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LIFE SAVING DEVICE.

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987,354.

Patented Mar. 21, 1911.

Fig. 1

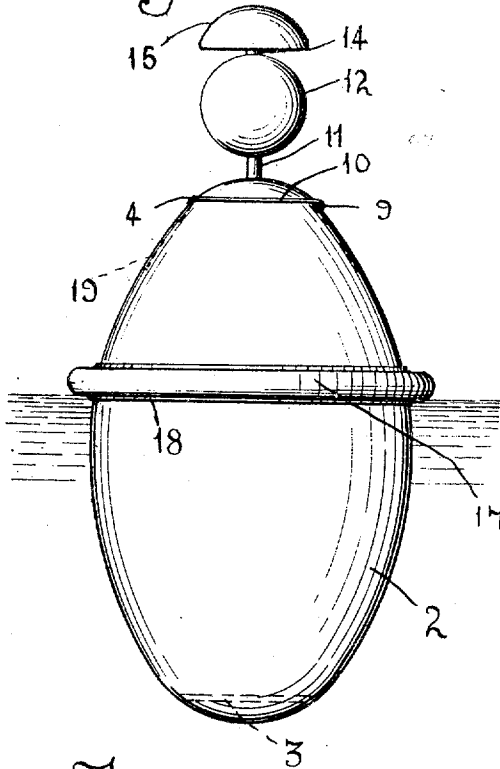
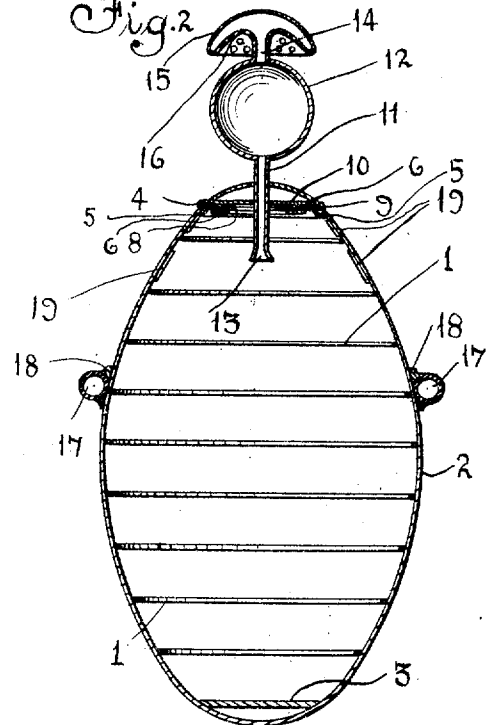


Fig. 2



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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LIFE-SAVING DEVICE.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ANTON GAWENDA and LOUIS MARKÓ, subjects of the Emperor of Austria-Hungary, residing at Berwick, in the county of Columbia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Life-Saving Devices, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention relates to a life saving device, and the objects of the invention are to provide a buoy for supporting one or more persons when required to leave a vessel on account of a wreck, running aground or any other accident that necessitates the immediate departure of the occupants of the vessel, and to provide a buoy that will protect the occupants thereof from rough water, wreckage and the forces of nature.

Further objects of the invention are to provide a life saving buoy that can be easily carried by a vessel and placed in the water, the buoy being constructed whereby air will be admitted to the same and whereby food and other matter can be carried for the occupants of the buoy.

These and such other objects as may hereinafter appear are attained by the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter specifically described and then claimed.

Reference will now be had to the drawing forming a part of this specification, wherein:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the life saving buoy, Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same, Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view of the buoy, Fig. 4 is an enlarged vertical sectional view of an air reservoir forming part of the buoy, and Fig. 5 is an enlarged detail sectional view of a lid or cover for the buoy.

