Jan. 27, 1948. B. I. SMITH 2,434,968

BABY HARNESS

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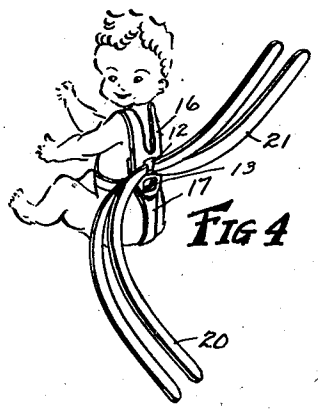



FIG 4

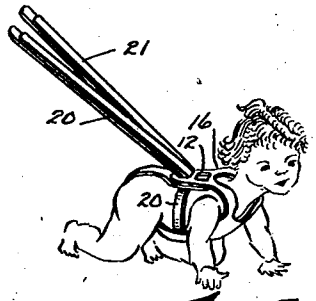



FIG. 5




FIG. 1




FIG. 3




FIG. 2

FIG. 6







FIG. 7

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## BABY HARNESS

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8 Claims. (Cl. 227—49)

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This invention relates to a safety harness for young children adapted to provide a very simple and yet efficient device to secure a child against accidental falling from a crib, chair or carriage.

Objects of the invention are to provide such a device in a form which, in use, will be comfortable to the wearer and will be effective in retaining the child, while allowing free movement. Simplicity of construction, enabling economical manufacture, is also an object obtained by my invention. The invention is illustrated in the drawings and hereinafter fully described and the essential novel features are summarized in the claims.

In the drawings, Fig. 1 is a view, broken out intermediately in various regions, showing the harness: Fig. 2 is a perspective of the device in substantially the position in which it is worn; Fig. 3 is a detail in cross section in the position indicated by the line 3—3 on Fig. 1; Figs. 4, 5, 6 and 7 are views of the device in place on a baby in various positions.

My harness comprises essentially an elongated main strip 10 having a comparatively large opening 11 adapted to be passed over the child's head and having beyond this opening at each end of the strip other openings designated 12, 13, 14 and 15 through which the tying straps, about to be mentioned, may be passed.

The main strip, which is preferably a continuous strip of fabric with an edge binding 16 extending about its entire edge, is formed with widened extreme portion 17 extending continuously from one end and having the openings 11, 12 and 13; then a narrower intermediate portion 18, and then a wider end portion 19 through which the openings 14 and 15 are made. There is preferably a local binding around each opening, as shown in Fig. 1.

I provide tying straps 20 and 21 secured at their inner ends, as at 22 and 23, to opposite edges of the main strip. The tying straps are preferable in two pairs, the members of the pair extending in substantially the same direction from the main strip.

In use, the main strip is passed over the baby's head by the opening 11, with the extreme end having the openings 12 and 13 extending down the baby's back. The intermediate portion beyond the head opening extends down the chest and stomach of the baby; the narrower portion 18 is passed through the crotch and the endmost portion 19 placed at the back to overlap the other end of the strip. This brings one or more of the openings at each end into registration with an opening or openings at the other end as shown in Figs. 2, 4, 5 and 6. The tying straps are then passed around the sides of the baby and through one or more of the overlapped openings in the main strip, as indicated in Figs. 4, 5 and 6.

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The free ends of the tying straps are then available for attachment to the rails of a crib, as indicated in Fig. 6, or the back of a chair as indicated in Fig. 7, or for other attachment as desired. The two strap members of the pair 20 or 21 may be tied together by a suitable bow knot, as indicated in Fig. 6. These straps are also useful in controlling the child in creeping as indicated in Fig. 5, or may be held by the mother to support the child when learning his first steps.

I find it convenient in securing the ends of the straps 20 and 21 to the main strip to place them across the strip with the end flush with the edge of the strip before the edge binding 16 is applied and sew that binding in that region over the ends of the tying straps as indicated in Fig. 3.

By providing a plurality of openings in at least one end of the main strip, preferably in both ends, I allow a range of adjustment of the device, as the tying straps may pass through the two endmost openings, or the other two openings shown, or through an end opening at one end and an intermediate opening at the other. While I have shown but two openings at each end, this number, if desired, may be increased to provide a wider range of adjustment.

The straps being anchored at one end to the main strip, serve to hold the child in a comparatively definite position when the ends of the straps are attached to some stationary object, though these straps by passing freely through the overlapped openings allow sufficient freedom of movement to the child to prevent putting any strain on the stomach, or crotch, or shoulders. When the child moves to pull on either pair of straps, the stress is evenly divided on the harness body.

If desired to provide less freedom of movement of the straps through the openings one can pass one of the straps of a pair through two overlapped openings, the other strap of that pair through but one opening and then diverting it between the overlapped ends of the main strip, so that these ends provide a drag on the movement of the strap through the main strip.

It will be seen that my device is composed entirely of fabric. There are no buttons, buckles

or clasps liable to scratch the baby or become lost or swallowed by the baby. The device may be readily washed and maintained clean.

I claim:

1. A restraining garment for a child comprising an elongated strip provided with a neck opening and having an opening adjacent each end and tying straps extending in opposite directions from an intermediate region of said strip and adapted to be passed through registering openings of the end portions.

2. A restraining garment for a child comprising an elongated strip having a relatively wide portion provided with a neck opening and a relatively narrow portion extending from the end of the wide portion, there being openings adjacent opposite ends of the strip and tying straps anchored to opposite sides of the strip adjacent the junction of the portion having the neck opening and the relatively narrow portion, said straps being adapted to pass through openings adjacent the strip ends when such ends overlap each other.

3. A restraining garment for a child comprising an elongated body part provided with a neck opening and having a plurality of openings in one end of the body and at least one opening adjacent the opposite end, which may register with at least one of the first-named openings when the device is in place, and tying straps extending from opposite sides of the body and adapted to be passed through registering openings of the end portions.

4. A restraining garment for a child comprising an elongated body part provided with a neck opening and having a plurality of reduced openings adjacent each end, some of which may register when the device is in place, and tying straps extending from opposite sides of the body and adapted to be passed through reduced openings of the end portions, a plurality of openings in both ends.



5. A restraining garment for a child comprising an elongated body part provided with a neck opening and having openings adjacent its opposite ends, some of which may register when the device is in place, and two pairs of straps extending respectively from opposite sides of the body and adapted to be passed through registering openings of the end portions.

6. A restraining garment for a child comprising an elongated strip having a relatively wide portion provided with a neck opening and a relatively narrow portion extending from the end of the wide portion and a wider portion at the opposite end of the narrow portion, there being a plurality of openings in the two wider portions adjacent opposite ends of the strip and two pairs of tying straps, each pair anchored to opposite sides of the strip adjacent the junction of the portion having the neck opening and the relatively narrow portion, said straps being adapted to pass through openings adjacent the strip ends when such ends overlap each other.

7. A restraining garment for a child comprising an elongated body part provided with a neck opening and openings adjacent its opposite ends, tying straps extending from opposite side edges of the body and adapted to be passed through registering openings of the end portions, and a binding about the edge of the body securing also the ends of the straps.

8. A restraining garment for a child comprising an elongated body part constructed of fabric with an edge binding and provided with a neck opening and having reduced openings adjacent its opposite ends, some of which may register when the device is in place, and fabric tying straps extending from opposite sides of the body and adapted to be passed through reduced openings of the end portions.

BEATRICE I. SMITH.