Jan. 15, 1924. **1,481,144**

A. PASTOR

LIFE SAVING BELT OR PRESERVER

Filed April 30, 1923

FIG. 1.

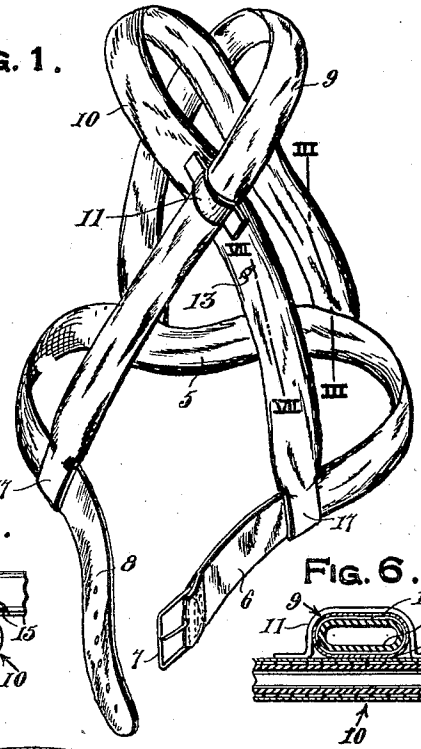


FIG. 3.

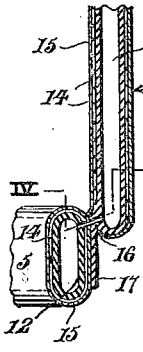


FIG. 4.

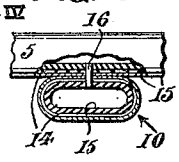


FIG. 7.

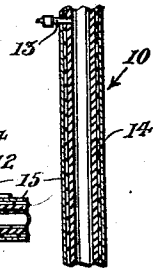


FIG. 6.

FIG. 2.

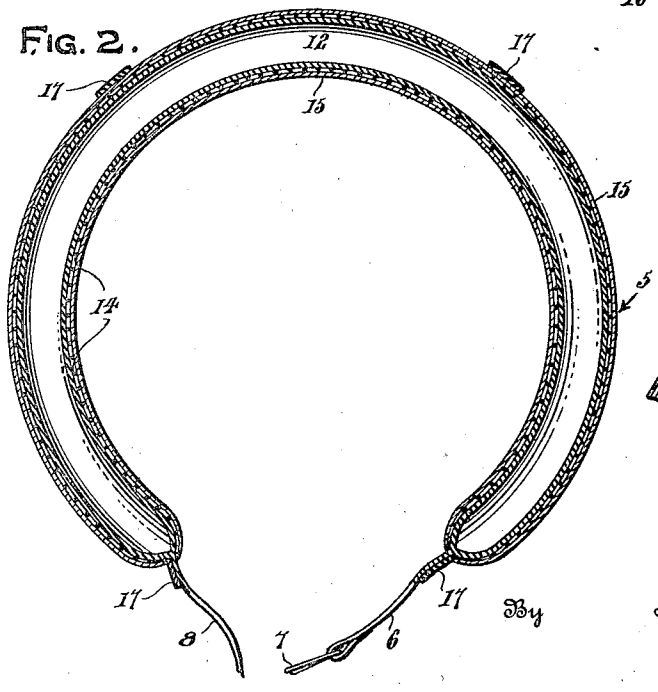
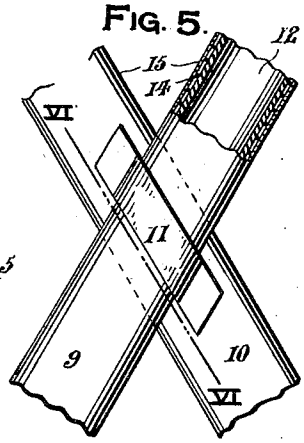


FIG. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT PASTOR, OF ALPHA, NEW JERSEY.

LIFE-SAVING BELT OR PRESERVER.

Application filed April 30, 1923. Serial No. 635,578.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT PASTOR, a citizen of Hungary, residing at Alpha, in the county of Warren and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Life-Saving Belts or Preservers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in life belts or preservers.

