Aug. 26, 1930. H. A AYVAD 1,773,932

LIFE PRESERVER

Filed June 22, 1929

Fig. 1.

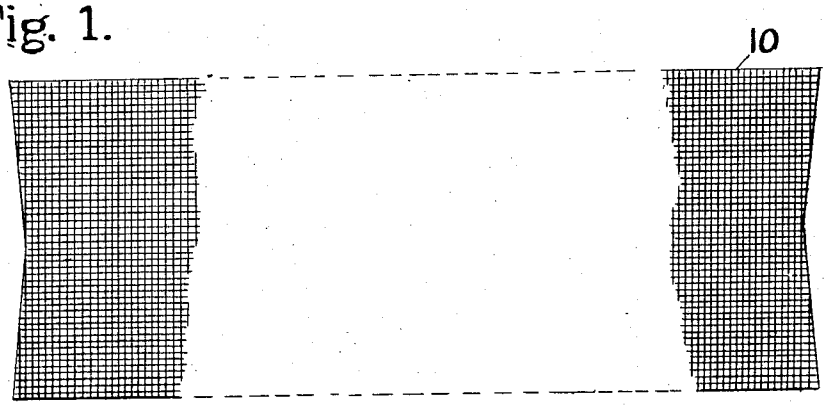


Fig. 2.

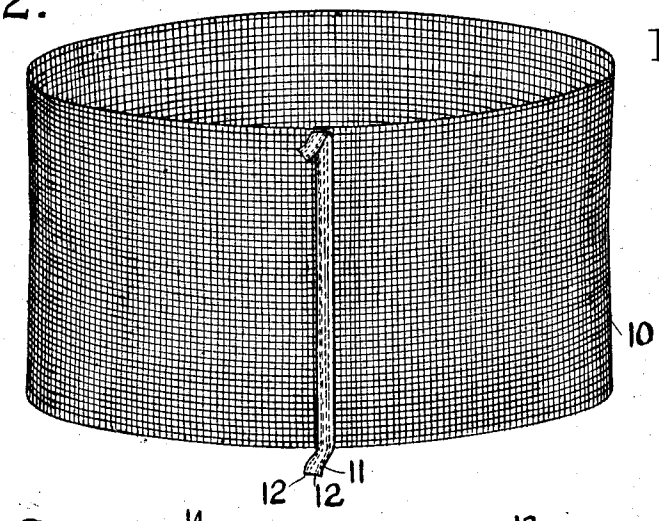


Fig. 4.

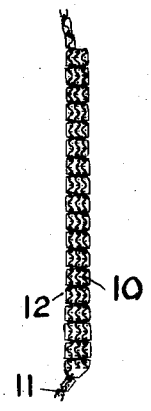


Fig. 3.

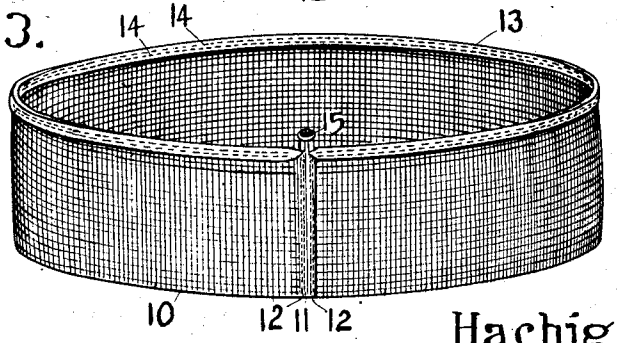
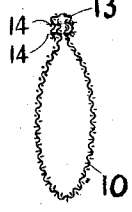


Fig. 5.



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Patented Aug. 26, 1930 1,773,932

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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LIFE PRESERVER

Application filed June 22, 1929. Serial No. 372,896.

The object of this invention is to provide an inflatable life-preserver in the form of a tubular ring which is made of woven fabric and is economically manufactured.

In the accompanying sheet of drawings which forms a part of this description,

Figure 1 shows the two ends of a strip of woven fabric cut to the required shape for forming into a life-preserver according to this invention.

Fig. 2 shows the ends sewed together as the next step in the manufacture.

Fig. 3 shows the completed life-preserver.

Fig. 4 shows the seam which unites the ends.

Fig. 5 is a section through the ring to show how the side edges of the fabric are brought together and joined.

The life-preserver is formed from a strip of closely woven fabric 10, usually cotton, which when wet is impervious to air at the slight pressure required in a life-preserver. The ends of this strip are preferably slightly notched so that the strip is slightly longer at its edges than along its median line. This is to provide a little fullness where a valve is to be inserted so that the ring will not be distorted by the valve.

In manufacturing, the ends are brought together and lapped evenly. A piece of tape 11 a little longer than the width of the strip of fabric is laid over the lapped ends and the three layers of fabric and tape are stitched together on a sewing machine with several rows of lock stitches 12, 12. Both ends of the tape extend a little beyond the lapped edges of the fabric. As the fabric has not yet been formed into a tube both sides are accessible to the sewing machine and the fine stitching necessary to make the seam air tight is readily made. Such stitching would not be economical if it were necessary to do it by hand.

Having thus formed the fabric into a band, it is next folded lengthwise to bring the two side edges together. A strip of tape 13 is folded over the edges and sewed to the edges by lines of stitching 14, 14, which lead through the meeting edges and twice through the tape. The lines of stitching are carried around the edge of the ring except for a short distance opposite where the ends are joined. At this point the seam is not closed. This tape also is a little longer than the edges which it is to cover and a short length at each end is unattached adjoining the opening in the seam and the unattached ends of the other tape. Into the opening a valve 15 is inserted with its mouthpiece projecting. Such a valve is set forth in my Patent No. 1,634,314, dated July 5, 1927. The four ends of tape are wrapped around the mouthpiece and bound to it.

I claim:

A life-preserver formed from a strip of woven fabric into a tubular ring with an uninterrupted annular inflatable space in which the ends of the strip are united by a lock stitch extending to the interior side of the tubular ring and the side edges of the strip are united by a lock stitch both sides of which are outside of the tubular ring.

HACHIG A AYVAD.