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MATTRESS FOR INVALIDS
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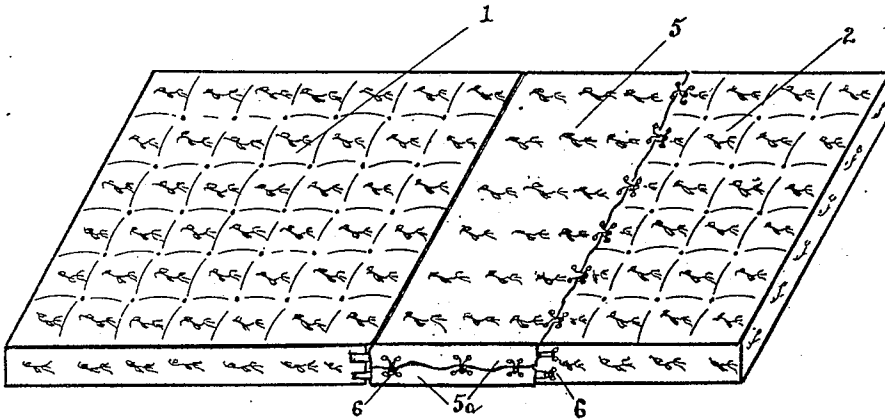


FIG. 1

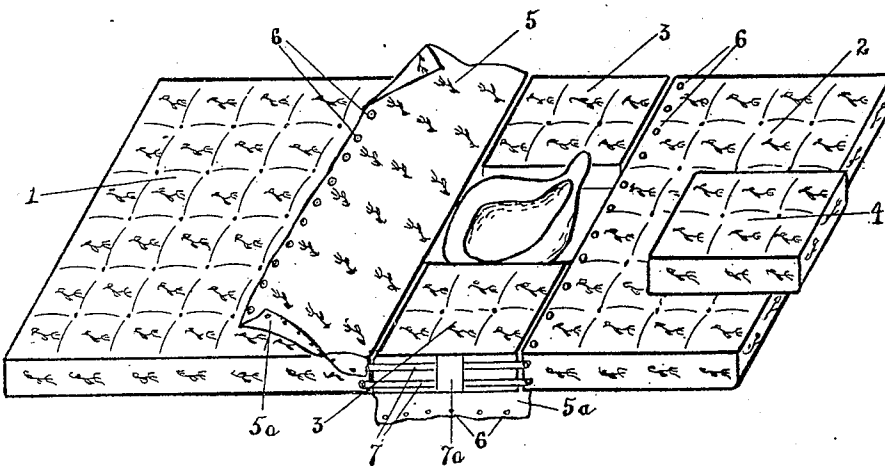


FIG. 2

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MATTRESS FOR INVALIDS.

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My invention pertains to sectional mattresses with novel and useful constructive features, and adapted to afford effective service in home and hospital for bed-ridden invalids.

Its objects are to provide a divided or sectional mattress which an attendant may lift, turn or carry in its entirety; which may quickly and easily be manipulated to disclose removable sections for services required by the patient; that by removal of one small section will provide a receptacle for a bed-pan without moving or causing discomfort to the patient; that for convalescents will readily conform to adjustable beds and allow bending transversely as desired.

These objects, among others, are attained by the provision and assembling of mattress members or sections as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the invention assembled with its various members bound together to form a complete whole.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the invention with the binding element on one side thrown back to disclose the covered sections, one of the same being removed and a bed-pan inserted in the resulting receptacle.

Referring more particularly to the drawings:

1 indicates the larger section of the mattress, approximating one-half of the complete whole, or the head section.

2 indicates the foot section of the mattress.

3—3 indicate identical small sections, which together with section 4 constitute the middle transverse section of the complete whole.

5 indicates an apron or flap attached to the edge of head section 1, being an extension of the ticking of 1 on either side of the same and adapted to cover small sections 3—3 and 4 and be hooked onto edge of section 2.

