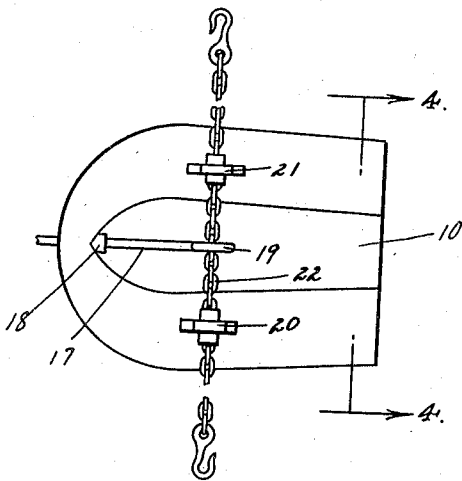
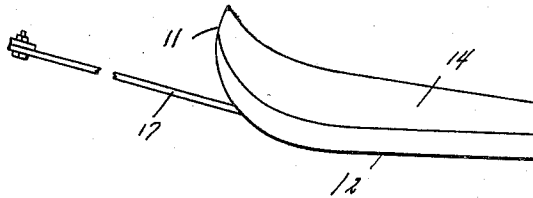


Oct. 11, 1938.

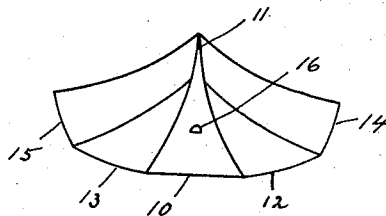
W. E. McCRAW  
SKIDDING PLATE  
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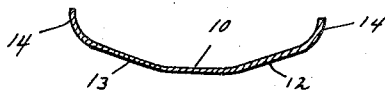
**FIG. 1.**



**FIG. 2.**



**FIG. 3.**



**FIG. 4.**

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## SKIDDING PLATE

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Application September 1, 1936, Serial No. 98,997

1 Claim. (Cl. 280—19)

In my co-pending application entitled System of logging I have described a method of logging which is particularly adapted for using mechanical power in the logging operations.

5 These logging operations are usually carried on in rough and precipitous countries, one of the difficulties heretofore experienced in using mechanical power for moving the logs from the logging area to the sawing up place has been the lack of a skidding plate which will surmount all ordinary obstacles encountered on a logging area.

10 This invention relates to a skidding plate constructed so as to surmount all ordinary obstacles such as rocks, stumps, etc. encountered in the logging operations. Furthermore, the draw bar of the skidding plate is attached to the choker chain by which the logs are secured to the plate. This feature has the advantage that when the plates are loaded the pull on the draw bar tightens the choker chain on the timber length being skidded, so that there will be little or no slipping. The advantage of this feature will be at once apparent since the greater resistance offered through the skidding plate travelling over rough or precipitous ground, the choker chain will be drawn tighter, thus holding the logs to the plate more securely, and preventing any tendency on their part to slip.

15 The skidding plate which is the subject matter of this invention is characterized by a flat bottom which converges into an upturned forward end, sides sloping upwardly from the bottom and converging forwardly to the upturned end. A further feature of my invention is the manner in which the choker chain is attached to the plate, this being accomplished by providing a pair of lugs which are secured to the sides, approximately midway between the top edges and the bottom and slightly forward of the transverse axis. A still further feature of my invention is that the draw bar is slidably entered through an orifice formed in the front of the plate and attached to the choker chain.

20 For an understanding of my invention references may be made to the following description and accompanying drawing in which

25 Figure 1 is a side elevation of a skidding plate in accordance with my invention.

30 Figure 2 is a top plan view of Figure 1.

35 Figure 3 is a front elevation, and

40 Figure 4 is a cross sectional view on the line 4—4, Figure 2.

45 Like characters of reference refer to like parts throughout the specification and drawing.

The skidding plate illustrated in the drawing is characterized by a flat part 10 of substantial width at the rear, converging into an upturned forward end 11, and sides 12, 13, 14, 15 which slope upwardly from the bottom and converge forwardly towards the upturned forward end. The sections 12 and 13 of the sides slope upwardly gradually, while the sections 14, 15 have a sharper slope being approximately at right angles to the bottom. The forward end of the upturned bottom is formed with an orifice 16 through which is slidably entered a draw bar 17. The orifice 16 is reinforced as indicated at 18 in order to make proper provision for lateral and vertical stresses of the draw bar when the skidding plate is travelling over rough or precipitous ground. The inner end of the draw bar 17 is formed with a hook 19. Firmly secured to the sides 12, 13 are lugs 20, 21. The lugs 20, 21 are located about midway of the sections 12, 13 and slightly forward of the transverse axis of the skidding plate. The lugs 20, 21 are provided or formed with axial bores through which are entered a choker chain 22. The hook 19 of the draw bar engages with the choker chain 22 between the lugs 21, 20.

25 The skidding plate illustrated in the drawing should be constructed of a size sufficiently large to carry anywhere from one to eight logs depending upon their size.

30 In the skidding operation, the butt ends of the logs are placed on the skidding plate and when the skidding plate is fully loaded the choker chain is passed around the log and the hook with which the chain is provided attached thereto. The load is then ready for skidding and it will be apparent from the previous description that as soon as the skidding starts the draw bar will pull the chain tight around the log.

35 Having thus fully described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

40 A skidding plate characterized by a flat bottom which converges into an upturned forward end, sides sloping upwardly from the bottom and converging forwardly to the upturned forward end, a lug on the interior of each side, said lugs being in axial alignment and having co-axial bores therethrough, a choker chain entered in said bores and freely slidable therein, an orifice through the upturned forward end, a draw bar entered through and slidable in said orifice, said draw bar being connected to said choker bar.

45 WILLIAM E. McCRAW. 55