Jan. 13, 1925. 1,523,018

J. A. JOHNSON

BUOYANT LIFE SAVING JACKET

Filed Jan. 7, 1924

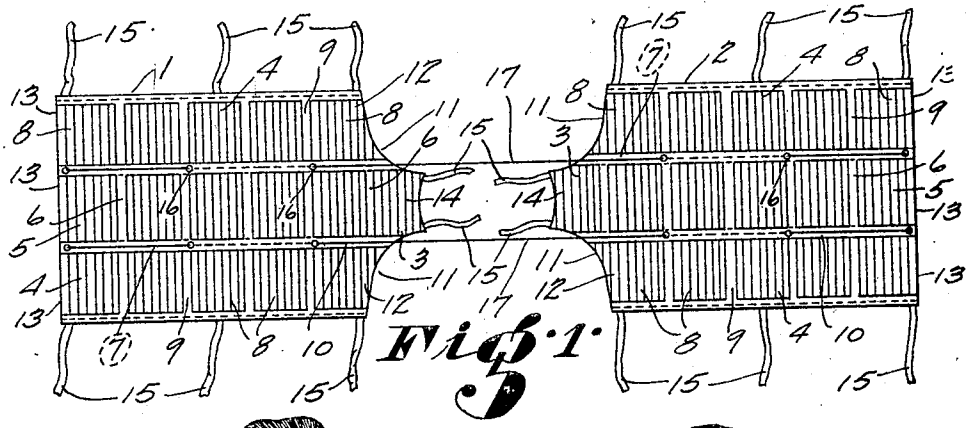


Fig. 1.

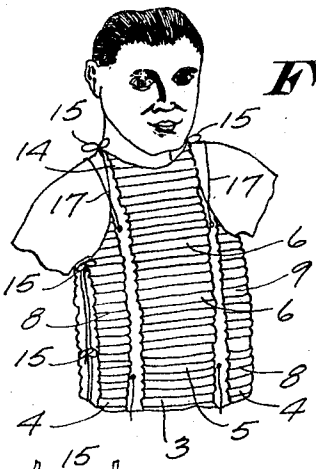


Fig. 2.

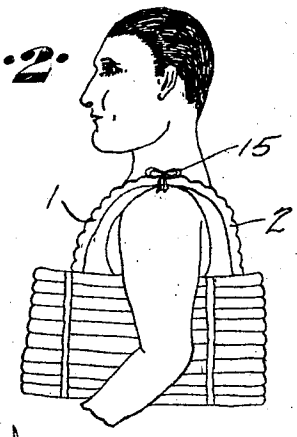


Fig. 3.

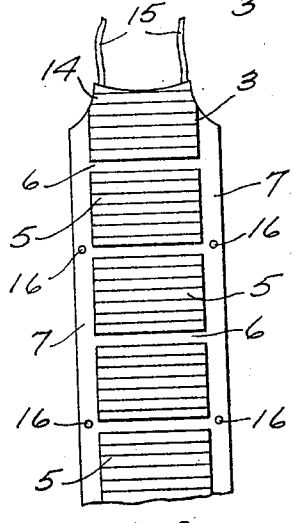


Fig. 4.

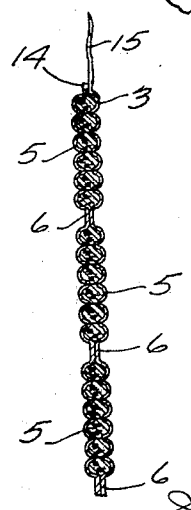


Fig. 5.

Inventor

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Patented Jan. 13, 1925. 1,523,018

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN A. JOHNSON, OF DULUTH, MINNESOTA.

BUOYANT LIFE-SAVING JACKET.

Application filed January 7, 1924. Serial No. 684,766.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that JOHN A. JOHNSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Duluth, in the county of St. Louis and State of Minnesota, has invented certain new and useful Improvements in Buoyant Life-Saving Jackets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is in the way of a buoyant life saving jacket, and the object is to provide in a simple and practical form such a jacket that may be used as a life preserver when on board steamers or other water craft, or may be used as an aid to swimmers in lieu of water wings or the like.

In the drawing--

Figure 1 is a view of the jacket when opened out;

Figure 2 is a view of the jacket as fitted upon a person and ready for use;

Figure 3 is a view of the jacket in use by a swimmer;

Figure 4 is a detail of the pocket strips;

Figure 5 is a section through one of the pocket strips.

In carrying out this invention, I provide a jacket comprising a breast section 1 and a back section 2. The said sections 1 and 2 are made of strips of duck or light canvas, or other flexible water-proof material in the form of pocket strips 3 and 4. The pocket strips 3 have a series of narrow pockets 5 formed therein, leaving at spaced intervals bands as shown at 6 for a purpose to be later explained. At the sides of the pocket strips 3 and for the full length of the same, edges 7 are left. The pocket strips 4 also have a series of narrow pockets 8 formed therein, and bands 9 corresponding to the bands 6 of the pocket strips 3 are left at equally spaced intervals, corresponding to the intervals of the pocket strips 3. Edges 10 are left at one side of the pocket strips 4 to permit the said pocket strips 4 to be stitched or otherwise secured to the pocket strips 3. The pocket strips 4 are relatively shorter than the said pocket strips 3 and have sleeve recesses 11 formed in their upper portions 12.

The lower portions 13 of the pocket strips 3 and 4 are comparatively straight. The upper portions 14 of the said pocket strips 3 are cut out to conform to the neck of the wearer, so as to enable the wearer to wear the jacket high enough to permit the chin to rest on the pockets 5 located in the upper portion 14 of the pocket strip 3, to facilitate keeping the head above the water. Straps 15 are secured to the portions 14 of the pocket strips 3, and to one of the sides of the pocket strips 4, to permit the breast section 1 and the back section 2 to be strapped together. Eyelets 16 are pierced through the edges 7 and 10, and strings 17 are passed through the said eyelets 16 and secured to the lower portions 13 of the pocket strips 3 and 4, to enable the wearer to fold the said jacket when desired for swimming, as shown in Figure 3. The bands 6 and 9 are provided to facilitate the folding. When folding the jacket, the straps 15 are to be untied, except the straps on the upper portions 14 of the pocket strips 3 and the straps 15 on the lower portions 13 of the pocket strips 4. The straps 15 on the lower portions 13 of the pocket strips 4 come below the arm pits when folded, yet leaving the arms of the wearer free; the strings 17 are then to be tied together to hold the folded jacket in place. The pockets 5 and 8 may be filled with granulated cork, kapok fibre, or some similar light floatable substance.

While I have herein described a certain specific manner and method of constructing and assembling the elements of my invention, it is understood that I may vary from the same in minor details, not departing from the spirit of my invention, so as best to construct a practical device for the purpose intended, as defined in the appended claim.

I claim:

A buoyant jacket, comprising foldable breast and back sections formed of pocket strips connected by spacing bands, the said pocket strips including pockets adapted for holding a buoyant substance; means for securing the sections in expanded position upon the breast and back of the wearer; and means for securing the sections in folded position at the sides of the wearer.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JOHN A. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:
A. M. DOWD,
R. A. BULTAS.