

F. C. BARGAR.  
LIFE SAVING DEVICE.  
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923,801.

Patented June 8, 1909.

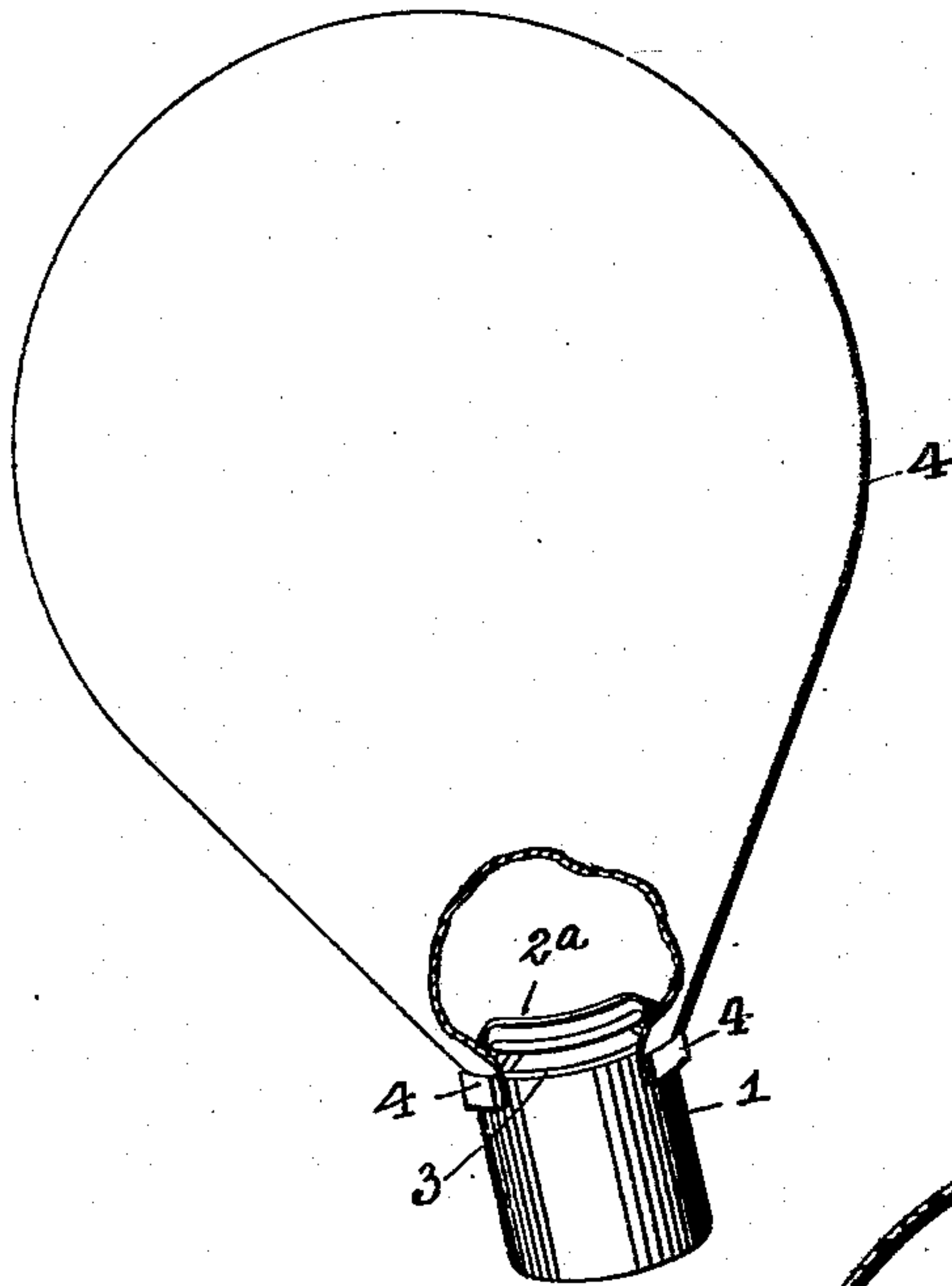


Fig. 1.

