Nov. 17, 1925. 1,561,916

G. ERNST

SWIMMING CUSHION

Filed Aug. 3, 1925

Fig. 1.

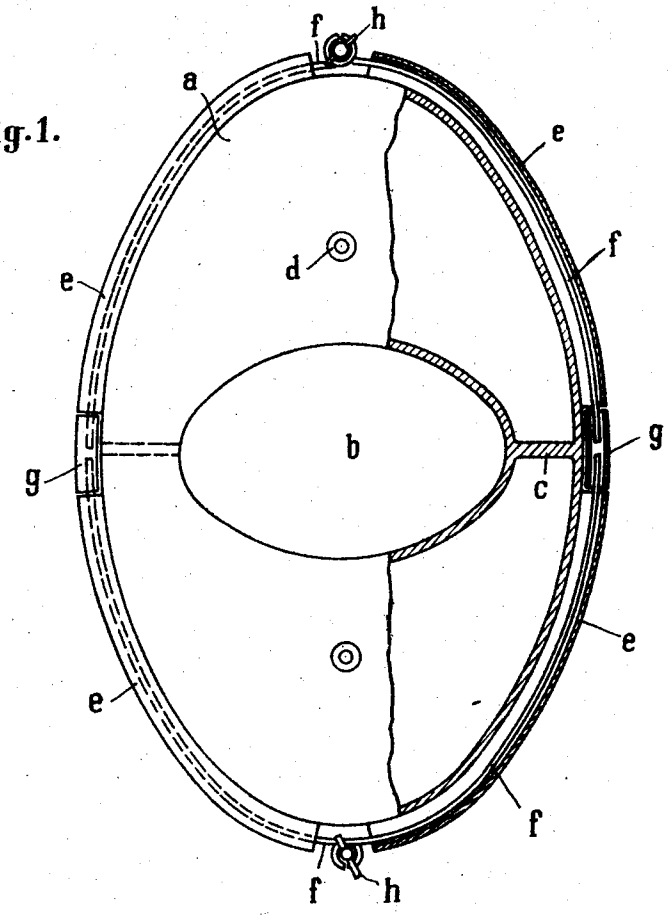


Fig. 2.

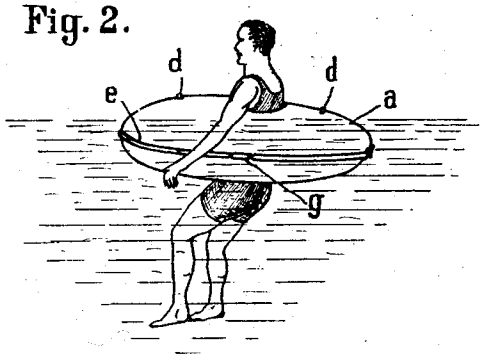
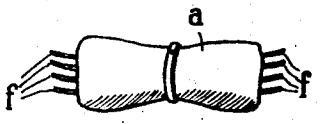


Fig. 3.



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by [illegible]

Attorney

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GOTTHARD ERNST, OF WOLMIRSTEDT, GERMANY.

SWIMMING CUSHION.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GOTTHARD ERNST, a citizen of the German Republic, residing at Wolmirstedt, Germany, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Swimming Cushions, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a swimming cushion which consists of an elastic elliptic hollow body subdivided by partitions into several compartments and having valves one for each compartment or cell for the inflation of the cell. On the periphery of the cushion tubular extensions are provided designed to support stiffening rods which at the adjacent ends are connected with one another by suitable means. The connecting means may be sleeves with which the ends of the stiffening rods engage or screw bolts with thumb nuts inserted into eyes at the ends of said rods. The swimming cushion is preferably elliptic.

An embodiment of the invention is shown, by way of example, in the accompanying drawing in which

Fig. 1 is a plan view partly in section.

Fig. 2 shows in a perspective view the swimming cushion in use.

Fig. 3 shows the cushion collapsed for transport.

The elastic hollow body *a* made from rubber is preferably of elliptic shape and has at the centre an aperture *b* designed to be stripped over the head of the person who wants to use the swimming cushion. Under the arms of the person the cushion *a* is turned so that the longitudinal axis of the ellipsis extends from the rear to the front right through the human body. The hollow space of the cushion *a* is subdivided by partitions *c* into several cells or compartments, so that, when one cell of the cushion gets leaky the other cells or compartments remain airtight. For each cell or compartment a valve *d* of the commonly used type is provided. These valves *d* are mounted on the upper surface of the cushion so that the bather can inflate the cushion when he wears the same. Along the outer periphery of the cushion, supports *e* made from rubber sleeves or rubber bands or of other convenient material are glued or sewn on. These supports serve to support rods *f* the adjacent ends of which are connected with one another by sleeves *g* or by screw bolts with thumb nuts *h*. If screw bolts are used eyes must be provided in the ends of the rods. The rods are in any case connected with one another so that the connection can be easily disconnected. The rods are inserted into the extensions *e* or supports through intervals arranged between said supports. The rods *f* serve as stiffenings for the cushion *a* to prevent the cushion from bending in transverse direction under the load of the human body or under the pressure of the water.

When the swimming cushion is not to be used, the air is let out of the cushion and after the connections between the ends of the rods *f* have been removed, the rods *f* are pulled out of the supports and placed in the cushion which is then rolled up as shown in Fig. 3, and tied with a string, ribbon or the like.

The extensions or supports, instead of consisting of several separate portions, may be continuous in which case portions are cut out at the points where the stiffening rods have to be connected with one another.

I claim:—

A swimming cushion, comprising in combination a hollow body of elastic material and of elliptic shape having a central opening, partitions for subdividing said hollow body into several cells, air valves one for each cell, a tubular extension along the periphery of said cushion, stiffening rods in said tubular extension, and means for connecting with one another the adjacent ends of said stiffening rods.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

GOTTHARD ERNST