Dec. 30, 1924. 1,521,315

I. M. PEASE

ABDOMINAL SUPPORT

Filed Feb. 15, 1923

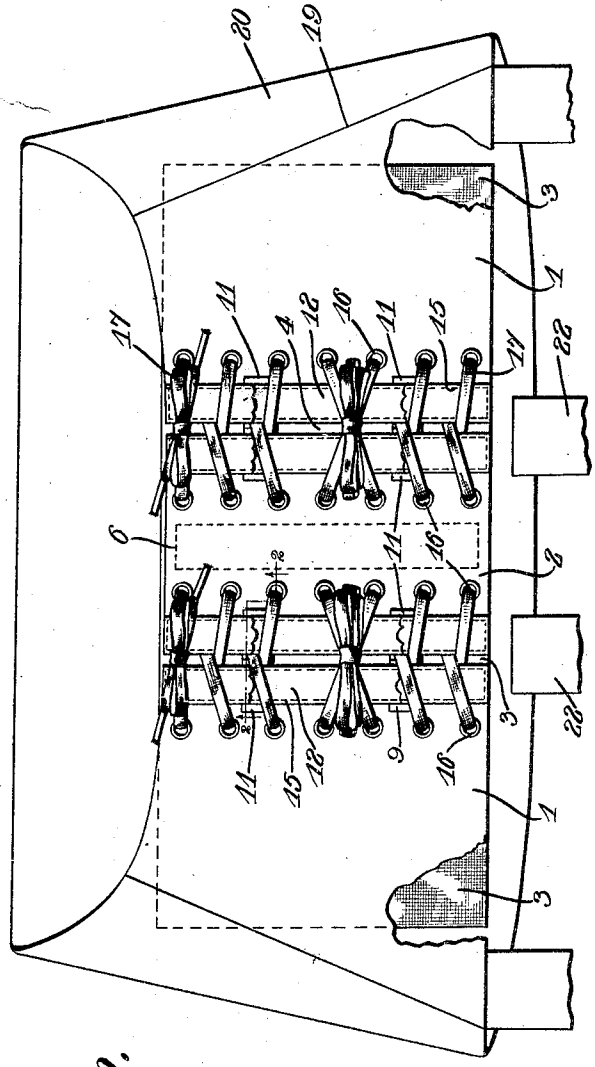


Fig. 1.

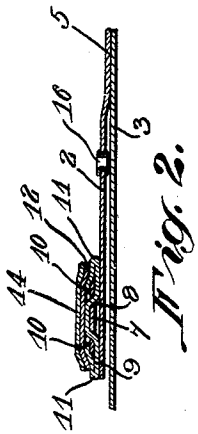


Fig. 2.

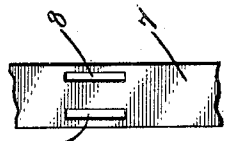


Fig. 3.

I. M. Pease,

Inventor

By Cushman & Co.

Attorneys

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISAAC MERRICK PEASE, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO THE OHIO TRUSS COMPANY, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

ABDOMINAL SUPPORT.

Application filed February 15, 1923. Serial No. 619,149.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISAAC M. PEASE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Abdominal Support, of which the following is a specification.

This invention aims to provide a novel back for a belt or supporter, so constructed that the belt or supporter may be let out, as the diameter of the abdomen increases, the device being of peculiar utility in pregnancy and rendering it unnecessary to the wearer to buy a new belt, as pregnancy advances. Another object of the invention is to provide a device of the class described which will give adequate support at the back of the wearer, without unnecessary stiffness or lack of flexibility.

It is within the province of the disclosure to improve generally and to enhance the utility of devices of that type to which the invention appertains.

With the above and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that, within the scope of what is claimed, changes in the precise embodiment of the invention shown can be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 shows in rear elevation, a belt whereunto the device forming the subject matter of this application has been attached; Figure 2 is a fragmental transverse section on the line 2—2 of Figure 1; and Figure 3 is a fragmental elevation showing a portion of one of the reinforcements.

The device forming the subject matter of this application is made of any desired flexible material, and comprises side pieces 1, between which is located a center piece 2. A tongue 3 is located behind the side pieces 1 and the center piece 2 and bridges the space 4 between the edges of the center piece and the adjacent edges of the side pieces. The intermediate portion 5 of the tongue 3 is secured by stitching or otherwise, as shown at 6, to the intermediate portion of the center piece 2, the ends of the tongue 3 being free, and overlapping the side pieces 1 at the rear thereof as clearly indicated in Figure 1.

Stiffeners or reinforcements 7 made of metal, whalebone, celluloid, or any other suitable material, are located along the edges of the center piece 2, and are provided with longitudinal slots 8. Intermediate portions of flexible strips 9 are engaged through the slots 8 and the ends 10 of the flexible strips 9 are overlapped on the outer surface of the stiffeners 7 as indicated in Figure 2. The bends 11 thus formed in the strips 9 project laterally behind the stiffeners 7. On the stiffeners 7 and on the ends 10 of the strips 9 are placed covers 12 made of cloth or the like. Reinforcements 14, preferably formed of kid or some light leather, are superposed on the covers 12 at the ends thereof and at the upper and lower edges of the center piece 2. A stitching 15 unites the reinforcements 14, the covers 12, the bends 11 of the strips 9 and the center piece 2, the stiffeners 7 thus being housed and covered completely, and being prevented from moving endwise, owing to the provision of the strips 9. The adjacent edges of the side pieces 1 are equipped with stiffeners and attendant parts, as hereinbefore described.

Eyes 16 are formed in the side pieces 1 and in the center piece 2. Upper laces 17 and lower laces 18 are engaged through the eyes of the center piece and of the side pieces and are looped about the corresponding stiffeners, in a way which will be obvious when Figure 1 is examined.

The outer ends of the side pieces 1 are secured at 19 to a belt 20 of any desired construction, the belt and the side pieces 1 carrying the usual depending straps 21, which may be located as desired.

A glance at Figure 1 will demonstrate that the circumference of the belt of which the back forms a part will be increased or diminished at will, as occasion may demand.

What is claimed is:—

1. A back member for a belt, comprising side pieces and a center piece located therebetween, a flexible one-piece tongue disposed behind the side pieces and the center piece and bridging the space between the side pieces and the center piece, means for permanently securing the intermediate portion of the tongue to the intermediate portion of

the center piece to form free ends in the tongue, and laces forming an extensible connection between the center piece and the side pieces the ends of the tongue being of sufficient length so as to extend laterally in opposite directions beyond the points of connection between the laces and the side pieces.

2. In a device of the class described, a belt member, a stiffener on the belt member and having slots, a flexible strip looped in its intermediate portion through the slots, a cover on the stiffener, and stitching uniting the cover, the strip and the belt members on each side of the stiffener.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

ISAAC MERRICK PEASE.

Witnesses:

E. H. MATTHEWS,

F. C. BUSCHING.