the staples 14 and 15 and has at its distal end a hook or eye formation 23 which slidably receives the kite string 11 at a location spaced from the side of the staple 15 adjacent the kite. The leg 21 of the clip extends slidably through the eye elements 16, 17 and 18, and at its distal end is longitudinally curved in a direction away from the plate 13, as indicated at 24.

A miniature parachute device 25 including a canopy 26, a weight 27, shroud cords 28 attaching the weight to the canopy and an attaching ring 29 secured to the weight, has its attaching ring 29 receiving the clip leg 21 between the eye elements 17 and 18 to detachably connect the parachute device to the traveler.

A stop 30 is mounted on the kite string 11 at a location adjacent the kite 10 and may comprise a button with the kite string extended through the thread apertures thereof.

The parachute device 25 is attached to the traveler near the front end of the traveler and, when the parachute is subjected to the wind blowing in a direction from the person holding the kite string toward the kite, the parachute is moved to a position forwardly of the front end of the traveler as the traveler moves along the kite string toward the kite. The force of the wind blowing from the holder of the kite string toward the kite and acting on the parachute 25 moves the traveler along the kite string toward the kite until the hook formation 23 on the clip leg 20 strikes the stop 30. The momentum of the plate 13 and the continued pull of the parachute 25 causes the plate 13 to continue to move

3

forwardly after the clip 19 has been stopped and this pulls the curved end 24 of the clip leg 21 out of the eye elements 18. As the parachute attaching ring 29 will, at that time, be against or adjacent the front eye element 18, this will release the parachute device from the traveler and the parachute device will descend from the elevation of the stop 30 under the influence of the weight 27. As soon as the parachute has been released, the force of the wind tending to move the traveler toward the kite is eliminated and the traveler then slides back down the kite string to the person holding the kite string and such person may then attach a new parachute device to the traveler for movement by the traveler up to the stop 30 and release at the location of the stop.

The invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential characteristics thereof. The present embodiment is, therefore, to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, the scope of the invention being indicated by the appended claims rather than by the foregoing description, and all changes which come within the meaning and range of equivalency of the claims are, therefore, intended to be embraced therein.

What is claimed is:

A kite string traveler comprising an elongated flat plate, staples mounted on said plate and projecting from one side thereof at spaced apart locations therealong and adapted to slidably receive a kite string and support the traveler on the string for movement therealong, eye elements secured to said plate and extending from the

4

other side thereof at locations spaced apart along the plate, a U-shaped spring clip having spaced apart legs slidably extending one through said staples and one through said eye elements and having on the distal end of one of said legs a hook formation adapted to slidably receive an associated kite string and engage a stop on the kite string to move said clip relative to said plate and disengage the other leg of said clip from at least one of said eye element, and a miniature parachute device having an attaching ring receiving said other clip leg between said one eye element and the eye element adjacent thereto and released from said clip when said other clip leg is disengaged from said one eye element, said other clip leg having at its distal end a portion curved in a direction away from said plate and resiliently engaging said one eye element to releasably hold said clip against disengagement from said one eye element until said stop is encountered by said hook formation.

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