Nov. 9, 1948. W. D. ELLSWORTH 2,453,422

DETACHABLE ROWBOAT SHELTER

Filed July 3, 1947

Fig-1

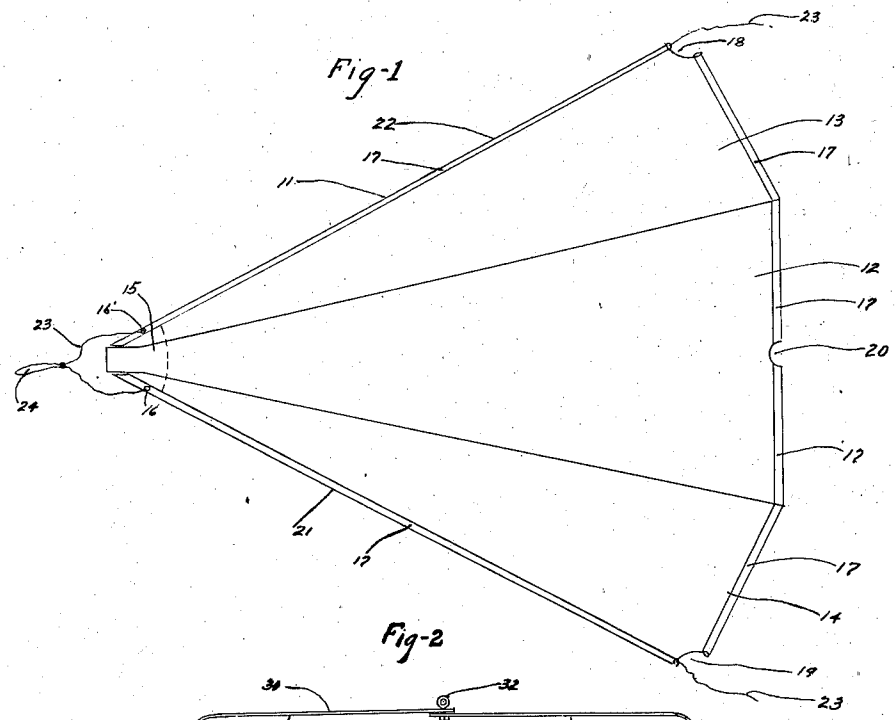


Fig-2

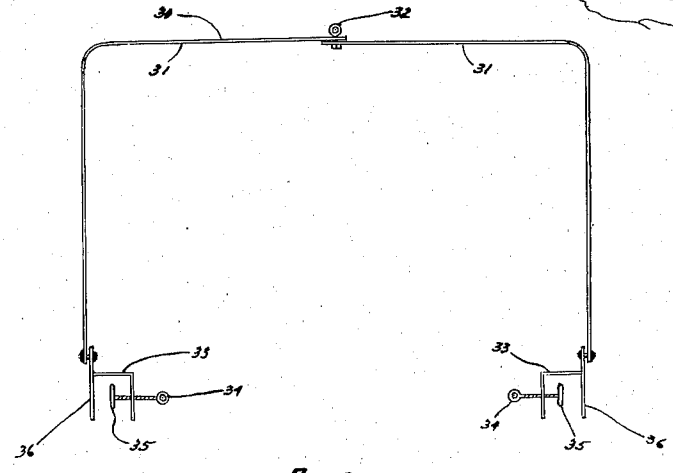
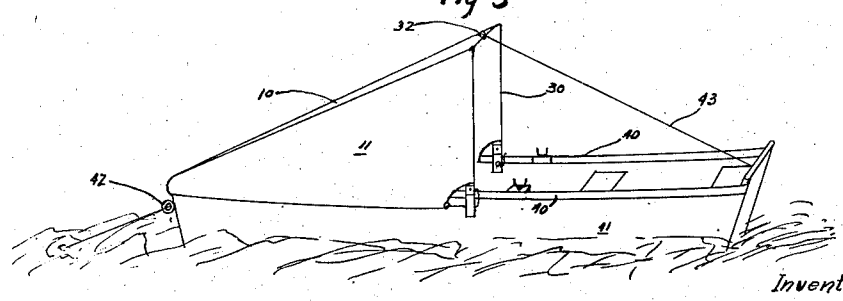


Fig-3



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DETACHABLE ROWBOAT SHELTER

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4 Claims. (Cl. 135—6)

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The principal objective of my invention was to provide a simple, strong and durable rowboat shelter that might be quickly erected on the conventional rowboat for the purpose of protecting the occupants against unusual weather conditions.

Another advantage of my device is that it furnishes the user with a strong and adequate boat shelter at a minimum of cost.

Another advantage of my device is that through unique structural features it is possible to form it into a small compact unit when not in use, enabling the user to transport it from place to place with a minimum of effort.

Further advantages and unique features of my device will be apparent as I proceed with the description.

With reference to the drawings:

Fig. 1 shows a plan view of the shelter member of my device.

Fig. 2 shows a front elevation of the frame member of my device.

Fig. 3 shows a perspective view of my device erected on a conventional rowboat.

As shown in Fig. 3, my device 10 consists of two principal parts, namely a shelter, or body member 11 and a frame or supporting member 30. The shelter member 11 in its preferred form will be made from canvas or other suitable, water-repellent material and, as indicated in Fig. 1, will be composed of three triangular sections 12, 13 and 14 respectively. Section 12 is the largest of the three sections and will form the roof of the shelter 11. Sections 13 and 14 form the sides of the shelter and, as shown in Fig. 1, sections 13 and 14 are secured to section 12 along their long sides through sewing or other suitable means. At the apex, or front, of the shelter member 11 where the strain will be greatest, a reinforcing patch 15 has been added to furnish additional strength to the shelter 11, located in the reinforcing patch 15 are grommets 16 and 16' the function of which will be later described.

