May 8, 1951 A. C. COSTELLO 2,551,727

FACE REST

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Fig. 1.

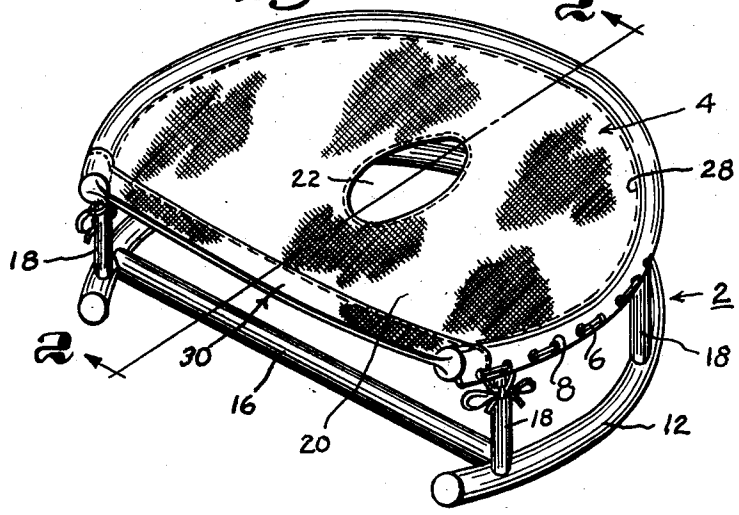
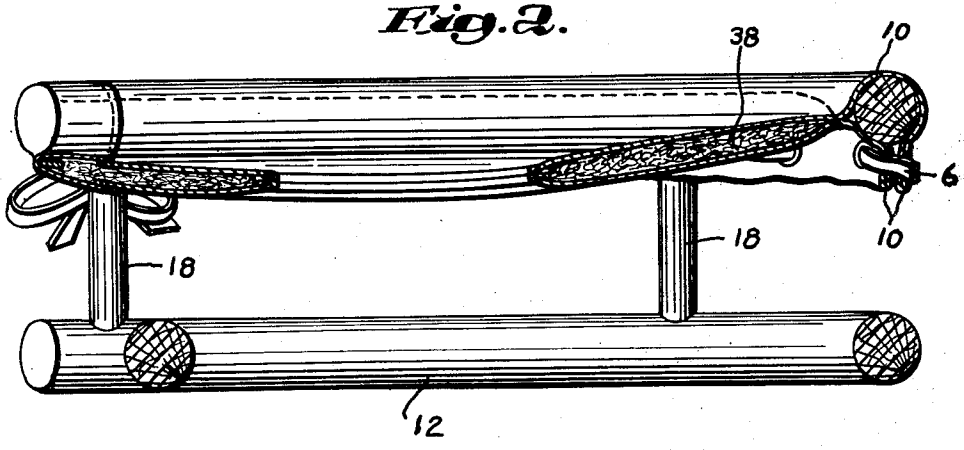


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 3.

