C. A. HOPE.

SLEEPING CASE.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 5, 1918.

1,324,009. Patented Dec. 2, 1919.

Fig. 1

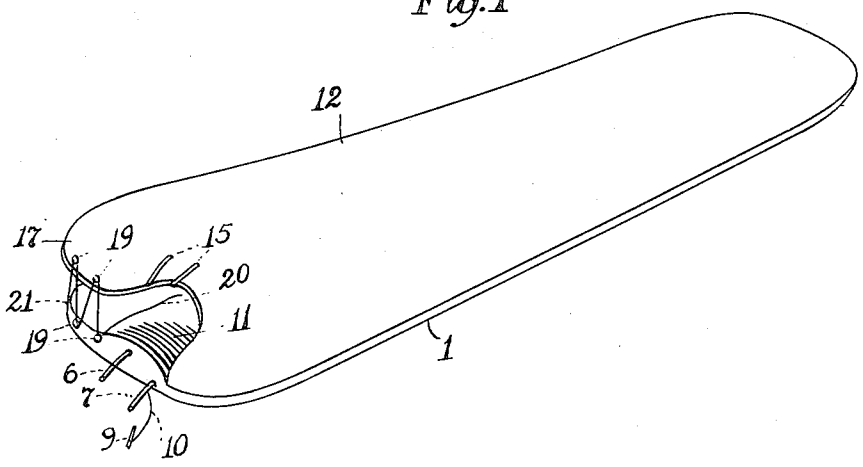


Fig. 2

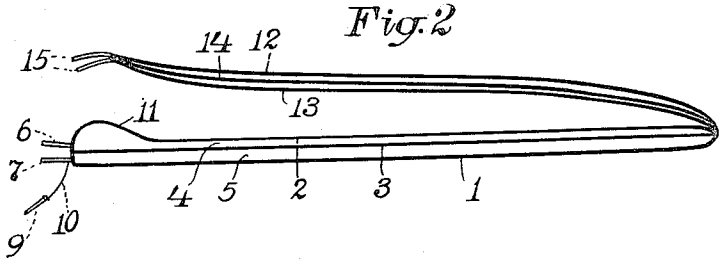
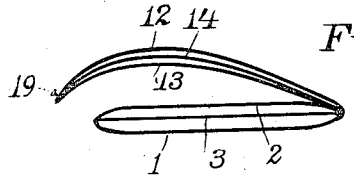


Fig. 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SLEEPING-CASE.

1,324,009. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 2, 1919.

Application filed August 5, 1918. Serial No. 248,341.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CARL A. HOPE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Everett, in the county of Middlesex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sleeping-Cases, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact specification.

The object of this invention is the construction of a sleeping bag or case which can be packed into a small compass, but can at will be adapted for either cold or warm weather, and for hard or soft ground, and is at once mattress and coverlet.

To this end either or both the mattress and the coverlet are composed of thin sheets of air-tight material, preferably rubber covered fabric, and are made in a plurality of compartments separately inflatable, the compartments in the mattress being preferably two and formed by the introduction of an air-tight partition between the top and bottom thereof, the coverlet being similarly constructed.

Referring to the drawings forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a sleeping case embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section of the same. Fig. 3 is a cross section thereof.

As shown in Figs. 2 and 3, the bottom sheet 1 and the top sheet 2 have a sheet 3 located between them and jointly compose the mattress. The two compartments 4, 5 are represented as partly inflated, inflating tubes 6, 7 of well known construction being provided for enabling them to be inflated at will, the inflation being ordinarily done by means of the lungs of the possessor. The air may be retained in the compartments by means of plugs 9 kept from being lost by a string, 10, or in any other well known manner.

I prefer to form the upper sheet 2 with an enlargement 11 at the upper end to serve as a pillow, and this sheet should have its fabric surface outward and to be further rendered warmer to the touch by any suitable means, as by having fibrous material cemented thereto or woven therein.

The coverlet I also prefer to have composed of three air tight sheets 12, 13 and 14 attached to each other at their edges, and each of the compartments thus formed being provided with an inflating tube 15. The under surface of the sheet 13 is the one here to be rendered warmer to the touch, so that the person lying between the coverlet and mattress may feel no chill therefrom.

The coverlet and mattress are preferably attached to each other along one entire side and at the head-end clear to the pillow 11, and at the foot if desired, but the remainder is disconnected.

The end of the coverlet adjacent the pillow 11 is formed with a bay 16 to adapt the same to fit beneath the chin of the occupant. The shoulder portion 17 of the coverlet is provided with a number of buttons 19, as is also the corresponding portion of the mattress, whereby to lace the parts together. The lace or cord 20 being permanently fastened to the mattress at 21, can be easily engaged with the buttons 19 after the person has lain himself upon the mattress, after which a pull upon the cord will draw the shoulder portion 17 snugly into contact with the mattress-edge thereat and shut out all drafts about the occupant's neck. This lacing may be extended farther along the mattress and coverlet toward the foot, but ordinarily that illustrated is sufficient.

In case the ground is soft and the weather warm, neither the mattress nor the coverlet need to be blown up, but if hard and the air chill, both may be inflated to a limited degree. Ordinarily, it is sufficient to inflate a single compartment in the coverlet, but in very cold weather, it will be necessary to inflate both. So also with the mattress.

The advantage in having a plurality of compartments in the coverlet is to conserve the warmth of the sleeper's body. With a single compartment, the air warmed by the sheet 13 nearest thereto rises into contact with the upper and exposed sheet 12 and is quickly chilled; but with the two compartments, the air in the under one remains heated and but little affected by the contents of the upper compartment.

Another advantage of the double-compartment construction is that the air is retained more perfectly in place thereby. In a single compartment, with the same depth of air as the double-compartment, the air can

be pressed more easily to other sections of the mattress and so permit the hips or shoulders to come solidly against any extra hard part of the ground beneath; but with the two compartments the air is confined more effectually and cannot recede so easily from the hard spots.

This sleeping case is specifically designed for the army, and is hence not only well adapted for sleeping purposes, but can be quickly employed for floats to enable the soldiers to cross a deep stream, two or three men to each.

What I claim is:

A sleeping case comprising an inflatable mattress composed of flexible but impervious material, a flexible impervious partition separating the mattress into two compartments one above the other, and means for independently inflating the two compartments.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing invention I have hereunto set my hand this 6th day of July, 1918.

CARL AUGUSTUS HOPE.