An important object of the invention is to provide a novel form of life belt or preserver that may be quickly applied to a person when circumstances have arisen that require such speed.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device of the above mentioned character that is especially suitable for use by a person endeavoring to acquire the art of self-propulsion through water, for unobstructed movement of the user's arms will be permitted by the apparatus.

A still further object of the invention is to provide reinforcing means for the various air compartments thereby substantially relieving the same of all strain which would result from the possible compressing of the said compartments.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the belt or preserver embodying this invention,

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of a form of the waist encircling portion of the apparatus shown in Fig. 1,

Figure 3 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on line III—III of Fig. 1,

Figure 4 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on lines IV—IV of Fig. 3,

Figure 5 is a detail elevational view, partly in section, showing the connection between the shoulder straps embodying this invention,

Figure 6 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on line VI—VI of Fig. 5, and

Figure 7 is a longitudinal sectional view of one of the shoulder straps taken on line VII—VII of Fig. 1.

In the drawing, wherein for the purpose of illustration is shown a preferred embodiment of this invention, the numeral 5 designates the waist encircling compartment that is provided at one end with a strap portion 6 having suitably connected thereto a belt buckle 7 while the opposite end of the waist encircling compartment is provided with a strap end 8 having suitable spaced perforations formed therein that are adapted for receiving the tongue of the buckle 7 for the purpose of properly adjusting the said portion 5 to the waist of the user. Properly connected to the waist encircling compartment 5 at substantially the central or rear portion of the same are a pair of shoulder engaging compartments 9 and 10, the said compartment 10 having a loop or strap element 11 properly secured thereto and adapted for loosely engaging the associated portion of the shoulder engaging compartment 9 for the purpose of retaining the two elements 9 and 10 in proper relation to each other.

The general formation of the various compartments 5, 9 and 10 consists of an inner tube member 12 that is capable of retaining air placed therein through the valve stem 13 shown in Figs. 1 and 7. The tube 12 is surrounded by a spirally wound layer of reinforcing wire 14 which is retained in its proper position by means of an outer casing 15 which properly encloses the reinforcing layer 14 and tube 12. It is to be understood that the various compartments will be retained in their proper shape by means of the reinforcing wire 14 and that this shape may be either elongated as shown in Figs. 3 to 7 inclusive or circular as shown in the cross-sectional view Fig. 2. By inspecting Figs. 3 and 4, it will be seen that an air duct or passage 16 has been provided for allowing the passage of air from the shoulder engaging compartment 10 to the waist encircling compartment 5, it being understood that a similar duct or passage has been provided for connecting the waist encircling compartment 5 with the shoulder engaging compartment 9 thereby establishing communication between the filler stem 13 and the several compartments. It is to be understood that the shoulder engaging compartments 9 and 10 are properly secured at their opposite ends to the waist encircling compartments 5 by means of the tongues 17 coated with a suitable adhesive material.

It is believed that the construction and

mode of assembly of the various elements will be understood from the above detail description. In applying the belt or preserver to a person's body, the said person's head is to be inserted through the collar formation formed by the upper portions of the shoulder engaging compartments 9 and 10 which are thereafter adapted for being positioned upon the person's shoulders. The connection between the said shoulder engaging compartments formed by the retaining loop or strap 11 will allow the said compartments to be adjusted in respect to each other for the purpose of reducing or increasing the size of the collar formation thereby increasing the convenient manner in which the device may be applied to the user. After the device has been applied in the manner just described, the strap tongue 8 is next inserted through the buckle 7 and properly adjusted to comply with the size of the user's waist wherein the entire device will be properly positioned for use.

It is to be understood that the forms of this invention herewith shown and described are to be taken as preferred examples of the same, and that various changes in the shape, size, and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claim.

Having thus described the invention, I claim:—

In a life belt or preserver, a series of independent air compartments adapted for engaging the shoulders and waist of the user, a filler stem for one compartment, means of communication therefrom to the remaining compartment, and means for securing said compartments to the user, said compartments each consisting of a tube member, a flexible reinforcing layer formed from a spirally wound strand of wire encircling said tube, and a casing enclosing said reinforcing layer.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ALBERT PASTOR.