April 29, 1952 J. R. DONNEN 2,594,883

SAFETY HOLDING BOARD FOR USE IN CARING FOR BABIES

Filed July 2, 1946 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1

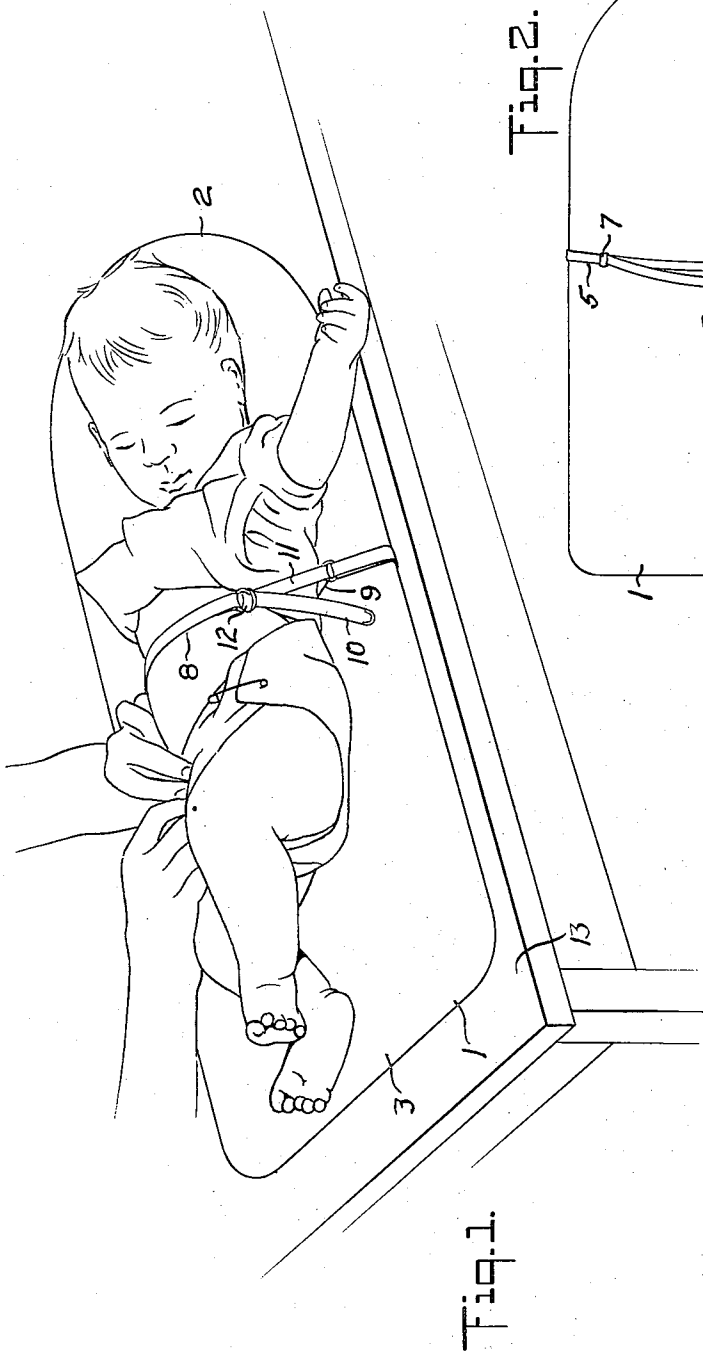


Fig. 1.

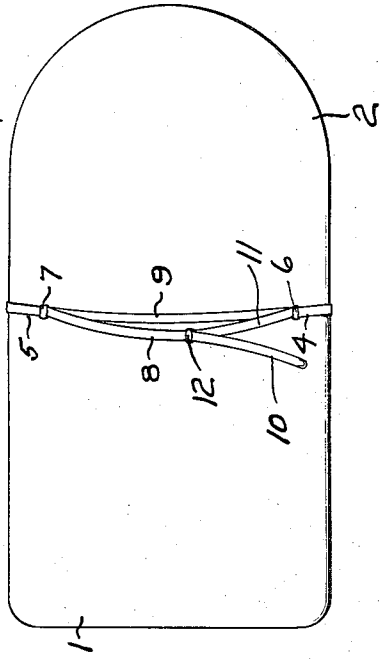


Fig. 2.

