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H. S. HEILBRONNER

2,642,570

GARMENT

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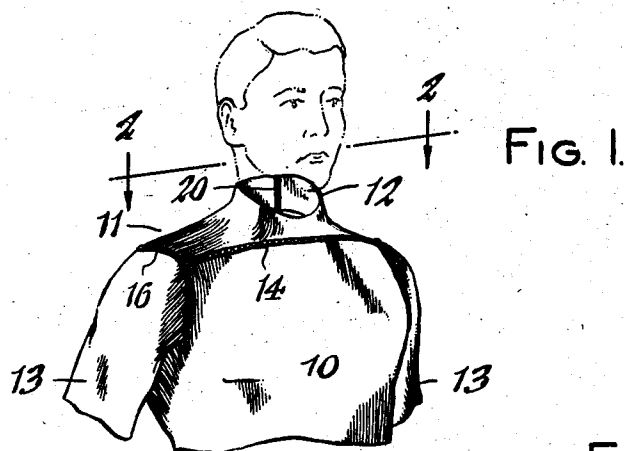


FIG. 1.

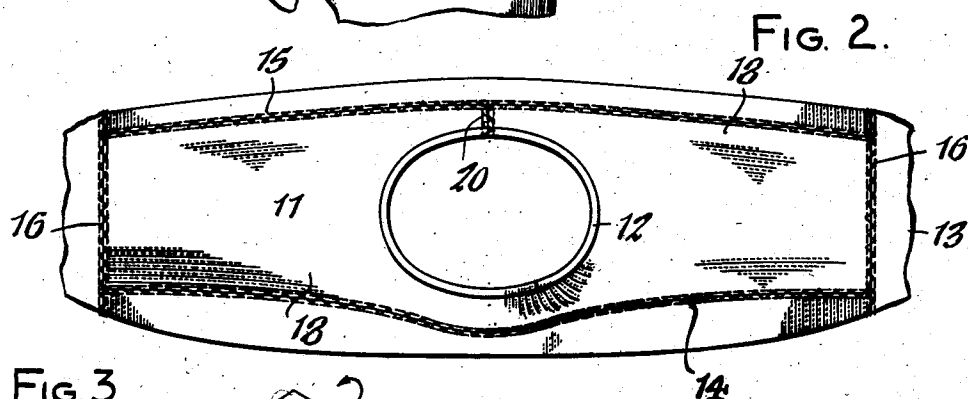


FIG. 2.

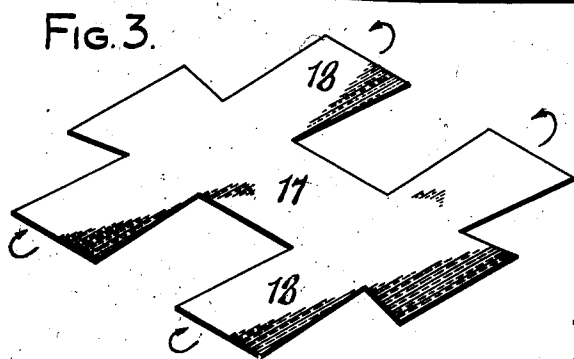


FIG. 3.

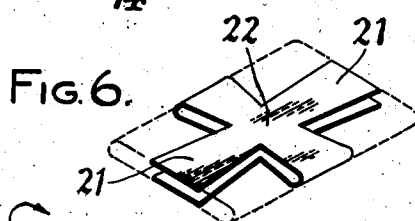


FIG. 4.

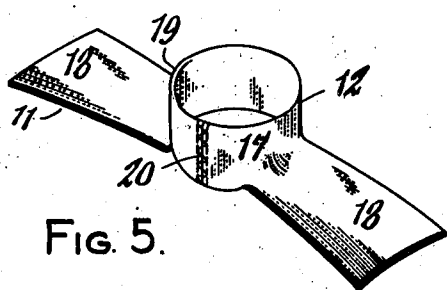


FIG. 5.

INVENTOR
Harry S. Heilbronner
BY *Walter P. Geyer*
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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Harry S. Heilbronner, Perry, N. Y.

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2 Claims. (Cl. 2-90)

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This invention relates generally to garments but more particularly to certain new and useful improvements in the neck portions of shoulder-supported garments, such as shirts and other types of outer and pullover garments.

It has for one of its objects to provide a garment of this character with a self-adjusting neck enclosure having as hermetic a sealing of the neckline as is practically possible and wherein such enclosure is made as a unitary or permanently conducted part of the shoulder portions of the garment.

Another object of the invention is to provide a pullover garment having a self-adjusting neck and shoulder inset construction designed to readily stretch or expand when pulled over the head and capable of restoring or closing itself neatly and snugly about the neck of the wearer.

A further object is to provide an integrally constructed shoulder and neck portion which is so designed as to be simple and inexpensive to produce and require a minimum of seams.

