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MULTI-PART SLED

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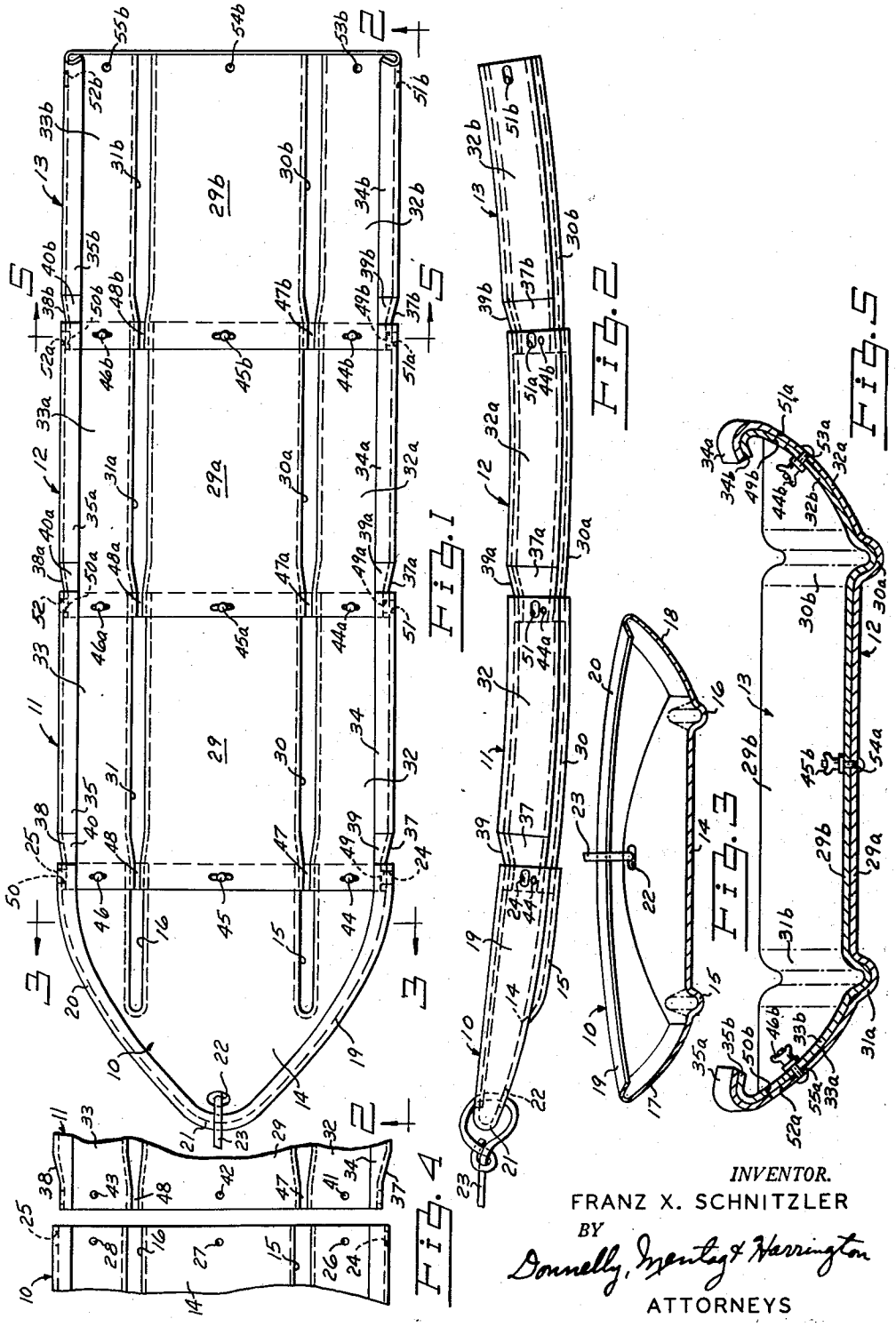


FIG. 1

FIG. 2

FIG. 3

FIG. 4

FIG. 5

INVENTOR.
FRANZ X. SCHNITZLER
BY
Donnelly, Ingentag & Harrington
ATTORNEYS

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MULTI-PART SLED

Franz X. Schnitzler, Detroit, Mich.

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This invention relates to collapsible sleds and, more particularly, to a novel and improved multi-part collapsible sled.

