M. F. MATLACK.

LIFE BUOY.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 2, 1913.

1,081,849. Patented Dec. 16, 1913.

Fig. 1.

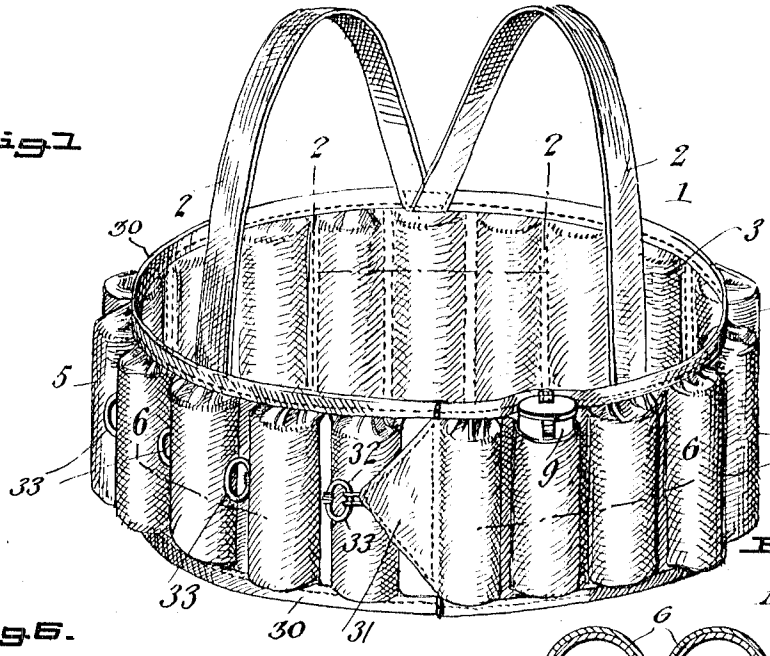


Fig. 2.

Fig. 6.

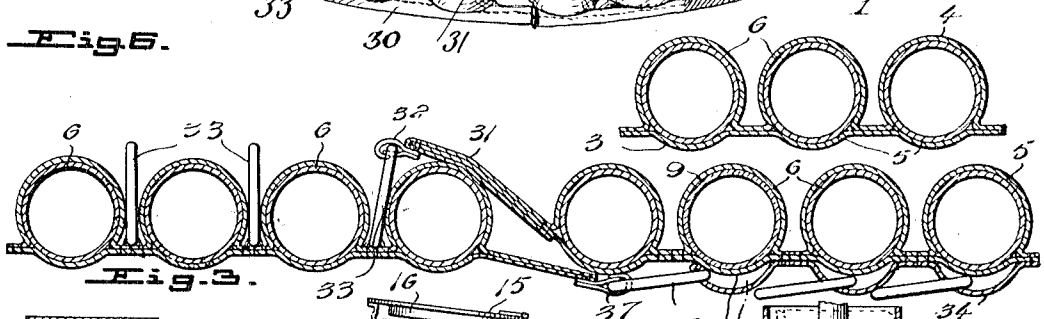


Fig. 3.

