Aug. 8, 1933. J. CATARAU 1,921,659

LIFE PRESERVER

Filed Oct. 31, 1932

Fig. 1.

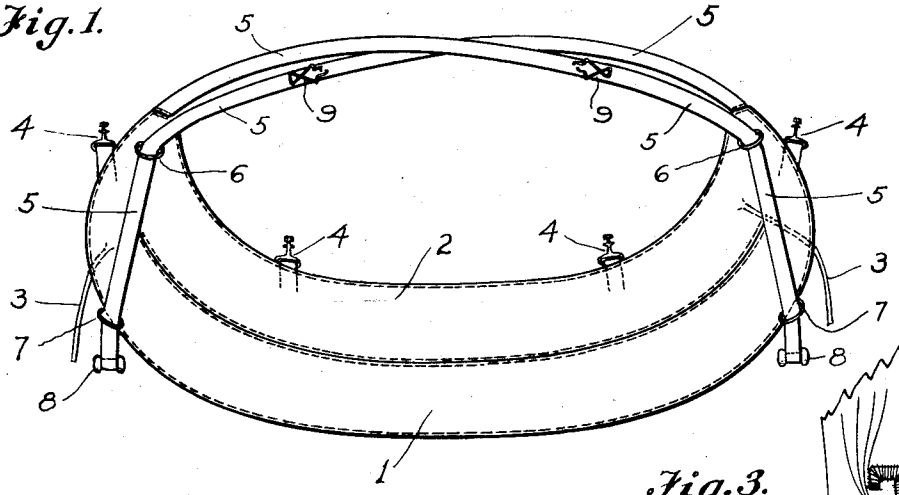


Fig. 3.

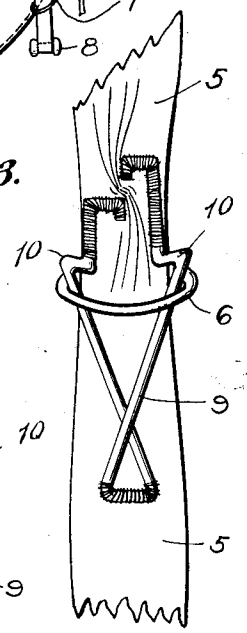


Fig. 2.

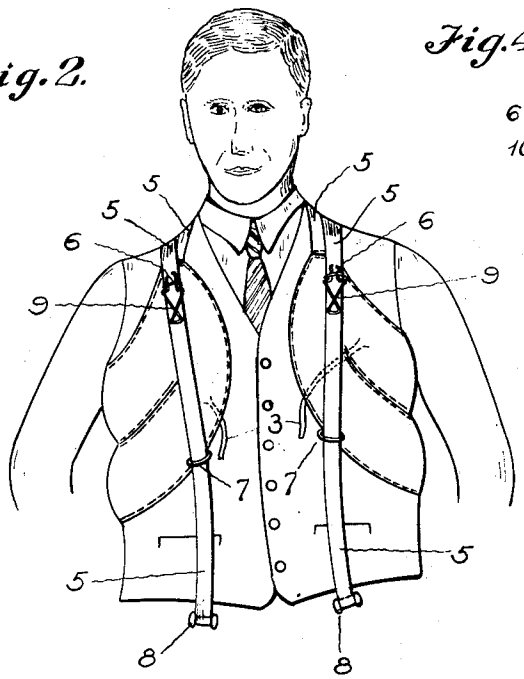
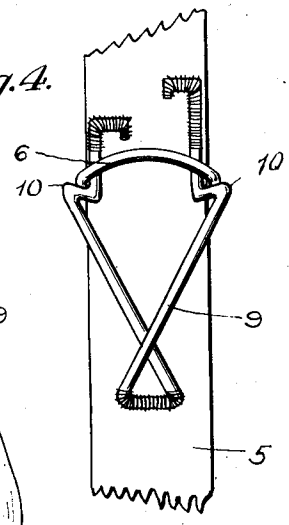


Fig. 4.



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LIFE PRESERVER

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4 Claims. (Cl. 9—17)

This invention relates to an improved life preserver and has for its main object to provide said life preserver with means which will permit its instantaneous fastening to the body of a person through a single jerk-motion and regardless of the size and shape of the person's body.

A further object of the invention is to contrive the buoyant envelope of the life preserver so that at any time in water it will bring and hold the experimenting person in a safe erect position with a slight inclination backward.

A still further aim is to arrange the buoyant envelope and the fastening means of the life preserver so that in order to avoid confusion and loss of time in reflections the life preserver may be worn either side next to the body and carried indefinitely in emergency without creating an incongruity in the wearer's toilet.

