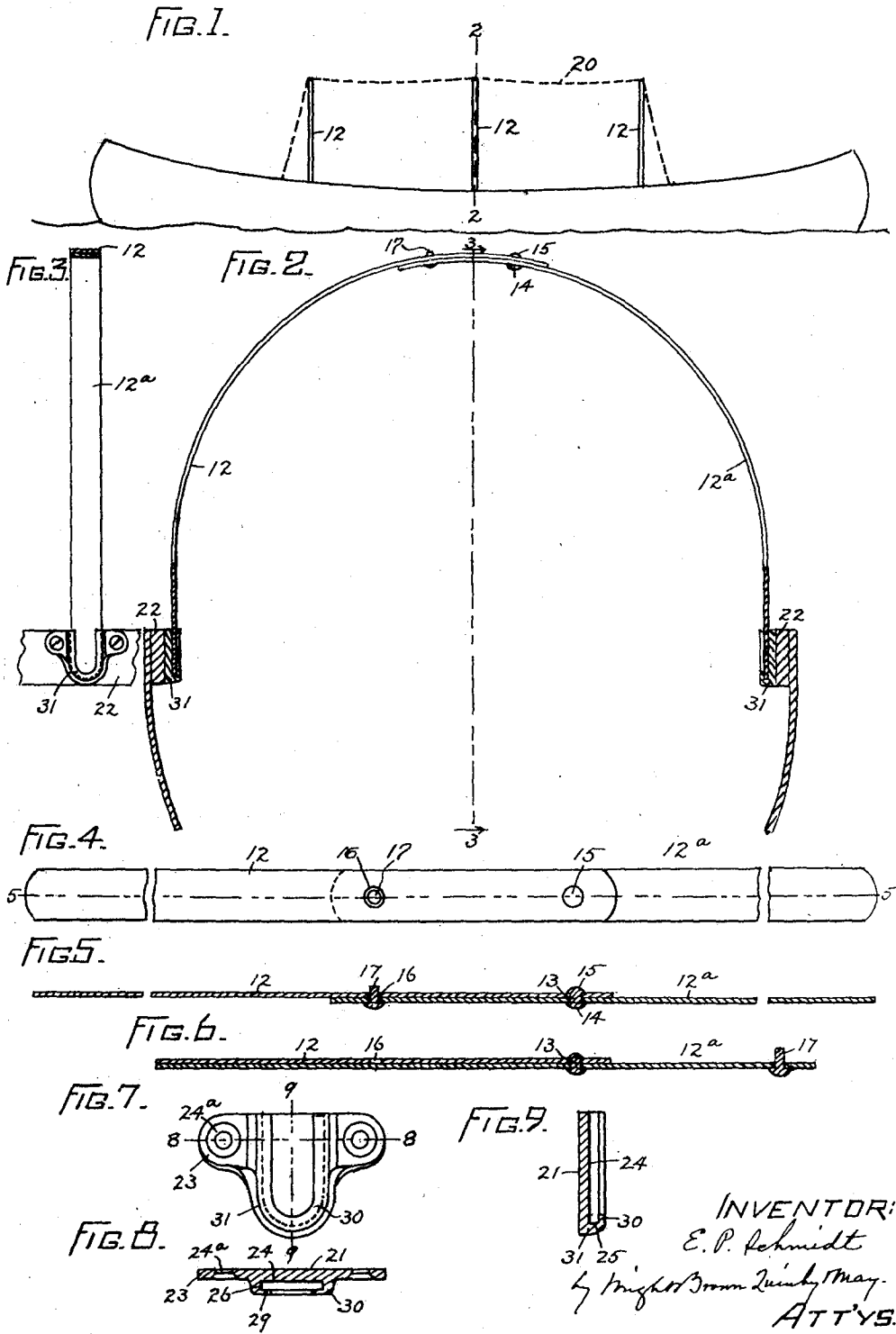


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 CANOPY SUPPORT FOR CANOES AND OTHER BOATS.  
 APPLICATION FILED JUNE 24, 1920.

1,396,063.

Patented Nov. 8, 1921.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CANOPY-SUPPORT FOR CANOES AND OTHER BOATS.

1,396,063.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 8, 1921.

