

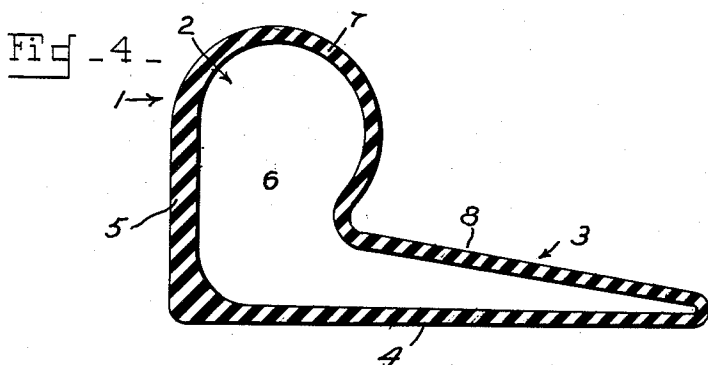
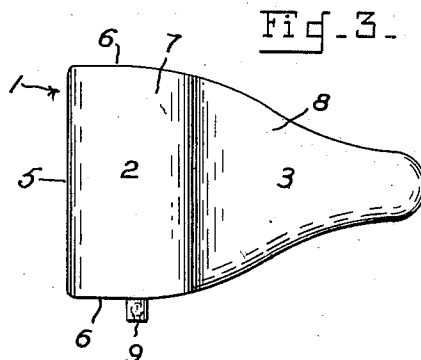
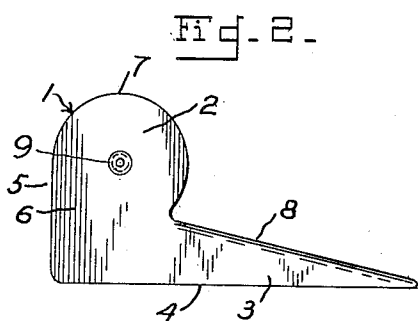
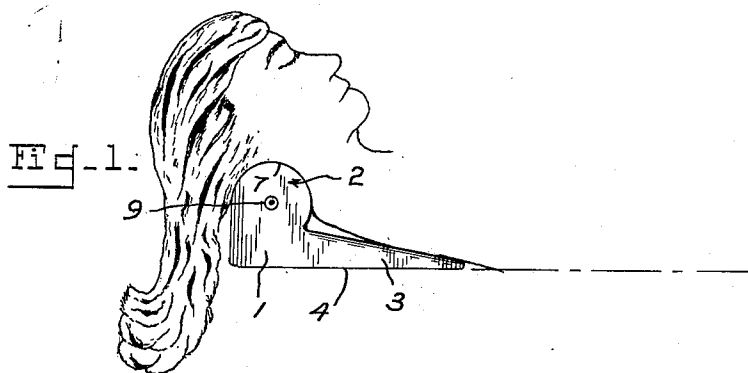
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CUSHION OR RECEPTACLE

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CUSHION OR RECEPTACLE

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3 Claims. (Cl. 5-338)

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This invention relates to a novel and improved receptacle designed to be filled with air, hot or cold water or ice to serve as a head rest or cushion, hot or cold water bottle or ice cap for use in supporting a part of a human body being treated or holding a remedial agent of the character set forth.

One object of the invention is to provide a receptacle of a novel form and construction which is adapted for any or all of such uses.

Another object of the invention is to provide a receptacle of the character set forth adapted for use as a pneumatic head rest or cushion to support the head and portions of the neck and back of a person resting or sleeping on the back, or while receiving hair, facial or other beauty treatments, or medical, dental or surgical treatments, while lying in such a recumbent position.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a head rest or cushion which will comfortably support the head at its base adjoining the back of the neck and the portion of the back adjoining the neck beneath and across the space between the shoulder blades so as to relieve the neck from supporting strain and prevent undue pressure upon the adjacent portion of the spinal column and on the nerves, muscles and blood circulatory channels at these points which, in the use of an ordinary head rest or pillow, are subjected to pressures causing physical discomfort and disturbances not inductive or conducive to comfort, rest or sleep.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a head cushion for female use which will support the head so as to allow the hair at the back of the head to be draped backwardly and kept away from the point of support and prevented from being crushed, tangled or mussed, so that a "hair do" may be maintained in proper condition and shape while the user is resting or sleeping or being given hair, facial or other treatments.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a head cushion for the use of beauty treatment operators, doctors, dentists and others whereby their patients may be given comfortable head support while under treatment.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a receptacle of compact construction and form adapting it for home use as well as to be conveniently packed in a luggage bag for transportation and use by travelers in overnight, week-end and other trips.

