April 26, 1927.

1,625,971

J. B. ADAMS

LIFE BELT

Filed Oct. 24, 1925

Fig. 1.

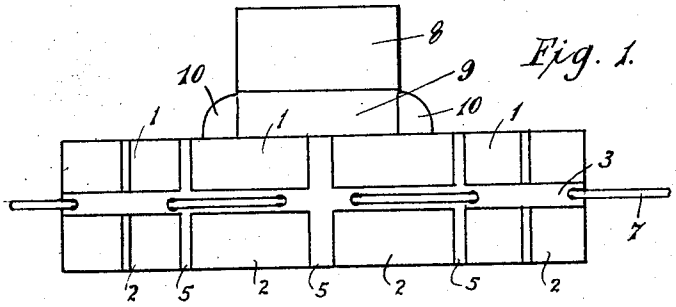


Fig. 2.

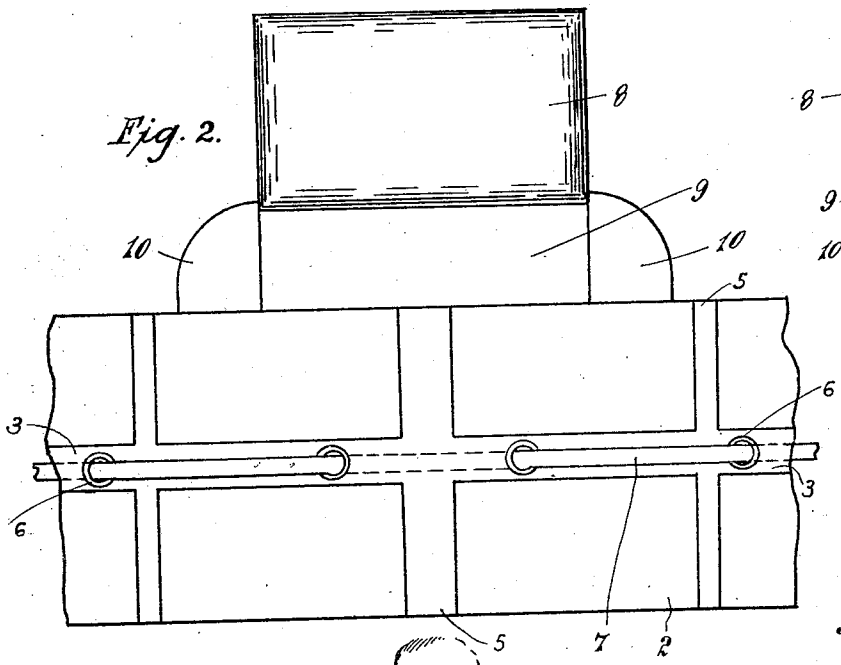
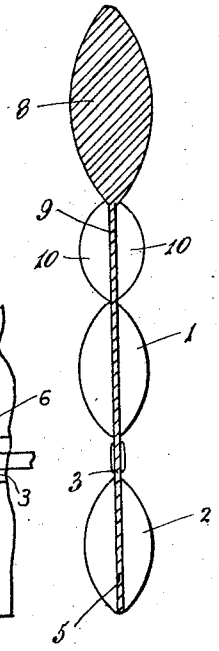


Fig. 3.



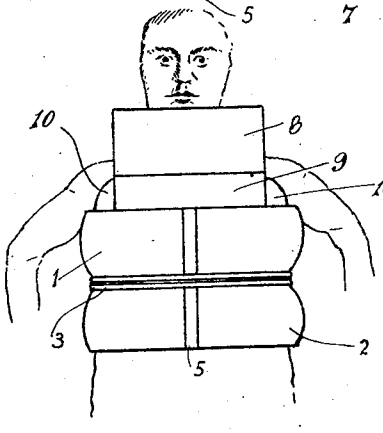


Fig. 4.

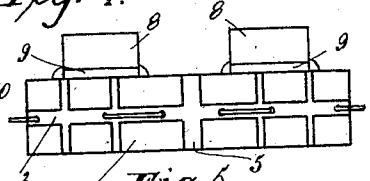


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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LIFE BELT.

Application filed October 24, 1925, Serial No. 64,673, and in New Zealand July 1, 1925.

This invention relates to life belts which are fastened to the body by means of a strap or tape passing through the lift belt and around the wearer's waist.

The object of the present invention is to provide a life belt which will be of simple construction and may be worn either by an adult or by a child and so fastened that if several compartments are punctured or damaged there will be still sufficient buoyancy to enable the person to float. Another object is to provide additional buoyancy for the upper part of the body and to ensure the belt being placed correctly in position on the body.

According hereto, the belt is divided into several buoyant elements. One series of such elements is arranged above and the other below a web through which the fastening means pass, while such elements are separated vertically by webs at intervals around the belt. From the upper edge of the belt proper is led one or more extensions, the upper part of each extension being a buoyant pad or element of the same material as the rest of the life belt, such element being either directly connected with the belt or extended therefrom by an intervening web, of canvas or the like, having if desired, buoyant pads at the side.

The invention will be illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1, is an elevation of the belt showing one extension.

Figure 2, is an elevation of part of the belt on a larger scale.

Figure 3, is a sectional elevation.

Figure 4, is a view showing the belt in position.

Figure 5, is an elevation of the belt showing two elevations.

Referring now to the drawings, the belt consists of a number of upper buoyant elements 1 separated from a corresponding number of lower buoyant elements 2 by means of a central horizontal web 3. Each of the upper and lower elements are separated by vertical webs 5, the central one being as shown, somewhat wider than that upon each side of it.

At intervals throughout the length of the horizontal web 3 eyelets 6 are provided through which a fastening tape or strap 7 is interlaced in the manner shown. Above the upper edge of the belt is a buoyant pad or element 8 connected to the upper edge of the belt by a web 9 which has buoyant pads 10 at each end, the lower edges of such pads 10 being connected to the upper edge of the belt. The belt is simply fastened around the body of a person by bringing the ends of the strap 7 around to the front and tying the ends, (as illustrated in Figure 4).

If desired, more than one buoyant extension may be employed arranged on the belt, as shown in Figure 5, so that when the belt is in position on the wearer a buoyant pad will be both in front and at the rear of the wearer. In this case the belt would be fastened at the side of the wearer.

In use the belt is strapped around the middle of the body and the extension or extensions are free to float upwards towards the head, thereby forming a buoyant pad or element that will support the upper part of the body and keep it upright in the water.

What I claim is:—

1. A life belt adapted to be placed around the upper portion of a person's body, consisting of an upper series and a lower series of buoyant elements separated by vertical webs, a horizontally disposed web arranged between said series of elements joining said vertical webs and provided throughout its extent with spaced eyelets, and a strap extending through said eyelets and having its end extending beyond the ends of the web to permit said ends to be fastened together after the belt has been donned by the user, a buoyant element above said upper series of elements connected to the upper edge of the belt, and a horizontally disposed web connecting said buoyant element to the upper edge of the belt, substantially as described.

2. In a life belt as claimed in claim 1, buoyant pads at each end of said last mentioned web, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

JOHN BALDWIN ADAMS.