Aug. 16, 1966 J. G. HIGH 3,266,068

BUOY

Filed Oct. 30, 1964

FIG. 1

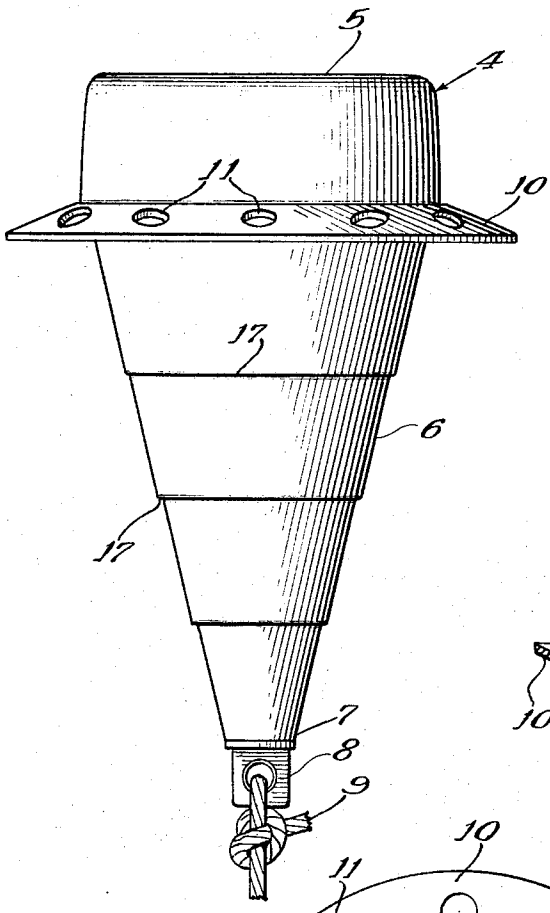


FIG. 3

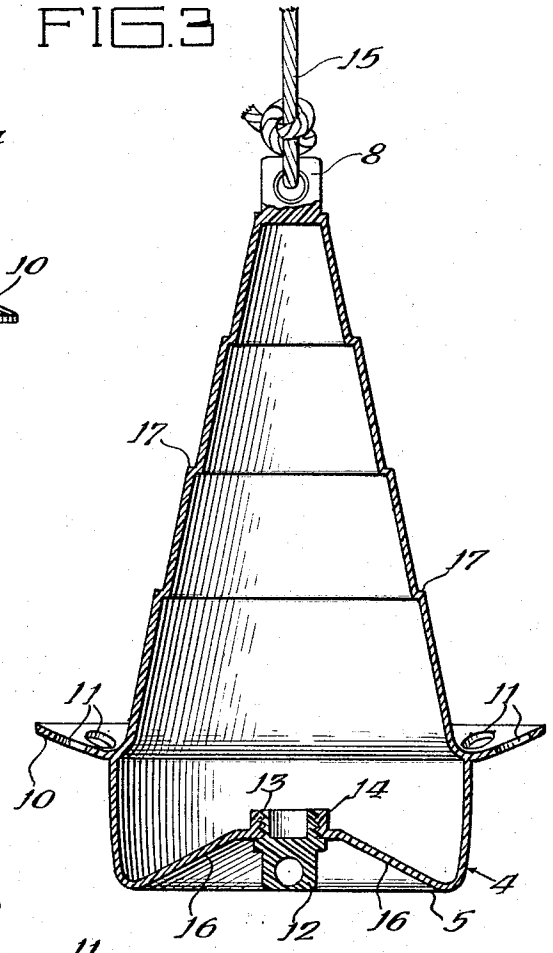
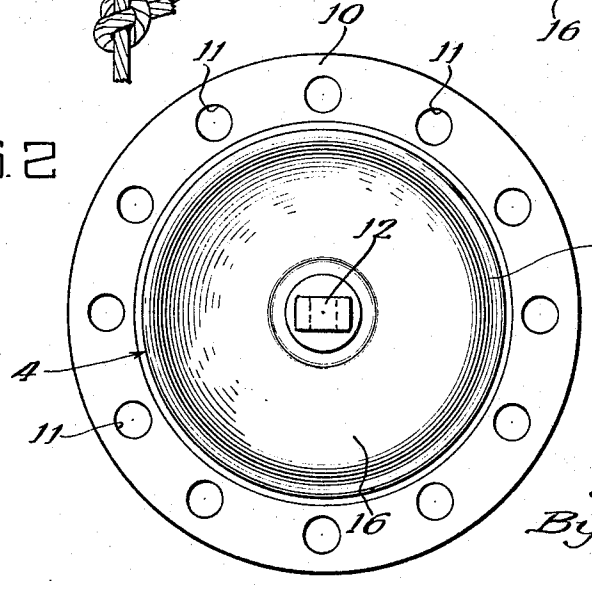


FIG. 2



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BUOY

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3 Claims. (Cl. 9—8)

This invention relates to an improved buoy for boat mooring which may also be used as an anchor.

