

Nov. 24, 1925.

W. B. THOMPSON

1,562,809

DRAW SHEET

Original Filed Sept. 3, 1921

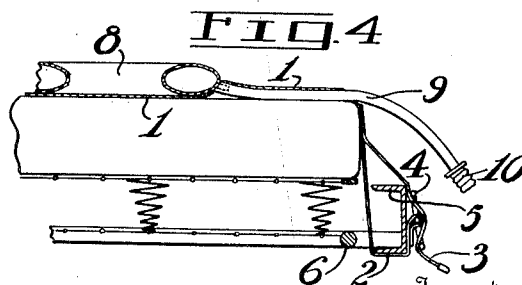
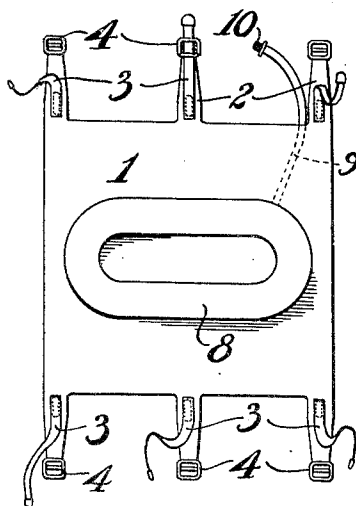
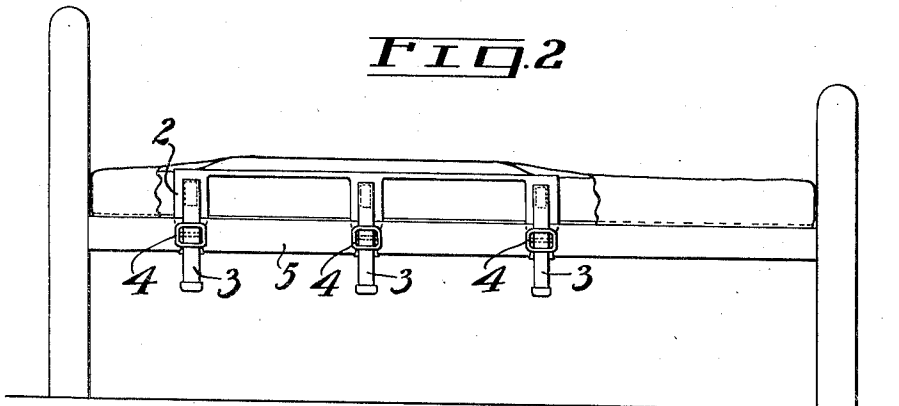
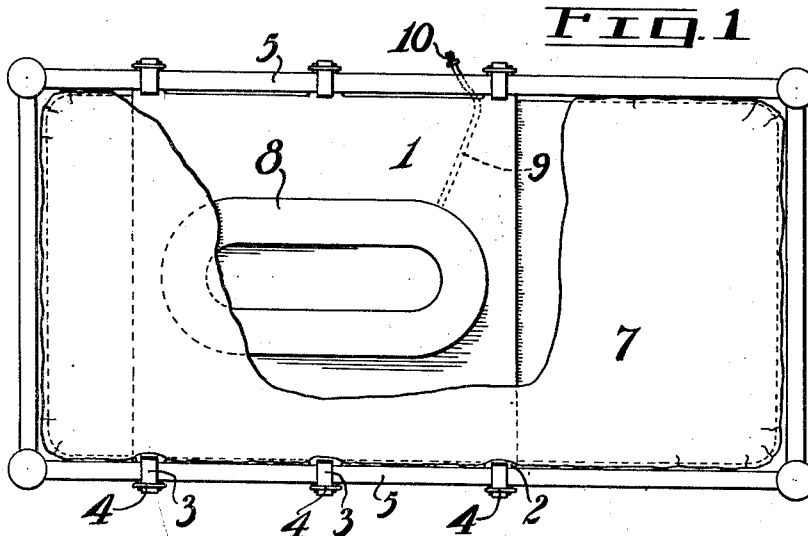


FIG. 3 *Willie B. Thompson*

By *W. L. + S. L. Reynolds*
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIE B. THOMPSON, OF SEATTLE, WASHINGTON.

DRAW SHEET.

Application filed September 3, 1921, Serial No. 498,378. Renewed February 26, 1924.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIE B. THOMPSON, a citizen of the United States of America, and resident of the city of Seattle, in the county of King and State of Washington, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Draw Sheets, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to hospital utilities, and particularly to draw sheets which are intended for use upon beds of surgical patients.

It is an important object of my invention to provide a draw sheet for the above purpose which will always lie smooth upon the bed and be comfortable for the patient.

A further object is to provide a draw sheet having incorporated therein means for elevating the back of the patient from the bed proper.

A further object is to provide a draw sheet which may be quickly and conveniently attached to bed frame members and which when attached will remain in the position where it is placed.

