P. FERRARI.

PROPELLER FLOAT.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 5, 1908.

918,029.

Patented Apr. 13, 1909.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

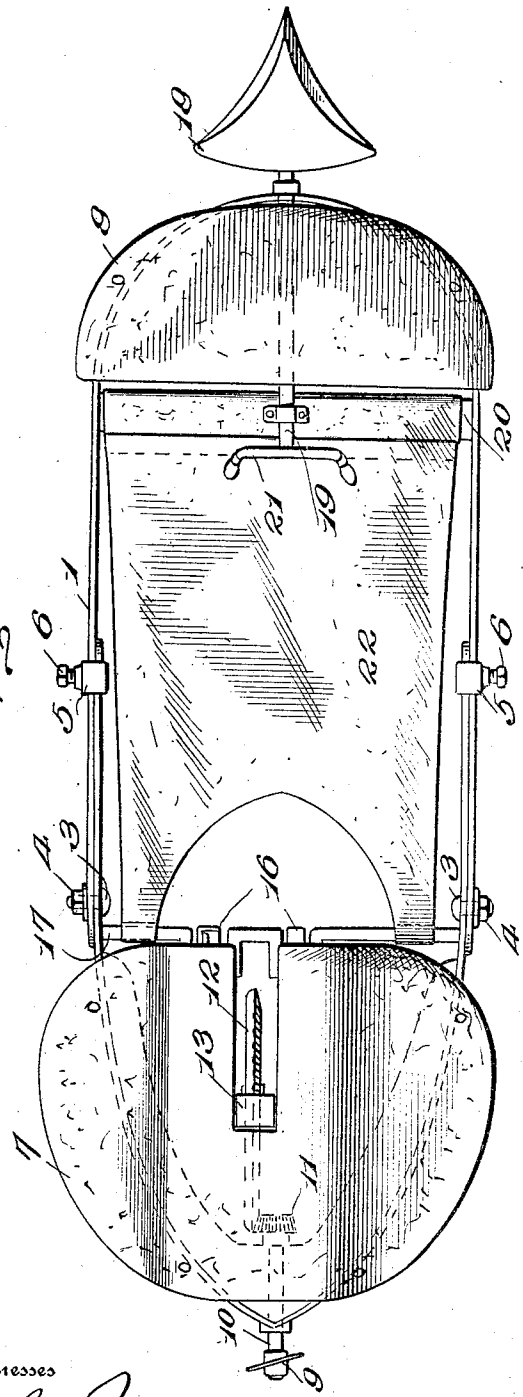
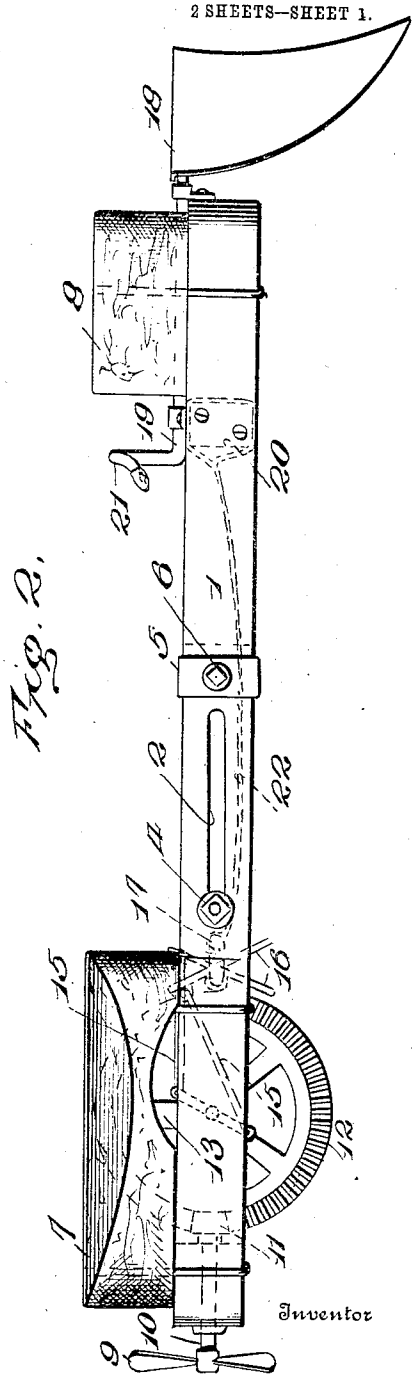


