July 1, 1969 J. S. TRENT 3,452,401

SHIRT RETAINER

Filed July 21, 1967

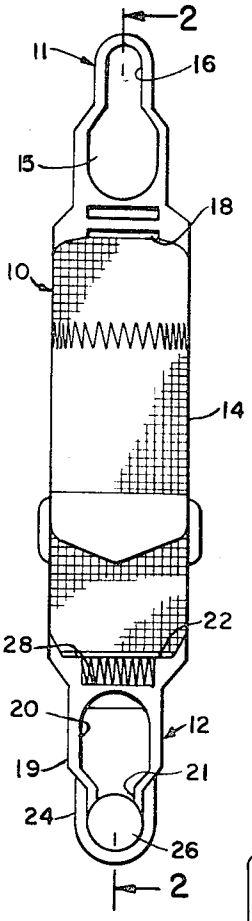


FIG. 1.

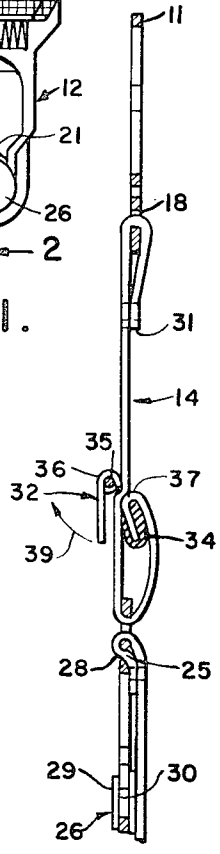


FIG. 2.

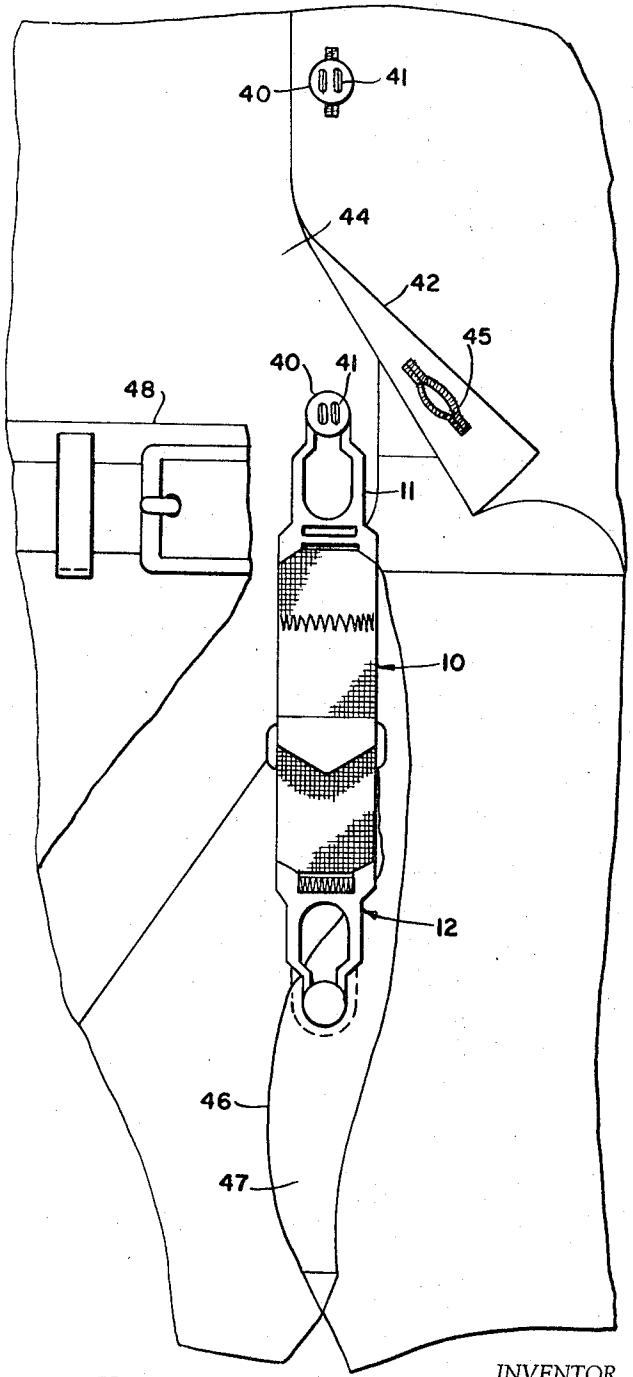


FIG. 3.