In the drawing accompanying this application the Figure 1 illustrates the elevation of a life preserver contrived in accordance with this invention.

Figure 2 illustrates said life preserver adjusted on the body of a person.

Figures 3 and 4 illustrate the one-way engaging snap devised as the most simple, safe, and quick fastening means for the life preserver.

Similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout the drawing. An envelope endued with the property of buoyancy is contrived to encircle the body of a person on and above the waist line so that at the armpits in front said envelope begins to curve sharply upward and terminates over the chest with two erect extensions. Said extentions are purposed to augment the buoyancy of the life preserver in front and thereby to bring and hold the body of a person—when in water—in a safe erect position with a slight inclination backward.

If the life preserver is endued with the property of buoyancy through inflation, internal longitudinal partitions divide said envelope into two, or more, distinct compartments, subjacent 1, and superjacent 2, each of which retains the specific shape of the envelope and inflates through a separate connection 3 with the means for inflation.

The specified division of the envelope into several longitudinal compartments is essential to lessen the danger occurring from the vulnerability of any such envelope and from the possible imperfection in the means for inflation, especially when a self-inflating device is used.

For adjustment of the life preserver on the body of a person the envelope is provided with several safety agraffes 4, or other means enabling the life preserver to be attached to the inner side of any piece of wearing apparel to be worn constantly in emergency without affecting the correct appearance of the wearer's toilet.

For fastening of the life preserver on the body of a person two straps 5 are provided and integrated each by one end to the envelope in front.

Said straps are intended to be worn about the neck in a yoke-like manner, intersecting behind the neck and descending over the chest through two frames 6 respectively, said frames secured to the envelope in front.

The straps are provided each with a one-way engaging snap 9, said snap consisting of a resilient frame formed with lateral shoulder-like projections 10 which permit the snap to pass freely through the frame 6 forward only (Fig 3) and conflict with the said frame 6 (Fig. 4) at the backward motion of the strap, thereby preventing escape of the strap from its fast-holding position.

In order to cope with variation in the size of persons the snap 9 is furnished in series for each strap.

The active (loose) ends of the straps are each retained slidably by the rings 7 respectively, said rings, or the like, being secured to the envelope in front.

The tips of said loose ends are each provided with a stopper 8, in order to prevent the elusion of said ends out of hand's reach and also to facilitate their handling when the life preserver happens to be worn with the straps next to the body.

Such a combination with the straps facilitates almost instantaneous operation necessary in great emergency for fastening of any life preserver and also permits the wearing of the life preserver concealed underneath any wearing apparel, leaving optional the use of the agraffes 4.

The loose ends of the straps may be tied together in front below the rings 7, though this is not indispensable for the successful performance of the life preserver.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A life preserver, consisting of an envelope endued with the property of buoyancy and adapted to encircle the body of a person on and above the waist line, with a combination of said envelope and two straps integrated each by one end to the said envelope in front and intended to be worn slidably about the neck in a yoke-like manner ascending each over a shoulder, intersecting behind the neck and descending each over the opposite shoulder toward the front, to be fastened to the envelope in front.

2. In a life preserver, consisting of an envelope endued with the property of buoyancy and adapted to encircle the body of a person on and above the waist line, the combination of said envelope and a strap secured by one end to a convenient part of the envelope, and a ring like member, said ring like member being secured to the envelope in front; said strap having a series of one-way engaging snaps each of which consists of a resilient frame formed with laterally projecting shoulders to co-act with the said ring like member, essentially as and for the purposes set forth.

3. A life preserver, consisting of an envelope endued with the property of buoyancy and adapted to encircle the body of a person on and above the waist line, with a combination of said envelope and two straps secured each by one end to the said envelope in front and intended to be worn about the neck in a yoke-like manner, ascending each over a shoulder, intersecting behind the neck, descending each over the opposite shoulder toward the front, and slidably retained there each by a ring like device, said ring like device, secured to the envelope in front.

4. A life preserver, consisting of an envelope endued with the property of buoyancy and adapted to encircle the body of a person on and above the waist line, with a combination of said envelope and two straps integrated each by one end to the said envelope in front and intended to be worn about the neck in a yoke-like manner, ascending each over a shoulder, intersecting behind the neck, descending each over the opposite shoulder toward the front, and slidably retained there each by a ring like member, said ring secured to the envelope in front, said straps having their loose ends provided each with a stopper as means to prevent the elusion of said ends so as to have them always within the arm-reach.

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