In the accompanying drawing showing a preferred form of embodiment of my invention:

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Figure 1 is a view in side elevation showing the use of the receptacle as a head cushion.

Figure 2 is an enlarged view in side elevation of the receptacle per se.

Figure 3 is a top plan view of the receptacle.

Figure 4 is a vertical longitudinal section of the same.

In carrying my invention into practice, I provide a receptacle 1 made of rubber or other like resilient material and having a rear upstanding supporting portion 2 and a forwardly extending supporting or apron portion 3, formed as a unitary structure or article of manufacture. In the use of the device as a head cushion, as shown, the portion 1 provides a head supporting portion or bolster while the portion 2 serves as a back supporting portion to support the back in the region of the neck.

The receptacle or cushion in general consists of a hollow inflatable body formed of a bottom wall 4, a rear wall 5, side walls 6, and a top wall including an upper wall portion 7 and a lower wall portion 8. These wall portions are suitably united to the walls 4, 5 and 6 to form the hollow body. Provided on one of the side walls is a filling or inflating tube or valve 9 whereby the body may be filled with air by mouth pressure or the use of a suitable pump. Tube 9 may also be of a type to adapt the device to be filled with hot or cold water or crushed ice and closed by any suitable closure means.

As shown, the bottom wall 4 is flat and coextensive in length and width with the portions 2 and 3, the rear wall 5 is straight and vertical, although it may be somewhat curved, and the side walls 6 are straight and vertical, while the wall portion 7 extends on a curved arc from the top of the rear wall to a point below the horizontal center of the rear wall and is reentrantly curved and joined to the inner margin of the wall portion 8 at a level above the bottom 4 and below the horizontal center of the head supporting portion of bolster 1, from which point of joinder the wall portion 8 slopes or extends at a forward and downward angle to its front margin where it joins the front margin of the wall 4. The wall portion 8 and the forward portions of the walls 4 are extended on curved lines to give a forwardly tapering, triangular or V-form to the apron part 3, as shown clearly in Figure 3.

The receptacle or cushion may be of any suitable length and width and of any suitable depth at the bolster and apron portions, and may be manufactured in one or more standard sizes to suit general conditions, and it may be molded or

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otherwise fabricated or natural or synthetic rubber or of fabric and rubber as an airtight hollow body. This body may be of uniform thickness and reinforced by reinforcing additions or its portions may be made of different thicknesses to give the desired reinforcing effect without undue stiffness. The body may be inflated to a degree sufficient to serve as a cushioning support having capacity to yield sufficiently under pressure to give adequate support with a soft cushioning action.

The wall portion 7 is reentrantly curved at its lower front portion to conform to the shape of the base of the head adjoining the back of the neck while the slope of the wall 8 is such as to conform to the inclination of the back of the reclining person in the region of the center of the back and across the space between the shoulder blades, whereby the head and back will be yieldingly supported for relative movements and to cushion the head and neck to relieve strain on the neck and to prevent undue pressure upon the nerves, muscles and blood circulatory channels in the neck and about the spine, whereby the person may be comfortably supported at these points in a manner conducive to rest and sleep. The longitudinal taper of the apron portion, the reduced end of which fits between the shoulder blades, provides at the inner end of the apron a broad support for the shoulder blades to rest on, while the reduced end provides a relatively narrower portion of such width as to fit between the shoulder blades to prevent the cushion from slipping or shifting laterally out of position.

It will be observed that the spaces or chambers of the portion 2 and 3 are in communication so that the while internal area of the cushion may be filled with air and the air allowed to shift for a proper cushioning action as the portions 2 and 3 yield under pressure of the head and back of the person thereon. In practice the rear wall, and other portions of the cushion, may be reinforced by either thickening the material or using different numbers of plies of material, or in any other desired manner.

