

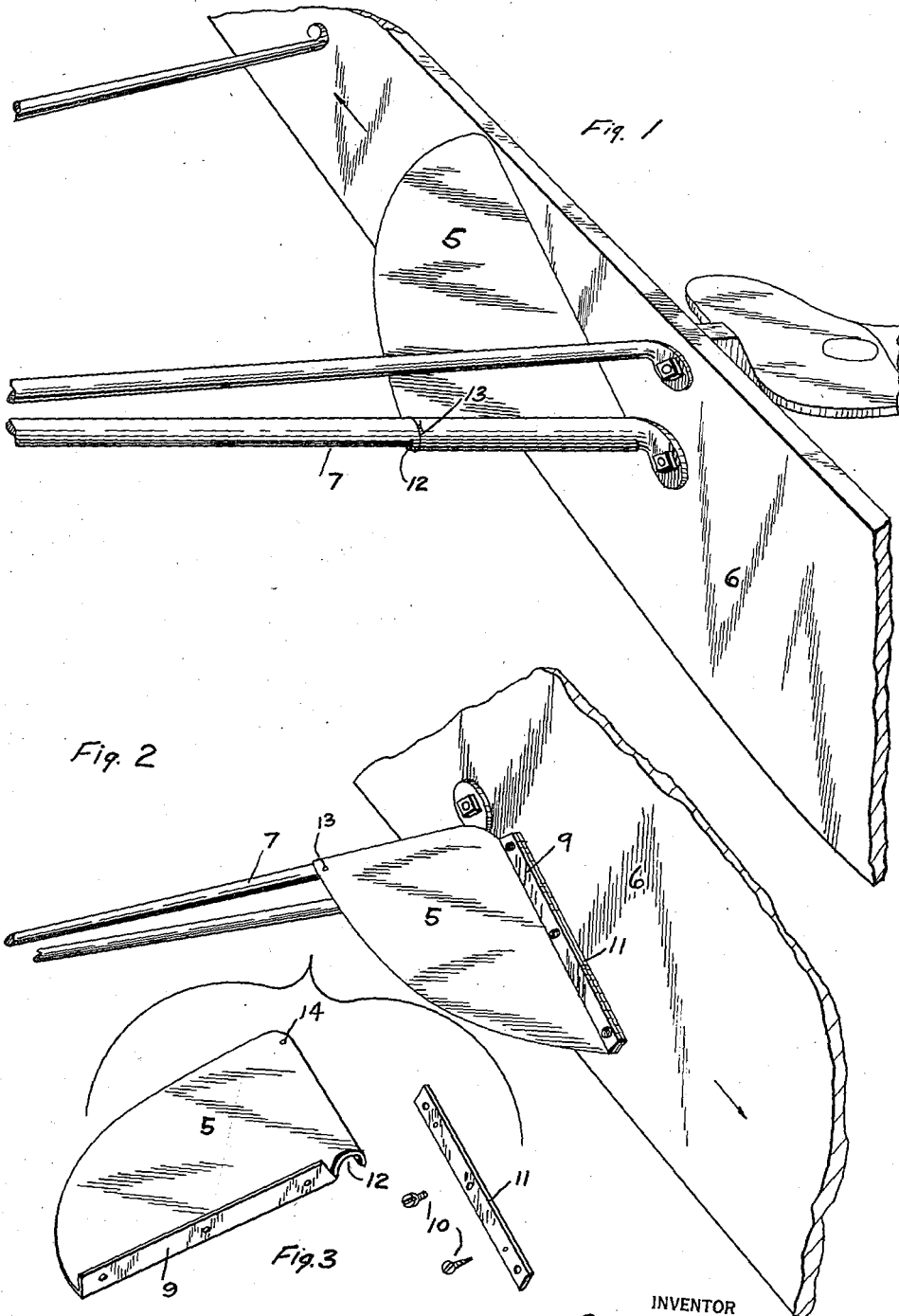
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ATTACHMENT FOR A RACING SHELL

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## ATTACHMENT FOR A RACING SHELL

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3 Claims. (Cl. 9-1)

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The present invention relates broadly to a racing shell and more particularly to a deflector plate or vane attachment therefor.

