

Feb. 8, 1927.

1,616,961

H. G. CARTER

NECK BAG

Filed Jan. 17, 1925

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

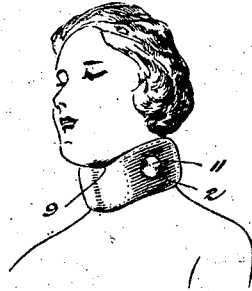


Fig. 1.

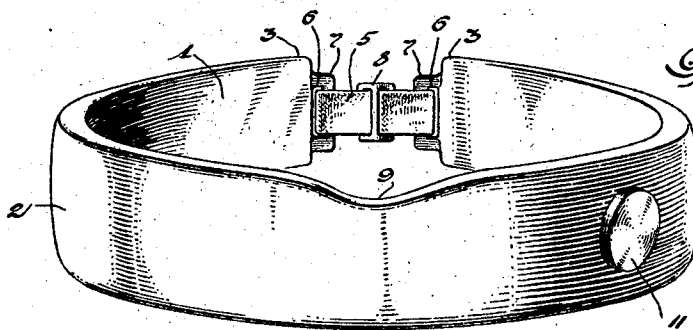


Fig. 2.

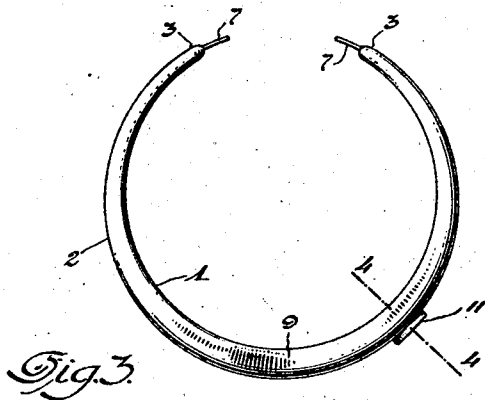


Fig. 3.

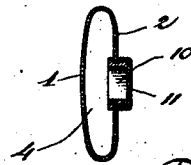


Fig. 4.

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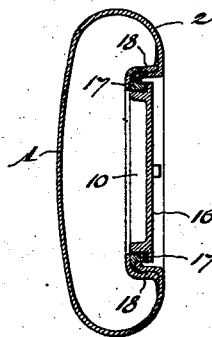
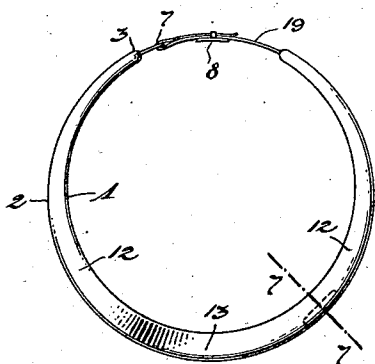
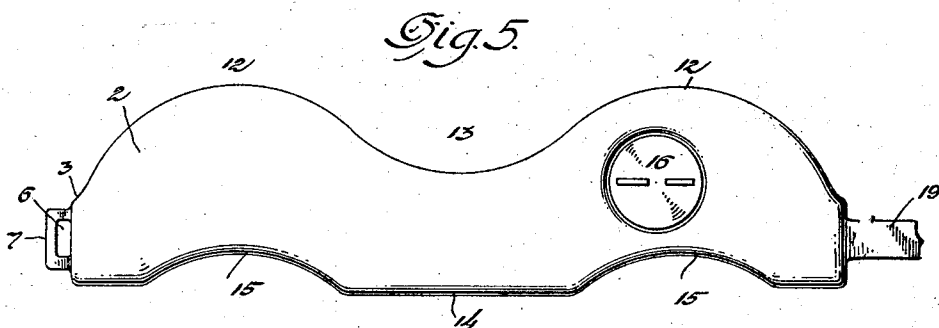
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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOWARD G. CARTER, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

NECK BAG.

Application filed January 17, 1925. Serial No. 3,085.

This invention relates to a device for applying the heating or cooling effect of a heating or cooling medium to the neck and throat of a person, and its object is to provide a holder for a heating or cooling medium, such as water, which holder is made to conform to a person's neck, and may be quickly and easily applied and worn without inconvenience to the wearer and will hold the medium in place about the person's neck to apply and retain the heat at the places requiring such heat. A further object is to provide a device so constructed as to retain its proper shape while in use so that the affected part will be well covered by the device and the proper heat or cold applied thereto, said device embodying in its construction, certain other new and useful features.

With the above enumerated and other ends in view, the invention consists in forming a device for the purpose with spaced apart walls of rubber and in the form of an open ring, said walls having sufficient stiffness to hold the walls extended and the device normally in a ring form, so that when placed about the neck of a person, the device will conform to the person's neck and wrinkling or distortion will be prevented. The invention further consists in molding a device of this character to conform to the neck of the wearer beneath his chin and thus obviate discomfort, and also to so form the device as to retain an increased volume of heating fluid at the forward part of the device beneath or adjacent the chin and well up beneath the ears of the patient, and consequently a greater heating effect where most needed. Certain other features of construction are also comprised in the invention, all as hereinafter more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claim, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a device illustrative of the invention, and showing its application in use;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged perspective view of the device detached.