The receptacle or cushion may be used at home by a person desiring to rest or nap in a comfortable manner and in a manner to prevent mussing of the hair or injury to a "hair do" or dressing. It will be observed by reference to Figure 1 that the form of the head cushion allows the hair to fall or to be draped behind it so that pressure on the locks at the back of the head will be prevented. The provision of the inflating valve allows the cushion to be easily and conveniently inflated and deflated, and the cushion is small enough to adapt it to be carried by a traveler in a suit case or traveling bag with other luggage. While the cushion is designed for personal use by individuals, it may also be used by beauty parlor operators, barbers, dentists, medical doctors, surgeons and others in giving facial treatments and performing other operations while the patient is reclining and comfortably supported while the work is being done. Other uses and advantages of the invention will be readily apparent to operators and profession people of the character described without a further and extended description.

As stated, the cushion is designed more particularly for supporting the head of a person resting in a reclining position on his or her back, but it may obviously be used by a person resting on his or her side, in which case the head will also be supported in a manner to prevent neck

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strain, and, if the person is a women, will support the head in a manner to prevent injury to a "hair do." Also by suitable modification of the inlet tube or valve 9 it may be used as a hot water, cold water or ice receptacle, i. e., as a water bottle, or ice cap for any of the uses such devices are ordinarily employed as the novel formation of the receptacle adapts it to be applied to various portions of the body in the treatment of various ills or affections.

While the form and construction of the cushion as herein shown and described is preferred, it will, of course, be understood that it may be variously modified in shape and construction within the scope of the appended claims, without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A readily portable receptacle of the character described comprising a comparatively short and narrow hollow body having a flat bottom, an upright rear wall, side walls, a top and front wall portion curved continuously from the upper end of the rear wall on an arc forwardly and downwardly and terminating at the front thereof above the flat bottom and at a level below the horizontal center of the rear wall, said back and top and front wall portions being arranged above the rear portion of the bottom wall and forming with the rear portions of the side walls a head and neck support shaped to conformably fit the back of the head and the neck of a person reclining on his or her back, and a wall extending from the base of the front wall portion above the front portion of the bottom wall and sloping from the front wall portion downwardly and forwardly and forming with the bottom wall and adjacent portions of the side walls an apron of relatively shallow depth with relation to the height of the head and neck support and arranged below the horizontal center of the head and neck support and of a restricted length and width to support the back of the person solely in the region of the shoulder blades.

2. A readily portable receptacle of the character described comprising a comparatively short and narrow hollow body having a flat bottom, an upright rear wall, side walls, a top and front wall portion curved continuously from the upper end of the rear wall on an arc forwardly and downwardly and terminating in a reentrantly curved base at the front thereof above the flat bottom and at a level below the horizontal center of the rear wall, said back and top and front wall portions being arranged above the rear portion of the bottom wall and forming with the rear portions of the side walls a head and neck support shaped to conformably fit the back of the head and the neck of a person reclining on his or her back, and a wall extending from the reentrantly curved base of the front wall portion above the front portion of the bottom wall and sloping from the front wall portion downwardly and forwardly and forming with the bottom wall and adjacent portions of the side walls an apron of relatively shallow depth with relation to the height of the head and neck support and arranged below the horizontal center of the head and neck support and tapering therefrom forwardly substantially to a point at its forward end to support the neck of the person solely beneath and between the shoulder blades.

3. A readily portable receptacle of the character described comprising a comparatively short and narrow hollow body having a flat bottom, an

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upright rear wall, side walls, a top and front wall portion curved continuously from the upper end of the rear wall of an arc forwardly and downwardly and terminating at the front thereof above the flat bottom and at a level below the horizontal center of the rear wall, said back and top and front wall portions being arranged above the rear portion of the bottom wall and forming with the rear portions of the side walls a head and neck support shaped to conformably fit the back of the head and the neck of a person reclining on his or her back, and a wall extending from the base of the front wall portion above the front portion of the bottom wall and sloping from the front wall portion downwardly and forwardly and forming with the bottom wall and adjacent portions of the side walls, an apron of relatively shallow depth with relation to the height of the head and neck support and arranged below the horizontal center of the head and neck rest and tapering therefrom forwardly substantially to a

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narrow forward end so as to provide an apron of a restricted length and width to support the back of the person beneath and between the shoulder blades, one of the side wall portions being provided with a filling inlet communicating with the head and neck support and means for closing the same.

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