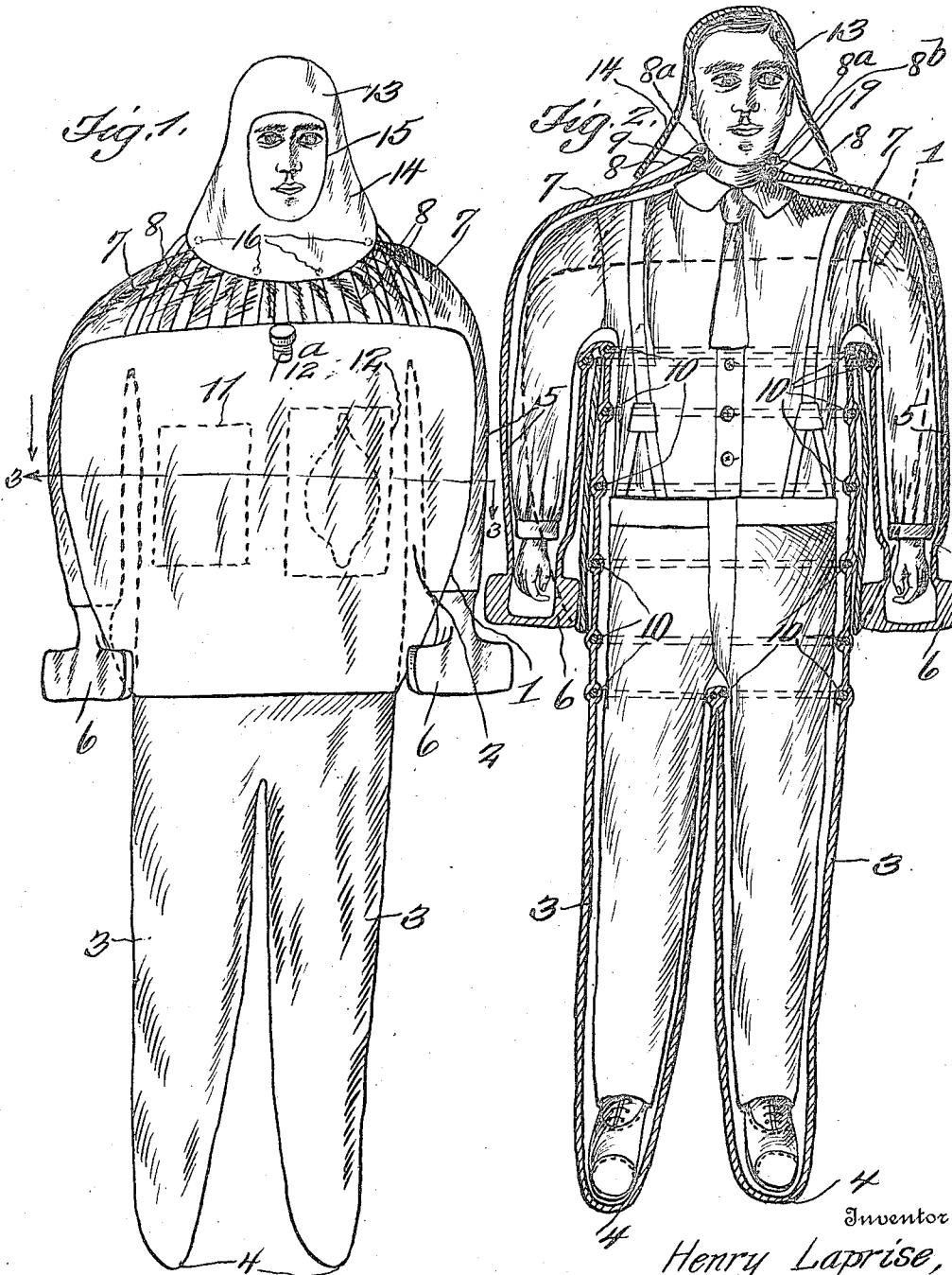


H. LAPRISE.  
LIFE PRESERVER.  
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 8, 1912.

1,045,858.

Patented Dec. 3, 1912.

