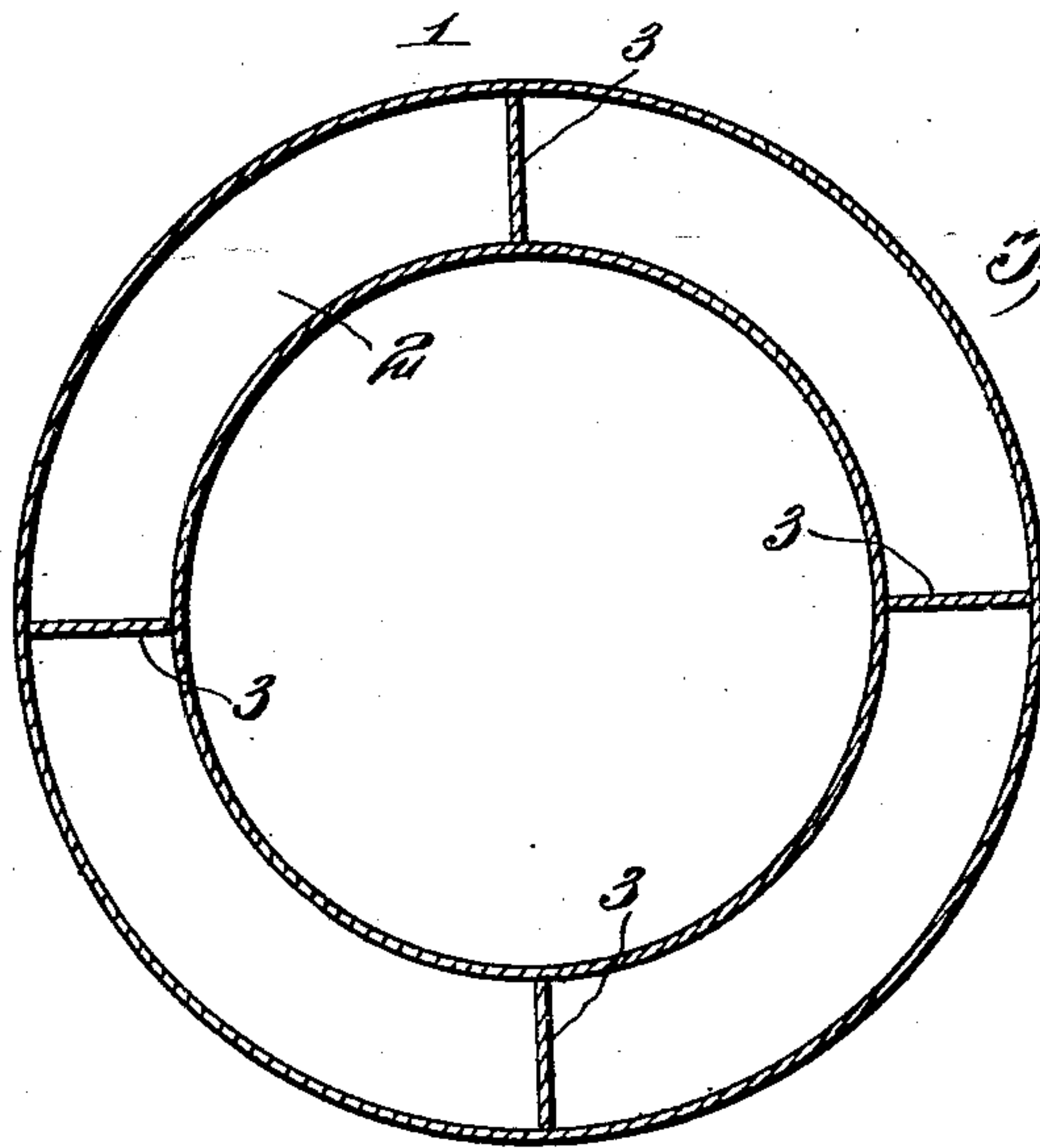
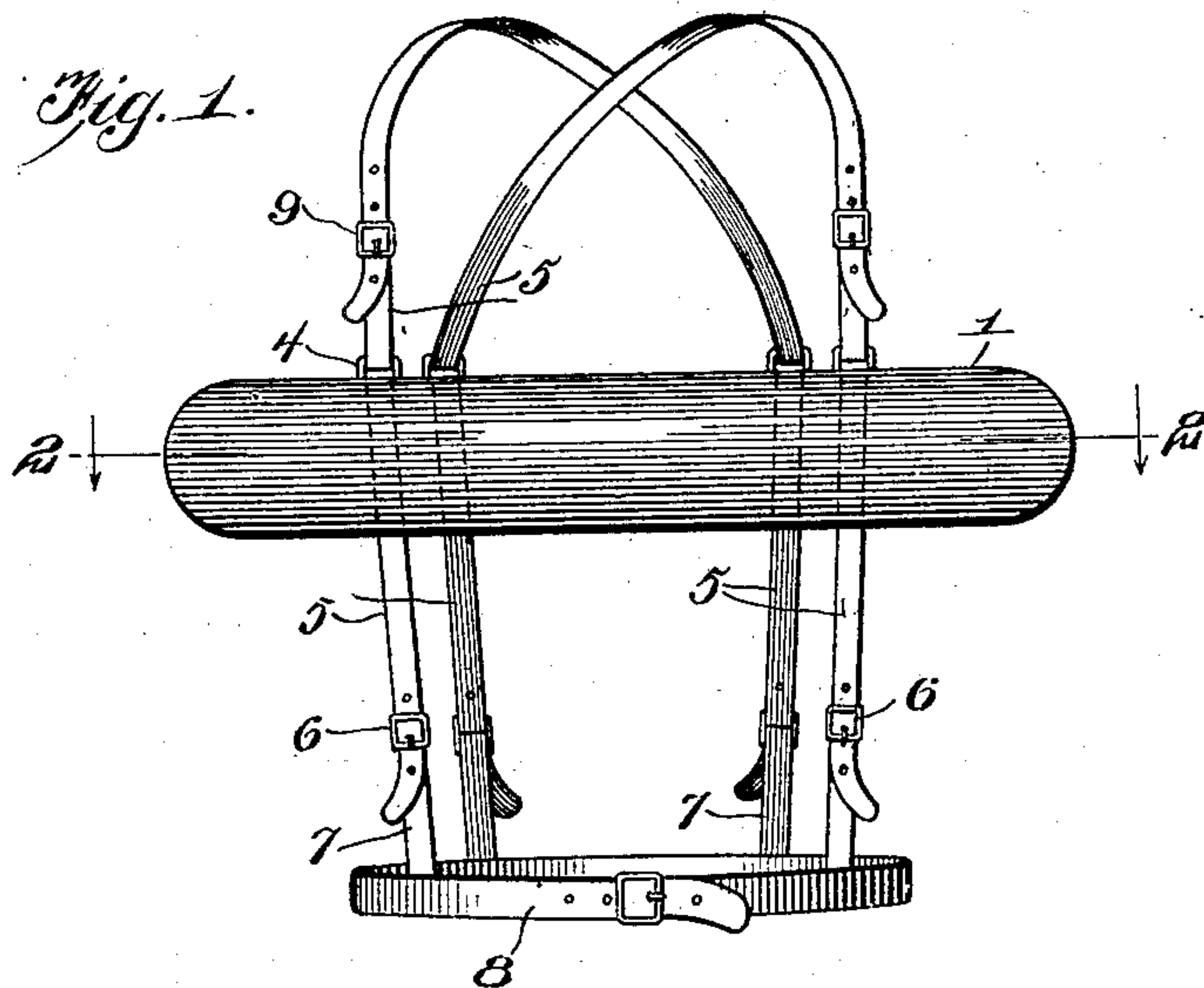


