Jan. 25, 1927. 1,615,568

T. E. CARROLL

AMUSEMENT DEVICE

Filed Nov. 25, 1925 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

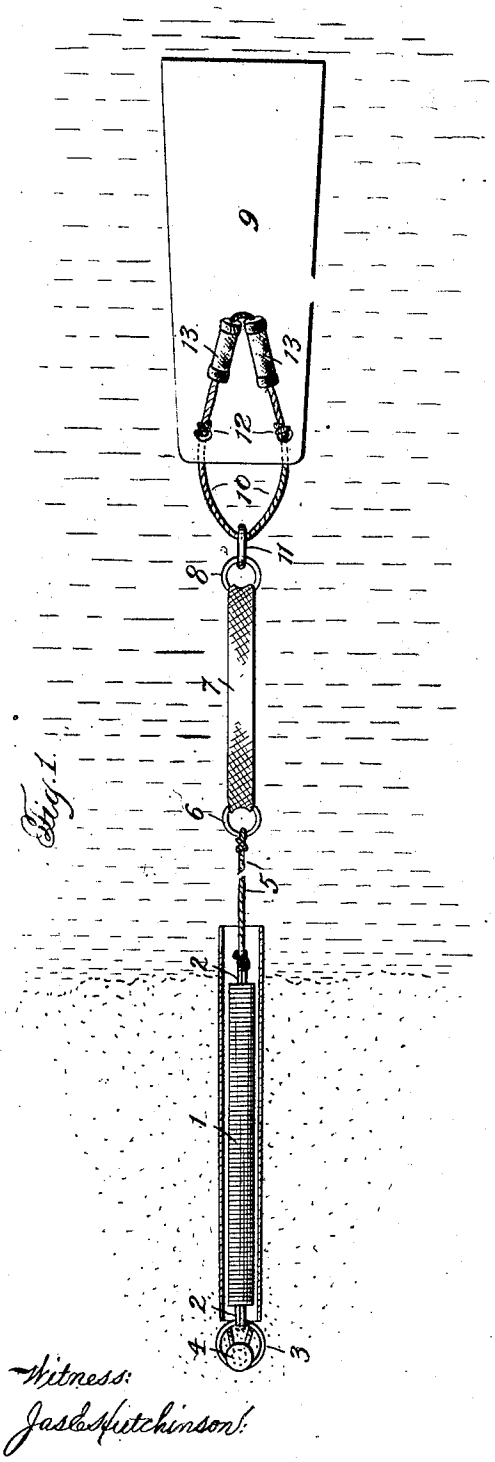


Fig. 1.

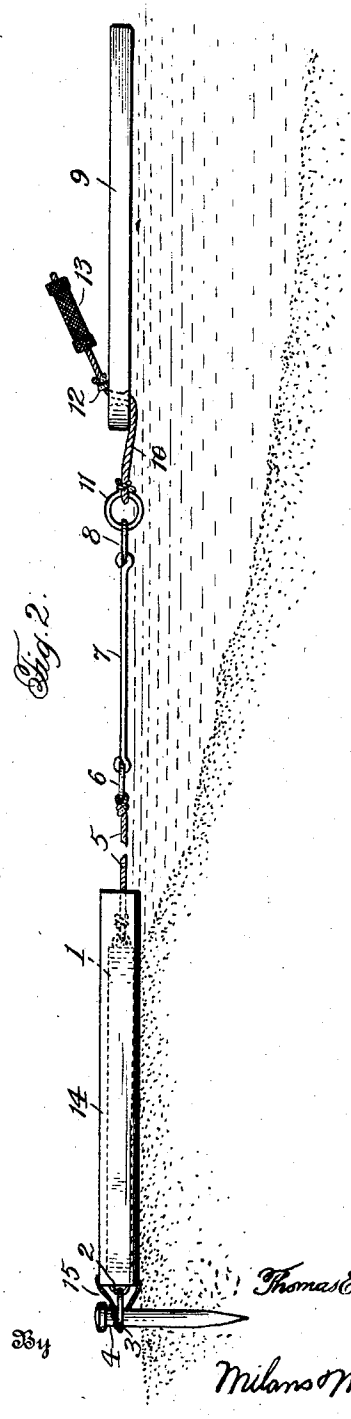


Fig. 2.