It is the primary object of the present invention to provide a novel and improved multi-part sled particularly adapted for use in carrying game, such as deer and other large animals, which are difficult to drag through the woods after they have been killed.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a collapsible multi-part sled for hunting purposes and the like which may be collapsed into a compact lightweight unit and which may be easily carried when not in use.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide an improved collapsible multi-part sled which may be made from a suitable light weight material as aluminum or plastic and which is constructed so that game may be readily secured on it, and it may be easily pulled by means of a drag rope or the like.

It is still another object of the present invention to provide a novel and improved multi-part collapsible sled which includes a plurality of interchangeable sections whereby the sled may be formed to any desirable length depending on the number of interchangeable sections used.

Other objects, features and advantages of this invention will be apparent from the following detailed description and appended claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming a part of the specification wherein like reference numerals designate corresponding parts of the several views.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of an illustrative embodiment of the invention;

Fig. 2 is a side elevational view of the structure illustrated in Fig. 1, taken along the line 2—2 thereof, and looking in the direction of the arrows;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged elevational sectional view of the structure illustrated in Fig. 1, taken along the line 3—3 thereof, and looking in the direction of the arrows;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary top plan view of the front and rear end of two sections of the sled of the present invention and showing these parts in a separated position; and,

Fig. 5 is an enlarged elevational sectional view of the structure illustrated in Fig. 1, taken along the line 5—5 thereof, and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Referring now to the drawing, an illustrative embodiment is shown which comprises the nose section **10**, the front section **11**, the central section **12** and the rear section **13**. The front, central and rear sections **11**, **12** and **13**, respectively, are all identically constructed as will be more fully described hereinafter. All of the sled sections **10**, **11**, **12** and **13** are preferably made from a suitable lightweight metal as aluminum or from some other suitable lightweight material as a plastic material impregnated with fiber glass. As shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3, the nose section **10** has the flat bottom wall **14** which is

enclosed along the sides thereof by the integrally formed longitudinally disposed runners **15** and **16** which extend downwardly from the bottom wall **14**. As best seen in Fig. 3, the bottom wall **14** slopes upwardly proceeding from the rear end thereof and is rounded to form the nose part of the section **10**. The nose section **10** is further provided with the integral side walls **17** and **18** which terminate at their lower ends with the outer sides of the runners **15** and **16**, respectively, and which are curved upwardly and outwardly and have the upper ends thereof turned overly and inwardly to form the peripheral flanges **19** and **20**, respectively. The flanges **19** and **20** may be said to be folded back over the side walls **17** and **18**, respectively. The front ends of the nose section side walls **17** and **18** are curved inwardly toward each other and meet at the front end **21** of this section to form the front nose end of this section **10**. As best seen in Figs. 1 and 2, the runners **15** and **16** extend forwardly from the rear end of the nose section **10** approximately one-half the length thereof. The nose section **10** is provided with the hole **22** which is formed through the forward portion of the bottom wall **14** and to which is adapted to be mounted any suitable drag rope as **23**.

As shown in Fig. 1, the bottom wall **14** and the side walls **17** and **18** terminate in a substantially straight transverse line. The side walls **17** and **18** are each provided near the upper ends thereof with a rope hole as **24** and **25**, respectively. The rear end of the nose section **10** is open for the reception of the front section **11**, as more fully described hereinafter. The nose section **10** is provided with a plurality of bolt holes as **26**, **27** and **28** formed through the left wall, the bottom wall and the right wall, respectively.

The front, central and rear sections **11**, **12** and **13**, respectively, are each identically formed and, accordingly, front section **11** will be described in detail with the similar parts of the sections **12** and **13** being marked with corresponding reference numerals followed by the small letters "*a*" and "*b*," respectively. As best seen in Figs. 1 and 4, the front section **11** comprises the bottom wall **29** which is provided along the outer sides thereof with the longitudinally extended, downwardly depending integral runners **30** and **31**. The front section **11** further includes the outwardly and upwardly curved left and right side walls **32** and **33**, respectively. The side walls **32** and **33** terminate at their lower ends at the runners **30** and **31**, respectively, and terminate at their upper ends in the inwardly folded-over flanges **34** and **35**. The runners **30** and **31** and the flanges **34** and **35** extend longitudinally of the sled. The side walls **32** and **33** are tapered inwardly at the forward ends thereof as indicated by the numerals **37** and **38**, respectively. The flanges **34** and **35** at the forward ends thereof are tapered downwardly and forwardly as indicated by the numerals **39** and **40**, respectively. The extreme forward ends of the side walls and the flanges forward of the tapered portions are then formed straight longitudinally of the sled so as to be mountable within the rear end of the nose section **10**, as shown in Fig. 1. The forward end of the bottom wall **29** of the front section **11** is adapted to be mounted on top of the rear end of the bottom wall **14** of the nose section **10** when the section **11** is mounted within the rear end of the section **10**. The front section **11** is provided along the front end thereof with the bolt holes **41**, **42** and **43** which are adapted to be aligned with the bolt holes **26**, **27** and **28**, respectively, when the sections **10** and **11** are connected together. The sections **10** and **11** are detachably secured together by any suitable means, as by the bolt and wing nut assemblies generally indicated by the numerals **44**, **45** and **46** which are mounted through the aforementioned aligned bolt

