Nov. 3, 1931. O. C. TOWNSEND 1,830,302

TROUSERS SUPPORTER

Filed June 12, 1931

Fig. 1.

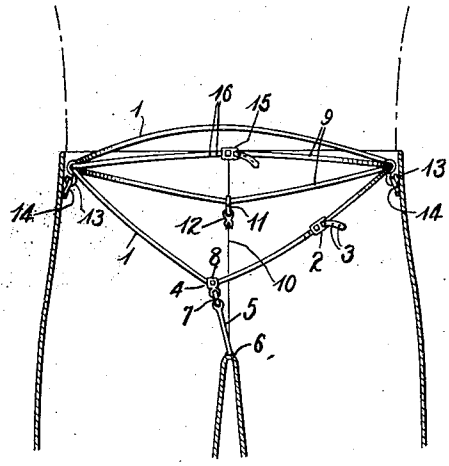


Fig. 2.

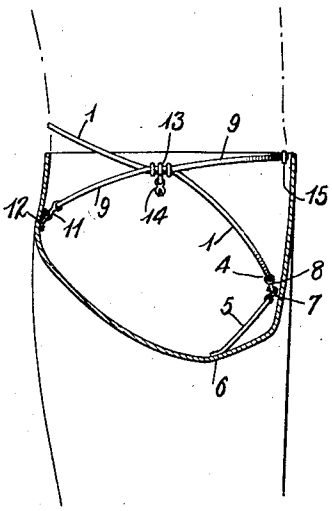


Fig. 3.

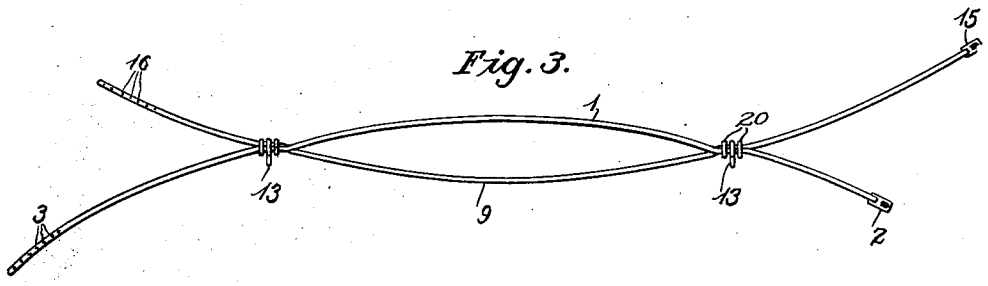


Fig. 4.

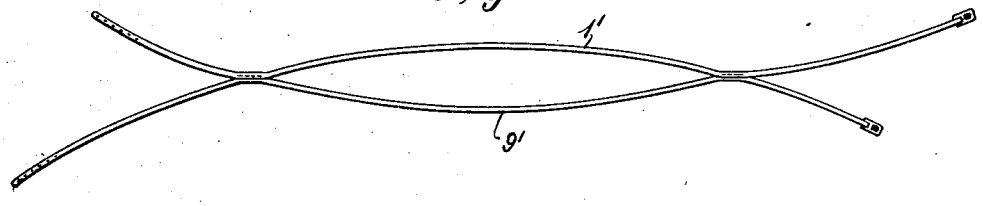
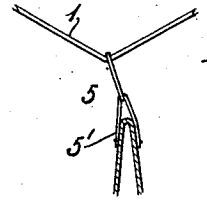


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

OLIVER CLAY TOWNSEND, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

TROUSERS SUPPORTER

Application filed June 12, 1931. Serial No. 543,761.

This invention has for its object to provide a trousers supporter which will be more convenient and comfortable to wear than either the belt or suspenders now used. My supporter is designed to be worn inside the trousers and is composed of two girdles which hang upon the body in loops which are inclined from back to front and from front to back, respectively, so that they maintain their positions without being as tight as an ordinary belt. These bands cross at the sides above the iliac bones where the soft flesh allows the bands to be drawn in sufficiently so that they are firmly supported by the bony structure of the body.

Another object of my invention is to provide a direct support for the crotch and seat of the trousers to improve their "hang".

In the drawings which show certain forms of my invention by way of example,

Fig. 1 is a diagrammatic view showing the trousers supporter in position, the view being taken from the front,

Fig. 2 is a similar view from the side,

Fig. 3 is a view of the supporter in expanded position,

Fig. 4 is a view of a modified form of the supporter in expanded position, and

Fig. 5 is a detail view of modification of the supporting strap.

Considering first the supporter shown in Figs. 1 to 3, a girdle 1, extends across the small of the back, passes around the sides above the iliac bones, and curves downward across, or below, the stomach. The ends of girdle 1 are secured together in any suitable way, preferably by an adjustable connection. As shown in the drawings the connection is provided by a buckle 2 which can be engaged with any one of the holes 3 in the other end of the girdle.

