

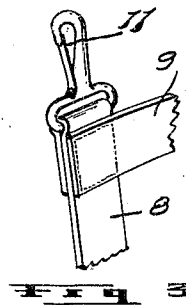
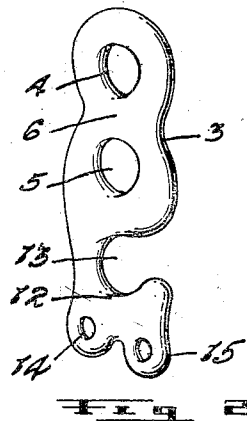
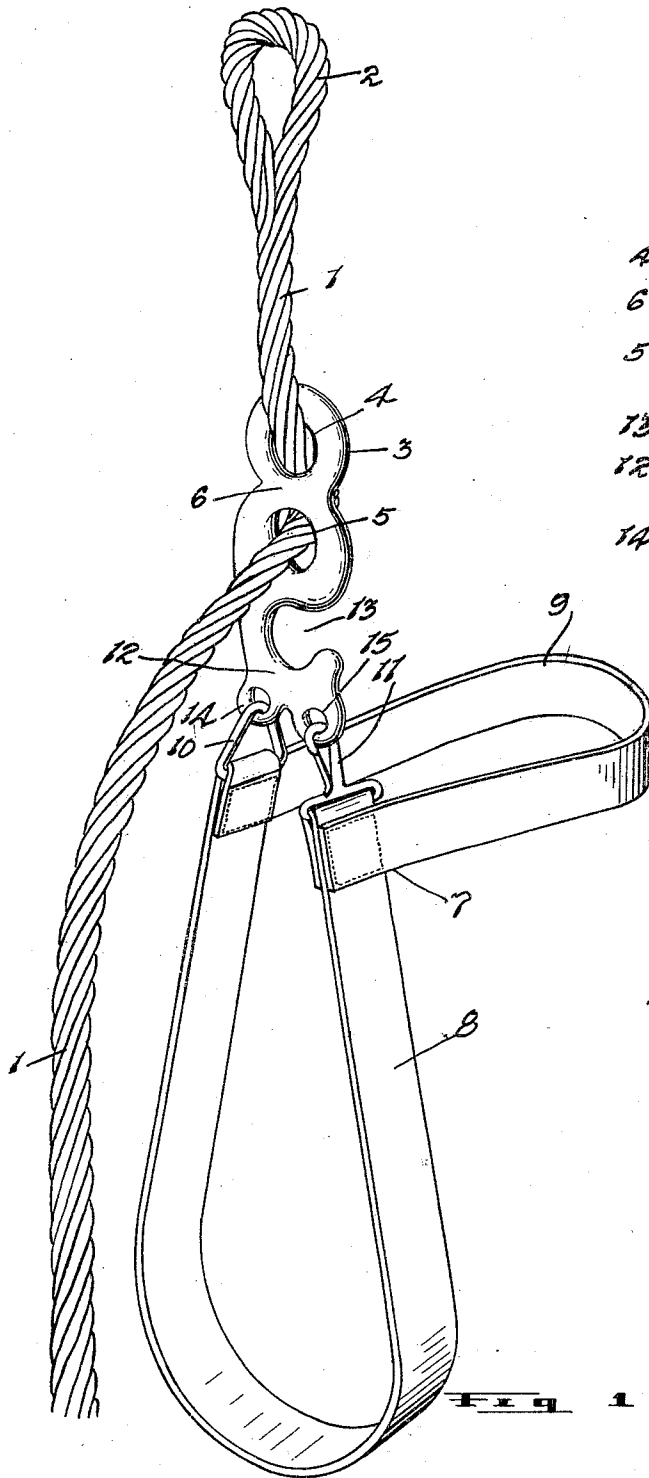
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FIRE ESCAPE

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By
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FIRE ESCAPE

Application filed April 8, 1930, Serial No. 442,575, and in Canada November 16, 1929.

The invention relates to improvements in fire escapes and an object of the invention is to provide a fire escape particularly adapted for emergency use and which will allow an individual to escape through a window or other outlet from a building and descend to the ground in safety and without requiring the help of others and which is designed so that one escaping can regulate the speed of descent by manipulating the suspending rope in a proper manner.

A further object is to construct the device so that one using it can easily and quickly get properly into the supporting sling and without fear of entanglement and further to arrange the entire device so that it can be manufactured at relatively small cost, easily manipulated and easily installed.