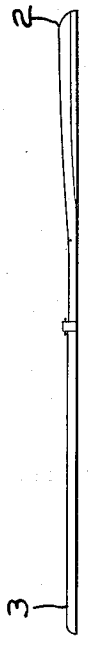


Fig. 3.

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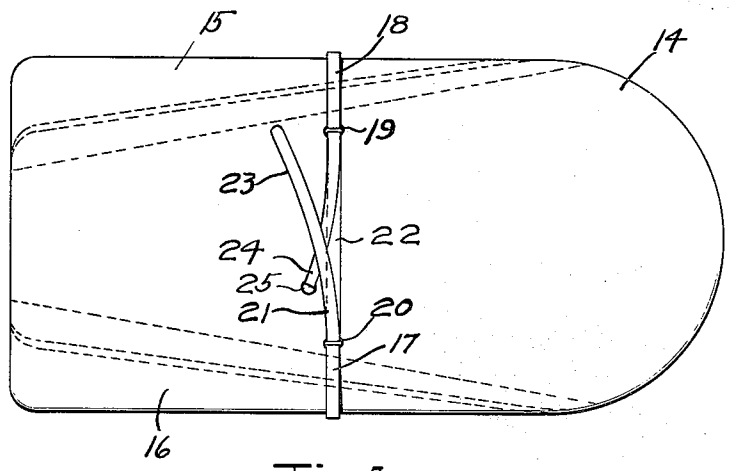


Fig. 4.

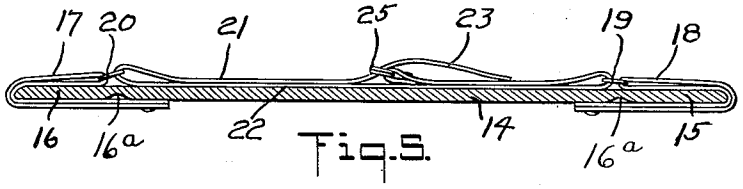


Fig. 5.

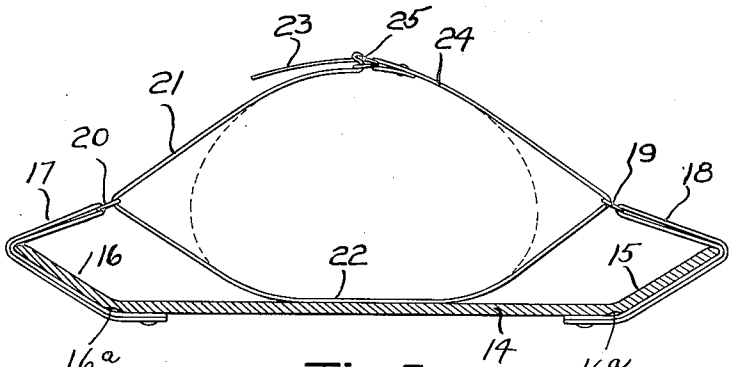


Fig. 6.

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SAFETY HOLDING BOARD FOR USE IN CARING FOR BABIES

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3 Claims. (Cl. 128—134)

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This invention relates to a safety holding board for use in caring for babies which is adapted to be placed upon a flat supporting surface and used to hold a baby in position while it is being dressed, bathed or otherwise attended to.

In the care of babies it is often necessary for a mother or nurse to administer to the baby's needs in situations where the usual baby's dressing table is not available for use and some temporary means of support such as a table or a bed has to be utilized for supporting the baby while it is being attended to. When such occasions arise it is extremely difficult to accomplish the tasks required because the active movements of the baby are apt to cause it to roll or fall off the temporary support unless it is held in position with one hand, by the mother or nurse, and the work accomplished by the use of the other hand.

It is the main object of the present invention to provide a novel portable form of safety holding board adaptable for use in attending to the needs of a baby, which may be used upon any suitable flat surface, and which is so constructed that it will not only comfortably support and hold the baby so that the mother or nurse may use both of her hands in carrying out the required tasks, but will also prevent the baby from rolling or falling off the support upon which the board is used.

