

No. 822,882.

PATENTED JUNE 5, 1906.

S. CITRON.
LIFE PRESERVER.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 28, 1904.

Fig. 1.

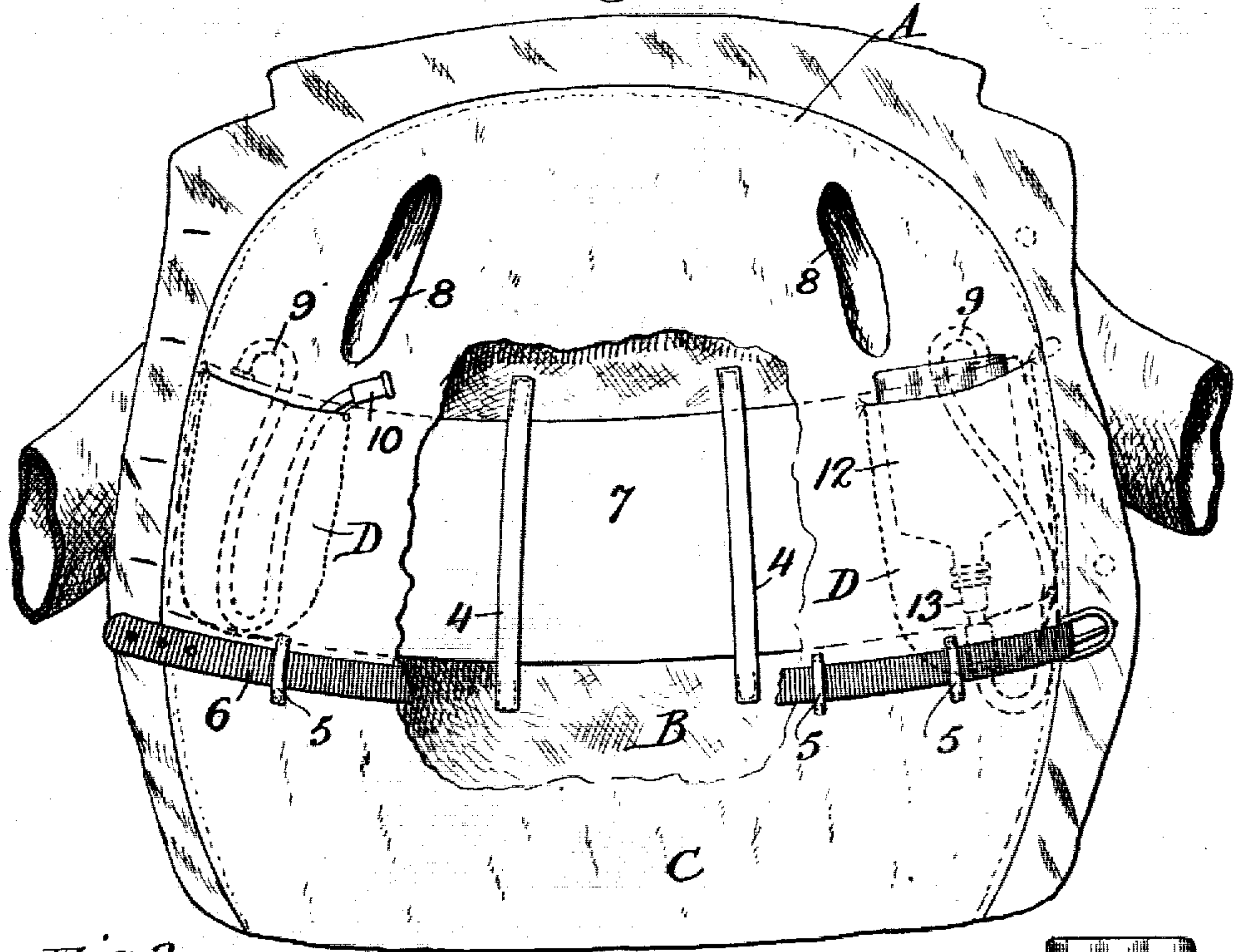


Fig. 3.