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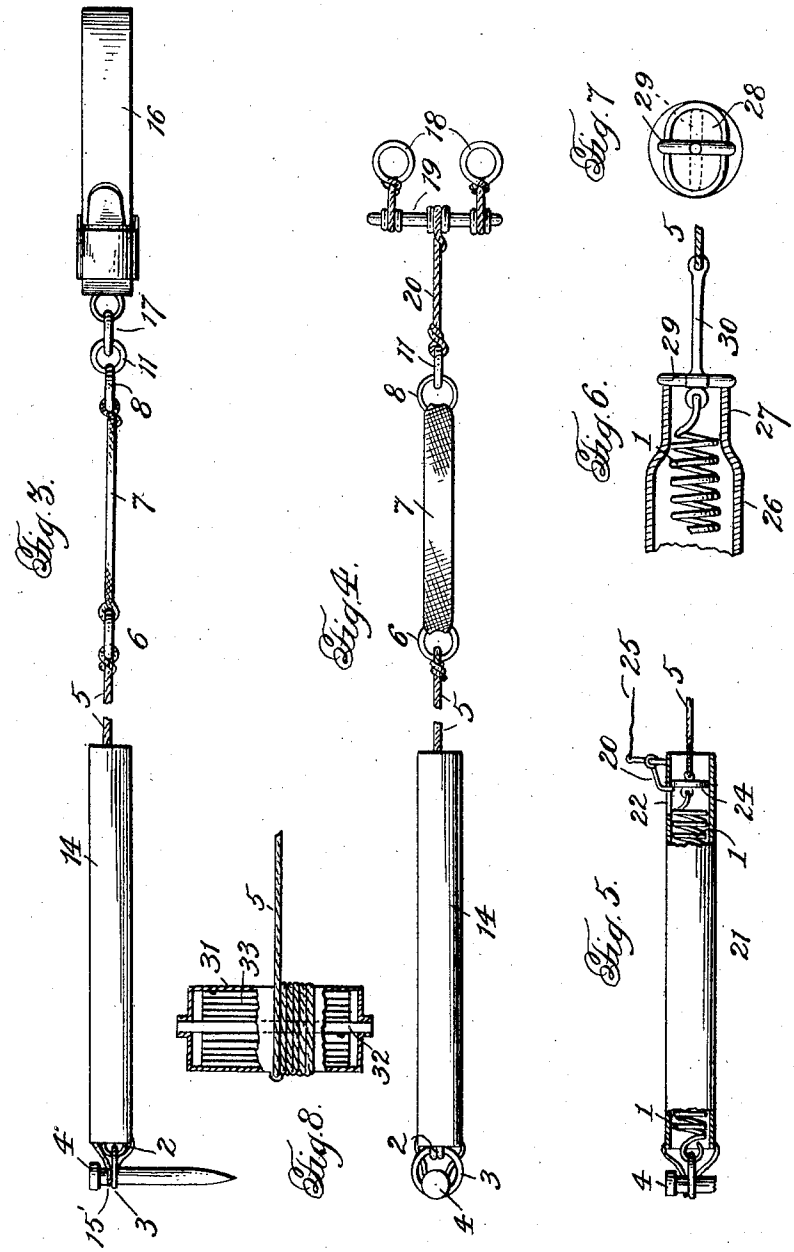
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Filed Nov. 25, 1925 2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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Patented Jan. 25, 1927. 1,615,568

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS E. CARROLL, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

AMUSEMENT DEVICE.

Application filed November 25, 1925. Serial No. 71,334.

My invention relates to new and useful improvements in an amusement device and more particularly to a device for riding the surf, the principal object of the invention residing in the provision of means adapted to be placed under tension and when released drawing the person over the surf towards the beach or giving such a start to the person as to allow them to ride in with the waves.

Another object of the invention consists in providing a spring or similar member adapted to be connected to an object and a member connected to said spring to either receive the body of the person or to be engaged by or with the person, the spring or similar member being encased to prevent injury to persons upon the beach.

With the above and other objects in view, which will appear as the description proceeds, my invention consists in the novel details of construction, and arrangement of parts, described in the following specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and while I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of the invention, as they now appear to me, it will be understood that such changes may be made as will fall within the scope of the appended claims.

In the drawings:—

Fig. 1 is a top plan with parts shown in horizontal section.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation.

Fig. 3 is a side elevation of a slightly modified form of the invention.

Fig. 4 is a top plan of a further modified form of the invention.

Fig. 5 is a fragmental side elevation, with parts shown in longitudinal vertical section, of a still further modified form of the invention.

Fig. 6 is a fragmental longitudinal vertical section, with parts shown in elevation, of another modification.

Fig. 7 is an end view of the modification shown in Fig. 6, and

Fig. 8 is a horizontal section with parts shown in plan of another modification.

Surf riding has become a popular form of amusement for swimmers but considerable skill is necessary to properly time the waves in order to ride upon them towards the beach. Usually surf boards are used and unless properly timed the waves, moving at considerable speed, will pass the swimmer so that the board will not ride upon the wave towards the beach but instead the waves will break over the board and swimmer. With my improved form of device an initial movement is given to the board and person at sufficient speed to catch the wave and allow the person to ride towards the beach on the wave. While primarily intended for use in the surf the device may be used in still water and afford considerable amusement to the user.