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SHIRT RETAINER

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A shirt retainer for holding the front of a man's shirt in its normal tucked-in position within his trousers. The retainer includes an upper bracket defining an aperture insertable over the lowermost button of the front of a shirt, an elastic strap extending downwardly from the upper bracket, and a sliding button clasp connected to the lower end of the strap for connection to the lower body undergarment.

Background of the invention

For proper and neat appearance, it is necessary that a gentleman's shirt be neatly tucked into his trousers, especially the front portion of his shirt. A neatly tucked shirt is required by the military services and highly desirable to every neatly dressed man. A stout man or a man having a low waistline has more difficulty in maintaining a neat shirt appearance since the absence of a well defined waistline allows his trousers to slide over the trunk of his body. The movement of the trousers over the body in this manner results in disturbing the arrangement of a well tucked shirt tail.

Because of an enlarged flesh area in the neck region, a stout man encounters some aggravation in collar movement over the surface of his neck. Only a small amount of increased flesh and tissue in the neck region is required to cause a shirt collar to follow the neck in its various twisting and stretching movements. Collar movement of this type can be highly aggravating and detracts from the general appearance of the man.

Summary of the invention

This invention relates to a shirt retainer for holding the front portion of a shirt in a neat, tucked position within the trousers of the wearer, and for maintaining the collar of the shirt down on the neck of the wearer, away from his Adam's apple. The shirt retainer comprises a bracket for connection to the lowermost button on the front of the shirt, a sliding button clasp for connection to the fly of shorts or similar lower body undergarment, and an elastic connecting member extending between the bracket and the sliding button clasp. The retainer effectively connects the lowermost button of the shirt to the shorts. The bracket is connected to the button before the button is inserted through its corresponding buttonhole, and under normal circumstances, the lowermost button and the bracket attached thereto are located below the beltline of the wearer. Thus, the shirt retainer is worn in an out-of-sight position.

Accordingly, it is an object of this invention to provide a method and apparatus for holding the front portion of a shirt inside the trousers of the wearer.

Another object of this invention is to provide apparatus for connecting the lowermost button of a shirt to the lower undergarment of the wearer.

Another object of this invention is to provide a device for holding the collar of a shirt in a downward position on the neck of the wearer.

Another object of this invention is to provide a device to be worn within the outer layer of clothing, for maintaining a shirt inside the trousers of a person.

Other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will become apparent upon reading the following specification, when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing.

Brief description of the drawing

FIG. 1 is a front elevational view of the shirt retainer.

FIG. 2 is a side elevational view of the shirt retainer, taken along arrows 2—2 of FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is a front elevational view of the shirt retainer, showing the manner in which the shirt retainer is connected to the garments of a wearer, the garments being shown in part for clarity.

Description of an embodiment

Referring now more particularly to the drawing, in which like numerals indicate like parts throughout the several views, FIG. 1 shows shirt retainer **10** which comprises upper bracket **11**, lower sliding button clasp **12**, and intermediate elastic connecting strap **14**. Upper bracket **11** defines enlarged opening **15** and small opening **16** in open registration with each other. Strap holder opening **18** is positioned adjacent the larger opening **15**, and strap **14** extends through opening **18**.

Lower sliding button clasp **12** includes lower bracket **19** of a configuration identical to upper bracket **11**, and includes large opening **20**, smaller opening **21**, and strap holder opening **22**. Button strap **24** includes an enlargement **25** at one end and a button **26** at its other end. Enlargement **25** is inserted through strap holder opening **18**, and folded back through button strap opening **28**. Button strap **24** is of a length such that when its enlargement **25** is properly inserted through strap holder opening **22** and button strap opening **28**, button **26** will be positioned adjacent the small opening **21** of bracket **19**.

