A. A. BURNETT AND V. L. DARROW.

RUBBER KNEE PAD.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 4, 1922.

1,434,808. Patented Nov. 7, 1922.

Fig. 1.

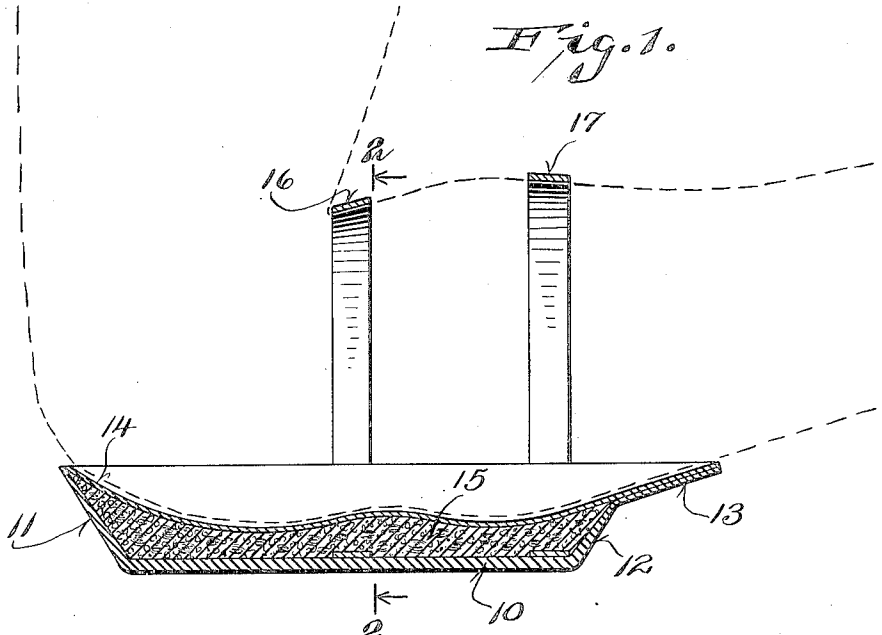


Fig. 2.

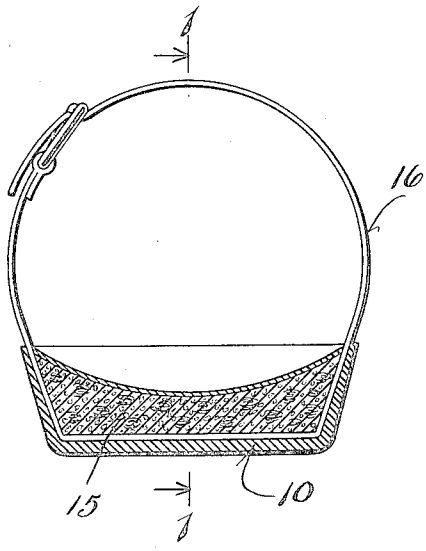
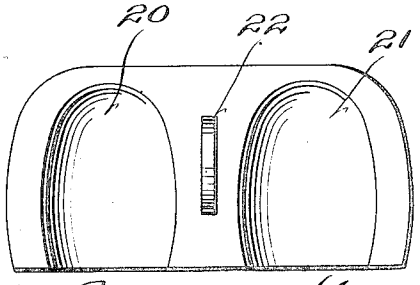


Fig. 3.



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Patented Nov. 7, 1922. 1,434,808

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARTHUR A. BURNETT AND VERNON L. DARROW, OF RACINE, WISCONSIN.

RUBBER KNEE PAD.

Application filed February 4, 1922. Serial No. 534,054.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ARTHUR A. BURNETT, a subject of the King of Great Britain, and VERNON L. DARROW, a citizen of the United States, and both residents of Racine, in the county of Racine and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rubber Knee Pads; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

The invention relates to a pad or mat or cushion made of rubber to be used as a protective cushion for the knees of workmen or women or others whose occupations necessitate considerable work on their knees. For men the pads are constructed in pairs and have a flat surface where they come in contact with the ground. A surface is molded to conform to the knee and a manner of securing is provided which does not interfere with the movement of the legs in rising.

A cushioning body of rubber sponge or rubber enclosed air spaces such as tubes, corrugations, etc., is provided which is quite light and one of the edges is raised to prevent water from running back and wetting the clothing.

Objects of the invention are the protection from cold and wet, relief from fatigue, occasioned by constant pressure on the knee, lightness in weight and advantageous manner of securing to the legs whereby the wearer has complete freedom of movement when standing up.

Other objects and advantages will appear as the description proceeds.

Reference is had to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal cross section, the pad showing the manner of securing to the leg of the wearer, this view being taken on the line 1—1 of Figure 2.

Figure 2 is a cross section on the line 2—2 of Figure 1, and

Figure 3 is a plan view of a modification.

Layer 10 is of durable rubber and flat for contact with the floor or ground, and is directed upwardly in front at 11 and in back at 12, portion 13 extending outwardly and contacting throughout a large superficial area with upper layer 14 which contacts on all sides with the topmost edge of layer 10 and is cemented and vulcanized thereto. The upper layer 14 and lower layer 10 completely enclose a body 15 of sponge rubber or rubber enclosed air spaces which is very light in weight and provides a very soft cushion for the knee. Straps 16 and 17 extend transversely of the pad, and are an integral part of the pad or mat.

It will be apparent that the manner of securement which, as shown in Figure 1, is immediately below the knee, does not in any way interfere with the freedom of movement of the wearer nor disturb his comfort, but will retain the pad in place in either kneeling or upright position.

The upwardly directed ends of lower layer 10 serve to prevent the washing of water against the leg, and portion 13 contributes especially to this purpose, offering protection by reason of its downward extent on the rising of the wearer, at which time drops of moisture tend to travel downwardly on lower layer 10.

In the modification shown in Figure 3, two deformations 20 and 21 are provided, and a gripping member 22 is transversely directed therebetween, its operation is somewhat similar to that of the modification described.

While a preferred embodiment of the invention has been illustrated and described, it is to be understood that the present invention is not confined to such specific embodiment, but may be otherwise embodied within the spirit of the invention and the scope of the following claim, and it will further be understood that a substantial range of equivalence is contemplated.

We claim:

The combination of a bottom layer of thick durable rubber, side walls upwardly extending therefrom, a front wall upwardly and forwardly extending from said bottom layer, a rear wall upwardly and rearwardly extending from said bottom layer, a top layer of durable rubber, a cushion of sponge rubber encased by said bottom layer, said walls and said top layer, said rear wall extending backwardly and said upper layer extending backwardly and secured to said rear wall, whereby an apron is formed rearwardly extending from said cushion for protecting the leg.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing we have hereunto set our hands at Racine, in the county of Racine and State of Wisconsin.

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VERNON L. DARROW.