Nov. 11, 1930. F. SIPOS 1,780,986

PROTECTIVE DEVICE

Original Filed March 8, 1929

Fig. 1.

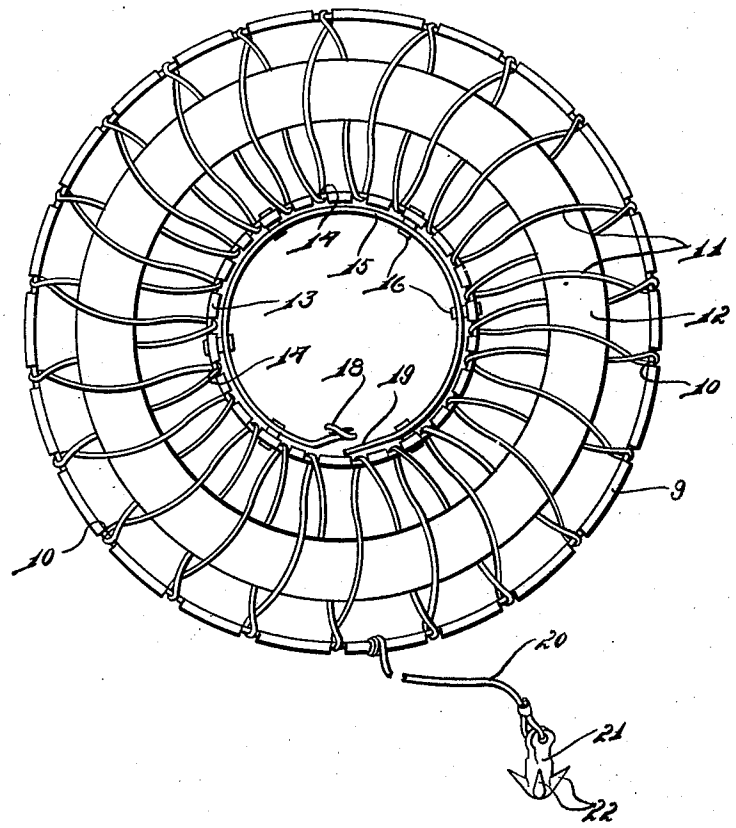


Fig. 3.

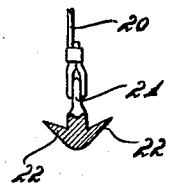
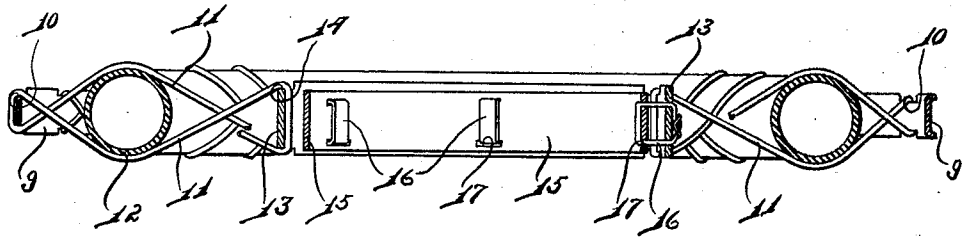


Fig. 2.



INVENTOR.
Frank Sipos.

BY
Thos. L. Connolly
ATTORNEY.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

FRANK SIPOS, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN

PROTECTIVE DEVICE

Application filed March 8, 1929, Serial No. 345,281. Renewed September 15, 1930.

My invention relates to a new and useful improvement in a protective device adapted for use primarily by skaters and intended as a means for protecting the skaters from immersion upon a breaking of the ice.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a device of this class which will be simple of structure, economical of manufacture, and highly efficient in use.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a device of this class which, when worn by a person, will project sufficiently outwardly therefrom to afford the desired protection and at the same time be so mounted as to be tiltable into position for permitting clearance between persons passing each other closely.

Another object of the invention is the provision in a device of this class of a buoyant member, so arranged and constructed that it will afford a protective cushion, should the person fall while skating.