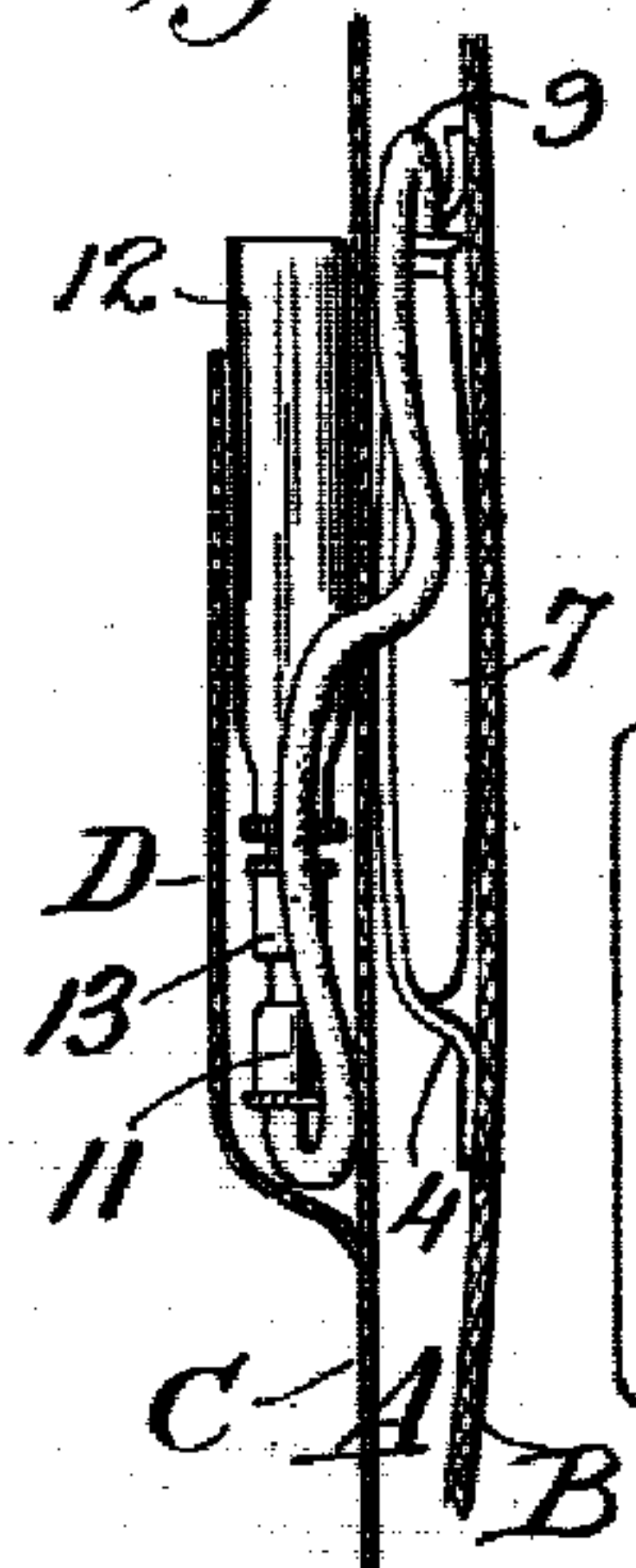
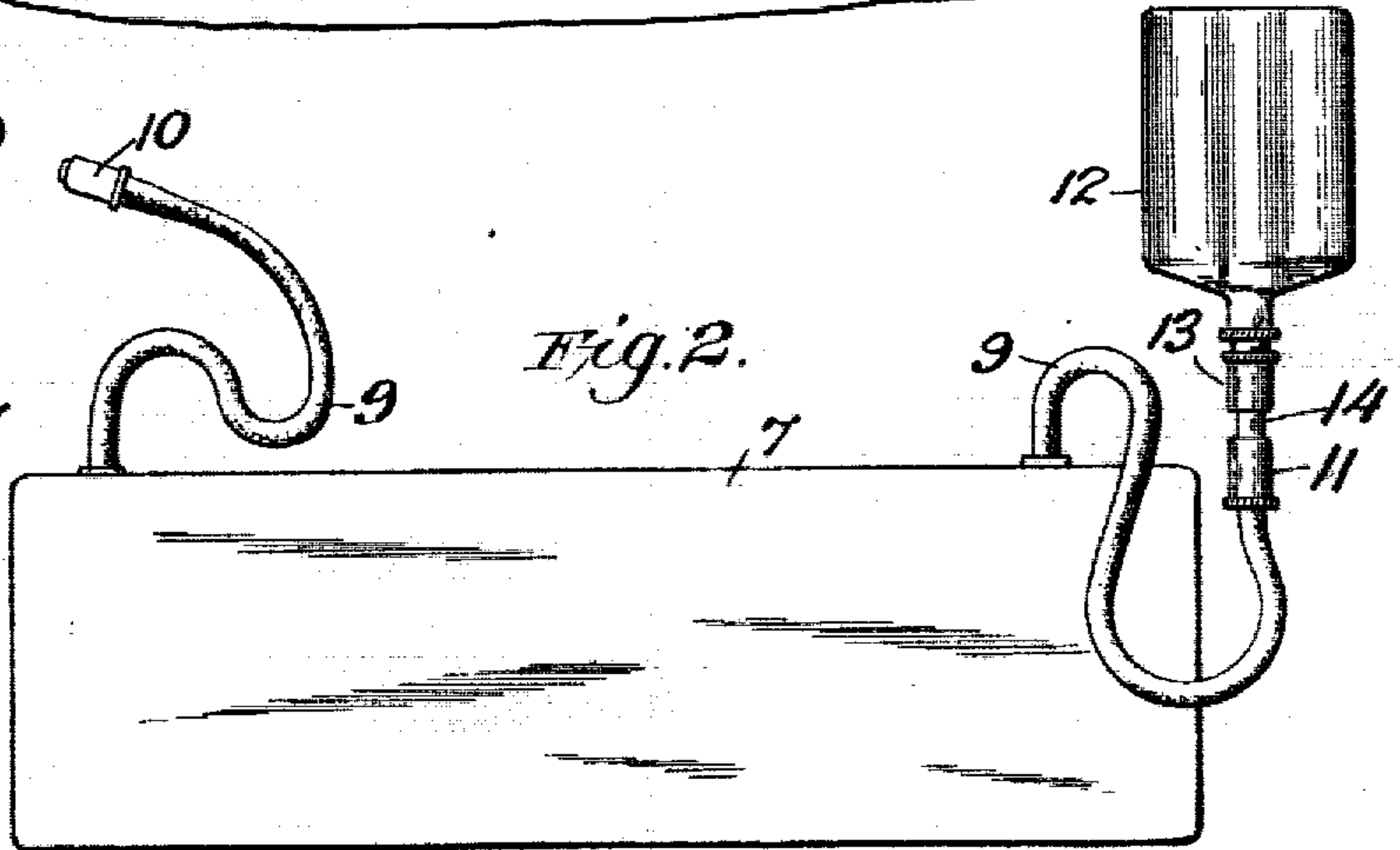


