

L. POLACHEK.
SUNKEN SHIP LOCATING DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 31, 1917.

1,249,486.

Patented Dec. 11, 1917.

FIG. 1.

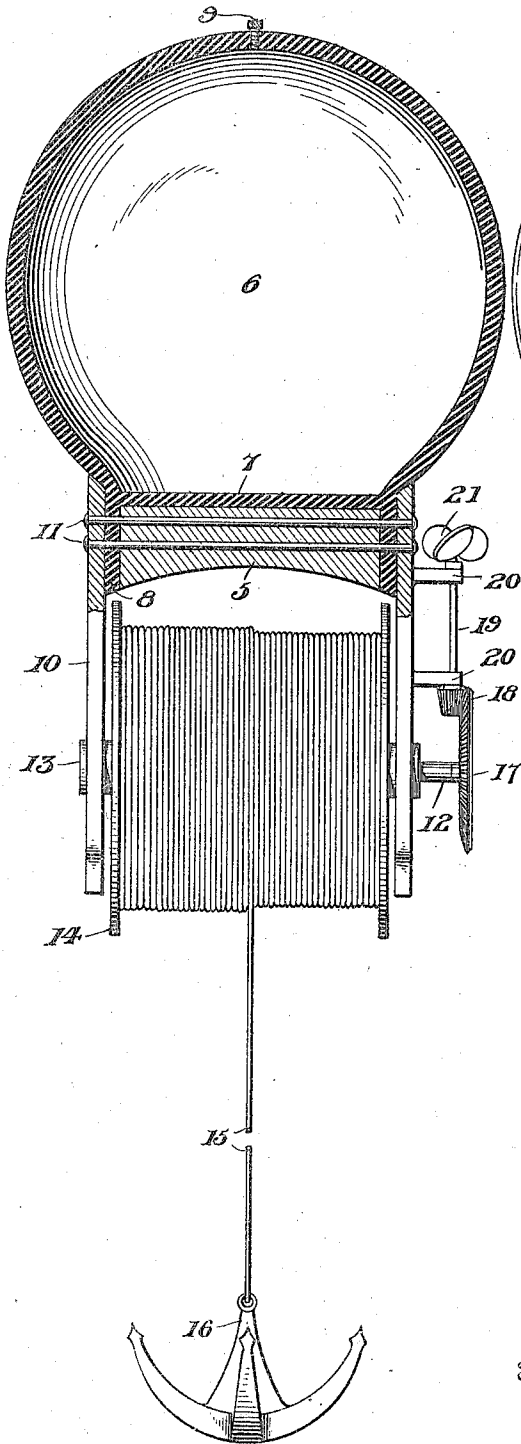
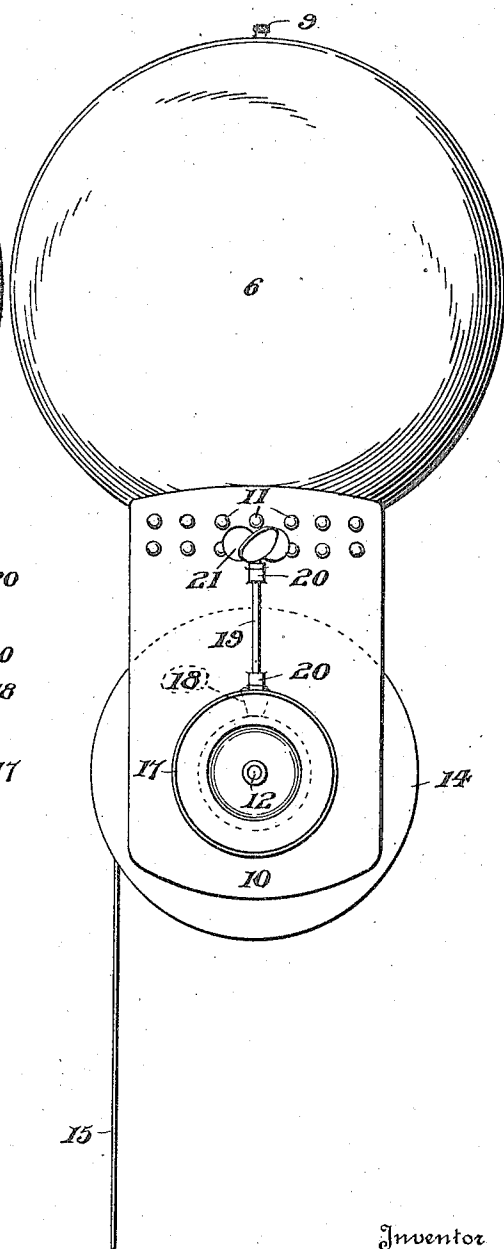


FIG. 2.



Inventor
L. Polachek

By

A. M. Wilson

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEWIS POLACHEK, OF AKRON, OHIO.

SUNKEN-SHIP-LOCATING DEVICE.