At a point 4, preferably a little to one side of the midpoint of the front of girdle 1, is attached a strap 5, the lower end of which is sewed to the crotch of the trousers at the end of the mid-seam 6. The connection at 4 is provided by a hook 7 on strap 5 engaging an eye 8 on girdle 1. The eye 8 may be adjustable along girdle 1 and, in fact may be freely slidable along it, since the sharp bend at this point will keep it at any point where it is placed. Joined to the side portions of the girdle 1 is a second girdle 9. The girdle 9 crosses the stomach about at the level of the top of the trousers and hangs down at the back, where it is connected to the inside of the seat of the trousers at the seam 10 by a hook 11 and eye 12. The point of attachment of the eye 12 to the seam 10 should generally be about 14 inches from the seam 6, but the proper location will depend upon the size and cut of the trousers. The ends of girdle 9 are connected together by a buckle 15 engaging holes 16 in the other end of the girdle. Where the girdles 1 and 9 cross they are preferably joined together for some little distance, which helps them to stay in their correct positions.

Hooks 13 are fixed to the girdles in position to engage eyes 14 fastened at the side seams of the trousers about at the tops of the pockets. Support for the trousers at this point directly protects the trouser hang from the pull and strain resulting from use of the pocket by the wearer.

In dressing, the supporter is first put on over the outer shirt and the ends of the girdle fastened together. The trousers are then put on and the rear hook 11 and side hooks 13 snapped in place. The strap 5 is then connected to the girdle 1 by means of the hook 7. In undressing only the buckle 15 needs to be undone, whereupon the supporter will slip off with the trousers. Likewise in dressing, when the supporter is already fixed to the trousers it is put on with the trousers and there is only the buckle 15 to be connected.

It will be seen that the crotch and inner leg seam areas of the trousers are attached to the lower stretch of girdle 1, thus giving direct support to an important and refractory trouser area which has not heretofore had other than the remote control exercised by suspenders. The crotch support 5 stabilizes and imparts fixity of position to the girdle 1 while itself enjoying the stability and fixity which it creates.

The tightness of the girdle 1 will depend upon individual taste, but it should be loose enough to bring the upper end of strap 5

down far enough so that the strap will not press against the body of the wearer.

Instead of the single connection of strap 5 with the crotch of the trousers, as shown in Fig. 1, the end of the strap may be divided and connected to the inner seam 6 at each side of the crotch, as shown at 5′ in Fig. 5.

In the form of the invention shown in Figs. 1 to 3 the connection of the girdles 1 and 9 at the sides may be a free one provided by rings 20. The supporter can also be made in the form shown in Fig. 4, where the girdle 1′ forms the upper back and front straps and the girdle 9′ forms the lower back and front straps. In this case the two girdles should be fixed together where they cross. In effect the supporter shown in Fig. 4 is the same as that shown in Figs. 1 to 3, the difference being only in the method of manufacture. In either case the finished supporter is composed of one girdle which crosses the back and sides above the iliac bones and sags in a loop at front, and a second girdle which crosses the stomach and sides above the iliac bones and sags in a loop at the back. In the claims the term "girdle" is used with reference to the completed supporter and without intention to indicate which parts were in one piece originally.

The back section of a waist line trouser supporting belt is subjected to a violent downward pull as the wearer assumes a sitting or bending posture. Repeated movements of this kind, when a belt is worn, cause the shirt to work up and bulge out at the back. With my trousers supporter this downward pull is not communicated to the girdle 1 because it is above the area of disturbance, and it therefore remains in fixed position and counteracts any tendency of the trousers to raise the shirt. Furthermore the disturbance at the point where the eye 12 is located is less violent than at the belt line of the trousers and there is therefore less derangement of my supporter than of the ordinary belt.

The strap 5 is very efficacious in preventing the crotch of the trousers from working back and binding, as it ordinarily does after one has been sitting for a long time, particularly in riding on horseback or driving in an automobile.

The supporter can be made in various forms within the scope of the following claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. A trousers supporter comprising a girdle adapted to cross the wearer's back and hips above the iliac bones and to cross the stomach in a sagging loop, a second girdle adapted to cross the wearer's stomach and hips above the iliac bones and to cross the back in a sagging loop, means connecting said girdles together where they cross above the hips, means for suspending the crotch of the trouers, from said first-mentioned loop, and means for suspending the seat of the trousers from said second-mentioned loop.

2. A trousers supporter as described in claim 1, in which said girdles are joined together for a considerable distance where they cross above the hips.

3. A trousers supporter as described in claim 1, in combination with means for connecting the trousers to the girdle at the hips.

The foregoing specification signed at Washington, D. C., this 8th day of June, 1931.

OLIVER CLAY TOWNSEND.