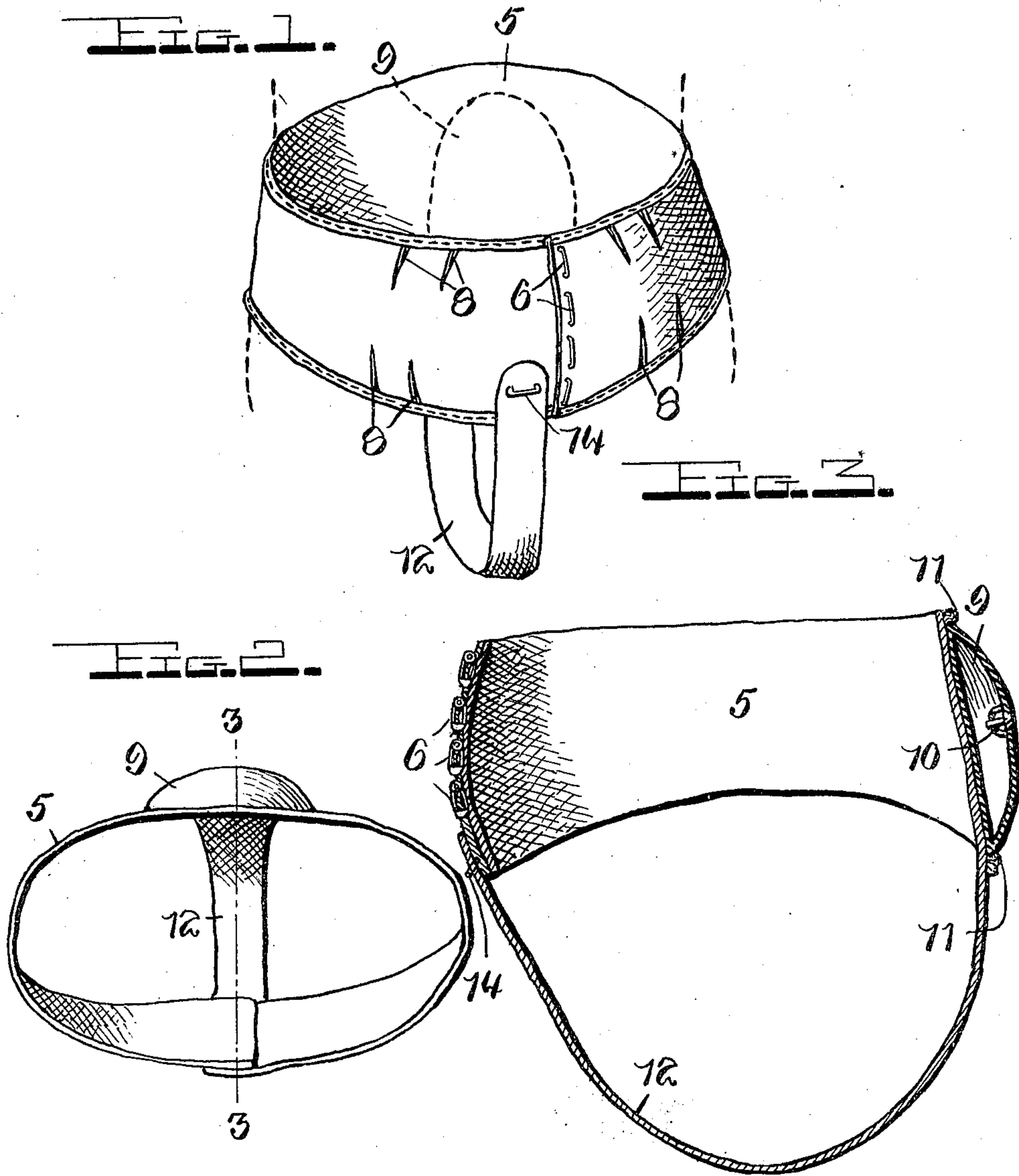


L. STREET.  
BACK SUPPORT.  
APPLICATION FILED JULY 30, 1910.

999,415.

Patented Aug. 1, 1911.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LULABELLE STREET, OF TUCUMCARI, TERRITORY OF NEW MEXICO.

BACK-SUPPORT.

999,415.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 1, 1911.