A further object of the invention is to provide a portable safety holding board for use in caring for babies which is provided with hinged side sections adapted to be held in a raised position with respect to the plane of the main surface of the board by the baby holding means, and so that said hinged sections will provide side barriers to prevent water or other cleansing materials used on the baby from splashing or running over upon the support upon which the board is used.

Other and further objects of the invention are illustrated in the drawings, described in the specification and pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a general form of baby safety holding board made in accordance with my invention and showing it supported upon a table top and with a baby held in position thereon;

Figure 2 is a plan view of the safety holding board shown in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is an edge view of the board;

Figure 4 is a plan view of a modified form of baby holding board made in accordance with

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the invention and constructed with hinged side sections;

Figure 5 is a central sectional view of the construction shown in Figure 4; and

Figure 6 is a view similar to Figure 5 but indicating the position of the hinged sections of the modified form of construction when they are being held in a raised position by the baby holding straps. The relationship of the baby held in position on the board by the straps is indicated in this figure by dotted lines.

Referring to the construction illustrated in Figures 1 to 3 the safety holding board is designated generally by the numeral 1. The board may be made of a thin flat rectangular shaped piece of material preferably of wood, and of a size sufficiently large enough to comfortably support a baby thereon. The holding board may also be made of any desired shape. In the drawings the board is shown shaped so that it is provided with a rounded top or head portion 2 and with a square shaped bottom portion 3 formed with rounded corners. The upper face of the body holding board is covered with a suitable cloth material preferably of a type which is water resistant or waterproof. This covering cloth may be sewed, stitched or otherwise secured to the board and so that it will be smoothly stretched over the top face of the same. A similar type of covering may be applied to the underface of the safety holding board so that said face will not scratch or mar the surface of the support upon which the device is used. The upper face of the board is also provided with a resilient padding material which is held in place by the covering cloth. The padding material is intended to be positioned upon the upper face of the board in such manner that the top or head portion 2 thereof, where the baby's head will lie, is provided with more of such material than the lower portion and so that it will form a comfortable head rest for the baby.

Secured to the under side of the baby holding board in any suitable manner and extending from each side thereof are the free ends of the looped straps 4 and 5. The looped ends of these straps are provided with metal ring members 6 and 7 which are adapted to receive therethrough a removable strap member generally indicated by the numeral 8. The strap member 8 is adapted to be inserted through the ring members 6 and 7 in such manner that the portion 9 thereof will extend underneath the middle portion of the baby's body when the baby is lying in position upon the board and the ends 10 and 11 will ex-

tend around and over the baby's body and so that they may be fastened together by passing the end 10 through a metal fastening means 12 which is secured to the end 11 of the strap.

It will be noted that by reason of the arrangement of the fastening straps as above referred to the baby, when placed upon the safety holding board, may be securely and comfortably held in position thereon, and a mother or nurse who is to care for the baby is enabled to accomplish her tasks by using both hands and without fear of the baby rolling or falling off the safety board or off the support upon which the board is positioned. Also, although the baby is securely held by the holding straps, it will still have complete freedom of movement of its head, arms and legs.

When the safety holding board is to be used, it may quickly be positioned upon any flat surface such for instance as a table top as illustrated at 13, in Figure 1, and even though the baby may be very active in its movements, the wide flat surface of the board will prevent it from becoming upset or dislodged from its position upon the support.

After the baby has been cared for by the mother or nurse it can be quickly removed from the holding board by releasing the holding straps and the board can then be removed from the supporting surface and stored in some suitable place where it will take up little space.

In the modified form of construction shown in Figures 4, 5 and 6, there is provided a baby holding board 14 which may be similar in shape to that illustrated in Figures 1 to 3, and it may also be made of a similar material and covered with cloth as previously described. However, in this form of construction the safety holding board is made so that there is provided two triangular shaped portions 15 and 16 at the sides thereof which are separate pieces of material and formed with notched portions 16^a, where they are adapted to join the main portion of the holding device. These triangular shaped portions may be held in place with respect to the main portion of the board by means of cloth or leather hinges which are intended to be positioned along the notched portions 16^a and so that they may be bent upwardly from the plane of the remainder of the safety holding board to form side barriers when the board is being used.

