May 20, 1958 B. BRANDANO 2,835,249

BABY TENDER

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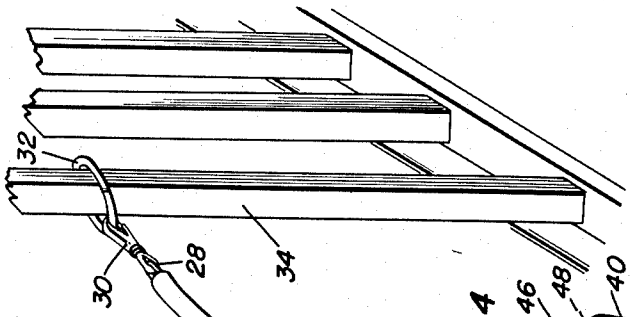
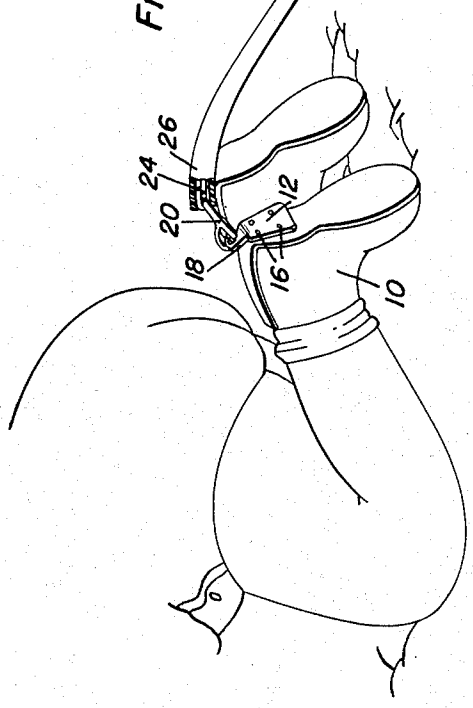


Fig. 1



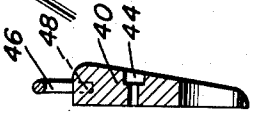


Fig. 4

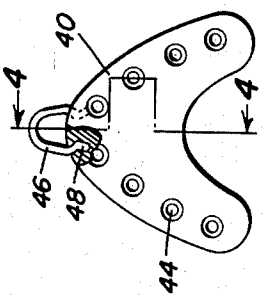


Fig. 3

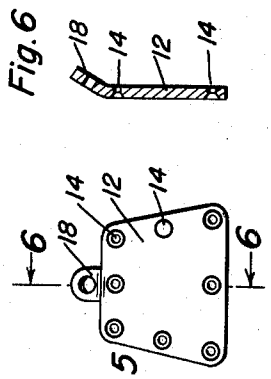


Fig. 5

Fig. 6

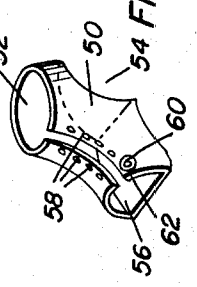


Fig. 7

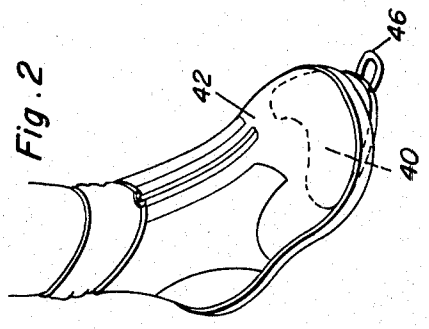


Fig. 2

Benny Brandano

INVENTOR.

BY Glennon & O'Brien and Harvey B. Jacobson

Attorneys

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BABY TENDER

Benny Brandano, Mohawk, N. Y.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 128—134)

This invention relates to restraining devices for use in conjunction with the feet and shoes of a baby whereby using any of the forms of the invention, a baby can be safeguarded from accidental injury while still permitting the baby or child to have a feeling of freedom and lack of restraint.

The primary object of the present invention resides in the provision of a baby restraining device which is adapted to be used in conjunction with a shoe of the baby so that no unnecessary harness need be secured on the body portions of the baby, thus giving the baby a sense of freedom and lack of restraint while actually securely safeguarding the baby against injury.

A further object of the invention resides in the provision of a baby restraining device which includes a swivelly mounted strap or lead line so as to prevent the baby from becoming unnecessarily entangled.

Still further objects and features of this invention reside in the provision of a baby restraining device that is strong and durable, simple in construction and manufacture, which can be readily utilized in conjunction with the shoes of a baby without eliminating the possibility of unrestrained utilization of the shoes with the invention still attached, and which is inexpensive to produce, thereby permitting wide distribution.