Application filed July 30, 1910. Serial No. 574,649.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LULABELLE STREET, a citizen of the United States, residing at Tucumcari, in the county of Quay and Territory of New Mexico, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Back-Supports, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to an improved supporter and more particularly to a supporter for the back especially adapted to use after child birth, during the lying in bed period, to support the back and at the same time bandage the abdomen until contraction of the womb takes place.

Another object of my invention resides in the provision of a supporter of the character specified which is admirably adapted for the purpose above stated and which is also light and may be worn with entire comfort.

A further object is to provide a supporter of such construction that the same may be easily and quickly adjusted to suit individual requirements, without greatly increasing its cost of manufacture.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of the improved construction, combination and arrangement of parts which will be hereinafter more fully set forth and specifically pointed out in the appended claim, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, wherein like reference characters designate similar parts throughout the several views and in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the application of my invention, the figure being represented in dotted lines; Fig. 2 is a plan view; and Fig. 3 is a section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

A woman is subject to severe pains due to muscular contraction caused by return of the parts to normal condition after the delivery of a child. Various means are resorted to for the alleviation of these pains but they are usually found either wholly or in part injurious or ineffective. It is the purpose of my invention to accomplish the above end without injurious effect.

Referring more particularly to the drawing 5 indicates the body member or abdominal band, the ends of which are of greater width than the intermediate portion. The ends of the band are adapted to be secured together by means of a number of safety

pins 6, whereby the band is held upon the abdomen of the wearer. The band 5 is preferably of the greatest width at its ends and central portion, the comparatively narrow intermediate portions thereof being disposed immediately above the hips of the wearer. As the womb contracts the ends of the band are adjusted thereby applying pressure upon the abdomen and permitting the device to be worn with comfort. It will, of course, be obvious that any desired number of rows of the pins 6 may be used. A number of V-shaped darts 8 are made in the longitudinal edges of the band 5 adjacent to each end thereof. By providing these darts the band will lie perfectly flat and smooth upon the abdomen of the wearer.

A deflatable air cushion is detachably secured to the outside of the band 5 intermediate of its ends and extends beyond the lower edge thereof. This cushion is centrally provided with the usual air valve which is adapted to be closed by a suitable cap. The cushion may be conveniently inflated by connecting a tube to the valve and blowing into or otherwise supplying air to the interior of the cushion, while being worn. Suitable buttons or clasps 11 may be used in attaching the cushion to the band so that it may be easily and quickly removed and the band washed. To the edge of the band a strap 12 is secured. This strap may be either permanently or removably secured to the band and is adapted to extend between the limbs of the wearer, being disposed closely over the entrance to the vagina and closing the same. The free end of this strap is secured to one end of the band 5 by means of the safety pin 14.

By detachably securing the cushion 9 to the interior of the band, the band may be worn with greater comfort, and the central portion thereof is held closely against the skin so that the same will not move and thereby chafe or irritate the skin. The cushion may also be readily detached without removing the band so that it may be again inflated.

In the use of the supporter the band 5 is fastened about the abdomen as above described, the cushion 9 being disposed upon the lower portion of the back immediately below the waist line. The strap 12 is then fastened to the lower edge of the band at the front. When thus arranged the back will be properly supported with comfort to the



mother and without danger of ill effect. The cushion may be inflated to any desired extent so as to afford a brace and support for the back. The device is also adapted for  
5 use during the menstrual periods, the strap 12 serving to retain the napkin or catamenial sack in its proper position.

From the foregoing it will be seen that I have provided a very simple and effective  
10 supporter for the purpose specified which will relieve the wearer of the numerous pains incident after child birth. The device is thoroughly sanitary and may be readily  
" applied and adjusted in accordance with  
15 contraction of the parts. The cushion would preferably be constructed of rubber, while the remaining parts may be of any desired material.

What is claimed is:

20 The herein described supporting band comprising a single length of flexible material of greater width at its ends and central portion than at the intermediate portions

thereof, said band being adapted to encircle the waist of the user, means for adjustably 25 securing the ends of said band together over the abdomen, an inflatable cushion detachably secured to the exterior of the central portion of the band and extending across substantially its entire width, said cushion 30 being adapted to exert a yielding pressure upon the back of the user at the waist line, a strap extending from the lower edge of the band at its central portion adapted to extend between the limbs of the user, and 35 means for detachably securing the free end of said strap to the lower edges of the connected ends of the band, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my 40 signature in the presence of two witnesses.

LULABELLE STREET.

Witnesses:

C. H. FERGUSON,  
REED HOLLOMAN.

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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."

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