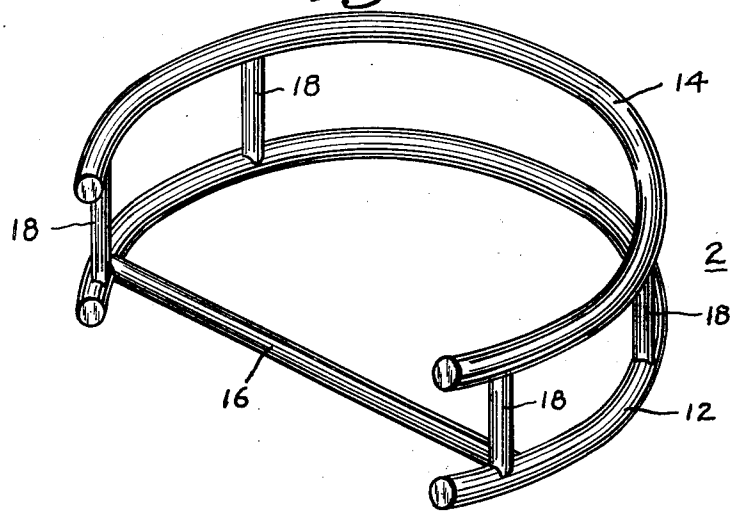
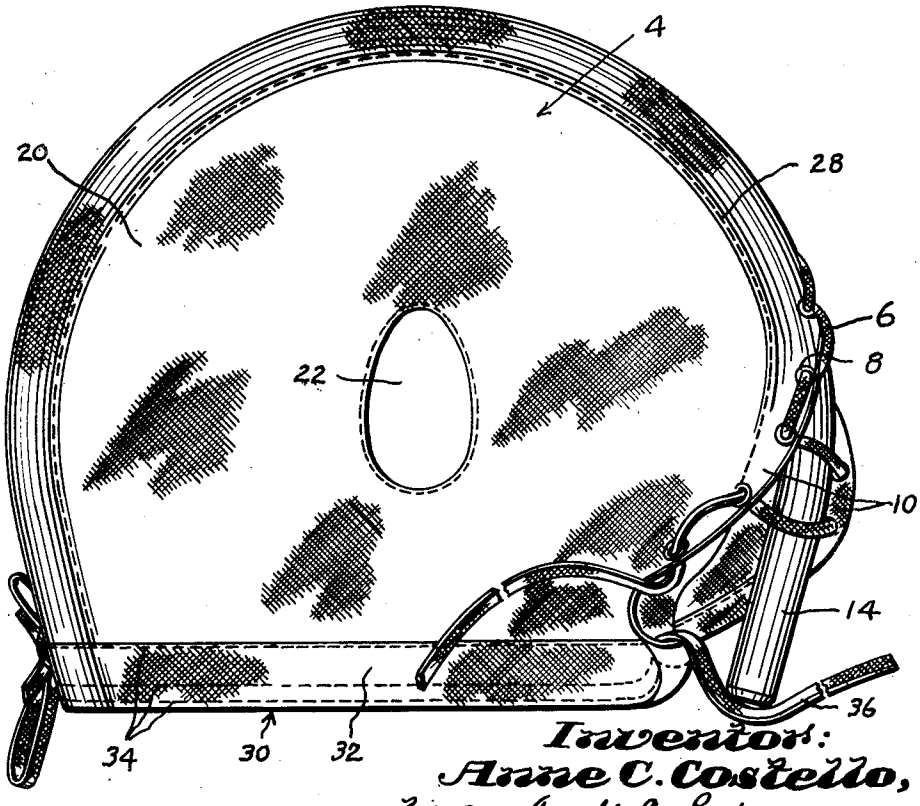


Fig. 4.



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FACE REST

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2 Claims. (Cl. 5—338)

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This invention relates to face rests, and more particularly to a face rest of improved and advantageous construction.

People often wish to recline face downwards for periods of time, such as during sun-bathing or for the relief of various aches or pains, for example, during attacks of indigestion. Accordingly an object of this invention is to provide a face rest of simple and advantageous construction to support comfortably the face of a person lying on the stomach with the face downwards. Another object is to provide a face rest having the above described features which will be light in weight and convenient to use and handle, which face rest will be healthful and may be maintained readily and easily in a healthful and sanitary condition.