A buoy in accordance with our invention comprises a plurality of rings or circular frames 1, these rings being of various diameters and having the outer edges thereof connected to a shell 2, the rings or frames 1 being arranged with the rings of the largest diameter centrally of the shell 2 and the other rings gradually decreasing in diameter toward the ends of the shell, thereby providing an egg-shaped or oval structure adapted to provide a compartment for persons and the storage of food and other mat-

ter. The rings or circular frames 1 are made of light and durable wood or metal and the shell 2 is preferably made of durable fabric, as canvas and then painted or coated with a waterproof material to render the shell impervious. The fabric after coating is sufficiently heavy so that the shell will not collapse under ordinary conditions.

In the bottom of the shell 2 is a circular plate or platform 3 and the upper end of the shell is open, as at 4 and provided with an annular interior rim 5 having an annular seat 6 for the depending annular rib 7 of a rubber gasket 8 mounted upon the rim 5. Hinged to the open end of the shell 2, as at 9 is a lid or door 10 held in closed position by suitable catches arranged within the shell.

Arranged centrally of the lid or door 10 is a vertical air tube 11 alining longitudinally with the major axis of the shell 2, said tube having the upper end thereof provided with a spherical air reservoir 12, and the lower end thereof flared, as at 13 to disseminate the air from the reservoir 12 within the shell 2. The top of the reservoir 12 is provided with a tubular stem 14 supporting a hollow dome-shaped head 15, said head having the under side thereof provided with openings 16 to admit air thereto and from there to the reservoir 12 and from the latter the air is deducted through the tube 11 into the shell 2. The shape of the head 15 prevents water and other matter from entering the air inlet openings 16.

Surrounding the shell 2 above the centralmost ring or frame thereof is a belt 17 retained in place by rings 18. This belt is preferably made of a waterproof tube filled with air, or pieces of cork, and the belt is adapted to normally retain the buoy in a vertical position and assist in supporting the same in the water. The upper walls of the shell 2 are provided with windows 19 and suitable means can be arranged within the shell for retaining the lid or cover thereof in a closed position.

As shown in Fig. 4 of the drawing an audible or visible signal can be arranged upon the head 15, as a bell 20 and the clapper 21 thereof connected to a string or cable 22 extending through the head 15, the reservoir 12, the tube 11 into the shell 2, thus allowing the occupants of the buoy to sound an alarm.

What we claim is:—

1. A life saving buoy comprising a hollow egg-shaped body provided with an open upper end and a platform therein at the bottom thereof, a lid or cover for closing the open end of said body, a vertical tube extending through said lid and opening into said body, an air reservoir carried by and communicating with the upper end of said tube and spaced from the top of said body, a hollow dome-shaped head in communication with the top of said reservoir for supplying air thereto and having the lower wall thereof provided with openings for the admission of air, and a buoyant belt surrounding said body directly above the center thereof.

2. A life saving buoy comprising a hollow egg-shaped body provided with an open upper end and a platform therein at the bottom thereof, a lid or cover for closing the open end of said body, a vertical tube extending through said lid and opening into said body, an air reservoir carried by and communicating with the upper end of said tube and spaced from the top of said body, a hollow dome-shaped head in communication with the top of said reservoir for supplying air thereto and having the lower wall thereof provided with openings for the admission of air, a buoyant belt surrounding said body directly above the center thereof,

an alarm supported by said dome-shaped head, and means connected with the alarm and extending through the head, reservoir and tube and into said body for operating the alarm from within the body.

3. A life saving device comprising a body-portion substantially egg-shaped in contour and including a plurality of annular members connected together by an impervious fabric, said members gradually decreasing in diameter from the center of said body toward each end, said body having an open top, a lid hinged to said body for closing the top thereof, a tube extending through said lid and into said body, an air reservoir mounted upon and communicating with the upper end of the tube and spaced from the top of the body, a hollow head in communication with said reservoir and having the under side thereof provided with air inlet openings, a platform arranged in the bottom of said body, and a buoyant belt arranged circumferentially of said shell intermediate the ends thereof.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

ANTON GAWENDA.
LOUIS MARKÓ.

Witnesses:

MINNIE WARRICK,
D. E. BOGARD.