Other features of the invention reside in the construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings—

Fig. 1 is a fragmentary perspective view of the garment embodying my invention. Figure 2 is an enlarged top plan view of the neck and shoulder portion of the garment, viewed from line 2—2, Figure 1. Figure 3 is a perspective view of the blank from which the neck and shoulder portion is made. Figure 4 is a perspective view of such blank in its longitudinally-folded position prior to its final shaping. Figure 5 is a perspective of the final shaping stage of the neck and shoulder portion prior to inserting and stitching into assembly into the garment. Figure 6 is a perspective view of a modified form of blank from which my invention can be made.

Similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

By way of example, I have shown my invention in connection with a pullover type of garment of the athletic or sweat shirt type, wherein 10 indicates the body of the garment, 11 the shoulder-engaging or enclosure portion, 12 the upstanding neck rising centrally from the shoulder portion and self-adjustable to snugly fit the neck of the wearer and stretchable with such shoulder portion to readily expand when the garment is pulled over the head, and 13 indicates the sleeves which are secured in the usual manner to the customary arm holes provided in the body of the garment.

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The front and back portions of the body 10 of the garment terminate in substantially straight edges forwardly and rearwardly of the neck to provide a resulting neck and shoulder registering space into which my novel unitary shoulder and neck portion 11, 12 is inserted in spanning fashion or assembled in the manner shown in Figures 1 and 2, the same being stitched along its front and rear edges, as indicated at 14 and 15, to the companion upper edges of the garment body; and its ends being stitched, as indicated at 16, to the companion opposing upper edge portions of the sleeves 13.

This unitary neck and shoulder portion 11, 12 is in the form of an inset and is made from a one-piece foldable blank of single-layer or tubular elastic knit or like material of substantially dual cross shape in plan to provide a central or longitudinal web-like section 17 and two sets of transverse wings or extensions 18, 18 projecting from the opposite longitudinal edges of the former in spaced relation to each other and spaced inwardly from the ends of such central section, as seen in Figure 3. The space between the transverse wing-extensions is such that in the final shaping of the inset these extensions are aligned longitudinally and disposed in diametric relation to the neck portion, as shown in Figure 5. It will be noted in this figure that the wales of the material are shown as extending crosswise of the blank for a purpose which will hereafter appear. When this blank is folded lengthwise on itself medially of its central section 17, as shown in Figure 4, the two sets of transverse extensions 18, 18 register in overlying relation, the central section constituting the neck portion 12 of the inset with the fold 19 forming the upper edge thereof, while the transverse extensions constitute the shoulder portions 11. This lengthwise-folded, double-thickness blank is next folded medially transversely on itself to the position shown in Figure 5 to bring the central section into circular shape to form the upstanding neck 12 and to simultaneously bring the transverse extensions into outwardly-extending radial and diametrically aligning relation to the lower edge of such neck portion to properly locate and form the integrally joined shoulder portions 11. The abutting free ends of the neck portion are properly closed by stitching 20 or the like, and the unitary assembly is then ready for inseting into the neck and shoulder forming space provided in the body of the garment and it is secured thereto by the stitching 14, 15 and 16. It will be noted in the final formation of the unitary neck

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and shoulder inset that the shoulder extensions 18 assume a position at right angles to their initial positions and in so doing the wales thereof become alined with or extend in the same direction as those in the neck portion 12 with the result that a natural stretch is had about the neck line when the garment is pulled over the head and the shoulder portions are free to flex or stretch simultaneously therewith. This makes for a very comfortable wearing garment and assures a snug fit or hermetic seal about the neck of the wearer.

When making this unitary neck-shoulder inset from tubular material, the blank is shaped from a rectangular section of such material and then cut to the contour shown in Figure 6 to provide the shoulder or wing-like sections 21 and the neck section 22, the ends of the later including the folds of the blank to form a continuous circular neck. In shaping the inset, the neck section is folded lengthwise on itself which results in the shoulder sections assuming alined positions at diametrically opposite sides of such neck section, the same as shown in Figure 5. However, in this modification, the neck section is continuous and the seam is eliminated.

While the side edges of the shoulder sections are substantially straight, they may be cut to any other shape desired. Furthermore, it will be noted that the shoulder sections of the inset are seamless and afford a smooth overall contact with the shoulder and eliminate discomfort to the wearer when carrying a gun, golf bag or like shoulder strap article.

I claim as my invention:

1. A garment of the character described, com-

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prising a body having front and back portions terminating at their upper edges short of the neck portion, and a one-piece neck and shoulder inset of elastic knit material disposed in spanning fashion between such upper edges and secured at its front and rear edges thereto the neck portion of the inset being upstanding with the wales thereof extending vertically and the shoulder portions radiating diametrically in opposite direction from the base of the neck portion and with the wales thereof directionally alined with those of said neck portion.

2. A unitary shoulder and neck inset for garments, comprising a single piece of elastic tubular knit material laid flatwise to define resulting folds at its side edges and having a longitudinal section including the folded edges of the material to form an upstanding neck section, and wing-like extensions projecting substantially medially from said neck section in substantially cruciform relation thereto to form oppositely-extending shoulder sections radiating from the neck section in diametric relation thereto.

HARRY S. HEILBRONNER.

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