An object of the invention is to provide an attachment to be placed outboard near the gunwale of a racing shell to prevent water entering the shell when being propelled through rough water.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a means by which a racing shell may be prepared quickly for rough water.

A further object of the invention is to provide a means of the character described whereby the over-all weight of a racing shell to which it is attached is reduced to a minimum, and which does not require continual adjustment or attention after being installed.

A still further object of the invention is to provide deflector plates or vanes for a racing shell that are simple in construction, easy to manufacture and install, inexpensive in cost of manufacture, and that are strong and durable.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts as will be hereinafter more fully described.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification in which like reference characters indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views and in which:

Fig. 1 is a portion of a racing shell showing the attachment of the present invention in operative position,

Fig. 2 is an under side of Fig. 1, and

Fig. 3 is a non-assembled view of the attachment with its several parts in perspective.

A racing shell commonly used by athletes is a light, frail craft that rides very low in the water. It is not an infrequent occurrence for one of these craft to be swamped by the shipping water when it encounters rough water. By placing deflector plates or vanes on each side of the shell at approximately each station of the crew, the possibility of shipping water is reduced to a minimum. It is important, however, that the weight of the plates be as light as possible, yet that they be strong enough to withstand buffeting by the force of the water, so it is desirable that they be made of a light durable material, such as dural, copper plate, tin or sheet iron. Although I have illustrated in the drawing the plates as being triangular, it is to be understood that other desirable designs or shapes may be used.

To best accomplish the purpose of the invention each of the deflector plates or vanes 5 is arranged on the diagonal with respect to the hull 6 of the shell, by attaching it to the wash-board with its forward edge near the top and its rearward edge to the lower rigger arm 7. This inclination will deflect downward any wave that is as high as the gunwale itself, thus prevent water from entering the shell.

One of the advantages of the invention is the rapidity and ease with which the plates may be attached to the shell, and after being installed they require no adjustment or attention. Each of the plates has an upturned or flanged edge 9 through which ordinary wood screws 10, or bolts, 15 or other suitable fastening elements, pass into a bar 11 of suitable material interposed between the up-turned edge and the shell to serve as a reinforcement. This is desirable, because repeated removal and insertion of the plate attaching screws into the hull or wash-board of the shell will have a tendency to enlarge the screw holes thereby permitting leakage therethrough, but by first attaching the bar to the shell and then the plate to the bar leakage is prevented.

As may be seen more clearly in Fig. 3 of the drawing, each of the plates is provided with a rolled edge 12 extending at substantially a right angle from the flanged edge. This rolled edge is adapted to embrace the lower side of the arm 7 of the rigger to provide a support for the plate along this edge and to stabilize it against the pressure of the water contacting with the under side of the plate. It is fastened to the arm by a tie 13 passing through an eyelet 14 in a corner of the plate and around the arm.

It will be understood that the above description and accompanying drawing comprehend only the general and preferred embodiment of my invention and that various changes in construction, proportion and arrangement of parts may be made within the scope of the appended claims without sacrificing any of the advantages of my invention.

The invention described herein may be manufactured and used by or for the Government of the United States of America for governmental purposes without the payment of any royalties thereon or therefor.

What I claim is:

1. In combination with a racing shell having riggers extending outwardly therefrom, deflector plates secured to the shell and arms of the riggers and inclined downwardly from fore to aft for deflecting water downwardly.

2. In combination with a racing shell having riggers extending outwardly therefrom, deflector plates mounted thereon, each of said plates being provided with a rolled edge to embrace an arm of the rigger, and means of attachment for the plate to the rigger arm.

3. In combination with a racing shell having riggers extending outwardly therefrom, deflector plates mounted thereon, each of the plates having an upturned edge for attachment to the shell.

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