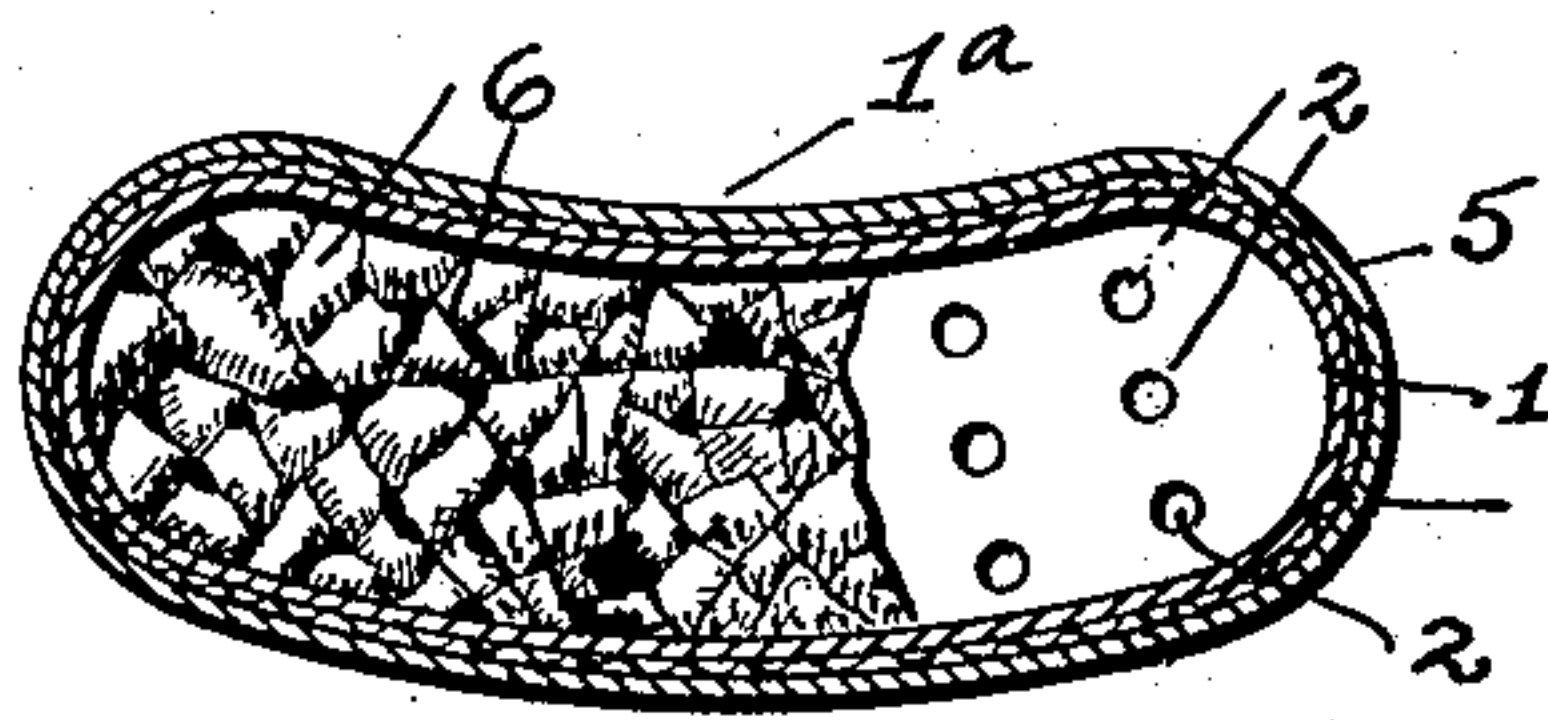


Fig. 3

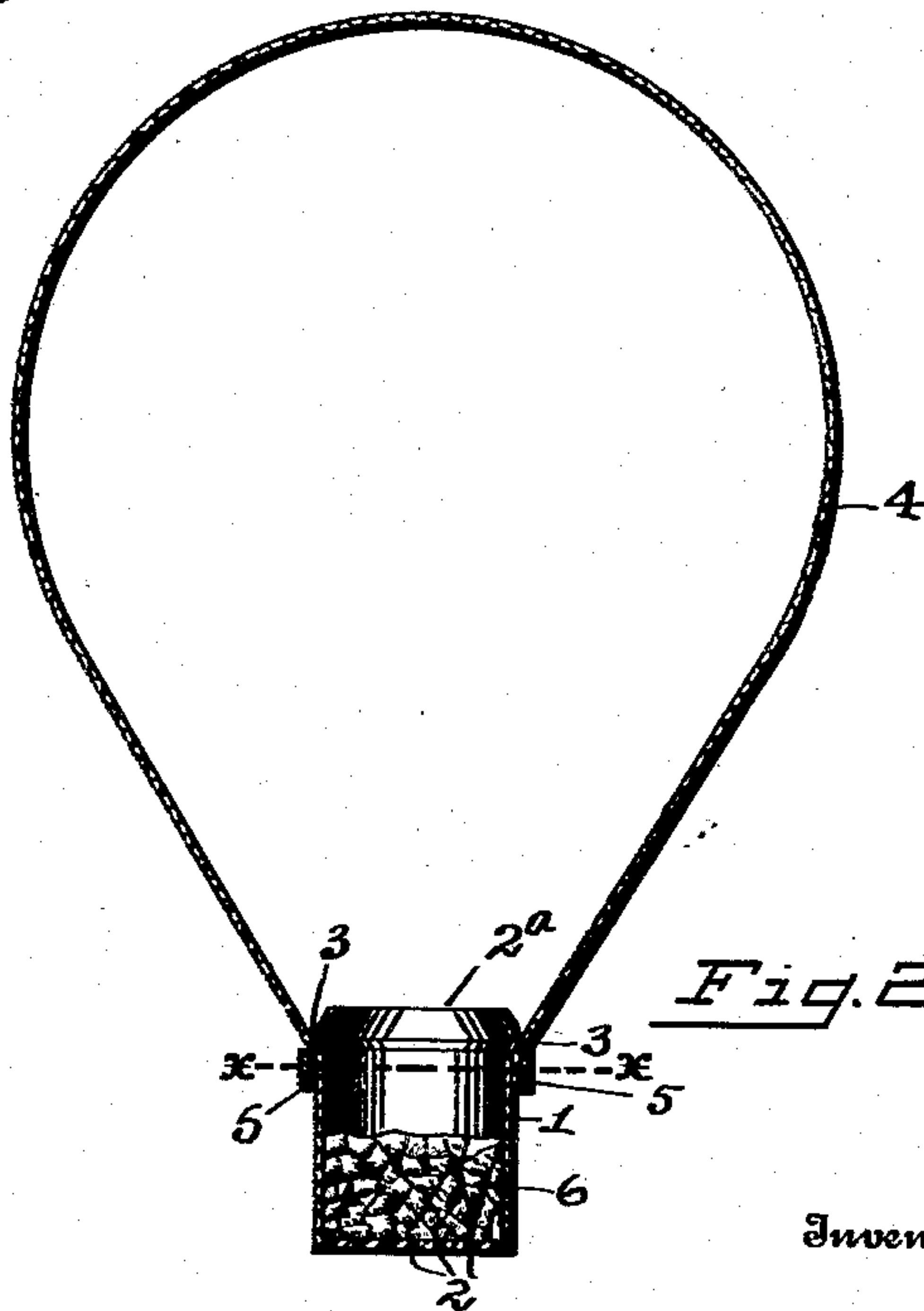


Fig. 2.

Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK C. BARGAR, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

## LIFE-SAVING DEVICE.

No. 923,801.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 8, 1909.