Other objects may be ascertained from a study of the accompanying drawings, wherein my invention is illustrated in a form now preferred by me, and of the following specification and the claims terminating the same.

My invention comprises those novel parts and combinations thereof which are shown in the accompanying drawings, described in the specification and particularly defined by the claims terminating the same.

Figure 1 is a plan view of a bed showing my draw sheet attached thereto.

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the same.

Figure 3 is a plan view of the draw sheet itself, parts being shown broken away and thrown back.

Figure 4 is a section through a bed and mattress, showing my draw sheet in position thereupon.

Following surgical operations it is important that the patient be not disturbed or moved in any manner. Frequently he must lie on his back for extended periods. This in itself is very tiring and disturbing to the nervous system of the patient but if it is complicated by wrinkling of the bed clothing upon which he lies, his nervous and physical discomfort is greatly increased. With ordinary bed clothing now in use it is

impossible to relieve the patient's distress without seriously disturbing his wound, and consequently he is left to suffer. By the use of my device it is possible to relieve the patient from the strain of lying continuously upon his back, and this without disturbing him in the slightest. It will also prevent the wrinkling of the bed clothes beneath him.

The principal part of my device comprises a draw sheet 1, which is preferably made of a rubberized fabric material. This is preferably of a width to cover the entire bed, but need be only of a length to lie beneath the body of the patient, although it may be made longer if desired. Preferably means are provided along the edges of the sheet 1 to hold it in place by fastening it to the bed. Such means are shown as a plurality of pairs of straps, each pair comprising the straps 2 and 3. Each corner of the sheet has a pair of straps, and others may be provided intermediate thereof as may be found desirable. One of these straps, as the strap 2, is provided with a buckle 4 which is adapted to receive the strap 3 and to be engaged therewith at any point along the strap. The strap 2 may be formed integral with the sheet 1 if desired and the strap 3 may be sewed or otherwise secured thereupon by one end.

The draw sheet so far described is placed upon the mattress or upon a cover sheet placed upon the mattress and is secured down by the straps 2 and 3 to a bed frame member, such as the side rail 5. If desired it may be attached to the side rail 6 of the spring frame. The straps are drawn tight and serve to draw out the sheet 1 until it lies smooth upon the mattress. An ordinary sheet may then be placed above the draw sheet 1, this being represented by the Figure 7. The patient may lie upon this and though he may move about, the position of the draw sheet 1 will not be disturbed, and the chances of wrinkling the sheet 7, which is tucked in at its edges, are thereby minimized.

Incorporated with the draw sheet 1 is an inflatable and elastic member 8, which is shown herein as a somewhat elongated ring of rubber. This ring is a permanent part of the draw sheet and is always available for use whenever desired. When deflated its

presence is not felt by the patient, but when inflated it serves to raise his body above the surrounding surface and in this way relieves his back from contact with the bed. A tube 5 9 may be provided, running to an edge of the sheet 1 and having a valved connection 10 to which may be attached any suitable air pump for inflating the ring 8, the sheet 7 being first loosened at its edges. The air 10 pump might be permanently attached to the tube 9, if desired. By reason of the provision of straps 2 and 3 the ring 8 may be positioned as desired in the bed and is always maintained in that position. It is 15 never necessary to raise the patient to insert a support beneath him, for the ring 8 is always in position to be used if required. Further, there need be no time lost in securing the ring from the utilities room, as is 20 the case where a separate ring is employed. I do not intend that my device shall take the place of a mattress. It has not the softness of a mattress and is only for use as a temporary support for the patient. As stated 25 above, the ring is always in position for use when required and may be employed without disturbing the patient in the least. This is a valuable consideration in surgical cases such as are mentioned above. The 30 sheet and the ring being incorporated together may both be positioned at any desired point in the bed and are sure to stay where placed. The device is easily and quickly attached and does not interfere 35 with the other bed clothing.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. As a new article of manufacture for the purpose described, a draw sheet having incorporated therein, inward of its edges, an inflatable body supporting member, comprising two spaced elongated parts lying in 40 substantial parallelism and in such proximity to each other as to support the back and hips of the patient upon opposite sides of the spine to relieve the spinal column of 45 the patient of any considerable pressure, and means for anchoring the draw sheet to a supporting structure to resist its displacement with respect thereto.

2. As a new article of manufacture for the purpose described, a draw sheet having incorporated therein, inward of its edges, an inflatable body supporting member, comprising two elongated parts, adapted when 50 inflated to project materially above the plane of the draw sheet, said two parts being interconnected, and lying substantially in parallelism and in such spaced proximity to each 55 other as to support the back and hips of a patient along opposite sides of the spine to relieve the spinal column of the patient of any considerable pressure. 60

3. A structure as recited in claim 2 in combination with an inflation medium through which air may be supplied to the inflatable 65 body for simultaneously and equally inflating all parts thereof.

Signed at Seattle, King County, Washington, this 29th day of August 1921.

WILLIE B. THOMPSON.