May 3, 1960 J. H. MEILLEUR 2,935,118

COMBINATION BACK REST

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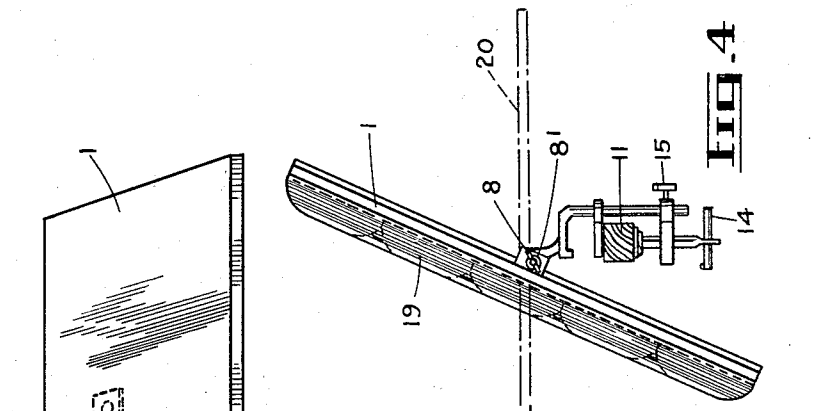


Fig. 4

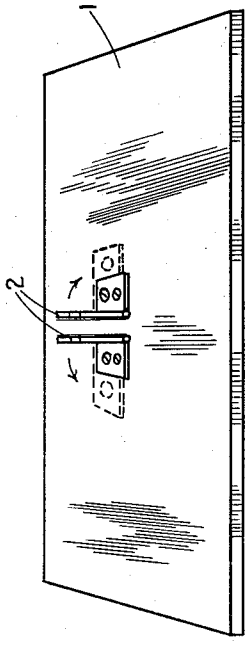


Fig. 2

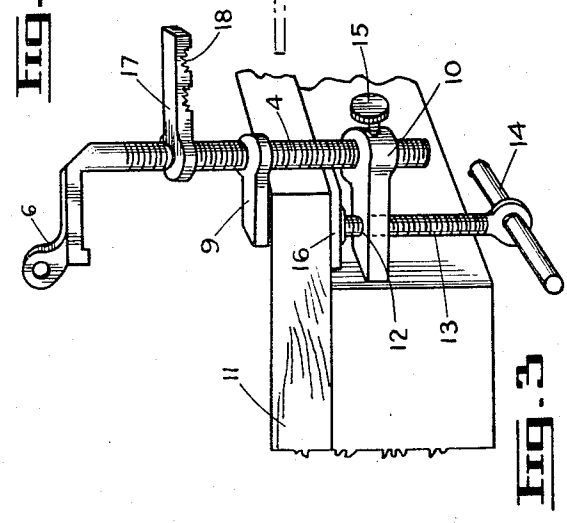


Fig. 3

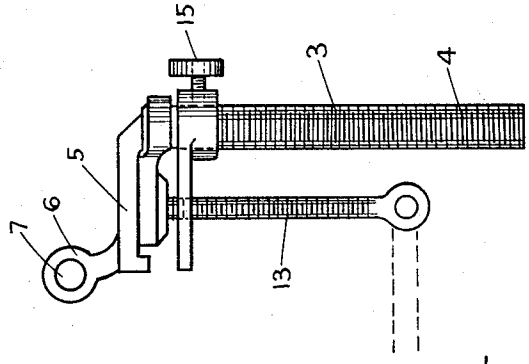


Fig. 1

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Ralph L. Burch

ATTY

May 3, 1960 J. H. MEILLEUR 2,935,118

COMBINATION BACK REST

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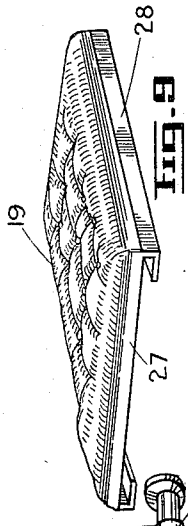


