

1,366,346.

A. D. BAILEY.
ADJUSTABLE SWIMMING BELT.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 17, 1919.

Patented Jan. 25, 1921.

Fig. 1.

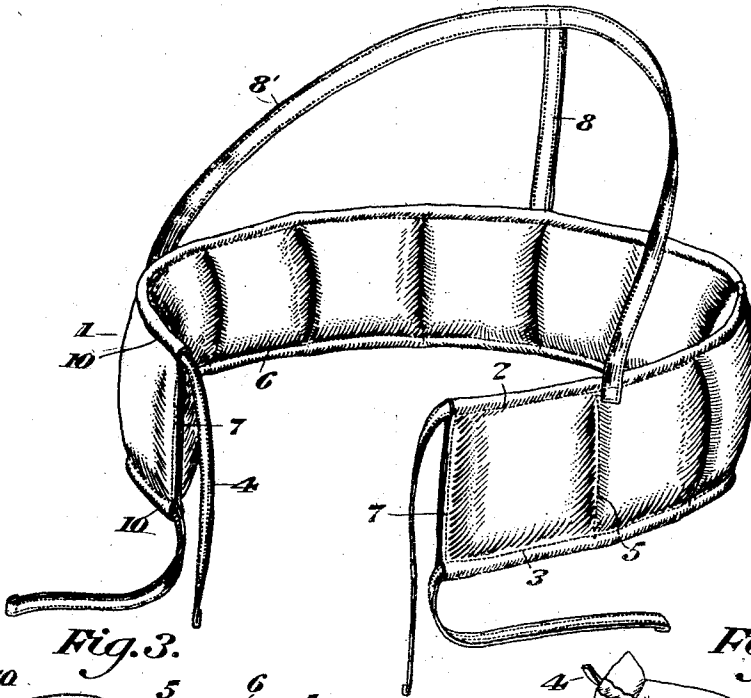


Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

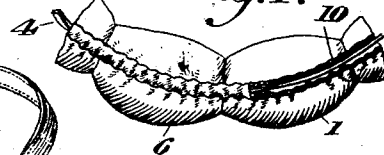
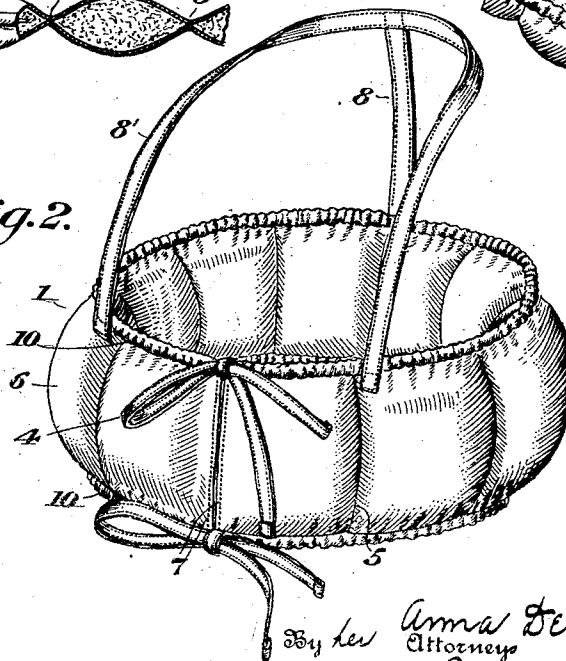


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ADJUSTABLE SWIMMING-BELT.

1,366,346.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 25, 1921.

Application filed April 17, 1919. Serial No. 290,812.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANNA DEANE BAILEY, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the borough of Manhattan, in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Adjustable Swimming-Belts, of which the following is a specification.

The main object of this invention is to provide a swimming belt of simple construction having slidable securing tapes and formed of a comparatively narrow band of pockets filled with soft compactible buoyant material, the securing tapes passing along the upper and lower edges of the belt, whereby the belt will be contracted about the body of the wearer by the simple act of tying together the ends of the securing tapes.