2 SHEETS-SHEET 1.



Witnesses

Francis T. Goswell,  
A. E. Clements.

Inventor

Henry Laprise,

By *A. Swift & Co.*

Attorneys

H. LAPRISE.  
LIFE PRESERVER.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 8, 1912.

1,045,858.

Patented Dec. 3, 1912.

2 SHEETS-SHEET 2.

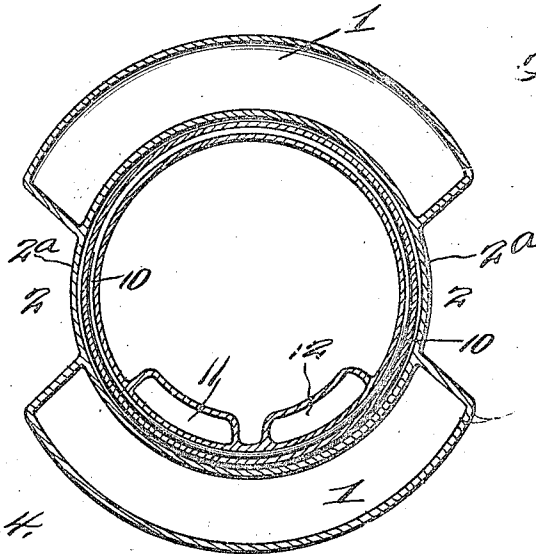


Fig. 3.

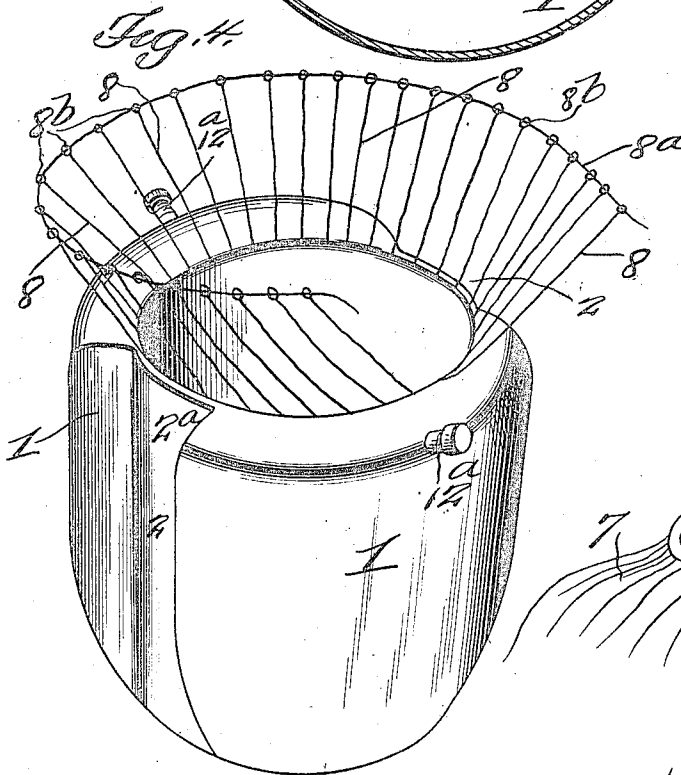


Fig. 4.

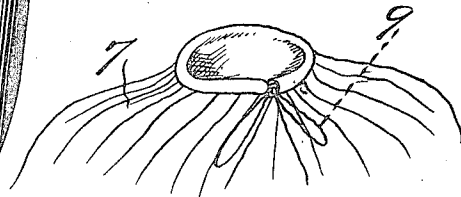


Fig. 5.

Witnesses

Francis T. Powell  
C. C. Clements.

Inventor

Henry Laprise,  
By *Al Swift & Co*

Attorneys

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY LAPRISE, OF HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS.

LIFE-PRESERVER.

1,045,858.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 3, 1912.

Application filed June 8, 1912: Serial No. 702,444.

*To all whom it may concern.*

Be it known that I, HENRY LAPRISE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Holyoke, in the county of Hampden and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Life-Preserver: and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to a new and useful life preserver or suit.

It is the main object of this invention to provide an article of this character, in which various essential, desirable and practical features are involved.