In accordance with the above and other objects, I have provided by this invention a face rest having an upstanding, elevated frame, light in weight but of sturdy and safe construction without sharp corners or projections, which will set firmly on any level surface upon which the user may chose to lie. This frame, shaped to circumscribe the head of the user from shoulder to shoulder, at a distance therefrom sufficient to be removed from any chance of contact therewith, is curved in form, and defines the major portion of the periphery of the face rest area and extends upwardly a height which will elevate the face of a person resting on the face support positioned across the top thereof, sufficiently to provide comfort and free circulation of air to the nose and mouth through an aperture in said face support. I have provided a face support shaped to cover the area included by the arcuate frame and constructed of cleanable material which readily may be attached to the upper portion of the frame or removed therefrom for cleaning. Preferably this face support is attached by lacing it to the top of the frame to give the degree of tautness desired by the user for his individual comfort. Conveniently the edge of the face support upon which the neck of the user would rest is constructed with a draw string which provides an adjustable, yieldable support for that edge and which may be secured to the top of the arcuate frame at each end thereof. This face support is apertured to provide access to freely circulating air for the nose and mouth of the user while the surrounding parts of the face are comfortably supported. Preferably this face support is constructed from two layers of cleanable material such as soft, washable, fabric. Conveniently these two layers may have a common fold along the edge extending between the ends of the supporting frame. By placing a line of stitching parallel to but inwardly from said fold a draw string readily may be passed therebetween. By placing a line of stitching parallel to but inwardly from the circular cut-ends of the fabric, flaps are provided to wrap respectively over and under the upper open-ended curved member of the frame. These flaps may be eyeleted so that a lacing passed therebetween will serve to lash the face support to the frame. The nose-mouth aperture may be suitably bound. Padding may be placed between the two layers of fabric if desired. Preferably this of a washable type if it is to be permanently enclosed, otherwise provision may be made for its removal and separate sanitizing.

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The structure provided by this invention makes it possible for a person desiring to recline face downwards to do so more comfortably. It allows the user to assume a position wherein the head is elevated above the rest of the body, a position generally preferred as being more comfortable than a prone position. It conformably supports the head and neck of the user, the face support being adjustably attached to the supporting frame. And it rests the face on a support providing a cushioning surface to the portions of the face bearing the weight of the head and a free circulation of air to the nose and mouth.

It will be apparent that the combination of the light weight frame and the simple, light weight, washable face support which may be kept in sanitary condition and quickly attached to the frame when needed results in increased comfort and convenience to the user. Other advantages will be seen from the description of the accompanying drawings which illustrate a preferred embodiment of the invention.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a face rest according to this invention;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the supporting frame; and

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the top of the face rest with the face support opened up to show the attachment thereof to the supporting frame.

In Fig. 1 is shown a laterally curved, upstanding frame 2 and a face support 4 suspended from said frame by means of lacing 6, passing through eyelets 8 provided on the marginal flaps 10 of said face support, and lashing it to the upper rim of said frame.

Frame 2 is shown (Fig. 3) as comprising two similar horizontal arcuate members, namely, a base member 12 and a top member 14. These members are shown as of rail-like character, curved to define an arc greater than a half circle, which will circumscribe the head of a person from shoulder to shoulder sufficiently distant therefrom to be removed from any chance of contact therewith. The members 12 and 14 suitably may have a length of about 38 inches. The ends of the base member 12 are shown secured together by means of a cross member 16. This cross member 16 serves to stabilize the seat of the frame on any substantially level surface upon which it may be placed. Suitably this cross member 16 may have a length of about 14 inches. For stability, the stock employed for the base, top and cross member preferably has a thickness of about 1 inch and conveniently may be of cylindrical cross-section. The base member 12 and the top member 14 are shown held in vertical spaced relation by means of stanchions 18. The length of these stanchions together with the thickness of the base and top members determine the elevation of the face support 4 above the level of the surface upon which the frame rests. It has been found that the stanchions 18 suitably may have a length of about 3 inches when employed with the above described stock. The thickness of the stanchions, however, preferably is about half that of the base and top members to facilitate securing the stanchions to the said members.

The stock for the construction of the frame should be of strong but light weight material, and suitably may be of wood, such as oak, or hollow metal tubing such as of aluminum. If wood is employed, the joints preferably are mortised and if hollow light weight metal tubing is used, the joints preferably are welded. It will be apparent that a frame constructed of cylindrical or tubular stock and joined in the preferred manner is highly advantageous in that it is free from any sharp edges or projections which might cause injury to the person or damage to property.