Application filed June 24, 1920. Serial No. 391,286.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EMIL PAUL SCHMIDT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Canopy-Supports for Canoes and other Boats, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a simple, strong, and durable bow of sectional construction adapted to support, over a canoe or other boat, a canopy, which may be a mosquito bar, or an awning, and to be quickly and conveniently folded or longitudinally contracted in a straight and flat condition on the bottom of a canoe when not in use.

The invention is embodied in the improvements which I will now proceed to describe and claim.

Of the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification,—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a canoe having a canopy support including a plurality of bows embodying the invention.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a section on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a side view, showing one of the strips hereinafter described, portions of the same being broken away.

Fig. 5 is a section on line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a view similar to Fig. 5, showing the strip folded.

Fig. 7 is a side view of one of the socket members hereinafter described.

Fig. 8 is a section on line 8—8 of Fig. 7.

Fig. 9 is a section on line 9—9 of Fig. 7.

The same reference characters indicate the same parts in all of the figures.

It will be understood that the term canopy as used herein is intended to apply to either a mosquito bar or an awning, or covering adapted to exclude sun and rain, and that the term boat as used herein is intended to apply to canoes, and other relatively small boats.

My invention is embodied in a resilient strip normally substantially straight, and adapted to be flexed to form a bow, the ends of which are engageable with sockets on a boat.

Said strip is adapted to be folded or longitudinally contracted to reduce its length when not in use, to about one-half of its operative length, the contracted strip being

substantially straight, so that it may lie flat on the bottom of a canoe. To this end I use in making each strip, a pair of normally straight resilient sections 12 and 12<sup>a</sup>, preferably of steel said sections having overlapping portions at the mid-length of the strip. I provide a permanent connection between the sections, permitting the folding or longitudinal contraction of the strip, as indicated by Fig. 6, the connection being provided by a pivot 13, having heads 14 and 15. The pivot is relatively near the extremity of one overlapping portion, and farther from the extremity of the other overlapping portion, as shown by Figs. 2, 4, 5, and 6. The section 12 is provided with an orifice 16, and the section 12<sup>a</sup> with a stud 17, adapted to enter the orifice, the said stud and orifice being arranged to be held in engagement with each other by the resilience of the sections, and prevent the independent swinging of either section, and the folding or longitudinal contraction of the strip.

The strip is adapted to be flexed, as shown by Fig. 2, and its length is such that when it is flexed it forms a bow of sufficient height to support a canopy 20, and afford sufficient head room for occupants of the boat, below the canopy.

The bow may be supported in its operative position by supporting members best shown by Figs. 7, 8, and 9, each member being a casting 31 provided with a flat back 21, adapted to bear on the gunwale 22, oppositely projecting ears 23, provided with screw holes 24<sup>a</sup>, and a vertically elongated socket, formed to receive an end of the bow, and support the same against downward, edgewise, and lateral displacement. Said socket has an inner side 24, a closed lower end 25 (Fig. 9) forming a stop or abutment for one end of the strip, elongated edge faces 26 (Fig. 8), and outer side faces 29, preferably provided by a U-shaped flange 30, cast with the supporting member.

A plurality of bows may be employed, as indicated by Fig. 1.

I claim:

1. A canopy-supporting member for boats, comprising a resilient strip normally substantially straight, and adapted to be flexed to form a bow, the ends of which are engageable with sockets on a boat, said strip being composed of a pair of normally straight resilient sections, having overlapping portions at the mid-length of the strip and a pivot

connecting said overlapping portions and permitting one section to swing relatively to the other to longitudinally contract and extend the strip, means being provided for preventing a swinging movement of either section on said pivot when the strip is extended, the form and arrangement of the sections and pivot being such that the strip is substantially straight when longitudinally contracted.

2. A canopy-supporting member for boats, comprising a resilient strip normally substantially straight, and adapted to be flexed to form a bow, the ends of which are engageable with sockets on a boat, said strip being composed of a pair of normally straight resilient sections having overlapping portions at the mid-length of the strip, and a pivot connecting said portions and located rel-

atively near the extremity of one overlapping portion, and farther from the extremity of the other overlapping portion, said pivot permitting one section to swing relatively to the other to longitudinally contract and extend the strip, one of said sections being provided with a stud spaced from said pivot, and the other section being provided with a stud-receiving orifice, the said stud and orifice being arranged to be held in engagement with each other by the resilience of the sections, and prevent the independent swinging of either section, the form and arrangement of the sections and pivot being such that the strip is substantially straight when longitudinally contracted.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

EMIL P. SCHMIDT.