Secured to the underside of the main body of the safety holding board, at a point adjacent to the joinder of the hinged portions 15 and 16 therewith, are the free ends of the looped straps 17 and 18. These looped straps extend across the underside of the hinged portions 15 and 16 and are each provided with the metal ring members 19 and 20. The ring members are adapted to receive therethrough a removable strap member indicated generally by the numeral 21. The strap member 21 is adapted to be inserted through the ring members 19 and 20 in such a manner that the portion 22 thereof will lie upon the safety holding board and so that it will extend underneath the body of the baby when it is positioned on the board. In Figure 6 the position of the strap portion with respect to the baby's body is shown with the baby's body indicated in dotted lines. The free ends 23 and 24 of the strap extend around and over the baby's body and so that they may be fastened together by passing the end 23 through a metal fastening device 25 secured to the end 24 of the strap.

In this modified form of construction, when the baby is secured in place on the safety holding board by the strap 21, the looped straps 17 and 18 are caused to be pulled upwardly and they in turn cause the hinged portions 15 and 16 to be lifted upwardly from the plane of the remainder of the holding board and said hinged portions are yieldingly held in such a position as shown in Figure 6 to form side barriers for the holding board to prevent water or other liquids or materials which may be used upon the baby from splashing or spilling over on to the surface of the support upon which the holding board is used. Furthermore, by reason of this hinged construction of the sides of the holding board, the strap 17 and 18 and strap 21 will function to yieldingly hold the baby in place upon the holding device rather than to rigidly restrain it as would be the case when the baby is secured to the holding device shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3.

What is claimed is:

1. A safety holding board upon which a baby may lie when being attended, comprising a rectangular-shaped, flat supporting structure made of a rigid material and formed with a main supporting section and with separate rigid hinged triangular-shaped side sections, a pair of looped strap holding means, each having its free end secured to the under face of said main supporting section at a point adjacent the joint of the hinged side sections therewith, and extending across the under side of said triangular surface beyond the outer side edges thereof, and provided with metal ring members at their looped ends, a removable strap associated with said looped strap holding means, said strap extending through said metal ring members and being adapted to have its ends secured together to hold the baby in position on said supporting structure, and to raise said hinged side portions at an angle with the plane of the supporting structure when so secured, and means for adjustably securing the ends of said removable straps together to hold the baby on said supporting structure to maintain said hinged side portions in their raised positions.

2. A safety holding device for use in caring for babies, comprising a flat supporting board made of a rigid material, upon which a baby may lie, having a main supporting section and triangular-shaped side sections hingedly secured thereto, said side sections being formed with notched portions where they join the main supporting section and held in place with respect to said main supporting section by hinge means positioned along said notched portions, a pair of looped straps each having its free end secured to the under face of said main supporting section of the supporting board and adjacent the joint of the hinged portion therewith, so that their looped portions will extend across the under face of the hinged side sections and beyond the edges thereof, ring members held by the looped ends of said straps, a removable strap inserted through said ring members and adapted to encircle the body of a baby positioned on the board, and means to adjustably secure the ends of said strap together to hold the baby in position upon said supporting board and to hold said hinged side sections in a raised position with respect to the plane of the supporting board.

3. A safety holding device for use in caring for babies, comprising a rectangular-shaped, flat supporting board made of a rigid material and having a central rigid main supporting section

and triangularly shaped separate rigid hinged side portions joined to said main section to permit swinging upwardly from the plane of the board, a pair of looped straps each having its free ends secured to the under face of the structure and adjacent to the joint of the hinged side portions with the main support and so that the looped portions will extend across the inner face of the hinged side portions and beyond the edges thereof, a removable strap associated with the looped portions of said looped straps and adapted to encircle the body of a baby when it is positioned upon the supporting board, and means to adjustably secure the ends of said straps together to yieldingly hold the baby in position on said supporting board and to yieldingly hold the hinged side sections in a raised position with respect to the plane of the supporting means.

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