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

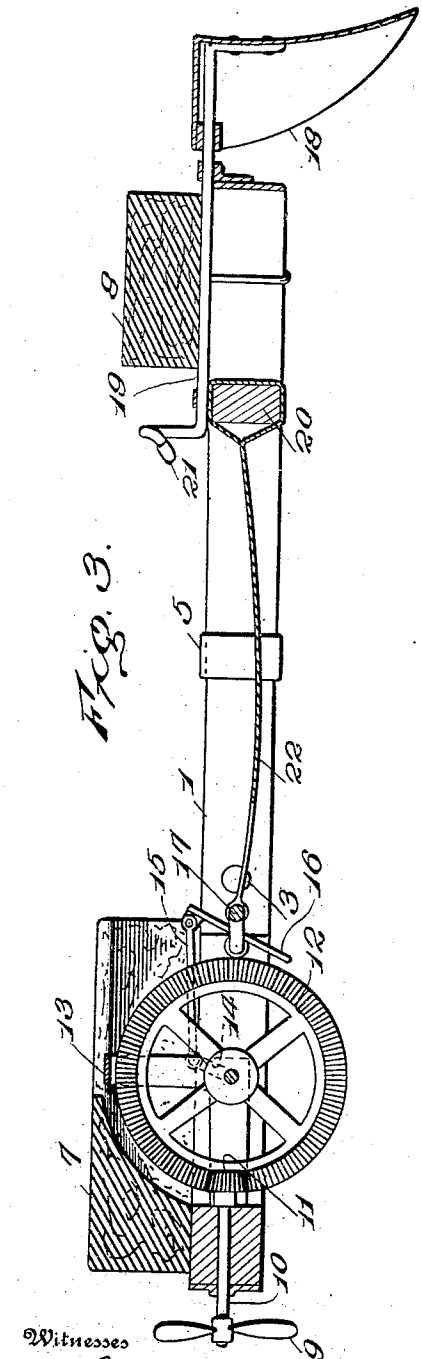


Fig. 5.

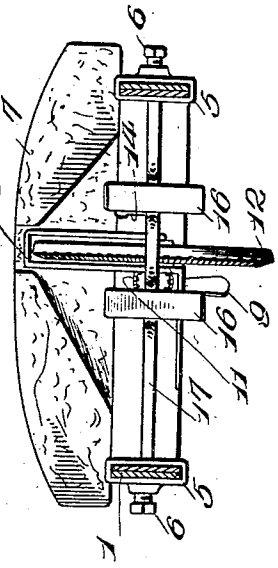
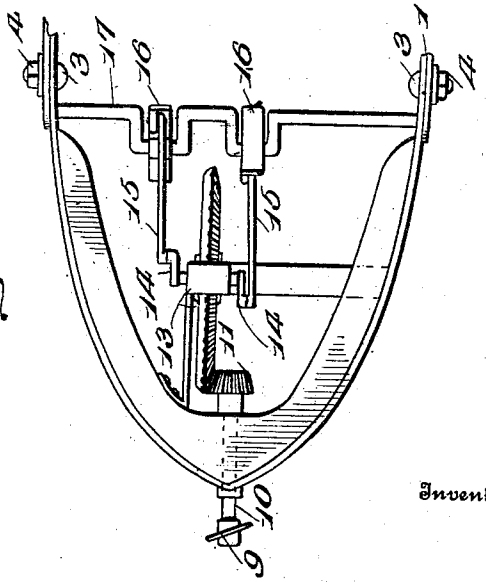


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PASQUINO FERRARI, OF FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS.

PROPELLER-FLOAT.

No. 918,029. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented April 13, 1909.

Application filed March 5, 1908. Serial No. 419,390.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PASQUINO FERRARI, subject of the King of Italy, residing at Fall River, in the county of Bristol and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Propeller-Floats, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to a novel device which can be employed both as a life saver and for the amusement of people in the water, and consists essentially of an improved float provided with means whereby it can be propelled through the water and directed in its movements.

