

Aug. 17, 1926.

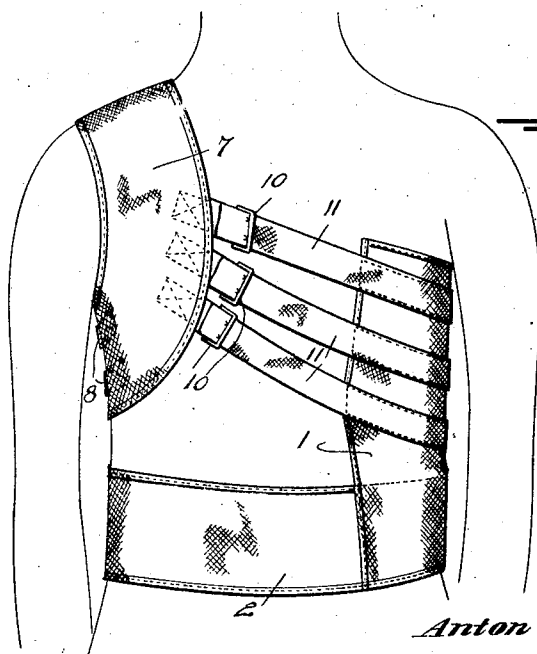
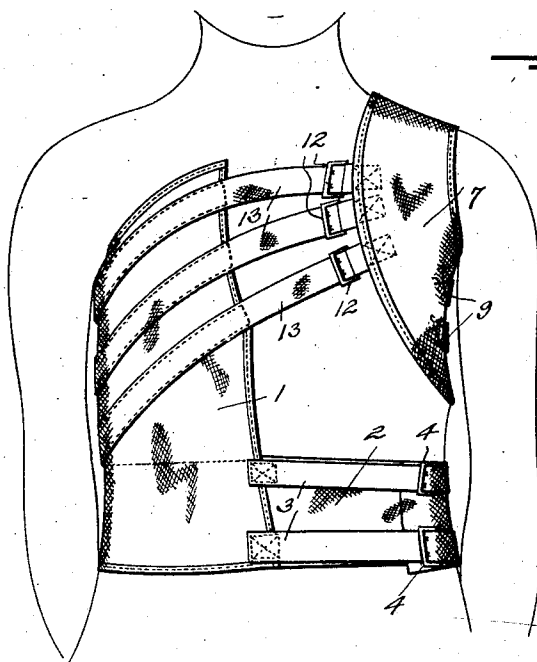
1,596,297

A. W. OELGOETZ

CHEST SPLINT

Filed March 3, 1924

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



Inventor

Anton W. Oelgoetz

By *C. C. Shepherd*

Attorney

Aug. 17, 1926.

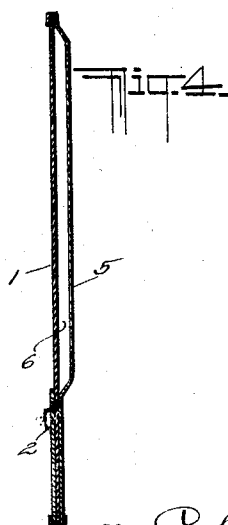
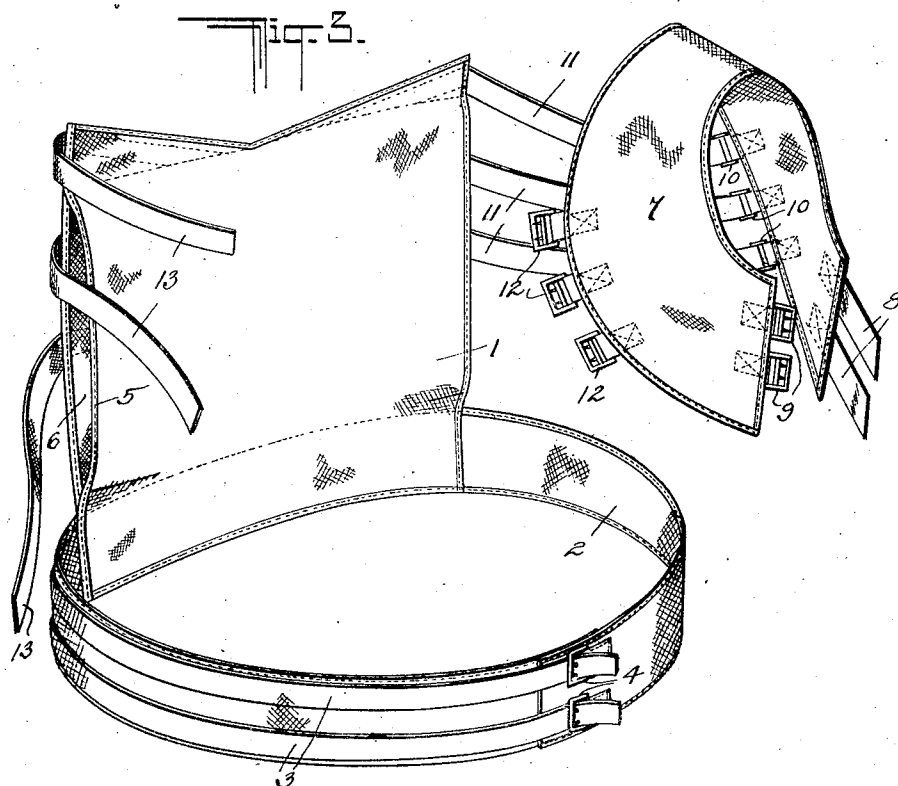
A. W. OELGOETZ

