April 18, 1933. T. NAKAMURA 1,904,767

LIFE-SAVING DEVICE

Filed June 14, 1932

Fig. 1.

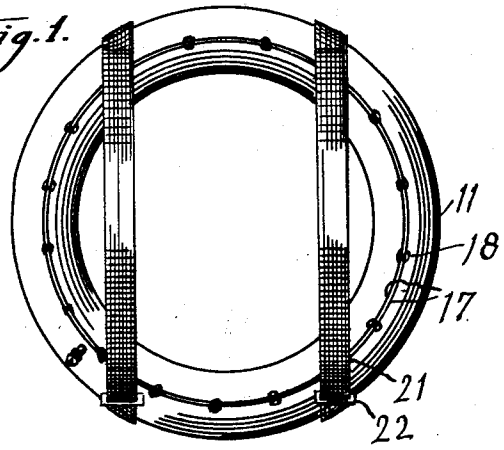


Fig. 2.

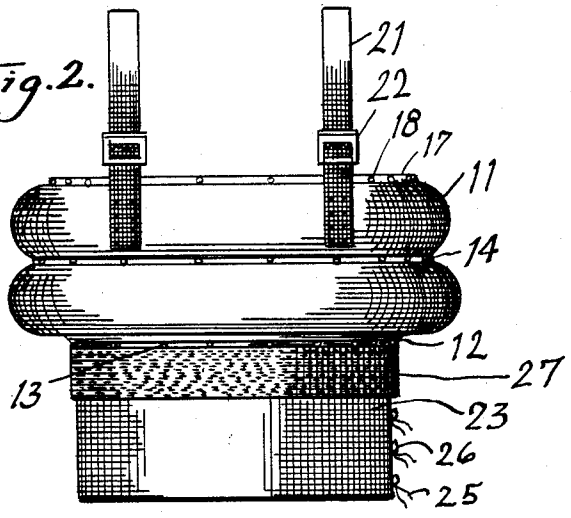


Fig. 3.

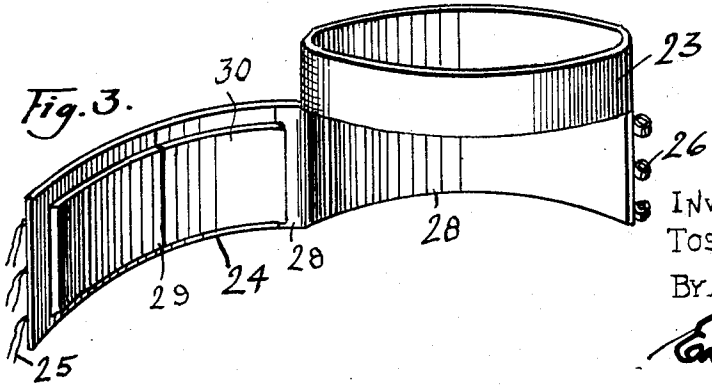
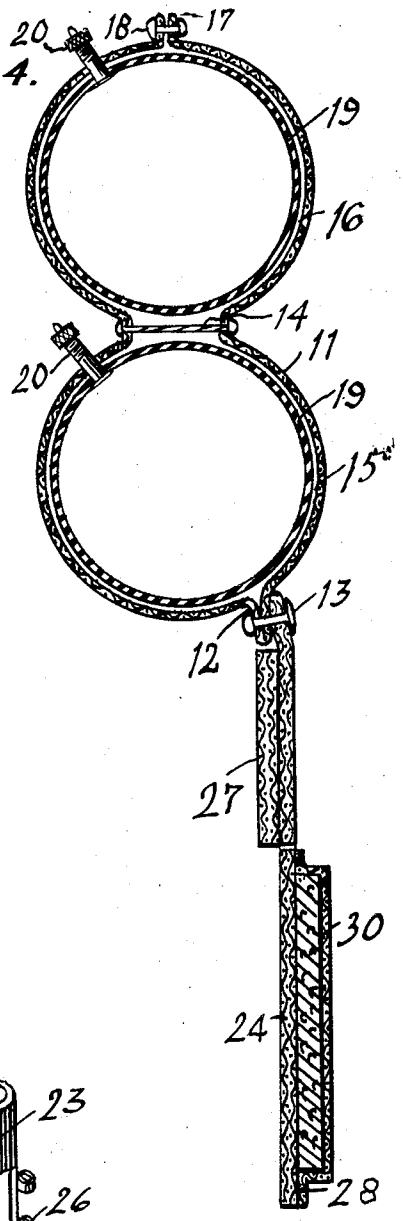


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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LIFE-SAVING DEVICE

Application filed June 14, 1932. Serial No. 617,088.