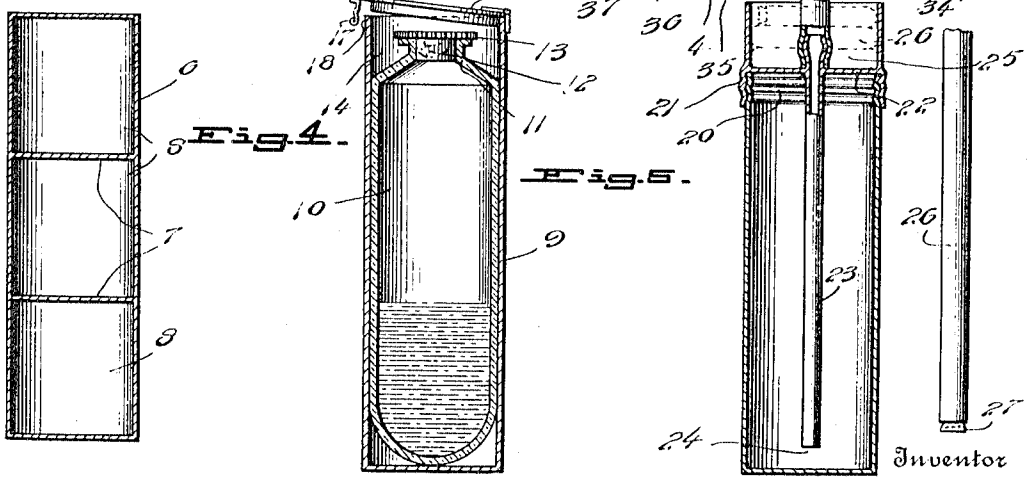


Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

Witnesses

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LIFE-BUOY.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MINNIE F. MATLACK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Louisville, in the county of Jefferson and State of Kentucky, have invented new and useful Improvements in Life-Buoys, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to life buoys; and it has for its primary object the provision of a body embracing or engaging element such as a belt wherein may be included a plurality of buoyant objects which are so constructed that they will not deteriorate when exposed to the weather or elements.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a buoy which will include separate and distinct hollow chambers which are arranged relatively so that if one of the objects is punctured or destroyed in service, the adjacent objects of the buoy will not be affected.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a buoy wherein one of the cells thereof will be designed to accommodate a fresh water container from which water may be readily supplied to the user of the buoy while afloat.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view of the buoy; Fig. 2 is a section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a section, taken vertically through one of the air chambers; Fig. 4 is a vertical section through one of the cells of the buoy, showing the application of the fresh-water container thereto; Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 4, showing a slightly modified form of fresh-water container; and Fig. 6 is a horizontal section, taken on line 6—6 of Fig. 1.

The buoy comprises a body embracing belt 1, which is adapted to be strapped around the body of the user in the usual well known manner, said belt being provided also with shoulder straps or body engaging portions 2 which may be associated with the body so as to support the buoy in proper sustaining position. The belt includes members 3 and 4 of fabric material such as canvas which are secured together vertically at suitable intervals so as to define separate cells 5 for the reception of buoyant bodies 6. These bodies are in the form of hollow cylinders, being constructed preferably of aluminum and divided by partitions 7 so as to form separate air chambers 8, which are entirely closed to the outside air. One of the cells of the belt is provided with a metallic shell 9, which is designed for the reception of a fresh-water bottle or like container 10, the latter having a restricted neck 11 in which is removably fitted a plug 12 having a peripherally corrugated extracting disk 13 thereon which extends radially beyond the sides of said restricted neck of the bottle so that it may be readily grasped by the hand of the operator to effect an immediate withdrawal of the stopper. The shell 9 is of the same transverse diameter throughout so that a finger receiving space 14 is formed between the restricted neck of the bottle and the adjacent walls of the shell to facilitate the insertion of the hand in the open end of the shell when it is desired to grasp the neck of the bottle in withdrawing the latter from the shell. The shell is provided with a hinged closure 15 having a flange 16 embraced by the walls of the shell and a resilient latch 17 which is adapted to engage a keeper 18 of the shell so that the closure is positively held in a closed position.

In the modified form of the invention illustrated in Fig. 5, the fresh water container 19 is provided with an exteriorly-threaded flange 21 of a closure 22. This closure is provided with a tube 23, which extends centrally into the container, being spaced at 24 from the bottom thereof whereby the liquid in the container may be discharged through the tube when suction is applied to the latter. Said tube is extended beyond the crown of the closure where it is provided with a relatively enlarged portion 25, over which is fitted one end of a flexible hose 26. The opposite end of said hose is closed by a cork stopper 27. The closure 22 carries an annulus or embracing wall 28, which is associated with the crown of the closure, so as to define therewith a container to accommodate the hose 22 when the latter is coiled as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 5. From this construction it is evident that the tube may be withdrawn from its accommodating space defined by relatively associated walls of the closure and placed in the mouth of the user so that he may partake of the contents while the buoy is in an applied position.

The materials 3 and 4 are folded over the opposite ends of the cells 5 and then sewed or otherwise secured between the folds of binding tapes 30. One end of the belt is provided preferably with a triangular extension 31 which carries a hook 32, which is adapted for interchangeable engagement in rings or eyes 33 exteriorly of the belt and on the opposite terminals. The opposite terminal is provided with tapes 34 having looped portions 35, which receive rings 36, which are adapted for the reception of snap fastenings 37, as shown.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction and operation of the invention will be readily understood without requiring a more extended explanation.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:—

In a life buoy, the combination with a buoyant body supported object having a cell, of a liquid container mounted in said cell, a closure for said container, said closure including a crown and an embracing wall, and a flexible hose communicating with the container and adapted to be coiled upon the crown of the closure and wholly surrounded by the embracing wall.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

MINNIE F. MATLACK.

Witnesses:
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W. H. MATLACK.