Fig. 9

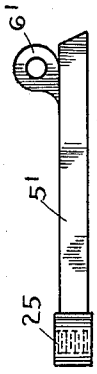


Fig. 7

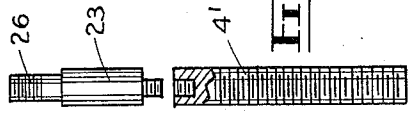


Fig. 8

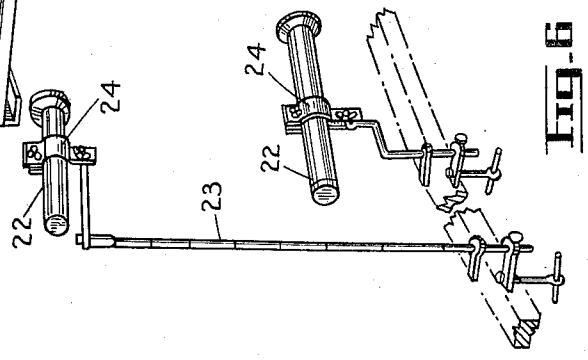


Fig. 6

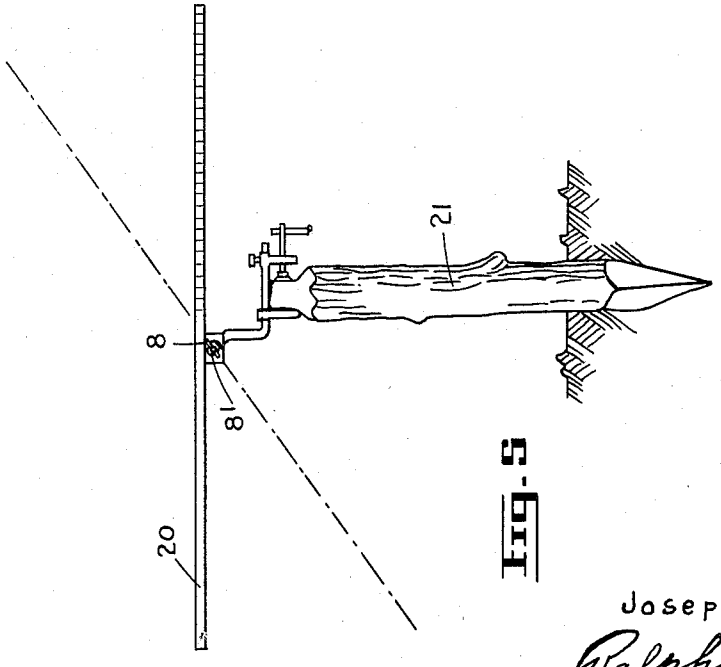


Fig. 5

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United States Patent Office 2,935,118
Patented May 3, 1960

2,935,118

COMBINATION BACK REST

Joseph H. Meilleur, deceased, late of Rapides des Joachims, Quebec, Canada, by Mary Meilleur, administrator, Rapides des Joachims, Quebec, Canada

Application October 25, 1957, Serial No. 692,495
1 Claim. (Cl. 155—43)

This invention relates generally to back rests, and in particular to an adjustable back rest adapted to be detachably secured to the gunwale of a boat, or canoe, or to a fixed object if desired.

An object of this invention is to provide a combination back rest and tray adapted to be adjustably clamped to an object in such manner that the back rest may rotate on a vertical axis to any angle of comfort, and may be tilted on a horizontal axis for the same purpose, and may be tilted still further till the back rest is in a horizontal position for use as a tray, or table.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a clamp which is adapted to swivel in any desired direction, and to be rigidly secured in any required position.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of an adjustable back rest pivotally mounted on a supporting member, said supporting member including a threaded rod, or shaft, said rod having clamping jaws thereon to clamp said back rest to a canoe, or other object.

