

E. EASTMAN.
SWIMMING DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 5, 1909.

950,633.

Patented Mar. 1, 1910.

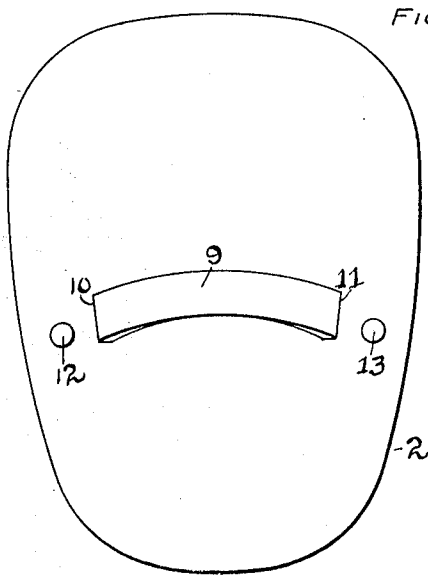


FIG. 1

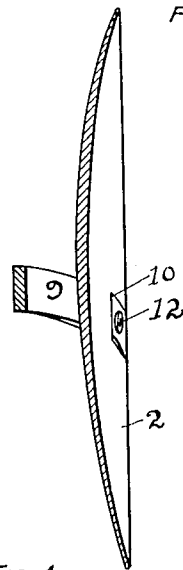


FIG. 2

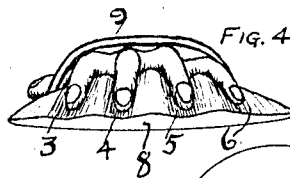


FIG. 4

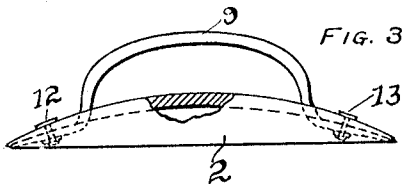


FIG. 3

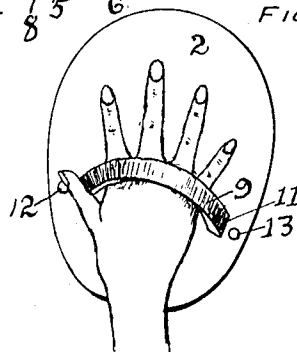


FIG. 5

WITNESSES.

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SWIMMING DEVICE.

950,633.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 1, 1910.

Application filed March 5, 1909. Serial No. 491,307.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EMANUEL EASTMAN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Middletown, Middlesex county, Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Swimming Devices, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to swimmers' aid devices and has particular reference to an attachment for the swimmer's hand or hands which is constructed to as nearly as possible perform the function of the webbing in a water fowl's foot.

With this object in view my invention consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement hereinafter described in detail, illustrated in the accompanying drawing and incorporated in the appended claim.

In the drawing—Figure 1 is a plan view of a hand-web, fin or flexible paddle embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a section of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is an edge view seen from the large end. Fig. 4 is a reduced end or edge view with a hand in position in finger depressions, and Fig. 5 is a reduced plan view of the device attached to a swimmer's hand.

Referring in detail to the several views, 2 represents a flexible plate made of any suitable metal or other material cut into approximately or substantially ovate form, the broad end providing for a spread of finger ends as shown in Fig. 5. This plate 2 is made heaviest in its middle portion and tapered in cross section toward its edges as shown in Fig. 2.

In Fig. 4 are shown depressions 3, 4, 5 and 6 for the fingers of the hand shown in Fig. 5, said fingers corresponding in their swimming functions to the toes of a duck's foot, while the plate 8 in this form of construction corresponds to the web of a duck's foot. The plates 2 and 8 are held against the hand of the swimmer by a flexible band

9 over the back of the plate, said band having its ends inserted in slots 10 and 11 and fastened to the inside of the plate by means of rivets or other suitable means 12 and 13. The plates 2 and 8 are made slightly concave as shown in Figs. 2, 3 and 4, the concave side being presented to the direction of the swimmer's stroke, and corresponding substantially to the natural curvature of the palm and fingers of a human hand. This gives the device an effective hold upon the water and the flexibility of the device contemplates a fair degree of variation in the form or concavity under the natural tendency of the fingers to contract during each forward swimming stroke, and scoop the water. The comparatively rigid central portion of the plate is designed to lend ample support for the more flexible outer portions and the thin edges made so to enable them to readily cut through the water at each return stroke. This plate 2 or 8, or hand-web, as it may be termed will be of a size to enable the user to carry several of them conveniently on his person and instantly on hand in case of an emergency making the more elaborate devices unavailable.

Aluminum, on account of its lightness and flexibility, would be a material well suited for the construction of this invention.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

A hand-web consisting of a plate of flexible metal having a configuration of approximately ovate form and provided with finger depressions 3, 4, 5, and 6 and strap 9.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

EMANUEL EASTMAN.

Witnesses:

CHARLES NELSON,
CARL E. ALLISON.