Fig. 3 is a plan view showing the normal semi-ring shape of the device when its free ends are unconnected and the device is not in use;

Fig. 4 is a transverse section substantially upon the line 4—4 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is an elevation of a device showing a modified form and the device in extended position;

Fig. 6 is a view similar to Fig. 3 of the modified form shown in Fig. 5; and

Fig. 7 is an enlarged cross section upon the line 7—7 of Fig. 6.

In the treatment of various throat troubles, it is very desirable to apply heat and in others, the application of a cooling medium is necessary. Such application is usually made by means of a compress as it is quite impossible to use an ordinary water bottle or bag for the reason that such a device will not fit closely against the patient's neck, and cannot be conveniently secured in place. Also its use would cause great discomfort and could not be so applied as to properly heat or cool the affected parts. The present invention contemplates the molding of a water container in a form to closely fit against and encircle the patient's neck, and so shaped as to fit snugly beneath the chin and well up beneath the ears at the sides of the neck without causing discomfort and to apply the greatest amount of heat where it is most needed.

As shown in Fig. 3, the device is molded in the form of a split or divided ring having a double wall of rubber or of hollow oval shape in cross section as shown in Fig. 4, these walls or the inner and outer sides 1 and 2 respectively, converging toward the ends 3 where they meet and are secured together to close these ends and make the water space 4 water tight. The greatest transverse thickness of the device, and consequently of the wall of water contained within the space 4 is intermediate the ends of the ring or at the front where it passes beneath the chin of the patient when the device is in use, thus providing a greater volume or body of heating medium where it is most desirable and providing a comparatively thin structure at the back of the neck where the heat is not needed and where the thickness would cause discomfort to the patient. The ring is also molded into ring form so that it will normally assume that shape, the inner wall 1 being of lesser length than the outer wall, and thus when fastened about the neck the inner wall will not wrinkle but will conform closely to the curve of the patient's neck and lie snugly thereagainst. The ends of the ring may be

connected by any suitable means, such as a strap 5 passing through slots or eyes 6 in tabs 7 formed on the ends of the ring and said strap adjustably secured by the usual buckle 8. The ring may thus be quickly applied and drawn up into contact with the patient's neck, by adjusting the strap.

In order that the device may cover the neck glands well up beneath the patient's ears without being too wide beneath the chin for comfort, the upper edge portion of the ring directly beneath the chin, is curved downwardly as at 9, thus narrowing the device at this point and permitting the ring to be drawn closely about the neck without choking the patient. In order that the water space 4 may be filled with a heating or cooling medium, such as hot water or cracked ice, a fill opening 10 is provided in the outer wall 2, preferably intermediate the front and one end of the ring where it will not come in contact with the patient's chin, and this fill opening is closed by a suitable screw cap 11 to prevent leakage.

In Figs. 5 to 7 inclusive, the configuration of the ring in front elevation is modified so that it will cover completely, the parts to which it is most desirable to apply heat or cold, and at the same time afford no discomfort to the wearer. In order to cover the neck glands well up beneath the ears and at the same time permit the patient to lower his chin to a natural position, the upper edge of the ring is curved upwardly as at 12 at each side of a deep depression or downwardly curved portion 13 intermediate the ends of the ring. This deep depression of the upper edge at 13 permits the ring to fit beneath the chin of the patient with the upwardly curved portion 12 extending well up beneath the ears and completely covering the neck glands. In order that the ring may be of considerable width as compared to its length and thus come well down over the part of the patient's neck where it joins the trunk, this ring is curved upwardly or cut away at its lower edge at each side of its intermediate portion 14, as at 15 opposite the upwardly curved upper edge portion 12 so that where the ring passes over the collar

bone it will conform thereto and the portion 14 will fit, well down upon the throat beneath the chin.

Preferably, a strap of molded rubber or other suitable material is integrally united at one end with one end of the ring during the molding of the ring and to secure the ring about the patient's neck, this strap 19 (shown in Fig. 5) is passed through the slot 6 in the tab 7 at the opposite end of the ring, then drawn up and secured by any suitable means, as by the buckle 8.

The fill opening 10 is closed by a screw cap 16 which screws into a ring 17 secured within an inwardly extending neck portion 18 of the outer wall of the receptacle so that the outer side of the cap will be flush with the outer surface of the wall and there will be no projections to catch upon garments worn by the patient or otherwise interfere with the handling or use of the device.

Obviously, the width of the device and internal diameter of the ring may be varied to suit the conditions of use and any suitable means may be employed for detachably and adjustably securing the ring about the patient's neck. Other changes may also be made within the scope of the appended claim, and such changes are contemplated.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim is:—

A device for the purpose described comprising a hollow body formed of rubber molded into ring-form with the ring transversely divided and its ends closed to close the space within the body, the upper edge portion of the body being depressed intermediate the ends of the body and curved upwardly at each side of said depression to provide upwardly extending portions at each side of the chin of the wearer and the lower edge portion of said body being curved inwardly opposite said upwardly extending portions to fit over the collar bone at each side of the neck of the wearer and means for detachably and adjustably connecting the ends of the body.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

HOWARD G. CARTER.