Another object of the invention is to provide a swimming belt having shoulder straps and adapted to be worn with either side next to the wearer and consisting of a comparatively narrow belt or band formed of two thicknesses of fabric secured together along their upper and lower edges and by transverse lines of stitches to form a series of small vertical pockets loosely packed with soft buoyant material. The belt is provided along its upper and lower edges with slidable tapes which extend beyond the ends of the belt and serve as securing and adjusting means, the shoulder straps being secured to the upper edge of the belt in such manner that either side may be placed next to the wearer, and the whole belt may be contracted about the body of the wearer by the simple act of pulling the securing tapes and tying them.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view of the belt in position for use and Fig. 2 a similar view showing the belt shortened and the pockets of buoyant material contracted to illustrate the effect of drawing the securing tapes tightly about the body of the wearer.

Referring to the various parts by numerals, 1 designates the body of the swimming belt which is formed of two thicknesses of fabric secured along their upper edges by a line of stitches 2, and along their lower edge by lines of stitches 3. These lines of stitches form longitudinally extend-

ing tubular channels 10 through which pass securing tapes 4. These tapes are loose in the channels and are slidable therethrough, that is to say, the fabric of the belt may slide on the securing tapes. The two pieces of fabric which form the belt are stitched together by vertical lines of stitches 5 to form small pockets 6 which are stuffed loosely with soft buoyant material, such as kapok. The ends of the fabric of which the belt is formed are stitched together by lines of stitches 7.

To support the swimming belt from the shoulders of the wearer a central supporting back strap 8 is connected to the upper edge of the belt substantially midway its ends. A front supporting strap is connected to the upper edge of the belt a suitable distance from the ends thereof and is carried up and connected to the upper end of the back strap. When adjusting the belt for use the wearer passes his arms through the spaces between the front supporting strap 8' and the back strap 8, the front supporting strap extending up in front of the arms and over the shoulders to a point back of the neck of the wearer, the back strap being at the middle of the back of the wearer.

It is manifest that the swimming belt may be placed about the wearer with either side outermost and that, therefore, the device is reversible. It is also manifest that the device is adjustable by pulling on the securing tapes, the pockets of soft buoyant material being compactible and compressible and slidable on the tapes. By these means the belt may be contracted or shortened to a considerable extent by the mere act of pulling the tapes and tying them securely about the wearer.

What I claim is:

1: An adjustable swimming belt comprising a body-encircling band formed into a series of pockets extending lengthwise of the belt, buoyant material placed loosely in said pockets and allowing of the compressibility of the pockets and the contractibility and extension of the belt in an annular direction, means for engaging about the shoulders of the wearer to hold the belt in place, and tapes extending longitudinally and slidably through said belt for securing the same

about the trunk of the body and permitting of the free contraction and expansion of the belt thereon.

2. An adjustable swimming belt comprising a body band composed of a pair of pieces of fabric stitched together a distance inwardly of their upper and lower edges, lines of stitching passing through said fabric pieces outwardly of the first-mentioned stitches and spaced therefrom to provide casings at the upper and lower edges of the belt, tapes loosely engaging through said casings and being otherwise unattached, the ends of the tapes projecting beyond the casings and adapted to be tied to secure the belt about the body of the wearer, transverse lines of stitching made through said fabric pieces at intervals and providing pockets therebetween and within the belt, loose compactible buoyant material held in said pockets and adapted to permit of the contraction and expansion of the belt in re-

spect of its length on said tapes and without causing the movement of such tapes, and shoulder straps attached to said belt for supporting the same.

3. An improved swimming belt comprising a hollow band provided with separated pockets extending in a series arranged in the direction of length of the belt, buoyant material placed in said pockets loosely and permitting of the extension and contraction of the belt in a longitudinal direction, casings at the upper and lower edges of said belt extending uninterruptedly from one to the other end of the belt, tapes passing freely through said casings and having their ends projecting for tying, and shoulder straps for supporting the belt and permitting free movement of the arms of the wearer.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

ANNA DEANE BAILEY.