A further object is to construct the device with an auxiliary hook which can be utilized when an exceptionally heavy person desires to descend and which has the sling thereof arranged to prevent the person sitting in it falling backwards and which further is designed so that several runners and slings can be placed on a single rope to permit several persons to escape from the same outlet.

With the above more important objects in view, the invention consists essentially in the arrangement and construction of parts hereinafter more particularly described, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the device.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the runner.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a portion of the sling and showing the snap hook.

In the drawings like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

The rope 1 which is employed will vary in length depending on the distance which the window or other outlet where it is used is from the ground and obviously the rope requires to be of sufficient strength to carry its load with safety. The upper end of the rope is provided with a loop 2 or other means whereby the rope can be suspended from the window or outlet. Various means can obviously be employed for fastening the

upper end of the rope to the building structure.

A loop shown at 2 permits the rope to be suspended from an eye, hook or the like (not herein shown). On the loop, I place a runner 3 which will be formed say from a steel casting having the body part thereof somewhat in the shape of the figure 8 whereby two adjacent eyes or rope receiving holes 4 and 5 are provided, the faces of the holes being rounded so as not to unnecessarily wear the rope. The rope is passed say rearwardly through the top eye, behind the web 6 between the eyes and then forwardly through the lower eye in the manner best shown in Figure 1.

The runner carries the sling 7 in which the person escaping sits. The sling is herein shown as formed from a seat band 8 and a back band 9 permanently fastened to the seat band, such as by sewing, in the position shown in Figure 1. The sling is supplied at one side with a closed triangular link 10 permanently attached to the lower end of the runner and at the other side with a snap hook 11 or other well known device for detachably securing it to the runner.

The body of the runner is herein shown as provided with a hook shaped lower extension 12 providing an open sided eye 13 directly under the eye 5. The hook shaped extension is supplied with a pair of eyes 14 and 15, the eye 14 receiving the link 10 and the eye 15 being adapted to receive the snap hook 11.

As before stated, the loop 2 of the rope is fastened in any suitable manner to a window or other outlet of the building and is preferably attached to the upper part of the window so that when the free end of the rope is flung out through the window, it will hang down and cross the window from top to bottom.

When the one escaping from the building through the window desires to use the device, the free end of the rope having been previously thrown out the window, he will undo the snap hook 11 to permit himself to take a somewhat sitting position in the sling upon the snap hook being re-caught in the

eye 15. At such time, he will be sitting on the strap 8 and the strap 9 will be passing across his back in a location below the arm pits. When he is ready to descend, he will
5 grab the rope with his both hands in a location somewhat slightly below the hooked extension of the runner and while holding the rope will step out through and clear of the window. The friction developed be-
10 tween the rope and the runner will support him provided the down going end of the rope which he has grabbed in his hands is held in a tightly pulled down position. When he is ready to descend, he lets the
15 rope slide slowly through his hands and he can very readily control the speed of descent by manipulating the rope with his hands.

I have found that two eyes such as those 4 and 5 receiving the rope will serve to permit a person of average weight to descend
20 in safety and control their descent readily. If, however, an exceptionally heavy person is to descend, it would be desirable for him to pass the down going end of the rope through the eye 13 before descending and
25 this can be very easily and quickly done at the time he is getting into the sling as at such time the snap hook is undone. With the rope operating through the three eyes,
30 considerable more friction can be developed and accordingly a much heavier person can descend with safety.

While I have shown one runner and a sling mounted on the rope, several of these could
35 be placed thereon and such would permit several persons to descend by the same rope.

What I claim as my invention is:—

1. A fire escape comprising a suspending rope, a runner having a pair of upper and
40 lower eyes through which the free end of the rope is threaded and an underlying hooked extension, said hooked extension being provided with a pair of eyes, a sling embodying a seat strap and a back strap permanently fastened together, a link connect-
45 ing one side of the sling to one of the eyes of the hooked extension and a snap hook connecting the other side of the sling to the other of the eyes of the hooked extension.

2. A runner for a fire escape rope having the body part thereof in the form of a figure
8 and provided at the under side with a hooked extension and the hooked extension fitted on the under side thereof with a
50 pair of eyes.

Signed at Winnipeg, this 6th day of December, 1929.

ROLF A. LOSSIUS.