Fig. 2.



Witnesses
James F. Duhamel.
V. E. Nichols.

SAUL CITRON,
Inventor.
By Griffin Beardsford & Cavanagh
his attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAUL CITRON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR OF ONE-THIRD TO
SATURN B. BAUMSEE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

LIFE-PRESERVER.

No. 822,882.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 5, 1906.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAUL CITRON, a subject of the Emperor of Austria-Hungary, residing at 66 East One Hundred and Eleventh street, New York city, borough of Manhattan, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Life-Preservers, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a life-preserver which can be instantaneously put into condition for use and which is simple, practicable, and efficient.

It contemplates the employment or use of a life-preserver in conjunction with a garment, preferably one of usual form, as a coat or jacket, such life-preserver being confined in a portion of the garment so as not to be normally observable.

Further, I provide special means whereby the life-preserver may be automatically inflated upon the simple manipulation of a part thereof, said means consisting of a container of small capacity adapted to be carried in the inside pocket of the garment and containing compressed air or other gaseous or fluid body adapted to inflate the life-preserver when the contents of the container are relieved from pressure.

The invention will be understood from the following detailed description thereof taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 shows the life-preserver supported in the garment. Fig. 2 is a separate view of the life-preserver, and Fig. 3 is a detail view showing a part of the garment in section and the life-preserver in side elevation.