holes. As shown in Fig. 4, the front ends of the longitudinal runners **30** and **31** are reduced in size as indicated by the numerals **47** and **48**, respectively, so that these reduced runner portions on the front section **11** may seat in the rear portions of the runners **15** and **16** in the nose section **10**. It will be seen that the front end of a trailing section is securely engaged in meshing relationship with the rear end of the preceding section.

As best seen in Fig. 1, the side walls **32** and **33** of the front section **11** are each provided with rope holes therethrough as **49** and **50**, respectively, which are aligned with the holes **24** and **25** in the nose section **10** when these two sections are connected together. It will be seen that these aligned holes in the sides of the sled provide means for lashing an object in the sled by means of ropes secured through these holes.

It will be seen that the sections **11**, **12** and **13** are each provided with rope holes along the rear ends thereof as **51** and **52**, which correspond to the holes **24** and **25** in the nose section. It will also be seen that each of the sections **11**, **12** and **13** is provided with the bolt holes **53**, **54** and **55** along the rear ends thereof which correspond to the bolt holes **26**, **27** and **28**, respectively, in the rear end of the nose section **10**. The front, central and rear sections **11**, **12** and **13** are all formed with a slight curvature which is slightly concave facing upwardly. It will further be seen that the sections **11**, **12** and **13** are secured together by bolts and wing nuts similar to those for connecting the front section **11** and nose section **10** together and similar reference numerals have been used followed by the small letters "*a*" and "*b*," respectively. Although the multi-part sled of the present invention has been illustrated as having the three similarly formed sections, **11**, **12** and **13**, it will be understood that the sled may be formed with more or less of these sections to make a longer or shorter sled as desired. It will be seen that the sections **11**, **12** and **13** are substantially formed straight along the transverse ends thereof, that is, the front and rear ends.

While it will be apparent that the preferred embodiment of the invention herein disclosed is well calculated to fulfill the objects above stated, it will be appreciated that the invention is susceptible to modification, variation and change without departing from the proper scope or fair meaning of the subjoined claims.

What I claim is:

1. In a multi-part sled the combination of, a nose section; a pair of runners formed in the bottom wall of said nose section; the side walls of said nose section curving upwardly from the outer sides of said bottom wall and having the upper edges folded inwardly; the front ends of the side walls of the nose section terminating in a rounded nose portion; means connected to the nose section for pulling the sled; a plurality of identical sections; each of said identical sections having a bottom wall and curved side walls having the upper edges folded inwardly; the front end of each of said identical sections being securely engaged in meshing relationship with the rear end of another identical section; the front end of one of said identical sections being securely engaged in meshing relationship with the rear end of said nose section; a pair of runners formed in the bottom wall of each of said identical sections; the forward ends of the runners in each of said identical sections being securely engaged in meshing relationship with the rear ends of the runners of the section with which each respective identical section is engaged; and, means for detachably fixing said sections together.

2. In a multi-part sled the combination of, a nose section; a pair of runners formed in the bottom wall of said nose section; the side walls of said nose section curving upwardly from the outer sides of said bottom wall and having the upper edges folded inwardly; the front ends of the side walls of the nose section terminating in a rounded nose portion; means connected to the nose section for pulling the sled; a plurality of identical sections; each of said identical sections having a bottom wall and curved side walls having the upper edges folded inwardly; the front end of each of said identical sections being securely engaged in meshing relationship with the rear end of another identical section; the front end of one of said identical sections being securely engaged in meshing relationship with the rear end of said nose section; a pair of runners formed in the bottom wall of each of said identical sections; the forward ends of the runners in each of said identical sections being securely engaged in meshing relationship with the rear ends of the runners of the section with which each respective identical section is engaged; said sections being provided with means for securing retaining lines to the sled for retaining game on the sled; and, means for detachably fixing said sections together.

3. The structure as defined in claim 2, wherein: the forward ends of the side walls of said identical sections are tapered inwardly and forwardly to permit the meshing relationship of the forward ends of said identical sections in the rear ends of a next forwardly disposed section.

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