E. O. STAPP.  
LIFE PRESERVER.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 30, 1908.

914,987.

Patented Mar. 9, 1909.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELLIS O. STAPP, OF HOLLADAY, TENNESSEE.

## LIFE-PRESERVER.

No. 914,987.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 9, 1909.

Application filed June 30, 1908. Serial No. 441,078.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ELLIS O. STAPP, a citizen of the United States, residing at Holladay, in the county of Benton and State of Tennessee, have invented new and useful Improvements in Life-Preservers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to life preservers, and the object of the invention is to provide a float comprising an annular ring constructed of suitable light metal and provided with a series of air tight compartments so as to render the same buoyant and capable of supporting a person in the water, the device being adapted to be positioned beneath the arms of the wearer and being retained in position through the medium of suitable straps engaging across the shoulders of the wearer and also being provided with depending straps adapted to be secured to a belt which is positioned around the waist of the wearer.

With these and other objects in view the invention resides in the novel construction of life preservers hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a life preserver constructed in accordance with the present invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional view upon the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

In the accompanying drawings the numeral 1 designates the annular buoy. This buoy 1 comprises a hollow ring constructed of light metal, such as aluminum or the like and is divided into a plurality of suitable compartments 2 through the medium of partitions 3. The compartments 2 are air tight and the structure is of sufficient buoyancy to float a person to whom it is attached. By arranging a buoy with a series of compartments it will be noted that should one of the several compartments become punctured or

from any reason spring a leak, the air within the other compartments will be sufficient to render the device buoyant and capable of supporting the person to whom it is attached.

The buoy is provided with a plurality of U-shaped members 4 adapted for the reception of suitable straps 5. These straps 5 are each provided with buckles at their lower ends as indicated by the numerals 6 and these buckles are adapted for engagement with suitable eyes provided by similar straps 7 secured to a belt 8. This belt 8 is adapted to be attached around the waist of a wearer after the buoy has been positioned beneath the arms of the wearer. Two of the straps 5 projecting above the buoy are provided with buckles 9, while the opposite pair of straps have their free ends provided with spaced perforations adapted to be engaged by the fingers of the buckles. The upper members of the straps 5 are adapted to be positioned across the shoulders of the wearer and thus retain the buoy in proper position.

Having thus fully described the invention what is claimed as new is:

A life preserver comprising an annular buoy constructed of light material and having its interior divided into a plurality of compartments, staples upon the buoy, straps secured to the staples, buckles secured to the upwardly extending portion of two of the straps and adapted to engage the free ends of the upper portion of the other pair of straps, and a belt attached to the depending portions of the straps.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ELLIS O. STAPP.

Witnesses:

W. G. McILLWAIN,  
G. B. BONDS.