In the drawings, A represents the garment, which may be of any usual form, in the example shown an ordinary coat, and it will be understood that various sizes and styles of garments may be employed according to the size and tastes of the individual wearer.

B is the outer cloth of the garment, C the lining thereof, and D D the usual inside pockets.

In the back of the garment between the outer cloth and the lining are secured the loops 4 4, of which there may be as many as desired, and beneath these and on a level with the waist-line of the garment and suitably attached to the lining or other part of

the garment are other loops 5 5, adapted to hold and support a belt 6.

7 designates a collapsible or inflatable bag or member adapted to extend around the greater portion of the garment and preferably located below the level of the armholes 8, but above the waist-line of the garment. It is made gas and water tight and is constructed of any suitable material, such as oiled silk. The member 7 is supported and held in place, preferably between the outer cloth and the lining of the garment, by the loops 4.

Connected with either end of the bag or member 7 is a flexible tube or pipe 9. These tubes are preferably so located with reference to the inside pockets of the coat that they may enter the pockets through the back walls thereof, as shown in Fig. 3. On the end of one of these tubes is an outwardly-opening air-valve of well-known form, (indicated at 10.) The other tube 9 is provided with an inwardly-opening valve, (indicated at 11.)

12 designates a container adapted to hold a gaseous fluid under pressure, such as air, or to hold any other inflating agent. It is provided with an ordinary valve or shut-off (indicated at 13) and connects with the bag or member 7 through a pipe connection 14, valve 11, and tube 9. The container 12 is adapted to rest in one of the inside pockets, preferably in an inverted position, together with a portion of one of the tubes 9, while the other tube 9 rests in the opposite pocket. The container may be made of any material which will enable it to hold the inflating agent safely under pressure, and for this purpose sheet-steel or aluminium are suitable.

It will be noted that the parts thus described are light, adding very little weight to the garment, and are so positioned in the garment as to occupy but small space. Further, the parts are practically hidden from view, and therefore the garment to all intents and purposes looks like an ordinary one. The increased cost of the added parts is very slight.

From the foregoing description the operation of the invention will be clear; but it may be briefly described as follows: Assuming that the garment is on the wearer and the device is in its normal position, as shown in Figs.

1 and 3, with the container 12 charged with compressed air or other inflating agent and having its outlet 14 open, all that is necessary in order to inflate the bag or member 7 is to simply open the valve 11, the container being withdrawn from the pocket, if desired, thereby giving the inflating agent free access to said bag through tube 9. When the bag is suitably inflated, the valve 11 may then be closed. Before or after inflation the belt 6 may be drawn around the waist, thereby confining the bag above the waist. The inflating agent being under pressure, the operation of inflating the preserver is almost instantaneous, and for this reason particularly my invention has a great advantage over the life-preservers now in use. When it is desired to empty or collapse the bag or member 7, this may be accomplished quickly by opening the valve 10, thereby allowing the inflating agent to escape. Should the contents of the container 12 become exhausted, it may be disconnected from the tube 9 just above the valve 11 and the bag inflated by the wearer blowing air therein through the valve 11 or by means of a small hand-pump or other suitable device.

It will be obvious that many changes may be made in the structure as described without departing from the spirit of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages, and I reserve the right to make any and all of such changes.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In an article of the class described, a garment adapted for ordinary wear such as a coat or vest, a lining for the back thereof, an inflatable member detachably supported in the back of the garment, and extending continuously around the garment, above the waist-line thereof and confined between the outer cloth of the lining, loops for detachably supporting said inflatable member, a chamber concealed within the garment and containing a normally gaseous agent under pressure, and means for introducing such gaseous agent into the inflatable member.

2. In an article of the class described, a garment adapted for ordinary wear such as a coat or vest, an inflatable member detachably secured in the back of the garment, loops secured to the garment for detachably supporting said inflatable member, means for inflating the member, and means for controlling the inlet and exit of the inflating agent to the said member.

In testimony whereof I hereunto sign my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

SAUL CITRON.

Witnesses:

H. I. BERNHARD,
V. E. NICHOLS.