One of the features of the construction is the provision of a series of annular rings for holding the life preserver or suit in its proper contour, and prevent the pressure of the water from pressing the suit in contact with the body of the wearer.

A further feature of the invention is the provision of semi-annular inflated members forming a part of the life preserver or suit, and serving to keep the wearer afloat, there being spaces between the adjacent ends of the inflated members for the reception of the arms of the wearer.

Another feature of the life preserver or suit is the provision of paddles or propelling means connected to the extremities of the sleeves of the suit, whereby the wearer may propel himself forwardly.

The invention comprises further features and combination of parts, as hereinafter set forth, shown in the drawings and claimed.

In the drawings:—Figure 1 is a view showing the application of the improved life preserver or suit to a person. Fig. 2 is a sectional view. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view through the inflated members on line 3—3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of the circular or annular device having the inflated members, showing the cords for supporting the same. Fig. 5 is a detail view of the covering 7, showing the cord 9 for gathering the same.

As to the accompanying drawings 1 designates the inflated or float members, which are semi-annular in cross section, so as to conform to the body of the wearer. These float members are arranged, one in front and the other in the rear of the body of the wearer. Between the adjacent ends of the

inflated members spaces 2 are formed for the reception of a wearer's arms. The inflated members are made separate from the entire suit, and where the spaces 2 are formed a thin connection 2<sup>a</sup> connects the two inflated members. In this way a circular or annular device is constructed which slips over the body and is arranged under the arms thereof. This circular or annular device is provided with a series of strings or cords 8, through the loops 8<sup>b</sup> of which, a string 8<sup>a</sup> passes for gathering the series of cords 8 about the neck of the wearer, for holding the annular device in place, as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 4. Each one of the inflated members is provided with a cap covered nozzle 12<sup>a</sup>, through which air may be made to enter for inflating the members 1. The suit comprises the trouser legs 3, which are closed at their lower portions as shown at 4, and the sleeves 5, which terminate in paddles or propelling means 6.

The upper portion of the suit terminates in a covering 7 for the shoulders of the wearer. This covering 7 is very full in area, so that the same may be shirred or gathered around the neck of the wearer, by means of an elastic band, string or cord 9.

Secured on the inside of the suit or embedded in the material thereof is a series of rings 10 to keep the suit in proper shape, and to prevent the pressure of the water from pressing the suit against the body of the wearer.

Upon the inside of the suit a pocket 11 is constructed, in which food and the like may be carried. Also arranged from the interior of the suit is a chamber or receptacle 12 for carrying any kind of food, such as stimulants and the like.

Adapted to be used in conjunction with the suit is a cap or head covering 13, downwardly from which a skirt 14 extends, the same having an opening 15, for the face of the wearer. The skirt 14 is detachably connected at various points as indicated at 16 to the suit, in order to prevent the cap from being accidentally disconnected. The entire suit including the cap may be constructed of any suitable rubber material or the like, or water-proof canvas.

The invention having been set forth, what is claimed as new and useful is:—

1. A life preserving suit comprising semi-annular inflated members forming a part of the suit, trouser legs closed at their lower

- ends, sleeves terminating in paddles, the suit terminating at its upper portion in a cape covering adapted to be shirred about the wearer's neck, the inflated members, one being arranged in front and one in the rear of the wearer, the adjacent ends of the inflated members terminating short of the sleeves to permit of the reception of the sleeves between the adjacent ends, and a series of rings arranged on the interior of the suit for preserving the contour of the same.
2. A life preserving suit comprising semi-annular inflated members forming a part of the suit, trouser legs closed at their lower ends, sleeves terminating in paddles, the suit terminating at its upper portion in a cape covering adapted to be shirred about the wearer's neck, the inflated members, one being arranged in front and one in the rear of the wearer, the adjacent ends of the inflated members terminating short of the sleeves to permit of the reception of the sleeves between the adjacent ends, and a series of rings arranged on the interior of the suit for preserving the contour of the same.
- In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.
- HENRY LAPRISE.
- Witnesses:  
GEORGIA LA PRISE,  
ORPHIR E. GENEST.