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H. E. HODGSON.
FIRE RESCUE CABLE.
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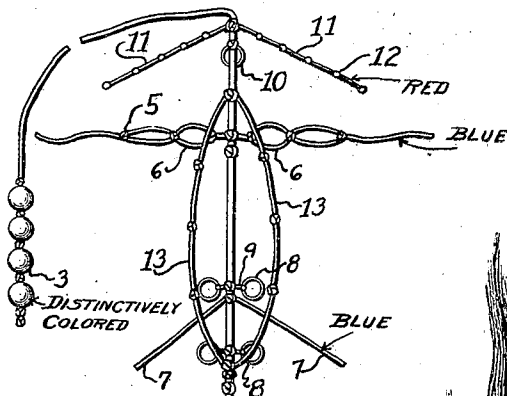


Fig. 1.

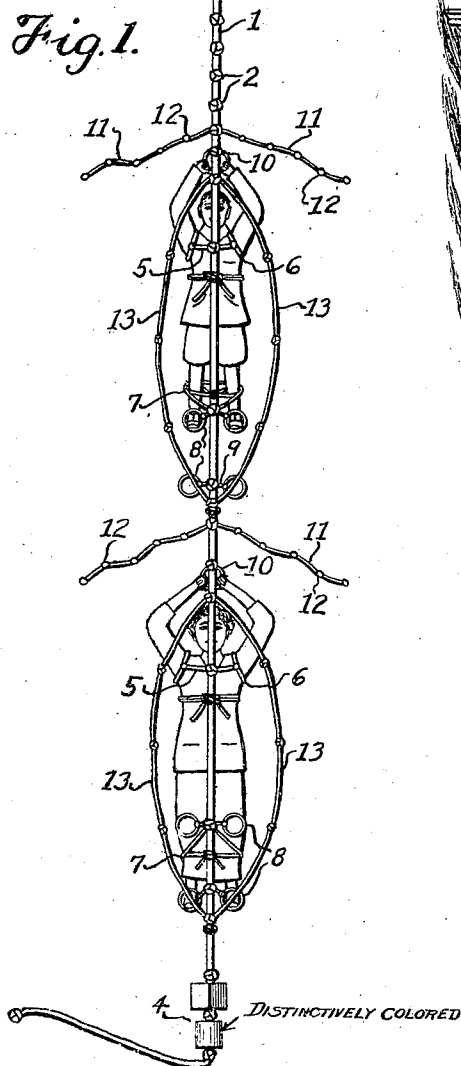
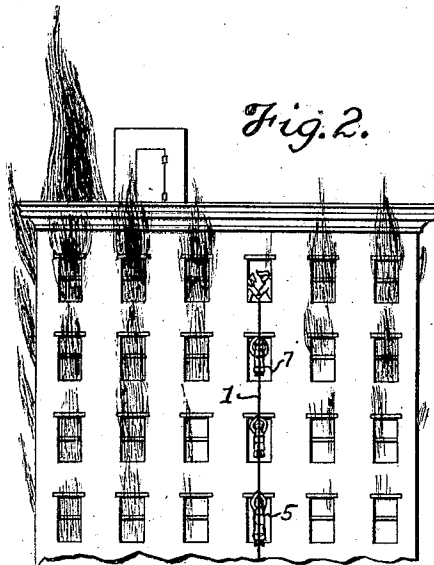


Fig. 2.

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FIRE-RESCUE CABLE.

Application filed June 16, 1921. Serial No. 477,875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRIETTE E. HODGSON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the borough of Manhattan, in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Fire-Rescue Cable, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a simple and efficient form of fire rescue apparatus by means of which a number of persons can be quickly and safely lowered at one time from a window or roof of a burning building. Generally speaking, the device comprises a rope or cable adapted to be kept folded in an accessible position in the building or to be carried as a part of the equipment on fire-fighting apparatus, this cable bearing at intervals means by which individuals, either adults or children, can be readily secured to the cable, so that it is impossible for them to fall, and to which they may also cling, together with ropes, also at intervals, serving as handles for lowering, and together also with loops at the securing regions by means of which the persons being lowered can be pulled in through lower window openings. The securing and holding-on devices are adjusted with equal convenience for larger or smaller adults, or for children. The two ends of the main cable are furnished with distinctive indicators, so that the end to be lowered first can be instantly selected by the firemen. The ropes or straps along the main cable for handling and for tying are distinguished by means of color.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof:

Fig. 1 is an elevation of a portion of such a rescue cable, the upper end being shown with an intermediate region of indeterminate length broken out, the cable being illustrated as if in use with two of the securing regions occupied by a child and an adult; and

Fig. 2 is an elevation on a smaller scale of a burning building, showing firemen in the act of lowering persons by means of the cable from an upper window.