The face support 4 is shaped to cover the area circumscribed by the upper frame member 14. This face support 4 is shown as having a body portion 26 for the support of a person's face. This body portion 20 is shown centrally apertured to provide nose-mouth opening 22 whereby air from beyond stanchions 18 may circulate freely to the person's nose and mouth. Face support 4 is also shown provided with a pair of marginal flaps 10 secured to the curving edge of body portion 20 by stitching 23 and adapted to wrap respectively, over and under the top member 14 of the frame. These flaps are shown provided with spaced eyelets 8 through which a lacing 6 may be passed to lash the face support 4 to the top frame member 14. Face support 4 is shown further provided with a straight marginal support 30 adjacent to the straight edge of the body portion 20 and extending over the ends of top frame member 14. This marginal support 30 provides a firm support for the body portion 20 between the open ends of the frame and is adjustable to the comfort of the person whose neck is supported thereon. This marginal support 30 is shown comprising the combination of a hem or overfolded portion 32 secured at the straight outer edge of body portion 20 with rows of stitching 34, and a draw string 36 run along the margin within the fold. The ends of the hem or overfolded portion 32 are shown (Fig. 1) slipped over the ends of the top frame member 14 and the draw string 36 tightened to give the desired tension to the marginal support and the ends tied to the ends of the lacing 6 around the end stanchions 18 to hold the lashed and draw string supported face support 4 in position on the frame 2.

Preferably the face support 4 is fashioned from two layers of washable fabric and this conveniently may be accomplished by folding a length of material double and placing the fold to correspond in position with the marginal support 30. Then merely by placing rows of stitching 34 the fold is adapted to receive the draw string, and by placing a circular line of stitching 28 inward from the circular cut edges a distance equal to the width of the marginal flaps 10, the extension of the top and bottom layers therebeyond provide the two flaps ready for eyeleting, and by suitably binding the nose-mouth opening 22, the face support is fashioned.

If a softer face support is desired padding 33 may be placed between the two layers of fabric as shown in Fig. 2. The padding is shown retaining the draw string in marginal position and the rows of stitching longitudinally strengthening each layer and not connecting them. Preferably this padding should be washable. However, it is within the scope of this invention to provide closures on the under surface of the face support to permit padding to be removably introduced.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A face rest for the support of the face of a person lying face downward comprising, in combination, an elevated supporting frame shaped partially to encircle a face rest area, said frame including an arcuate supporting member arranged to rest on the body supporting surface; a cross member connecting the ends of said arcuate member and holding them in predetermined relation; spaced, vertical supporting members extending upwardly from said arcuate base member, and a second arcuate supporting member substantially parallel with said base member and secured to said vertical members; a centrally apertured, fabric face support shaped to conform to the upper arcuate supporting member and flapped and eyeleted adjacent to said supporting member, said face rest being overfolded at the portion connecting the ends of said supporting member and arranged to receive a draw string in said overfolded portion; lacings cooperating with said eyeleting and said upper arcuate member to secure the face support to said upper arcuate member around the periphery thereof, and a draw string carried by said face support and connecting the ends of the upper supporting member and providing a yielding support for the face support between the open ends of said upper supporting member.

2. A face rest for the support of the face of a person lying face downward comprising, in combination, a supporting frame including two similar rails curved to define the major portion of the face rest, a connecting rail joining the two ends of the lower curved rail and forming therewith a base support, and spaced stanchions supporting the second rail on the first rail at a substantially uniform height thereabove, a face support shaped to cover the area included by the upper rail and apertured substantially centrally, said face support including two layers of fabric stitched together to form marginal flaps along the curved edge thereof, a draw string receiving margin along the straight edge thereof extending be-

tween the ends of the upper rail, lacings securing said marginal flaps of the face support to said upper curved rail around the periphery thereof, and a draw string connecting the ends of the upper curved rail to provide a yielding support for the face rest between the open ends of said upper curved rail.

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