In the drawings 1 indicates a coiled spring formed at each end with an eye 2. Received in the eye 2, at one end of the spring, is a ring 3 and a staple 4 or other suitable member is adapted to be passed through the eye, down into the beach, for connecting the spring to the beach. To the opposite eye 2 is connected a rope 5 and secured to the rope 5 is a ring 6 through which is threaded an elastic band 7. The band 7 is also threaded through the ring 8 to which the surf board 9 is adapted to be connected by means of the rope 10 and ring 11. The rope 10 passes through openings 12 formed adjacent one end of the surf board to form an extension to be grasped by the user of the board and the handholds 13 are preferably connected to or carried by the extension of the rope as shown more particularly in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings.

In order that persons walking upon the beach will not trip over the spring 1 or be injured thereby I enclose the spring in the tube or casing 14, said tube or casing being connected to the staple 4 through means of the loop member 15.

In the form of device such as above described the person desiring to use the surf board will walk out into the surf, carrying the board, and by drawing upon the same will place the spring under tension, or in other words expand the same, and at the same time the elastic band will yield. When the person sees the wave coming towards the beach, and at the proper time, he will release the pull on the board and allow the same to be drawn towards the beach by means of the spring 1 assisted by the elastic band 7. The initial movement of the board will be at sufficient speed to catch the wave and allow the board, with the person thereon, to ride the wave towards the beach. It will thus be seen that considerable amusement may be had with the device as described and even if it is not desired to ride

the wave the person may have considerable fun in riding the board which will be drawn beachward by the spring.

In Fig. 3 I have shown a slightly modified form of invention in which a belt 16 is used in place of the surf board 9. The belt 16 will be connected to the ring 11 by means of the ring 17. In all other respects this form of invention is the same as previously described.

In Fig. 4 I have shown a still further modified form of the invention in which handholds 18 are carried by a cross bar 19 and the cross bar is connected to the ring 11 by means of the rope 20. In all other respects the construction is the same as that described for Figs. 1 and 2.

In the form of the invention disclosed in Fig. 3 the belt 16 will be placed around the person so that the person will be drawn towards the beach when the spring is released and in Fig. 4 the person will grasp the handholds 18 and thus be drawn towards the beach.

In Fig. 5 I have illustrated a slightly different form of tube or casing adapted to encircle the coiled spring 1. In this form of the invention the tube or casing is shown at 21 and is provided with an elongated opening 22 through which the pivoted catch 23 is adapted to extend. When the form of tube thus described is used a disc or plate 24 is secured to the end of the spring 1 and when the spring is expanded is adapted to be engaged by the catch 23. When the person desires to be drawn inwardly towards the beach the catch may be released by means of the cord or rope 25.

In Figs. 6 and 7 I have shown a further modified form of tube or casing for the spring. In the form of invention illustrated in these figures the tube or casing is shown at 26 and one end is reduced as shown at 27 to provide the elliptical opening 28. Secured to the end of the spring 1 is the cross bar 29 which is of such a length that when turned as shown in Fig. 7 will engage the end of the tube and hold the spring expanded. When given a quarter turn the pin will assume the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 7 and may be drawn into the tube or casing. When the spring is expanded the pin will be in the position shown in full line and when the person desires to be drawn towards the beach they will disengage the cross pin from the end of the tube or casing and the same will be drawn into the tube or casing. In order that the cross pin may be properly positioned a rod 30 is formed thereon or secured thereto and this rod may be connected to the rope 5.

In the modification shown in Fig. 8, 31 is a drum rotatably mounted upon a shaft 32, the same being mounted or secured on or to the beach or other object in any suitable manner. A spring is shown at 33 and has one end connected to the drum and the opposite end connected to the shaft. The rope 5 will be connected to the drum and normally wound thereon by means of the spring 33. When the device is to be used the pull upon the rope 5 will rotate the drum 31 against the tension of the spring 33 and the rope unwound from the drum. When released the spring 33 will rotate the drum in the opposite direction and rewind the spring thereon.

From the above it is thought that the construction of my invention will be clearly understood and it will be seen that considerable amusement may be given to both the young and old. It will be appreciated that with the form shown in Fig. 3 the belt may be placed around a child who may operate the device with safety. If a person does not desire to use the surf board they may use either the belt shown in Fig. 3 or the handhold shown in Fig. 4.

Having fully described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A device of the character described adapted for propelling a person through water towards a stationary object comprising a member adapted to be carried by the person, and an expansible member interposed between and connected to the member carried by the person and the stationary object, said expansible member being expanded by the person moving away from the stationary object and when released propelling the person towards the stationary object.

2. A device of the character described adapted for propelling a person through water towards the shore, comprising a member adapted to be carried by the person, an expansible member connected to the shore, means enclosing the expansible member, and means connecting the member carried by the person and the expansible member, said expansible member being expanded by the person moving away from the shore and when released propelling the person towards the shore.

3. A device of the character described adapted for propelling a person through water towards the shore, comprising a member adapted to be carried by the person, a member connected to the shore and adapted to be expanded, means for holding the expansible member in expanded position, and means for releasing the holding means to propel the person towards the shore.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

THOMAS E. CARROLL.