The foregoing and other objects and advantages of the invention will appear more fully hereinafter from a consideration of the detailed description which follows taken together with the accompanying drawings as illustrated by way of example, in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a clamp adapted for pivotal support of a back rest;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of a back rest viewed from the underside thereof showing the attaching bracket;

Figure 3 is an elevational view of the clamp, showing back rest support clamped in position, on a canoe, or boat by means of clamping jaws;

Figure 4 is a side view of the back rest pivotally supported on the clamping unit;

Figure 5 is a side view of a back rest, and modified clamping arrangement for attachment to a stake;

Figure 6 is a perspective view of the clamping arrangement clamped to the gunwale of a boat, or canoe, and supporting a telescope;

Figure 7 is a side view of a modified arrangement for pivotally supporting the back rest;

Figure 8 is a view of an extension shaft for supporting the back rest at a higher elevation, and

Figure 9 is a perspective view of a padded frame for attachment to the back rest.

Similar reference numerals designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

Referring now to the drawings a back rest **1**, is provided with brackets **2** on the underside thereof adapted to be pivotally supported on a clamping member **3**. The clamping member comprises a threaded shaft **4**, the upper extremity of said shaft having an offset portion **5** forming an inverted L shaped member. A lug **6** is formed adjacent the free end of said offset portion having an aperture **7** adapted to receive a pivot pin **8**. The brackets **2** are also provided with apertures similar to aperture **7**, whereby the back rest **1** may be pivotally attached to the clamping member. On the shaft **4** are threaded clamping jaws **9** and **10**, the shaft being shown in Figures 3 and 4 clamped thereby to the gunwale **11**, of a canoe, or boat, the upper jaw **9** being set at the required height, and the lower jaw **10** being spaced sufficiently from jaw **9** to enable the clamping member to be

secured to the gunwale **11**. The lower jaw **10** is provided with a second threaded aperture **12** adapted to accommodate a tightening screw **13** operated manually by a bar **14**, the upper extremity of the tightening screw being provided with a bearing plate **16**. The lower jaw **10** is also provided with a thumb screw **15** to retain the shaft in horizontal rotative adjustment. An auxiliary jaw **17** is also provided having serrated grooves formed on the underside thereof for use when it is required to attach the back rest to a round object. The pivot pin **8** is provided with a wing nut **8'** to retain the back rest in any required position of vertical adjustment. The back rest is also adapted for use as a tray, or small table for fixing fishing tackle, or for eating purposes in which case the rest would assume the horizontal position **20** as shown in broken lines in Figure 4, or in full lines as shown in Figure 5. In Figure 5 the rest is shown clamped to a fixed object, such as a post **21**, and if desired, being provided with markings for measuring fish, or other purposes. In Figure 6, the clamping assembly is shown being put to other uses, such as supporting flash lights **22**, on extension shafts **23** and secured in modified clamps **24**. Figures 7 and 8 show in detail an extension shaft **23** adapted to be threadably secured to a modified shaft **4'** and a modified detachable offset member **5'** having a lug **6'** and an internally threaded bore hole **25** adapted to engage the upper extremity **26** of an extension shaft **23**. Figure 9 shows a padded frame **19** adapted to be slidably attached to the back rest to provide a comfortable support for a person leaning against the back rest. The pad **19** is secured to a frame **27** having U-shaped angle iron side sills adapted for slidable attachment to back rest **1**.

Without further detailed description it will be seen that there has been provided a novel adjustable combined back rest and tray adapted to be clamped to the gunwale of a canoe, or boat, or an appropriate fixed object, which is sturdy and readily assembled and disassembled as required, has few parts to get out of order, and which are readily replaceable when worn, and which is simple and economical to manufacture.

Other changes and modifications in the form and relative parts which will be apparent to those skilled in the art may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention, as set forth in the appended claim.

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

In a combined back rest and table, the combination of a rectangular panel having plane upper and lower surfaces, a pair of spaced brackets depending from the center of the lower surface of said panel having alined apertures, a supporting rod having at one end an off-set lug having interfitting engagement with said brackets, said lug having an aperture in alinement with the apertures of said brackets, a bolt extending through the apertures of said brackets and lug pivotally mounting said panel on said supporting rod, a nut threaded on said bolt for clamping said panel in its adjusted position, and a padded frame covering the upper surface of said panel having inwardly turned flanges along opposite sides to slidably receive the edges of said panel.

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