

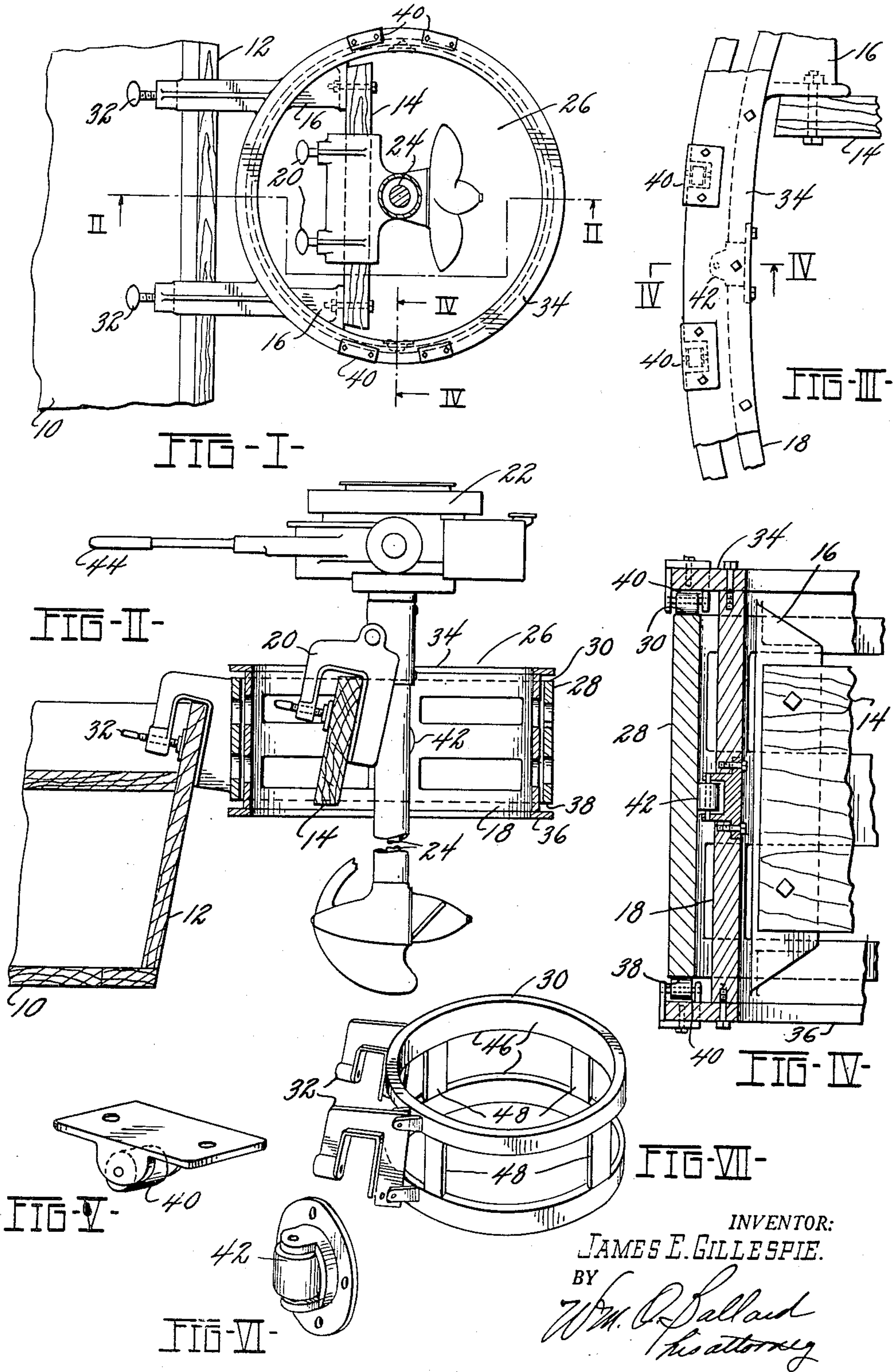
Nov. 17, 1953

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2,659,558

OUTBOARD ENGINE MOUNTING DEVICE

Filed Dec. 17, 1949



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2,659,558

OUTBOARD ENGINE MOUNTING DEVICE

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Application December 17, 1949, Serial No. 133,650

1 Claim. (Cl. 248—4)

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This invention relates to brackets for mounting outboard engines on small craft.

An object of this invention is to provide a bracket which may be attached to any small craft adapted to mount an outboard engine and in turn provide an auxiliary support for an outboard engine, which support may be rotated 360° in a substantially horizontal plane.

Another object of this invention is to provide a mount for an outboard engine which mount provides for an increase in the maneuverability of the engine.

Another object of this invention is to provide an intermediate turret mount for an outboard engine which mount may be carried by craft engaging clamps.

