April 30, 1940. N. I. CHRISTIANSEN 2,198,904

WATER PONY

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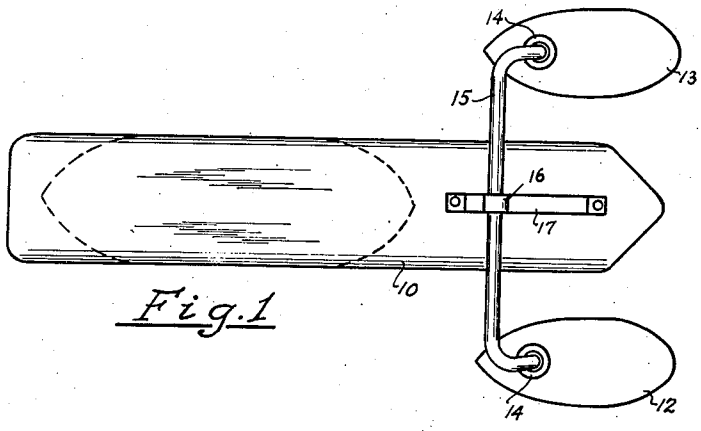


Fig. 1

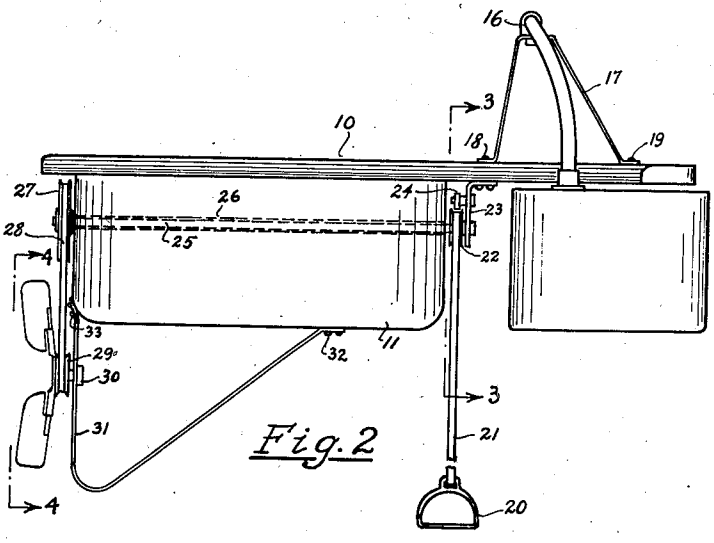


Fig. 2

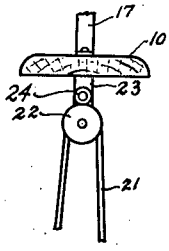


Fig. 3

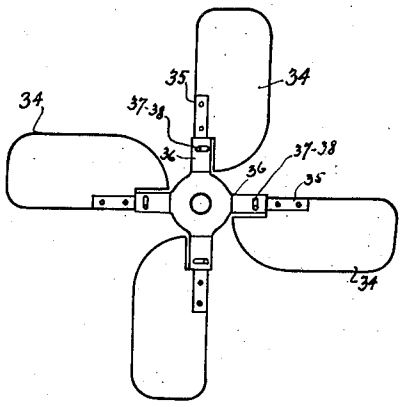


Fig. 4

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WATER PONY

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1 Claim. (Cl. 9—18)

My invention relates to a play boat for use by bathers of the type where a person sits astride the device and propels the same by pedaling a mechanism submerged in the water.

An important object of my invention is to provide a device of light and simple construction which may be easily propelled through the water at a considerable speed.

A further object of the invention is to provide a play boat of such low cost construction that it may be rented to bathers at a very reasonable price.

Other objects and advantages of my invention will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same,

Figure 1 is a plan view of a device embodying my invention,

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the same,

Figure 3 is a section along line 3—3 in Figure 2, and,

Figure 4 is an enlarged elevation of the propeller along line 4—4 in Fig. 2.

In the drawing, wherein for the purpose of illustration, is shown a preferred embodiment of my invention, the numeral 10 designates the saddle plank which is rigidly fastened to the main float or pontoon 11. Two smaller, similar pontoons 12 and 13 are fastened by flanges 14 to pipe 15 which forms the handle bar and stearing means. The pipe 15 is rotatably fastened through clamp 16 to bracket 17 the two ends of which are fastened rigidly to the saddle plank 10 at 18 and 19.

The propelling mechanism consists of two stirrups 20 fastened one at each end of belt 21 which runs over pulley 22. The pulley 22 is supported on bracket 23 which also carries a small wheel 24, rotatably mounted on 23, serving the purpose of keeping belt 21 from slipping off the pulley 22. The shaft 25 on which pulley 22 is mounted is journalled in the bracket 23 and extends through a pipe 26 which extends through pontoon 11 and forms a bearing for shaft 25. The rear end of shaft 25 carries a pulley 27 with belt 28 which runs over pulley 29 upon which is mounted the propeller. The pulley 29 is rotatable upon a pinion 30 which is mounted on bracket 31. The bracket 31 is fastened to pontoon 11 at 32 and 33.

An enlarged view of the propeller is shown in Fig. 4 where 34 are the identical propeller blades. These are mounted upon rods 35 which extend into tubular sockets 36. A pin 37 which is rigidly fastened in rods 35 extend through slots 38 and permit the rods 35 and the blades 34 to turn in a certain angle determined by the length of said slots 38. The entire propeller assembly is mounted on pulley 29.

The operation of my invention is as follows: The operator sits astride the saddle plank 10 with his feet in the stirrups 20. Pushing down with one foot at a time shaft 25 and pulleys 27 and 29 will rotate the propeller first in one direction and then in the opposite direction. Due to the fact that the blades 35 are rotatable in a certain angle the rotation of the propeller will result in a forward pull of the same regardless of the direction of rotation. In changing direction of rotation the force of the water will rotate the blades 34 until pin 37 hits the other end of slot 38. Steering is accomplished by turning the handle bar 15.

It is to be understood that the form of my invention, herewith shown and described, is to be taken as a preferred embodiment of the same, and that various changes in the shape, size and arrangement of parts may be resorted to, without departing from the spirit of my invention, or the scope of the subjoined claim.

Having thus described my invention I claim:

In an aquatic amusement device of the character described the combination of a central pontoon; a saddle plank rigidly fastened on top and longitudinally on said pontoon, the plank extending forward of the pontoon; two smaller pontoons located forward and on either side of the central pontoon; a tubular member bent into the shape of a handle bar, the ends of which are rigidly fastened one to each of the smaller pontoons; a mounting bracket the two legs of which are bolted down to the forward end on the top side of the plank; a swivel fitting fastening the handle bar to the mounting bracket in a transverse and horizontally rotatable position; a couple of stirrups; a belt with both ends fastened one to each of the stirrups; a transmission shaft journalled in a pipe running longitudinally through the centre of the main pontoon; two pulleys mounted one on each end of the shaft, and said belt with the stirrups being run over the forward pulley; a belt driven, double acting propeller, of the type described, mounted below the rear end of the central pontoon, and belting means connecting the rear pulley of the transmission shaft to the propeller pulley.

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