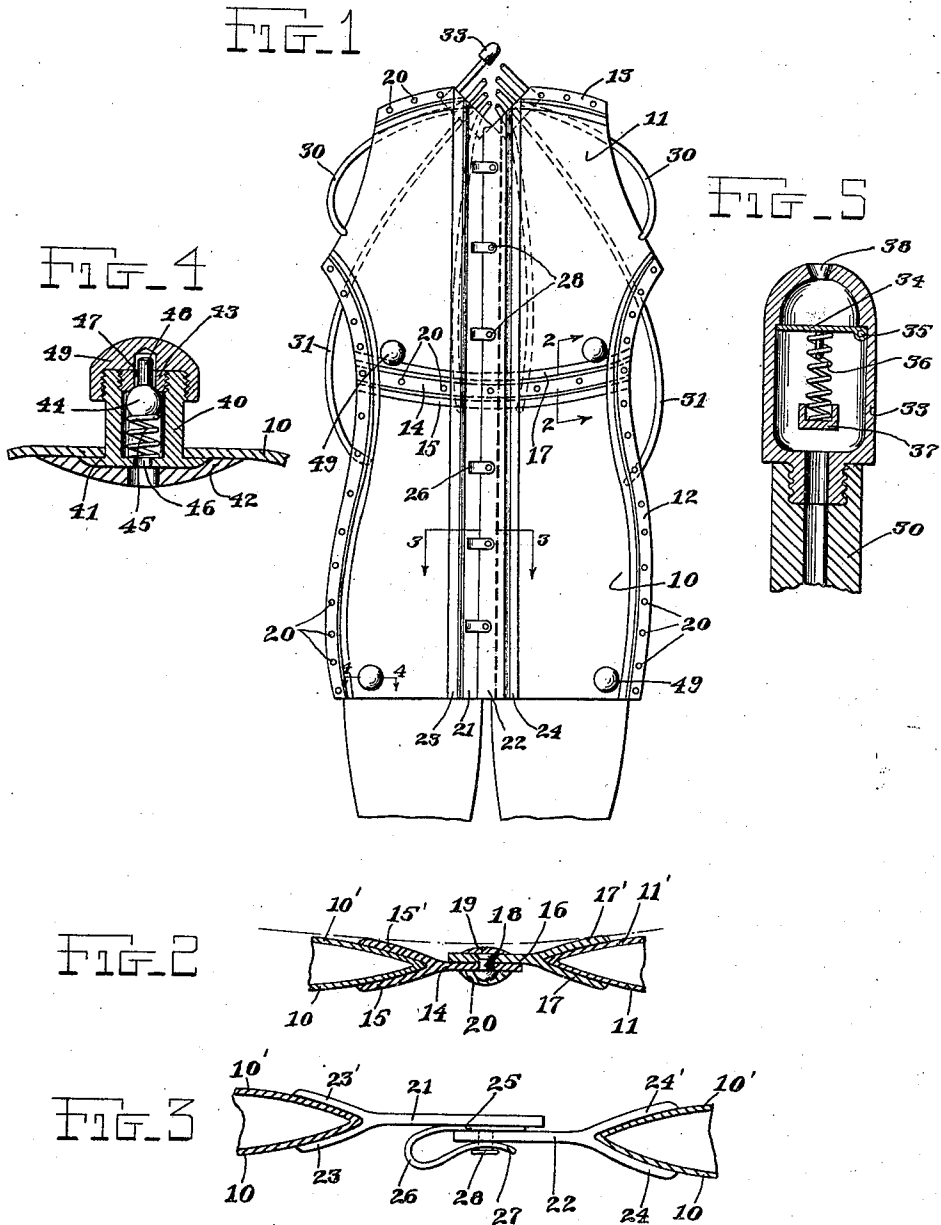


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INFLATABLE GARMENT.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 18, 1919.

1,342,054.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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INFLATABLE GARMENT.

1,342,054.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 1, 1920.

Application filed June 18, 1919. Serial No. 305,198.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, KAPITON MICHALOVSKY, a citizen of Poland, residing at 143 Summit street, Akron, county of Summit, and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Inflatable Garments, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object the provision of an inflatable garment which may be worn with comfort underneath the ordinary wearing apparel and inflated at will in such manner as to prevent danger of a person's drowning should he become inadvertently immersed in the water.

A further object is to provide a garment having a plurality of compartments each independently inflatable or deflatable by the wearer at any desired degree.

These and other objects are attained by the novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter described and shown in the accompanying drawings, forming a material part of this disclosure, and in which—

Figure 1 is a front plan view showing an inflatable garment made in accordance with the invention and indicating its application.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged transverse fragmentary view taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a similar fragmentary sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary view taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 1, and

Fig. 5 is an enlarged sectional view showing the inflating device valve.

Referring to the drawings in detail, the lower portion of the garment is formed of two separate elements indicated by the numerals 10, and 10', and the upper portion is also formed in two separate elements, respectively 11 and 11', each of the elements being air and water proof and joined along the side edges by metallic strips 12, similar strips 13 passing over the shoulder, while a belt 14 connects the upper and lower portions of the garment along the waist line, so that the several sections of the garment may be applied or removed in a convenient manner.

The connecting belt 14 is provided with extending fork edges 15 and 15', while the mating portion 16 has similar forks 17 and 17', the elements 14 and 16 overlapping and being held in intimate connection by rivets 18 covered by rubber caps 19 and 20, respectively inner and outer.

The seam at the front extends longitudi-

nally the full length of the garment and is formed by a similar strip 21, having forks 23 and 23', the strip 22 having like elements 24 and 24'. Upon the outer side of the element 21 are stiff spring clips 25, having reëtrantly bowed ends 26, ending in finger clips 27, in which are set pins 28 adapted to pass through openings formed with the element 22, the spring device holding the strips in close engagement.

In order to inflate the several sections, a plurality of tubes 30 and 31 extend respectively into the compartments at the front and rear, and upper and lower sections, and engaged at their upper ends are valve heads 33 in which is positioned a plate 34, hingedly mounted on the pin 35 and pressed normally upward by a coiled compression spring 36 seated in the cross bar 37, formed in the head 33, in the extreme outer end of which is an opening 38.

This head is adapted to be received in the mouth of the user who, applying the lips to the head, and blowing into the opening 38, depresses the plate 34 and causes a current of air to pass through the tubes into their respective compartment.

In order to deflate the apparatus, there is secured at the lower corners of each compartment, a nipple 40, having an inner flanged head 41, held in position by a rubber plate 42, the nipple being hollow and internally threaded to receive a plug 43, formed with a valve seat against which is pressed a sphere 44, by the coiled spring 45, a passage 46 extending through the bottom of the plug, registering with a similar passage 47, extending through the plug 43, into which enters a stem 48, formed with the sphere 44, the nipple being exteriorly screw-threaded and adapted to receive a screw cap 49, which prevents the air from being expelled.

Upon the removal of the screw cap the stem 48 may be depressed so that air may flow out through the openings 46 and 47 in a manner which will be clearly apparent.

From the foregoing it will be seen that a serviceable inflatable garment or life preserver has been provided for the use of people subjected to ship wreck and the like, and that each of the several compartments may be individually filled by the lungs of the user, causing the same to float a considerable weight, and after use that the same may be easily deflated.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

5 In a garment closure of the character described, the combination of a seam strip for the closure of the garment at the front with a forked closure strip, forks on said seam strip, stiff spring clips upon the outer side

of said seam strip having rectangularly bowed ends, finger clips on said ends, set 10 pins in said clips adapted to pass through the closure strip for holding both strips in close engagement.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

KAPITON MICHALOVSKY.