These, together with the various anchillary objects and features of the invention which will become apparent as the following description proceeds, are attained by these baby restraining devices, preferred embodiments of which have been illustrated in the accompanying drawings, by way of example only, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the manner in which the baby tender is adapted to be utilized;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of a modified form of the invention;

Figure 3 is a plan view of the plate and its appended eye member, elements of the form of the invention shown in Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a sectional detail view as taken along the planes of line 4—4 of Figure 3;

Figure 5 is a plan view of the plate used in conjunction with the form of the invention shown in Figure 1;

Figure 6 is a sectional detail view as taken along the plane of line 6—6 in Figure 5; and

Figure 7 is a perspective view of a further modified form of the invention.

With continuing reference to the accompanying drawings wherein like reference numerals designate similar parts throughout the various views, and with particular attention initially to Figures 1, 5 and 6, it will be noted that the device comprising the present invention is adapted to be used in combination with the shoe **10** of a baby. This shoe **10** has a plate **12** attached to the heel portion thereof, the plate **12** being substantially trapezoidal in shape and having rounded corners so as to prevent accidental tearing of bed linen and the like. The plate **12** is provided with a plurality of apertures **14** therethrough so that shoe nails **16** can be utilized in securing the plate **12** to the heel of the shoe **10**. Preferably integrally formed with the plate **12** is an eye member **18** which extends angularly outwardly and upwardly with respect to the plate **12** so as to enable a snap fastener **20** to be easily secured thereto. Secured to the snap fastener is a strap **22** formed of a cable **24** covered with a suitable material, such as plastic, and indicated at **26**, the covering **26** being of such color, texture and configuration as would be of pleasant appearance and attractive to children. The other end of the cable **24** has a swivel mounting **28** for a snap fastener **30**.

The invention is especially adapted for use in varying situations, and as is shown in Figure 1, the snap fastener **30** may be secured to a ring **32** positioned over one of the bars **34** of a crib or play pen. Further, any other and various ways of utilizing the invention are contemplated so as to restrain a baby against injury in numerous instances.

In Figures 2, 3 and 4, there is disclosed a modified form of the invention which employs a tapered plate **40** in combination with the shoe **42**. The plate **40** is secured by suitable shoe nails which extend through countersunk apertures **44** in the plate **40** for securing the plate **40** to the shoe **42**. The plate **40** is tapered so as to be of greater thickness at the forwardmost portion than toward the rear and is of suitable arcuate shape so as to conform generally with the toe portions of the shoe **42**. The plate **40** terminates short of the portion of the shoe **42** adapted to receive the metatarsal heads of the baby's foot so as to not cause any discomfort to the baby when wearing the shoe **42** with the plate **40** installed. The plate **40** has welded or otherwise secured thereto an eye member **46**, the ends of which, as indicated at **48**, are seated within the front of the plate **40** in such manner as to be raised slightly above the ground when the shoe is engaging the ground. It is to be noted that the raised portions of the eye members **46** or **18** are for the purpose of enabling the snap hook **40** to be readily secured to the eye members, even though the baby is standing in the shoes **10** or **42**. A strap, such as the strap **22** is adapted to be used in conjunction with the eye member **46** for attaching the baby to a suitable article of furniture or the like.

In Figure 7, there is shown a modified form of the invention adapted for use in conjunction with a shoe not having an ankle supporting structure or which is adapted to be positioned about the ankle of a baby with or without shoes thereon. This form of the invention includes a strap **50** having openings, as at **52**, **54** and **56** for reception of the legs, heel and toes of the baby, which are adapted to extend through such apertures. A plurality of opposed pairs of eyelets **58** are formed in the strap **50** so that the trap **50** may be laced about the ankle of a baby. A relatively large eyelet **60** adjacent one of the peripheral edges, as at **62**, of the strap **50** is provided for reception of a snap fastener **52** or other suitable fastening devices, the eyelet **60** being adjacent the peripheral edge of the strap **50** so that the snap fastener **20** can be more easily engaged therewith.

From the foregoing, the construction and operation of the device will be readily understood and further explanation is believed to be unnecessary. However, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction shown and described, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the appended claim.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

A restraining device for a baby for use in combination with a baby's shoe comprising a plate and shoe having a heel, said plate having a plurality of apertures therethrough, shoe nails extending through said apertures

fastening said plate to said heel of said shoe, an eye member attached to said plate, a strap, and a snap fastener secured to one end of said strap detachably securing said strap to said eye member, said eye member extending outwardly beyond said shoe, said eye member being integrally formed with said plate and extending angularly upwardly with respect to said plate.

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