The outer edging of shelter member 11 has been folded over and suitably sewn to form hollow hems 17 around the edge thereof. In addition, the rear corners 18 and 19 of shelter 10 have been cut out to facilitate necessary connections during the erection of the shelter. There is also another semi-circular cutout 20 at the rear edge of the section 12 of the shelter 11 the purpose of which will be described later. Positioned in that portion of the hem 17, extending along sides 21 and 22 of the shelter 11 is a continuous piece of rope 23. The rope 23 extends from the corner 19 through the hem 17, along side 21, through grommet 16 where sufficient length of rope is allowed to form loop 24 at the front of the shelter. The rope 23 is then guided through the other grommet 16', through the hem 17, along side 22 to the rear of the shelter at corner 18 where sufficient length is allowed to make necessary connections.

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The frame, or supporting member 30 is comprised of two, identical L shaped elements 31 which are pivoted to each other, through eyebolt 32, near the end of their short legs forming an inverted, substantially U shaped support. The elements 31 are composed of light weight metal, or other similar material, and are adapted to fit into the hem 17 with eyebolt 32 being aligned in the semi-circular cutout 20. The other ends of the elements 31 extend downward, through hem 17 to the rear corners 18 and 19 respectively. Pivoted to the lower ends of elements 31 are brackets 33 which are equipped with adjustable thumb screws 34. Positioned at the outer ends of the thumb screws 34 is a flat end plate 35 which is adapted to contact the inner side of the gunwale 40 of the boat 41.

When the shelter member 11 is first placed on the supporting member 30, eyebolt 32 is removed separating the elements 31 from each other. The elements 31 are then guided through the hem 17 and when the ends of the elements 31 meet at the semi-circular cutout 20 the eyebolt 32 is replaced and the shelter is ready to be erected on a boat.

To erect the device 10 on a conventional rowboat 41 the loop 24 of rope 23 is first secured to the anchor eyebolt 42 at the front of the boat 41. The front of the shelter 11 where the reinforced patch 15 is located, is placed over the front or bow of the boat 41. The side edges of shelter 11 are placed over and under the gunwale 40 of the boat 41. The support member 30 is then erected by placing the brackets 33 over the gunwales 40 and clamping them tightly in place by means of the thumb screws 34. It is important that the support member 30 be secured to the gunwales 40 of the boat 41 as near the rear of the boat 41 as possible so that the shelter 11 will be tight and taut. A rope 43 is then led from eyebolt 32 to the rear of the boat 41 rigidly securing the support member 30 in a vertical position. The free ends of rope 23 are then drawn tight, below gunwales 40 of boat 41, being brought underneath and behind the outer edge 36 of brackets 33 and then secured to the thumb screws 34 on the inside of the boat 41. By bringing the lower edges 21 and 22 of shelter 11 under the gunwale 40 of boat 41, by means of tightening rope 23 a tight fit is secured which will furnish protection to the occu-

pants of the boat 41 during inclement weather of any type.

Whereas I have shown my invention in its preferred form it is realized that changes and variations of form and shape may be made without departing from the principal and scope of the specifications or claims.

I claim:

1. A collapsible shelter for rowboats including a body member and a support frame; said member comprised of three triangular sections of flexible water-repellent material; said frame comprised of two L shaped members pivotally connected to each other; means to secure said member to said frame and means to detachably secure said frame to the sides of said rowboat.

2. A collapsible shelter for rowboats including a body member and a support frame; said member comprised of three triangular sections of flexible water-repellent material, the largest of said sections forming the top of said shelter and the other two sections secured to the top section along opposite edges and forming the sides of said shelter, a hollow hem positioned along the outer edges of said body member; said frame comprised of two L shaped members pivotally connected to each other at one end, said members disposed in the hem along the rear edge of said body member and means on the other ends of said elements for detachably securing said frame to the side of said boat.

3. A collapsible shelter for rowboats including a body member and a support frame; said member comprised of three triangular sections of flexible water-repellent material, the largest of said sections forming the top of said shelter and the other two sections secured to the top section along opposite edges and forming the sides of said shelter, a hollow hem positioned along the outer edges of said body member; said frame comprised of two L shaped elements, pivotally connected to each other at one end, said members disposed in the hem along the rear edge of said body member and means on the other ends of said elements for detachably securing said frame to the side of said boat, said means comprising two adjustable brackets equipped with thumb screws.

4. A collapsible shelter for rowboats having gunwales and an anchor ring, including a body member and a support frame; said member comprised of three triangular sections of flexible water-repellent material, the largest of said sections forming the top of said shelter and the other two sections secured to the top section along opposite edges and forming the sides of said shelter, a hollow hem, positioned along the outer edge of said body member; said frame comprised of two L shaped elements pivotally connected to each other at one end, said members disposed in the hem along the rear edge of said body member, a rope positioned in the hem along said side edges, adjustable brackets secured to the other ends of said elements being adapted to be secured to the sides of the said boat; said shelter being secured to said boat by attaching said rope to said anchor ring, disposing the side sections of said body member under said gunwale and securing the free ends of said rope to said brackets.

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The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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