The principal object of this invention is to provide a rugged dependable floating buoy to which boats may easily be moored.

Another object is to provide a buoy structure molded from plastic.

A further object of the invention is to provide a versatile floating buoy which may be readily converted to an anchor weight by filling the buoy with a substance such as sand or gravel.

Yet another object is to provide a device having an enlarged end which floats on top of the water, and which provides a relatively large bottom when the unit is used as an anchor.

Still another object is to provide a device which has an outwardly projecting perforated flange that may sink into a soft bottom of a body of water to increase the grip when the device is used as an anchor.

The present "anchor-buoy" not only serves as a useful and versatile tool for the boatman, but its dual purpose aids retailers, distributors and other handlers by simplifying stock control and cutting required inventory.

The invention is illustrated in a preferred embodiment in the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a side elevational view of the device of the invention when employed as a floating buoy;

FIG. 2 is a top plan view of the buoy as shown in FIG. 1; and

FIG. 3 is a longitudinal central sectional view of the device in the position it assumes when employed as an anchor.

Referring to the drawings in greater detail, FIG. 1 shows the device used as a floating buoy. The buoy is an integral hollow body, indicated generally at **4**, having an end wall **5** and a side wall **6** which tapers toward a small end **7**. Thus the orientation of said device when used as a buoy is such that the body normally floats with the end wall **5** uppermost. At the small end there is provided an integral loop **8** to which an anchor line **9** may be secured. An integral outwardly extending flange **10**, having a plurality of holes **11**, is provided on the body adjacent the end wall.

FIG. 3 shows the invention when used as an anchor. The dual purpose is served by providing a removable plug **12** having threads **13** for screwing into a threaded boss **14** in the end wall **5**, so that the buoy may be filled with sand or gravel to weight it for use as an anchor. The integral loop **8** (used to attach the buoy's anchor line **9**) may now be used as a means for attaching a boat anchor line **15**. The end wall of the anchor is recessed as at **16** in order to provide protection for the plug **12** when the anchor is lying on the floor of a lake or the like. The flange **10** may sink into a soft bottom of a body

of water to provide a firmer anchorage; and the holes **11** cause the device to sink into the soft bottom more easily, and also permit soil from the lake bottom to wash out when the anchor is raised.

It can be seen that the generally conical shape of this invention will cause it to automatically float with the larger end up, or have the larger end down when used as an anchor. The plug **12** has a hole **12***a*, so that the plug provides an eye to which a boat may be moored. If it is desired to use the buoy for mooring more than one boat, other mooring lines may be looped through the holes **11** in the flange **10**, which is approximately at the water line when the buoy is floating. The preferred construction of this "anchor-buoy" embodies a series of conical circumferential steps **17** which provide greater strength and durability.

This "anchor-buoy" is preferably molded of tough resilient plastic to provide a rugged and reliable device, yet one that is attractive and colorful.

The foregoing detailed description is given for clearness of understanding only and no unnecessary limitations should be understood therefrom, as modifications will be obvious to those skilled in the art.

I claim:

1. A device affording a buoy that is convertible to an anchor, comprising: an integral hollow body having an end wall of substantial area provided with a recess and a hole in said recess, said body being shaped so that said device floats with said end wall up and when weighted sinks with said end wall down; and an integral plug and eye insertable into the hole in said end wall so that said eye is wholly within said recess, said eye being of sufficient size to accommodate a mooring rope for a boat.

2. The device of claim 1 which includes a peripheral flange adjacent the end wall which may sink readily into a soft bottom of a body of water when the device is used as an anchor, said flange being provided with holes for accommodating a mooring rope for a boat when the device is used as a buoy.

3. A device affording a buoy that is convertible to an anchor, comprising: an integral hollow body having an end wall of substantial area and shaped so that said device floats with said end wall up and when weighted sinks with said end wall down, said end wall being provided with a hole; an integral plug and eye insertable into the hole to which watercraft may be moored; and an integral loop at the small end of the body to receive an anchor rope.

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