W. LINDEMANN.

LIFE SAVING DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 15, 1915.

1,142,592. **Patented June 8, 1915.**

Fig. 1.

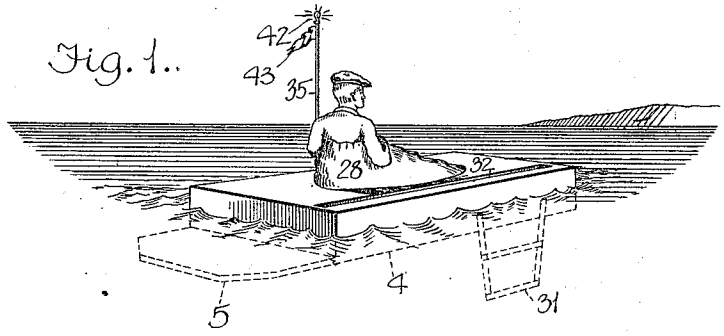


Fig. 2.

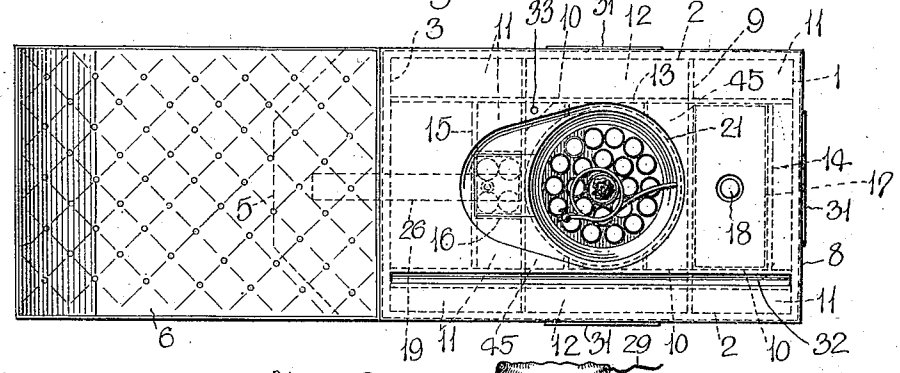


Fig. 3.

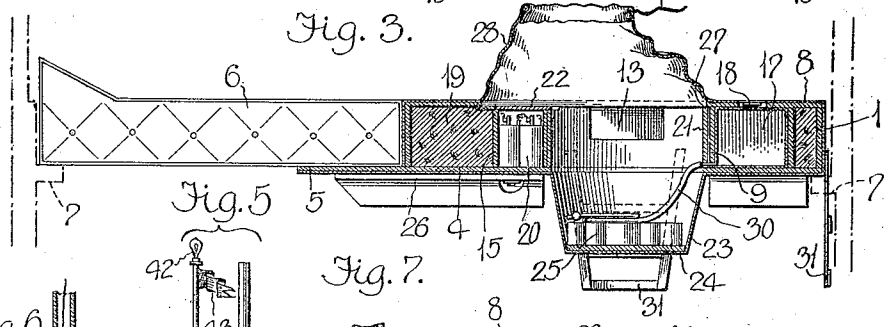


Fig. 5

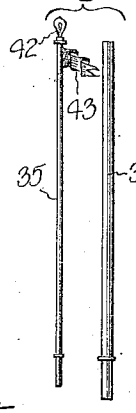


Fig. 7.

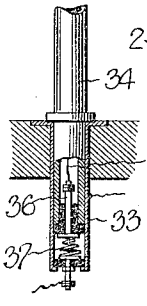
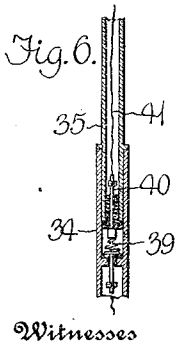


Fig. 6.



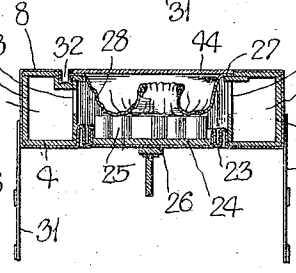


Fig. 4.

Witnesses

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LIFE-SAVING DEVICE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER LINDEMANN, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, 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 drawings.

This invention relates to a life saving device, and the primary object of my invention is to provide a novel device that can conveniently form part of the berth of a room of a vessel, the device occupying comparatively small space and at all times being within easy reach of the occupants of a room should an accident occur necessitating immediate use of the device.

Another object of this invention is to provide a life saving device that is in the form of a small float of sufficient buoyancy to maintain a person in a comfortable position and lend assistance to others overboard.

A further object of my invention is to furnish a life saving device of the above type with liquid and food storage means, a signal mast and means for illuminating the same at night.

A still further object of this invention is to accomplish the above results by a simple, durable and inexpensive boat equipment that can be easily and quickly placed in commission to effectually serve as a life saver.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention resides in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter specifically described and then claimed.

Reference will now be had to the drawing, wherein Figure 1 is a perspective view of the life saving device as it would appear when actually in use; Fig. 2 is a plan of the life saving device as forming part of a berth; body closure and cover removed; Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same with portions of the life saving device extended; Fig. 4 is a cross sectional view of the same showing portions of the life saving device in a retracted position; Fig. 5 is an elevation of a sectional signal mast adapted to form part of the life saving device; Fig. 6 is an enlarged longitudinal sectional view of an electrical connection established between the sections of the mast, and Fig. 7 is an enlarged detail view of an electrical connection established between the mast and a socket provided therefor in the life saving device.