Another object of this invention is to provide an accessory for outboard engines of the non-reversible type which permits them to be actuated as a rudder or for full reverse propulsion.

Another object of this invention is to provide a portable bracket for mounting a non-reversible type of outboard engine onto a craft which bracket may, in turn, allow a reversible action by the engine.

Other objects and advantages of this invention relating to the arrangement, operation and function of the related elements of the structure, to various details of construction, to combinations of parts and to economies of manufacture, will be apparent to those skilled in the art upon consideration of the following description and appended claim, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification wherein like reference characters designate corresponding parts in the several views.

Referring to the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of an outboard engine bracket, embodying features of the invention herein;

Fig. 2 is a section on the line II—II, Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged plan view of a portion of a bearing mounting region of the turret rim;

Fig. 4 is a view on the line IV—IV, Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one of the vertical bearings;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of one of the lateral bearing elements; and

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a modified or cage construction for one of the concentric mounting members.

Small craft 10 of a type adapted to be propelled by an outboard engine attached thereto is provided with stern 12. Heretofore, when certain

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types of outboard engines were directly mounted on the stern 12, their utility was limited. This was particularly true of the more economical and simpler forms of engines whose housings were fixed relative to their mounting means, and included no reversing gear.

To increase the utility particularly of this type of engine, to match the maneuvering ability and craft control of even the most costly and flexible types of outboards, there is provided herein, an auxiliary stern element, or more exactly a secondary stern piece 14, mounted by suitable supports 16 attached to ring 18 as an element of a turret construction. This turret may be fabricated to meet various demands and an acceptable assembly is disclosed herein meeting both factory production standards as well as the rigid requirements found in the use of devices in this field.

This auxiliary stern element may be a wooden plate diametrically positioned across the turret or preferably along a chord thereof somewhat removed from the diameter. This plate serves as a suitable means adapted to receive and retain clamps 20 of engine 22 and in the off diameter position permits the propeller shaft 24 to be fixed coaxially with the turret and furthermore provides ample clearance 26 through which the propeller may be lowered to bring the clamps 20 onto the supporting bar 14 for positioning the engine in craft propelling position.

A first ring-shaped member 28 is provided to form a substantially horizontal track 30 extending outwardly from the craft and removably mountable by clamps 32 engaging the stern 12 or other desired craft part. This track provides a run-way for the turret or second ring-shaped element 18 permitting a full 360° rotation of the second ring member within the first ring member.

Suitable interconnecting mounting means are formed by attaching rings 34, 36, to the top and bottom of the turret element 18 by suitable means, to provide peripheral flanges overlapping the upper track 30 as well as lower track 38 about the lower edge of the member 18. To insure a smooth, minimum effort rolling motion, vertical thrust bearings 40 are disposed between the tracks and flanges and a suitable construction includes the removable mounting of such bearings on the flanges. This arrangement simplifies assembly and replacements.

To hold the proper lateral coaxial assembly of the turret on the track, bearings 42 may be placed therebetween and a desirable construction includes the removable attachment of these latter

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bearing elements to the turret member 18 with their attaching means available from the turret interior.

With this portable bracket in position and clamped to the craft, and the engine clamped to the bar 14, the engine, even though of the non-reversible types, may propel the craft and be manipulated to steer its progress and even be rotated to a full reverse position as manually operated by the tiller 44 usually part of the engine structure supplied by the engine manufacturer.

The weight of the parts and the character of the materials employed may be factors in accommodating various engines, craft and combinations thereof and it may be desirable to skeletonize the ring members or such may be fabricated from narrow width rings 46 and slats 48 properly positioned and fixed therewith (Fig. 7).

It is to be understood that the above detailed description of the present invention is intended to disclose an embodiment thereof to those skilled in the art, but that the invention is not to be construed as limited in its application to the details of construction and arrangement of parts illustrated in the accompanying drawings, since the invention is capable of being practiced and carried out in various ways without departing from the spirit of the invention. The language used in the specification relating to the operation and function of the elements of the invention is employed for purposes of description and not of limitation, and it is not intended to limit the scope of the following claim beyond the requirements of the prior art.

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What is claimed and is desired to secure by United States Letters Patent is:

An outboard engine mounting comprising a first cylindrical ring providing upper and lower tracks at its opposite ends and an intermediate track about the interior thereof, means for mounting said ring in a substantially horizontal plane and in a substantially vertical position relatively to the exterior of a craft, a turret providing a second ring coaxially disposed within said first ring and radially spaced therefrom, said second ring having outwardly projecting flange elements overhanging the end tracks of said first ring, seats in said second ring and in its flanges, bearing carrying elements mounted in said seats, bearings carried by such elements engaging the first ring provided tracks, and a bar carried substantially vertically by the turret extending thereacross on an off-center chord positioned to provide working space between the turret and each side of the bar, said bar being adapted to carry and provide access to clamp mounting portions of an engine.

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