Another object of the invention is the provision in a device of this class of means whereby, should the person break through the ice, he may withdraw himself from the openings in the ice.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

The invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention will be best understood by a reference to the accompanying drawing which forms a part of this specification, and in which,

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of the invention.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view of a gripping member used in the invention.

As shown in the drawings, the invention comprises an outer ring 9 made from metal, wood or other suitable material and provided with grooves 10 on opposite edges thereof engaging in which is a cord or other flexible member 11 which is passed around the ring 9 and looped over a pneumatic tube 12, which is positioned between the outer ring 9 and an inner ring 13. This inner ring 13 is provided on its opposite edges with notches or grooves 14 in which engages the flexible element 11 which is passed therearound. The flexible member 11 serves to retain the pneumatic tube 12 positioned between the outer ring 9 and the inner ring 13 at such a position that should the user fall the tube 12 will serve as a cushion and prevent violent contact of the arms of the user and particularly the elbow with the ice. A flexible belt 15 is secured to the inner ring 13 by straps or loops 16 which are projected through aligning slits 17 formed in the belt 15 and the inner ring 13. This belt is provided at one end with a buckle 18 for reception of the other end 19, so that the device may be securely fastened to the body of the wearer at the waist.

When fastened to the body in this manner, on account of the flexible connection of the outer ring 9 with the inner ring 13, the outer ring 9 may be tilted into an inclined position so that persons may pass each other in close proximity, as it is intended that the outer ring should terminate at a point approximately arm's length from the inner ring 13. Secured to the outer ring and normally wound thereon is a cord or other suitable flexible element 20 to which is fastened a hook head 21 having hooks 22 projecting outwardly therefrom so that when the user breaks through the ice, the outer ring 9 as well as the tube 10, will serve to buoy the person up in the water or by engagement of the ice, support the person. The head 21 may be thrown to a distance on ice, sufficiently solid to support a person, and the hooks 22 engaged therein. The user may then, by means of the cord 20, draw himself on to firm ice.

The device will also serve to protect the person when falling so as to prevent severe impact of the different parts of the body with the ice and also prevent the clothes from being soiled when the body is retained rigid when the person is falling.

The device may also be used as a rescue device in water and on account of the area of the device and in view of the fact that the tube will serve to buoy up the person, it will serve admirably as a raft on which the person may safely recline even while in a helpless condition.

The flexible element 20 may also, if desired, in effecting a rescue, be attached to another rope in the hands of the rescuing party, thus affording a means for hauling the person to be rescued to a point of safety. The outer ring 9, when the device is used as a life preserver in the water, will also serve as protection to the person by engaging approaching objects, such as life boats etc. This is particularly effective in rough water where otherwise the person being drawn into the boat might be injured.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred form of my invention, I do not wish to limit myself to the precise detail of structure shown but desire to avail myself of such variations and modifications as come within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A device of the class described comprising: an outer ring; an inner ring arranged concentrically thereof; means for securing the said inner ring on the body of a wearer; flexible means for connecting said outer ring to said inner ring; and a buoyant member positioned concentrically of said rings between said inner ring and said outer ring and retained in position by said flexible means.

2. A device of the class described comprising: an outer ring; an inner ring arranged concentrically thereof; means for securing the said inner ring on the body of a wearer; flexible means for connecting said outer ring to said inner ring; and a buoyant member positioned concentrically of said rings between said inner ring and said outer ring and retained in position by said flexible means; and a hook bearing member attached to said outer ring.

3. A device of the class described comprising: an inner ring; a belt secured to the inner surface of said inner ring; an outer ring arranged concentrically of and in spaced relation to said inner ring; flexible means for connecting said rings together in spaced relation; and a buoyant member positioned between said rings concentrically thereof, said flexible means retaining said buoyant member in position.

In testimony whereof I have signed the foregoing specification.

FRANK SIPOS.