Application filed September 14, 1908. Serial No. 452,822.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FREDERICK C. BARGAR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Life-Saving Devices, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the improvement of life saving devices of that class which are adapted to be used to prevent drowning.

The objects of my invention are to provide a simple and inexpensive although effective life saving device of this class, of a construction which permits of its being secured to the body of a person or carried in a convenient manner.

My invention further consists in details of construction and arrangement of parts which will be more fully pointed out hereinafter.

These objects I accomplish in the manner illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of my improved life saving device, showing the lower portion of the gas bag broken away on one side for the sake of convenience in illustration, Fig. 2 is a central vertical section of the same, and, Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view on line  $x-x$  of Fig. 2.

Similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

In carrying out my invention, I employ a suitable casing or receptacle 1, which is preferably of the partially flattened or oblong form shown more clearly in Fig. 3 of the drawing, and which on one side is concaved or inwardly curved as indicated at 1<sup>a</sup> to facilitate the fitting of the same to the body of the wearer. The casing or receptacle 1 has its lower end perforated as indicated at 2 and its upper open end formed with a tapering or inwardly inclined extension 2<sup>a</sup>. In the construction of the casing 1, I preferably form the same at the junction of its extension 2<sup>a</sup> and the body, with a peripheral projection or shoulder 3.

4 represents a gas bag which may be formed of any desired shape and of any suitable or well known gas tight and water-proof material. The gas bag 4 has its reduced open end or neck portion secured about the upper portion of the body of the casing 1, this being preferably accomplished by the employment of a close fitting band 5 which embraces the neck termination of the

gas bag immediately below the shoulder projection 3 of the casing. It is obvious, however, that other suitable means may be employed for attaching said gas bag to the casing at the point mentioned. The casing or receptacle 1 is designed to be partially filled with calcium carbide as indicated at 6 and such carbide may be employed therein in a loose state as shown, or may be contained in a suitable fabric sack or cover.

In utilizing my device, the uninflated gas bag may be suitably folded and secured about or above the casing 1 in compact form and the casing may be strapped or otherwise suitably bound to the wearer preferably beneath the outer clothing. Assuming that the wearer of my device is through accident or otherwise, cast into the water and unable to swim to a place of safety, it will be understood that the water rising in the casing 1 through the perforations 2 and coming into contact with the carbide, will result in the generation of gas, which will pass outward through the reduced upward extension 2<sup>a</sup> of the receptacle into the gas bag and operate to inflate the latter. The wearer during this operation, may remove the casing from its connection with his body or clothing and by grasping the casing with one or both hands, will be prevented from sinking, owing to the buoyancy of the inflated gas bag.

The formation of the casing with the inwardly inclined and reduced outlet 2<sup>a</sup>, tends to prevent a direct contact of the gas generated in the casing 1, with the material forming the gas bag, thereby obviating the danger of said bag being burned or injured by the heat of the gas.

It will be understood from the construction described, that my invention is comparatively simple and inexpensive and that by its use a person grasping the same and holding the casing in a substantially upright position, may be prevented from sinking without additional effort on his part, for a considerable period of time.

What I claim, is:

1. In a device of the character described, the combination with a casing one side of which is concaved to conform to the shape of the body of the wearer, of an outwardly extending flange around the upper portion of said casing, and an inwardly directed neck portion 2<sup>a</sup> above said flange, a gas bag and means for binding the material of said



gas bag around said casing beneath said flange.

2. In a life saving device, the combination with a casing of elongated or flattened form in cross section, said casing having a perforated lower end and an open upper end, of a gas-tight bag of waterproof material, and means for binding the mouth of said bag about the upper portion of said casing.

3. In a life saving device, the combination with a casing having a perforated

underside and having its upper open end formed with an inwardly tapered extension, of a gas bag adapted to have its mouth portion secured about the body of the casing below said extension.

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

FREDERICK C. BARGAR.

Witnesses:

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L. CARL STOUGHTON.