1,249,486.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 11, 1917.

Application filed May 31, 1917. Serial No. 171,392.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEWIS POLACHEK, a subject of the King of Hungary, residing at Akron, in the county of Summit and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sunken-Ship-Locating Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in sunken ship locating devices.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a device to be carried by ships or other floating vessel in the form of a buoyant member that is adapted to be attached by a cord or cable to the carrying ship and upon the sinking of the ship to be released therefrom and rise to the surface of the water to give an approximate location of the sunken vessel.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device for locating a sunken vessel in which there is provided a device adapted for attachment to the vessel and having a buoyant member to rise to the surface of the water to indicate the approximate position of the sunken vessel with means for retarding the rising movement of the buoyant member.

With these general objects in view and others that will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing and pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawing forming a part of this application and in which like numerals refer to corresponding parts throughout the several views,

Figure 1 is a vertical sectional view of a ship locating device constructed in accordance with the present invention, and,

Fig. 2 is a side elevational view thereof.

Referring more in detail to the accompanying drawing, the reference numeral 5 designates what may be termed the main body portion of the device, the same being in the form of a block of any suitable material and preferably of the shape as is disclosed in Fig. 1. This block 5 is adapted to have connected thereto a buoyant member in the form of an enlarged ball-shaped element 6 having a flat bottom wall 7 and depending side flanges 8, the bottom wall 7

resting upon the upper face of the block 5 while the depending flanges 8 entirely inclose the block as is illustrated. The ball-shaped member 6 may be formed of any water-proof material desired as rubber, or rubberized fabric and has an opening in its upper end through which the same may be charged with air or gas and closed by a valve plug 9. A pair of side plates 10 is connected to opposite sides of the block 5 as by cross rods 11, the cross rods 11 extending completely through the block 5, depending flanges 8 of the buoyant member 6 and side plates 10 as is clearly illustrated in Fig. 1. A shaft 12 is journaled in bearings 13 provided in the side plates 10 and is adapted to support between the side plates, a winding reel 14 having wound thereon a cord or cable 15 one end of the cable being connected to the reel 14 while the other end is adapted to carry an anchor 16 or other form of ship attaching member as may be desired.

The device may be positioned upon any exposed portion of the ship's deck and the anchor 16 thereof connected to some portion of the ship so that should the ship for any reason sink, the buoyant member 6 will be entirely freed therefrom and by its buoyancy tend to rise to the surface of the water and accordingly unwind the cable 15 from the reel 14 and give the approximate location of the sunken ship. In order to prevent a too fast unwinding of the reel and a consequent entanglement of the cable thereon, I have provided means for retarding the rising movement of the buoyant member, this means including a beveled gear 17 fixed to an extended end of the shaft 12 and adapted to rotate during the unwinding movement of the reel, the beveled gear 17 meshing with a pinion 18 fixed upon the lower end of a stub shaft journaled in vertically aligned bracket 20 carried by the adjacent side plate 10. A screw propeller 21 is fixed to the upper end of the stub shaft 19 and rotates in a direction during the unwinding of the reel 14 to retard the upward movement of the buoyant member 6. By this construction the float 6 will slowly rise to the surface of the water and the cable 15 upon the reel 14 will be prevented from becoming entangled by too hasty unwinding of the same.

While the form of the invention as herein shown and described is what is believed to be the preferred embodiment thereof, it is nevertheless to be understood that minor

changes may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention claimed.

What I claim as new is:—

- 5 1. A ship locating device embodying a body block, a buoyant member fixed thereto, side plates depending therefrom, a shaft journaled in the side plates and extending laterally of one side plate, a winding reel
10 fixed to said shaft intermediate said side plates, an anchor element carried by the free end of said reel, and means operated by the unwinding movement of said reel for retarding the rising movement of the buoyant
15 member.
2. A ship locating device embodying a body block, a buoyant member fixed thereto, side plates depending therefrom, a shaft journaled in the side plates and extending
20 laterally of one side plate, a winding reel fixed to said shaft intermediate said side plates, an anchor element carried by the free end of said reel, means for retarding the rising movement of the buoyant member in-

cluding a screw propeller operated by the 25 unwinding movement of the reel.

3. A ship locating device embodying a body block, a buoyant member fixed thereto, side plates depending therefrom, a shaft journaled in the side plates and extending 30 laterally of one side plate, a winding reel fixed to said shaft intermediate said side plates, an anchor element carried by the free end of said reel, means for retarding the rising movement of the buoyant member in- 35 cluding a beveled gear fixed to said shaft extension, a pair of vertically alined brackets carried by the adjacent side plate, a stub shaft journaled in said brackets, a pinion upon the lower end of said stub shaft in 40 mesh with said beveled gear, and a screw propeller fixed to the upper end of said stub shaft, the said gears and propeller being operated during unwinding movement of the reel. 45

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

LEWIS POLACHEK.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."