

H. P. TEUFEL.
LIFE SAVING DEVICE.
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934,855.

Patented Sept. 21, 1909.



Fig. 1.

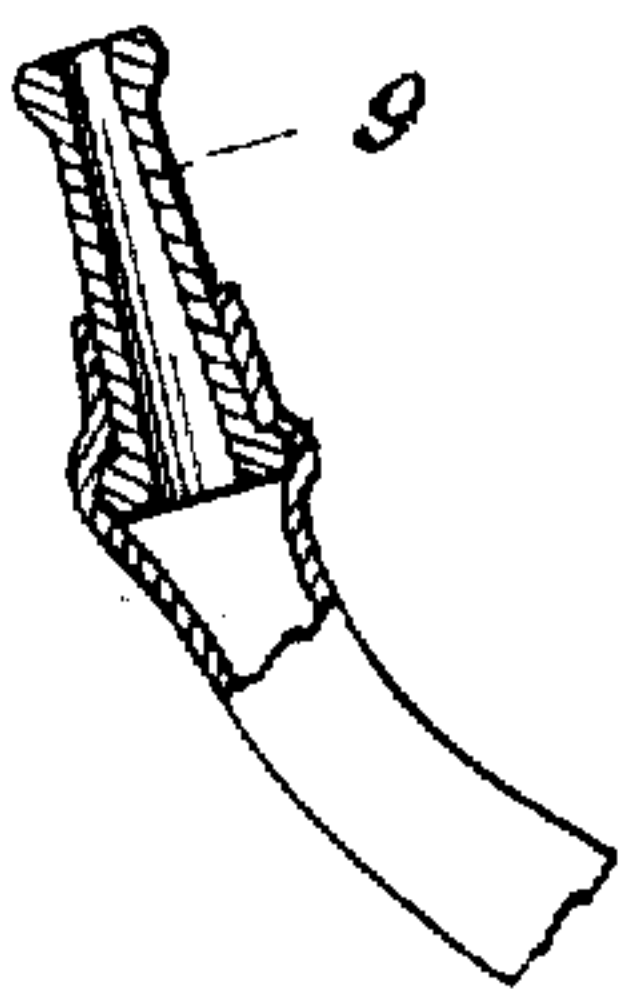


Fig. 2.