The object of the invention is to design an improved float of this character which is simple and inexpensive in its construction and can be readily collapsed when not in use so as to occupy a comparatively small amount of space.

For a full description of the invention and the merits thereof and also to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction and the means for effecting the result, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a float device constructed in accordance with the invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view through the same. Fig. 4 is a top plan view of the rear end of the device, the buoyant member being removed. Fig. 5 is a transverse sectional view through the device.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

The float comprises an elongated frame 1 provided at its opposite ends with buoyant members by means of which it is supported in the water, and in the present instance this frame 1 is collapsible to admit of the device being folded when not in use. In the specific construction of the frame it will be observed that the same is formed with spaced longitudinal side pieces, each of which is sectional, the sections having both a sliding and a pivotal connection with each other. One of the sections of each side piece of the frame is formed with a longitudinal slot 2 loosely receiving a threaded stud 3 projecting from the opposite section, the said stud being provided with a clamping nut 4 which is adapted when tightened to lock the sections against sliding movement. It will also be observed that the slotted section of each side piece has a sleeve 5 slidably mounted thereon, the said sleeve being designed to engage the end of the opposite section to prevent pivotal movement thereof and being provided with a set screw 6 by means of which it can be locked against accidental displacement. With this construction it will be obvious that by loosening the nuts 4 the side pieces can be shortened or elongated as required, and that when the sleeve 5 is moved into an inoperative position the sections of the side pieces can be swung against each other. As previously mentioned this frame is supported in the water by buoyant members or floats, a float 7 being located at the rear end of the frame and a second float 8 at the forward end of the frame. For the purpose of moving the float through the water in a positive manner a propeller 9 is utilized, the said propeller being rigid with a longitudinal shaft 10 provided at its forward extremity with a pinion 11 meshing with teeth upon the periphery of a drive wheel 12. This drive wheel operates within a recessed portion of the rear float 7 and is journaled upon a suitable bracket 13. A crank 14 rigid with the drive wheel 12 is located upon each side thereof, and the said cranks are connected by means of the links 15 to foot levers 16 pivotally mounted upon offset portions of a transverse bar 17.

A rudder 18 is provided at the forward end of the frame and is rigid with a longitudinal shaft 19 journaled upon the frame and a forward cross bar 20. The rear end of this shaft 19 is extended upwardly and provided with a handle bar 21 by means of which the rudder can be turned and the movements of the float device directed in the desired manner. Specifically describing the rudder it will be observed that the same comprises a pair of rearwardly diverging sides and is pointed at its lower end, the upper end being rigidly connected to the shaft 19.

A support for the operator is provided between the front cross bar 20 and the rear cross bar 17 and in the present instance this support 22 is formed of fabric, one end of the fabric being wrapped around the forward cross bar while the opposite end is split or bifurcated and secured to the end portions of the rear cross bar 17.

In the operation of the device the person

lies upon the support 22 and reciprocates the levers 16 with his feet, the direction of movement of the device being controlled through the medium of the handle bar 21. As the foot levers 16 are reciprocated the drive wheel 12 is turned and a rapid rotary movement imparted to the propeller 9, the latter member operating to force the device through the water. As has been previously mentioned the frame is extensible and can be adjusted longitudinally to suit the requirements of the various people who may use it. In this connection it may also be mentioned that the drive wheel 12 may be made in any desired size so as to cause the propeller to revolve at any required relative speed.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. The combination of a frame comprising spaced side pieces formed in sections having a pin and slot connection which admits of their having both a sliding and pivotal movement with relation to each other, means for locking the sections rigidly together in alinement with each other, floats for supporting the frame, and means for propelling the frame.

2. The combination of a frame comprising spaced side pieces formed in sections, one of the sections of each side piece being slotted and the opposite section being provided with a pin loosely received within the slot, whereby the two sections have both a sliding and pivotal connection, a sleeve for locking the sections in alinement with each other, floats for supporting the frame, and means for propelling the frame.

3. The combination of a frame, a float for supporting the frame, means for propelling the frame, a horizontal shaft journaled upon the frame, and a rudder carried by the horizontal shaft, the said rudder comprising a pair of rearwardly diverging sides and serving to guide the frame in its movements.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

PASQUINO FERRARI. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

PISTRO FURGINELE,

PASQUALE STINRIANO.