1,596,297

CHEST SPLINT

Filed March 3, 1924

2 Sheets-Sheet 2



Inventor
Anton W. Oelgoetz

By *C. C. Shepherd*

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANTON W. OELGOETZ, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

CHEST SPLINT.

Application filed March 3, 1924. Serial No. 696,453.

The present invention is directed to improvements in chest splints for use in the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis, pneumonia and other diseases of the lungs.

5 The primary object of the invention is to provide a device of this character so constructed that it can be easily and constantly applied to the chest of the patient without irritating the skin and when in place there-
10 on serves to immobilize one side of the chest only, and thus rest the affected lung.

A further object of the invention is to provide a splint of this nature having associated therewith a belt for retarding the
15 free movement of the abdomen occasioned by breathing, (abdominal respiration) thereby eliminating movement of the diaphragm and serving still further to rest the affected lung.

20 A still further object of the invention is to provide a splint including a chest piece including a shoulder engaging cuff so connected with the chest piece as to exert a counter pull upon the opposite shoulder
25 upon which the cuff is designed to be engaged.

With these and other objects in view, as will appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists in the novel features of
30 construction, combinations of elements and arrangements of parts, and hereinafter to be fully described and pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawing:

35 Figure 1 is a front view of the device showing it in place upon the right side of a person,

Figure 2 is a rear view of the same,

40 Figure 3 is a perspective view of the device, and

Figure 4 is a vertical sectional view through the splint.

Referring to the drawings 1 designates the chest-piece which is formed from suitable fabric and is substantially rectangular
45 in shape so that it engages one side of the chest only from the center of the front to the center of the back, the one side of chest only being confined thereby.

50 To the lower edge of the chest-piece 1 is secured a belt 2 adapted to engage around the waist, said belt having stitched straps 3 adapted to engage the buckles 4 to hold the belt in adjusted positions.

The chest-piece 1 has stitched thereto at 55 its upper and lower edges a fabric sheet 5 which serves in conjunction with the chest-piece to provide a pocket 6, the purpose of which will later appear.

A shoulder engaging transversely split 60 cuff 7 is employed and extends under the arm pit and around the opposite shoulder and has its free ends provided, respectively, with short straps 8 and buckles 9 where-
65 by the cuff can be tightly adjusted to the shoulder, said cuff being comparatively wide to enable the same to be worn with comfort.

The rear edges of this cuff has secured thereto buckles 10 for adjustably engaging 70 the adjacent ends of the straps 11, said straps being stitched intermediate their ends transversely of the chest-piece 1 and have their other ends capable of being detachably engaged with the buckles 12 car-
75 ried by the front edge of the cuff.

It will be obvious that when the chest-piece 1 and cuff 7 are placed upon the patient and the straps 13 engage with the buckles 12 the chest-piece may be drawn 80 tight so as to limit the expansion of the affected side of the chest and thereby rest the affected lung. It will be observed that the belt 2 and cuff 7 are so related with the chest-piece 1 that one side of the chest will
85 be permitted free movement while the other side thereof will be immobilized thereby preventing undue expansion and contraction of that side of the chest, occasioned by breathing, thereby resting the affected lung. 90

The pocket 6 may be utilized to receive a hot water bag or an electrically heated pad to apply heat to the chest and lung. By means of the splint heat and rest can there-
95 fore be applied to the affected side at the same time.

As shown in Figure 1 the splint is engaged in position for treating the right chest, but it will be obvious that the device can be shifted for the treatment of the 100 left chest and lung, as shown in Figure 2.

What is claimed is:

A surgical appliance of the character set forth, comprising a flexible thorax embracing splint formed from a woven material 105 and capable of engaging interchangeably the right or left side of the wearer, said splint extending substantially half way

around the body of the wearer and extending from the arm pit to the waist, a waist engaging belt for securing the splint around the waist of the wearer, a flexible shoulder engaging cuff applied to the opposite side of the wearer as regards said splint and having an arm opening formed therein adapting the cuff to be fitted around the shoulder and under the arm of the wearer, and a plurality of counter pulling straps adjustably connected with the splint and said cuff so as to draw the appliance tightly adjacent to the body of the wearer.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ANTON W. OELGOETZ.