Button **26** is constructed with a large surface area **29** and a stem **30** of reduced diameter. Stem **30** is of smaller diameter than the width of small opening **21**, and the enlarged portion of button **26** is of smaller diameter than large opening **20** of bracket **19**.

Intermediate elastic connecting strap **14** is fabricated of a single length of elastic material. Strap **14** extends through strap holder opening **18** of upper bracket **11**, and the end **31** is stitched to a portion intermediate its ends to make a permanent connection with upper bracket **11**. Strap **14** extends through strap holder opening **22** of lower bracket **19**, and is folded back toward its central portion. Adjustable catch **32** is connected to the other end of strap **14** and includes U-shaped retaining bend **34** rigidly holding the end of strap **14**, bar **35**, and pivotal engaging member **36**. Engaging member **36** is pivotally connected to bar **35**. Bar **35** defines an opening **37** with the main portion of adjustable catch **32**. Strap **14** extends through opening **37** and pivotal engaging member **36** normally engages strap **14**. When pivotal engaging member **36** is pivoted in the direction as indicated by arrow **39**, it no longer engages strap **14**, and strap **14** can be adjusted in its effective length, to lengthen or shorten the distance between upper bracket **11** and lower sliding button clasp **12**.

As is shown in FIG. 3, shirt retainer **10** is utilized by inserting upper bracket **11** over the button **40** of a shirt. Button **40** is usually the lowermost button of the shirt front, and is inserted through the larger opening of upper bracket **11**, and upper bracket **11** is moved in a downward direction until its smaller opening **16** is disposed about the threads **41** of the button. Since smaller opening **16** is smaller than the diameter of button **40**, upper bracket **11** will be securely connected to button **40**. The outside flap **42** of the shirt is then connected to the inside flap **44** by inserting buttonhole **45** about button **40** in the usual manner. Thus, shirt retainer **10** will be hidden from view.

Lower sliding button clasp **12** is then connected to the fly **46** of the lower undergarment. Bracket **19** is positioned on the outside of the fly opening, button strap **24** is positioned on the inside of fly opening, and the button is wedged into the larger opening **20** of bracket **19**, and slid toward the lower opening **21**, to grasp the material of undergarment **47**. Thus, a firm connection is made between the lowermost button **40** and the lower undergarment **47**. Trousers **48** may then be worn in the usual manner and the shirt retainer **10** will usually be positioned at or below the beltline of the wearer. With this arrangement, shirt retainer **10** will always be maintained out of sight and firmly connect the lower front of the shirt to the lower undergarment. If the trousers **48** are worn extremely low on the trunk of the body, the upper portion of shirt retainer **10** may actually be positioned above the beltline of the wearer; however, since upper bracket **11** is positioned between the folds of the shirt, shirt retainer **10** will still be worn out of view.

The resiliency of elastic connecting strap **14** permits various body movements and contortions without noticeable discomfort to the wearer of the shirt retainer. Thus, shirt retainer **10** provides an expedient and convenient manner in which to continuously retain the shirt tail inside the beltline of the trousers, and to prevent the collar of the shirt from riding up the neck of the wearer.

What is claimed as invention is:

1. A garment retaining device adapted to releasably secure a man's shirt and associated undershorts in a desired condition relative to each other, said device being hidden from view when in position and comprising holding means engageable with a button on the shirt, other holding means provided with a fastener and engageable with overlapping portions of the flap of the undergarment to normally retain same in a desired closed condition, and resilient means interconnecting said holding means to prevent sagging of said undershorts when the device is in use.

2. A garment retaining clasp adapted to releasably secure a man's shirt and associated undershorts in a desired condition relative to each other, said clasp being hidden from view when in position and comprising apertured means engageable with a button on the shirt, other apertured means provided with a button and engageable with overlapping portions of the flap of the undergarment to normally retain same in a desired closed position, and elastic means interconnecting said apertured means to prevent sagging of said undershorts when the clasp is in use.

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