A life saving device in accordance with this invention comprises a rectangular and comparatively flat casing having a front wall 1, longitudinal side walls 2, a rear wall 3, and a bottom plate 4, said bottom plate having a rear extension or tail 5 adapted to support an end of a box mattress 6, which coöperates with the casing in forming the bottom of a berth or a mattress therefor. The entire device has the ends and sides thereof supported, as at 7 and when the life saving device is to be used, the box mattress 6 is discarded. With the life saving device forming the foot of the box mattress, it occupies a comparatively small space and easy access is had thereto in case of an accident.

The casing is made of light and durable material, as cypress wood, and is covered with a water proof cloth 8 or finished whereby the joints of the casing are water and air tight. The casing is provided with transverse partitions 9 and longitudinal partitions 10, said partitions providing compartments 11 at the ends and sides of the casing for cork or other buoyant material. The partition also provides storage compartments 12 at the sides of the casing in which the necessities of life can be placed and easy access is had to these storage compartments by the occupants of the life saving device through the medium of openings 13 in the partitions 10 of the casing.

Additional partitions 14, 15 and 16 are installed, the partition 14 coöperating with the longitudinal and transverse partition in providing a compartment for a water tank 17 which has a filling opening 18 that is normally closed.

The partition 15 coöperates with longitudinal partitions 10 and the rear wall 3 of the casing in forming another compartment 19 for cork or a buoyant material.

The partition 16 coöperates with the partition 15 and one of the transverse partitions 9 in forming a battery compartment for battery cells 20 and the purpose of these cells will hereinafter appear.

The longitudinal and transverse partitions

provide a central compartment and mounted in this compartment is a cylindrical shell 21 constituting a well for the limbs of a person seated upon a seat 22 forming the top of the battery compartment. The sides of the well are cut away whereby easy access can be had to the openings 13 of the storage compartments 12.

The lower end of the shell 21 is provided with a bellows or flexible closure 23 having a flat circular rigid bottom plate 24 provided with containers 25 adapted to hold cans of food and as the food is consumed, the containers 25 can be rearranged or the cans filled with water to maintain the life saving device on even keel. When the life saving device is not in use, the flexible closure 23 is held within the shell 21, as best shown in Fig. 4, by a cleat 26 pivoted upon the bottom of the bottom plate 4. By swinging the cleat clear of the bottom plate 24, the closure 23 is lowered to accommodate the feet of a person upon the seat 22.

The top of the casing is provided with an opening 27 and connected to the marginal edges of the top opening is a flexible watertight body closure 28 provided with a draw string 29 or other fastening device which permits of the open end of a closure being gathered around a person under the armpits, as shown in Fig. 1, thereby inclosing the greater portion of the body and leaving the arms free to use a paddle or assist in a rescue. At opportune times the body closure 28 can be opened and food obtained and in order that water can be easily obtained from the tank or reservoir 17, a drinking tube 30 is connected to said tank or reservoir. When the body closure 28 is not in use it is retained in the casing by a cover 44, shown in Fig. 4.

The casing has a plurality of flexible ladders or hand grips 31 adapted to support or assist persons in water at the sides of the life saving device.

The top of the casing at one side thereof, has a longitudinal compartment 32 for a signal mast, and at the other side of the casing is a socket 33 adapted to hold the mast in an upright position when in use. The sectional mast comprises tubular sections 34 and 35 adapted to be connected together somewhat similar to the sections of a fishing rod. The lower end of the section 34 has a contact piece 36 adapted to engage a resilient contact piece 37 in the socket 33. The resilient contact piece 37 and the socket 33 are in circuit with the battery cells 20, and the contact piece 36 of the section 34 is connected by a wire 38 to a resilient contact piece 39 in the upper end of the section 34. This resilient contact piece is adapted to be engaged by a contact piece 40 in the lower end of the section 35, and a wire 41 extends throughout the section 35 to an incandescent lamp 42 at the upper end of said section. The return circuit is made through the sections 35, 34 and the socket 33, and suitable insulation is used to insure a circuit when the mast is in use. The incandescent lamp 42 is only used at night and a flag or other visible signal 43 is used during the day. When the mast is not in use the sections 34 and 35 thereof are housed within the compartment 32 and when the body closure 28 is not in use, it is placed in the shell 21 and the opening 27 closed by a cover 44. This cover provides an uninterrupted upper surface to the casing and when covered with bed clothes it is practically impossible to detect that the life saving device forms part of a berth.

The arrangement of the shell 21 within the casing provides small storage compartments 45 and the area of these compartments and the compartments 12 is sufficient to hold articles and food to maintain life for a considerable time.

It is thought that the utility of the life saving device will be apparent without further description, and while in the drawing there is illustrated a preferred embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood that the structural elements are susceptible to such changes, as in the size, shape and manner of assemblage as fall within the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim is:—

1. A life saving device comprising a casing adapted to form part of a berth mattress, said casing having compartments formed therein, body and limb closures carried by said casing and adapted to inclose the greater portion of the body seated upon said casing, a cover adapted to retain the body closure in said casing when not in use, a pivoted cleat adapted to retain the limb closure in said casing when not in use, a reservoir forming part of said casing and having a drinking tube extending into one of said closures, and a sectional mast carried by said casing.

2. A life saving device comprising a casing, said casing having compartments formed therein, a well centrally of said casing and having walls thereof provided with openings in communication with the casing compartments, flexible body and limb closures at the upper and lower ends of said well and adapted to inclose the greater part of a body seated upon said casing, and flexible ladders at the sides of said casing.

3. A life saving device comprising a water proof casing, said casing having compartments formed therein, a shell centrally of said casing providing a well, a flexible body closure at the upper end of said well, a flexible limb closure at the lower end of the

well of said casing and foldable therein, said flexible limb closure having a flat bottom provided with containers, and means for maintaining said closures within the well of said casing when the life saving device is not in use.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WALTER LINDEMANN.

Witnesses:
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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."