6—6—6 indicate hooks and eyes or snap hooks adapted to bind the sections together.

5^a—5^a indicate flaps formed by extensions of apron or flap 5 laterally on either side of the mattress, adapted to be removably attached to each other by means of detachable clasps 6—6.

7 indicates belts attached to the corners of section 1, and adapted to pass under strap 7^a and be removably attached to foot section 2.

In ordinary use flaps 5—5 are extended over sections 3—3—4 and fastened to the in-

ner edge of section 2 by means of hooks and eyes or ball and socket snaps 6—6. Flaps 5—5 being provided on both sides of body section 1, a complete unit is thus formed. In addition to binding flaps 5—5, extensions thereof laterally are provided, 5^a—5^a, adapted to lap over the edges of sections 3—3 and joined by removable snaps for the purpose of holding sections 3—3—4 more firmly in place.

In a small mattress sections 3—3 and 4 may be exact duplicates in size and thus become interchangeable. But in standard size mattresses sections 3—3 are made duplicate and section 4 considerably smaller.

Sections 3—3 are provided with other means of fixing in place, consisting of multiple straps 7—7, sewed at one end to corners of section 1 and provided with removable snaps to attach to corners of section 2. These belts pass underneath strap 7^a, which is sewed fast to the outer edges of sections 3—3.

In operation, as for use of a bed-pan, it is only necessary to loosen snaps 6—6 on flap 5 and flaps 5^a—5^a, remove either section 3—3 or 4 (according to the position of the patient), and place the pan in the vacant space. Since section 1 is made of sufficient length to support the body from head to buttocks, this operation of placing a pan by removing any small section can be quickly and easily done without disturbing the patient in any degree. Should it be advisable to remove section 3 on either side, then belts 7—7 must of course be detached and withdrawn.

In the drawings I have shown the hooks and eyes and snaps in visible position, but in practice the same are placed under flap 5 and between the abutting edges of section 2 and sections 3—3—4, to avoid irritation to the patient.

A careful reading of the drawings will disclose the fact that in my invention, although the mattress assembled may be handled as a unit as readily as a one piece mattress, yet the transverse divisions make for much more flexibility if it is desired to bend the mattress transversely. This happens, for instance, in the case of a convalescent where it is desired to raise the patient's head and body on an inclined plane by means of what is commonly termed a "chair rest." It is also oftentimes desirable to drop the foot section for manipulation of the limbs, and in such case also the novel

joining of the sections constitutes a hinge by which these modifications may be made.

It follows, therefore, that my invention is of particular value when used with adjustable hospital beds, and I have made the divisions of my invention to approximately correspond with the joints of a modern adjustable hospital bed. Where such adjustable beds are provided with means of lowering a central section for the use of a pan, for instance, section 4 of my mattress will be lowered with the section of the bed, thus forming a receptacle for the pan as though section 4 had been removed as illustrated.

Having thus disclosed my invention and explained its operation, I claim as new and desire to obtain Letters Patent of the United States upon—

A mattress of the character disclosed, divided transversely to comprise a body section adapted to support a human body from head to buttocks; a comparatively narrow transverse foot section; three approximately identical smaller sections, the same collec-

tively adapted to constitute a transverse mid-section; extensions of the mattress ticking on both sides of said body section to constitute flaps adapted to cover said mid-section above and below the same; means for removably attaching the free edges of said flaps to said foot section; said flaps being provided with laterally extending shorter flaps adapted to jointly enclose the outer edges of said mid-section; means of removably attaching the free edges of said lateral shorter flaps together; multiple belts attached at one end to the corners of said body section and means for removably attaching the free ends thereof to the corners of said foot section; and a vertical strap, the ends thereof permanently attached to the outer edges of said small sections, adapted to allow said belts to pass underneath the same for binding purposes, all substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have signed this specification and application, and executed this power of attorney July, 1925.

MABEL E. NORTHROP.