

Oct. 7, 1930.

R. D. EVANS

1,777,878

PADDED FOOTBALL JERSEY

Filed April 11, 1929

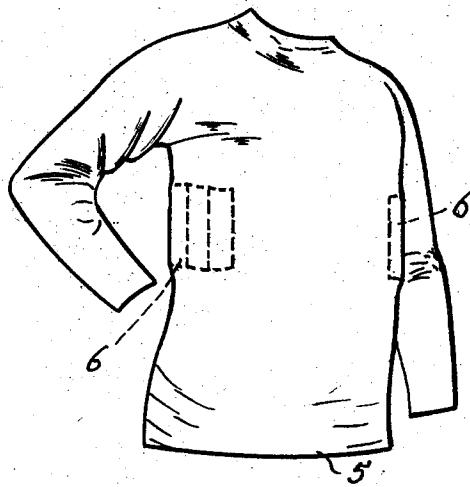


Fig. 1

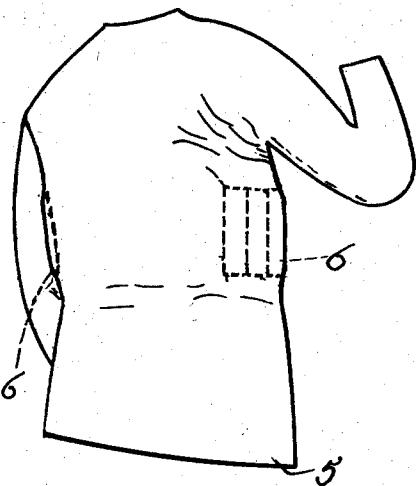


Fig. 2.

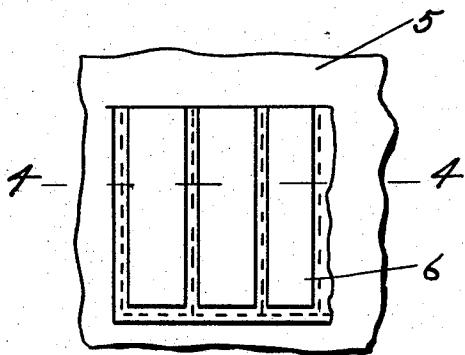


Fig. 3.

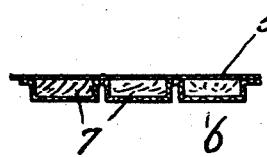


Fig. 4.

INVENTOR

Robert D. Evans  
By *W.W. Williamson*

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ROBERT D. EVANS, OF NORRISTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO MITCHELL & NESS, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, A CORPORATION OF PENNSYLVANIA

## PADDED FOOTBALL JERSEY

Application filed April 11, 1929. Serial No. 354,190.

My invention relates to new and useful improvements in a padded foot ball jersey, more particularly such as used by foot ball players for the protection of the sides of the body in the region of the lower ribs and the kidneys.

It is well recognized by persons engaged in the rather hazardous game of foot ball that a player acting in the capacity of interference oftentimes is compelled to throw himself in front of a rushing opponent. In order to stop the progress of said opponent, he must be brought to the ground and this can usually be accomplished by tripping him through throwing the body against his legs in the region of his knees. In doing this, the interfering player has a very vulnerable portion of his body left open, namely, the ribs, because the opponent's knees may contact therewith under considerable force due to the speed at which the opponent is traveling and may result in injury to the interfering player.

One of the objects of my invention is to lessen the chances of a player being injured by protecting the ribs and the kidneys which may be accomplished by placing pads upon the jersey, which pads will lie in the region of the wearer's ribs when the jersey is in use. Another object of the invention is to provide a unique arrangement of pad receiving pockets located on the inside of the jersey.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a foot ball jersey having vertical pockets at both sides of the jersey, which when in use, will be in the region of the wearer's lower ribs, both back and front.

With these ends in view, this invention consists in the details of construction and combination of elements hereinafter set forth and then specifically designated by the claim.

In order that those skilled in the art to which this invention appertains may understand how to make and use the same, I will describe its construction in detail, referring by numerals to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this application, in which:—

Fig. 1, is a front perspective view of a padded foot ball jersey embodying my invention.

Fig. 2, is a rear perspective view thereof.

Fig. 3, is an enlarged fragmentary inner face view of the jersey in the region of one set of pockets.

Fig. 4, is a section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

In carrying out my invention as herein embodied, 5 represents a jersey of usual construction to be worn by football players with the usual foot ball pants and with or without the usual jacket.

The costume of a foot ball player generally includes a jersey and foot ball pants, the latter being well padded about the knees, thighs and hips so as to protect some parts of the wearer. Jerseys oftentimes have shoulder and elbow pads sewn thereon, and even breast bone protectors, but the ribs are generally left absolutely unprotected.

In order to protect the ribs, particularly the lower or floating ones, a plurality of 70 pockets 6 of suitable textile fabric are mounted on the inside of the jersey at both sides thereof so that each set extends from a point slightly to the front to another point slightly to the back of the jersey and said 75 pockets are arranged vertical so that their upper ends of mouths are open for the reception of suitable removable pads 7. The pads 7 are preferably composed of flexible fibre covered with felt,

While jackets or different forms of garments worn on the body have been padded, especially in the region of the sides, I desire it understood that the gist of my invention consists in padding a foot ball jersey in the 85 region of the lower floating ribs of the wearer so as to protect such ribs and the kidneys from blows delivered to the back, sides and front of the body, and more specifically the invention embodies the particular arrangement of the pads which are removably mounted in sets of vertically arranged pockets located on the inside of the jersey at the 90 sides thereof.

When in use, the ribs are well protected 95 when the wearer's body is thrown in front of an opponent which is generally accomplished with the body in a slightly turned position, that is with more of the side toward the opponent, but oftentimes a portion of the 100

front or back of the body receives the impact of the blow.

Of course I do not wish to be limited to the exact details of construction as herein shown, as these may be varied within the limits of the appended claim without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and useful is:—

10 In combination with a foot-ball jersey, two sets of vertically arranged pad receiving pockets mounted on the inside of the jersey, one at each side thereof and extending from a point slightly to the front to another point  
15 slightly to the back and when in use being located in the region of the wearer's ribs and kidneys, said pockets being vertically positioned with their upper ends open and pads of flexible fibre covered with felt removably  
20 inserted in said pockets to afford protection to the wearer's ribs and kidneys.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed my signature.

ROBERT D. EVANS.

25

30

35

40

45

50

55

60

65