This invention relates to a life-saving device, and particularly to that class of life-preserving devices adapted to be fastened upon the body of individuals to sustain them in the water in an emergency or for pleasure.

The objects are to provide a life-saving device having several buoyant elements, including inflatable tubes, whereby buoyancy is attained by reason of air in the tubes, and by reason of other elements, a further object being to provide a life-saving device that may be easily inspected to ascertain whether effective or defective.

Another object is to provide a life-saving device that is cheap to manufacture, easily adjusted to the body, and which is adapted to persons of different sizes.

Other objects are to provide a device of this character of a relatively large buoyancy capable of sustaining a swimmer in the water; which will adapt itself to his movements, and not encumber his efforts in reaching safety, and to provide a device that will lessen the liability to cold and cramps to the swimmer.

I accomplish the objects of my invention by the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing: Figure 1 is a top plan view of my improved life-saving device. Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the device. Fig. 3 is a perspective detail view of the lower cork supporting band. Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail sectional view of the device.

In practice I provide a canvas fabric receptacle 11, made with a lower flange 12, provided with eyelets 13, and having cord elements 14 at the center to divide the receptacle into compartments 15 and 16, and having the upper flanges 17 provided with eyelets 18. The material of which this compartment receptacle is made is waterproofed. Within each compartment I provide the rubber inflatable tubes 19, having projecting air-valves 20 whereby they may be readily inflated when the device is to be used. By providing two tubes, the device may be still effective if one tube should lose a portion of its air. I provide shoulder straps 21 to assist in locating and holding the device on the body; these shoulder straps having buckles 22 for adjustment. I provide a cork supporting band 23 which is attached to flange 12 by means of the eyelets 13. Band 23 has the front portion 24 in the form of a flap, and having cords 25 to engage with loops 26 when adjusted to the user. On the upper portion of band 23, I mount an elastic belt 27, and on the inner face 28 of the band, I mount the cork members 29 and 30. These members 29 and 30 may be of cork material or any light waterproof material, and are designed to keep the body warm, and to prevent chills or cramps.

By providing a plurality of buoyant tubes, I provide safety in case one of them should become punctured; the remaining tube safeguarding the efficiency of the device. The elastic band 27 serves to maintain the device in suitable relation to the body of the user, and the cork fibre elements 29 and 30 serve to warm the body of the user.

Constructed as shown, this life-saving device is light, efficient in use, easily adjusted to the body, does not interfere with the movements of the user, and may be deflated for storing and packing purposes.

I claim:

1. In a life-saving device, a substantially circular fabric receptacle, two inflatable rubber tubes mounted therein, one above the other, a depending flange on the receptacle, a cork fibre supporting band attached to the depending flange, an elastic belt mounted on the upper portion of the supporting band, and a plurality of waterproof fibre elements mounted on the supporting band.

2. In a life-saving device, a fabric receptacle, inflatable rubber tubes mounted in the receptacle, a cork fibre supporting band depending from the receptacle, an elastic belt mounted on the outer face of the supporting band, and a pluralitv of waterproof fibre elements mounted on the inner face of the supporting band.

3. In a life-saving device, a fabric receptacle, inflatable rubber tubes mounted therein, shoulder straps mounted on and projecting upwardly from the receptacle, a cork fibre supporting band depending from the

receptacle, a foldable flap forming the front and lower portion of the supporting band, an elastic belt mounted on the upper portion of the supporting band, and a plurality of waterproof fibre elements mounted on the inner face of the supporting band.

4. In a life-saving device, a fabric receptacle, cords at the middle portion and dividing the receptacle into upper and lower compartments, inflatable rubber tubes, one in each compartment, a depending flange on the receptacle, a cork fibre supporting band secured to the depending flange, an elastic belt mounted on the upper portion of the supporting band, and a plurality of waterproof fibre elements mounted on the inner face of the supporting band.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto affix my signature.

TOSHICHI NAKAMURA.