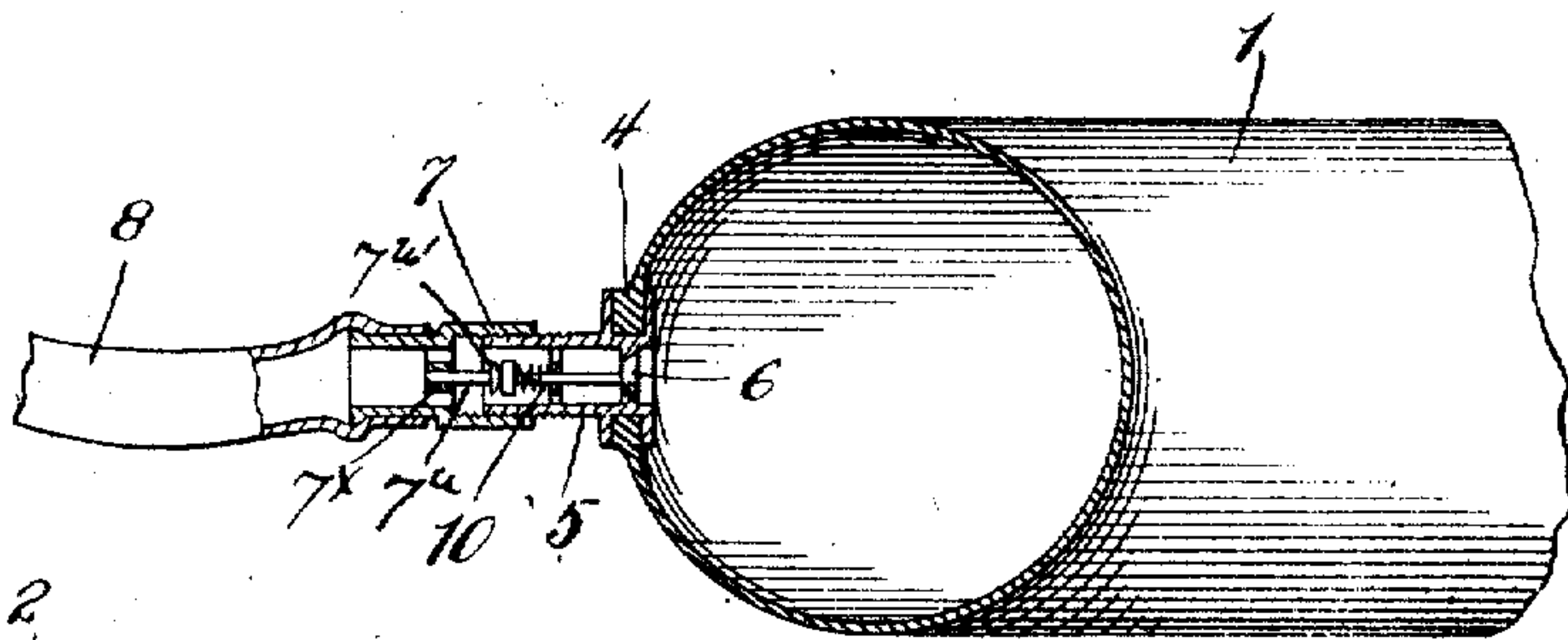


Fig. 3.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY P. TEUFEL, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

LIFE-SAVING DEVICE.

934,855.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRY P. TEUFEL, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Life-Saving Devices, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

10 This invention relates to life saving devices, and the primary object of my invention is to provide a collapsible life saver that can be easily and quickly attached to the body and inflated, similar to the pneumatic tire of a bicycle or automobile, whereby the life saver will float and sustain the body in water.

Another object of my invention is to provide a life saver constructed upon the principle of a buoy, the life saver being suspended from the shoulders beneath the arm pits to firmly support a body in water.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a life saver of a light and durable construction, permitting of the same being worn by life savers and inflated when danger is encountered.

With the above and other objects in view which will more readily appear as the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter described and then specifically claimed.

In the drawings:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of my life saver as applied to a body, Fig. 2 is an enlarged cross sectional view of a portion of the same, and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a life saver upon a small scale.

40 In the accompanying drawings, 1 designates a tubular belt made of rubber, silk or a flexible impervious material. Suitably attached to the belt are straps 2, crossed in the back as at 3, similar to a pair of suspenders, whereby the belt can be suspended from the shoulders of a body beneath the arms. The front side of the belt is reinforced as at 4 and provided with a valve casing or nipple 5 having a spring-pressed valve 6 located therein for normally closing the casing or

nipple 5. The casing 5 is formed with two annularly spaced integral flanges adapted to engage the reinforced portion 4 whereby the casing is held in place on the tubular belt. Threaded upon the casing or nipple 5 is a sleeve 7 having a tube connection 8 and a guide therein for the outer end of the stem of the valve, the free end of which is provided with a nipple or nozzle 9. Near the outer end of the sleeve 7 an internal cross bar 7^x is secured, and said cross bar carries a pin 7^a, which is provided with a half rounded abutment 7^b, engaging with the valve stem, whereby the valve 6 can be forced from its seat by screwing the casing 5 inwardly.

The spring 10 used in connection with the valve 6 is of a tension that can be readily overcome by a pressure of air blown through the tube connection 8 by a person wearing the belt. The tubular belt 1 can be easily and quickly filled and the valve 6 maintains air within the same while the belt is being used. To release air from the tubular belt 1, the sleeve 7 is removed and the valve 6 forced inwardly to allow air to escape.

It is apparent from the novel construction of my life saver that the same can be comfortably worn in the face of danger without interfering with the movements of a body, and that the life saver can be easily inflated to place the same in a floatable condition.

Having now described my invention what I claim as new, is:—

A life saving device comprising a tubular collapsible belt, a reinforced portion on said belt, a valve casing having spaced integral annular flanges secured thereby to the reinforced portion of the belt, a valve and stem movable in the casing, a sleeve screwed to the casing, an internal cross bar on the sleeve, a pin having an abutment engaging the valve stem, a spring controlling the valve stem and a flexible tube secured to the sleeve.

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

HARRY P. TEUFEL.

Witnesses:

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