The main portion of the cable is marked 1. This cable may be knotted at convenient points, as indicated at 2, for assistance in grasping and lowering. On the opposite ends of the cables are markers 3 and 4, of distinctive shapes or colors, or both.

At intervals, along the cable, are fastening and holding-on devices constituting attaching stations. Three of these groups are illustrated in Fig. 1, the members of the upper group being represented as spread out for clearness of illustration and the others being shown in use. Each of the groups includes a pair of ropes, straps or flexible members 5 fastened to the main cable at the same point. Each of these members includes a plurality of loops 6, preferably two in number, next to each other and one nearer to the main cable than the other, beyond which the member is continued in suitable length to be passed around the body and tied. The arms of the individual are passed through two of these loops up to the shoulder, the loops nearer the main cable serving for small persons and the two loops more remote for stout persons. The free ends are then passed around the body and tied in front to the main cable, these ends being made long enough so that they can be tied about either stout or slender bodies. At a lower point in each group are two other ropes or flexible members 7, of suitable length for adjustment, which are tied about the legs. Adjacent these members, at different heights, are pairs of rings 8 secured by short lengths of rope 9 to the main cable. Preferably, as shown, there is one pair of these rings directly above the members 7 and another pair somewhat below the said members. These rings serve as foot rests for tall or short persons, or in some cases the legs may be passed through them. Another ring 10 is tied to the main cable at a point sufficiently above each pair of flexible members 5 to enable it to be readily grasped by the hands of the person strapped in place.

At convenient or frequent intervals other ropes or flexible members 11 are secured in pairs to the main cable, these ropes being designed to serve as handles for the firemen in lowering the freighted cable. These ropes are knotted for security of grasping as indicated at 12.

Adjacent the stations where the individuals are secured to the cable are flexible loops 13 united at their upper and lower ends to the main cable. These loops are shown extending substantially from the upper to the lower end of each attaching station, and have sufficient spread or fullness so that they are readily accessible to the

hands of a fireman who uses them as a lowering device when he can no longer get his purchase on the main cable where a body is tied. Said loops may also be grasped by
5 a grappling hook or the hands of a person leaning from the window of a lower story which may not be affected by the fire.

In order to prevent confusion and loss of time when strapping the persons to be
10 rescued to the cable, it is important that the ropes be differentiated in such manner that their function can be told at a glance. This is in part accomplished by the different form of these members, but a certain method of
15 distinguishing them is by coloring them or marking them with different colors. Thus the handle members 11 will be one color, for example red, and the tying members 5,
7 will be another color, for example blue,
20 or these two pairs of members in each group may be identified each by a different color.

From the foregoing description the use and manner of operation of the device will be apparent. A number of persons gathered
25 in one of the rooms are tied or strapped to the cable at the places provided. Its operation is facilitated by the distinctive marking of the two ends of the cable and of the ropes or flexible members along it. The
30 loaded cable is then lowered from the window until all the persons secured to it have

either reached the ground or been taken in through a window of a floor below. It will be understood that there is a sufficient
length of the main cable above the last or 35 uppermost attaching station to enable a person at this station to be lowered to the ground from the predetermined height.

I claim:

1. A fire-rescue cable having a series of
40 devices along its length for securing a number of persons to be lowered from a building, and rope members branching from the main cable and distributed along its length
at such intervals as to serve as lowering 45 handles.

2. A fire-rescue cable having a series of
devices along its length for securing a number of persons to be lowered from a building, rope members branching from the main
50 cable and distributed along its length at such intervals as to serve as lowering handles, and loops the opposite ends of which are attached to the cable near the
top and bottom of each of the regions where 55 persons are attached.

3. A fire-rescue device comprising a cable and means for attaching a person thereto comprising a plurality of spaced pairs of
rings for the feet, a ring for the hands, and 60 straps to pass around the body.

HARRIETTE E. HODGSON.