

Dec. 2, 1952

S. LERMA

2,619,650

SHOULDER PAD AND PRONG TYPE ATTACHING MEANS

Filed Nov. 25, 1949

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1

FIG. 1

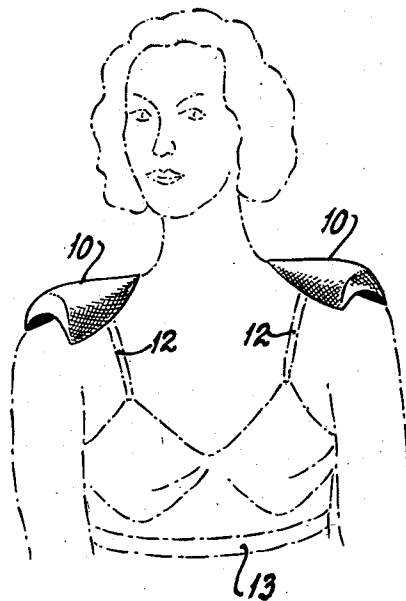
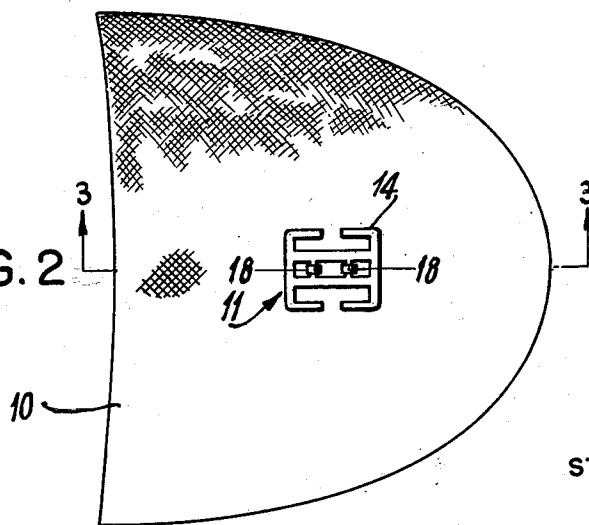


FIG. 2



STEPHEN LERMA
INVENTOR

BY *Joseph Blacker*
ATTORNEY

Dec. 2, 1952

S. LERMA

2,619,650

SHOULDER PAD AND PRONG TYPE ATTACHING MEANS

Filed Nov. 25, 1949

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2

FIG. 3

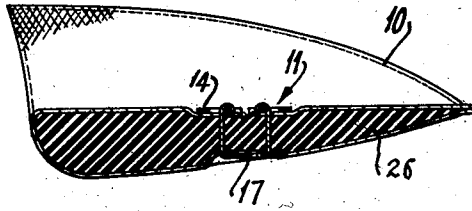


FIG. 4

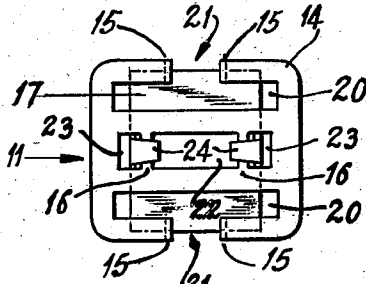


FIG. 5

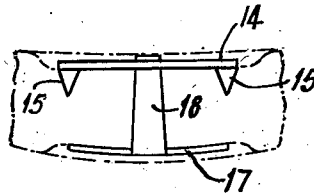
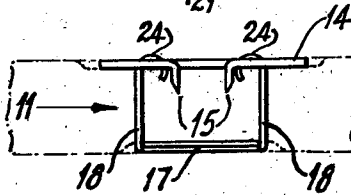
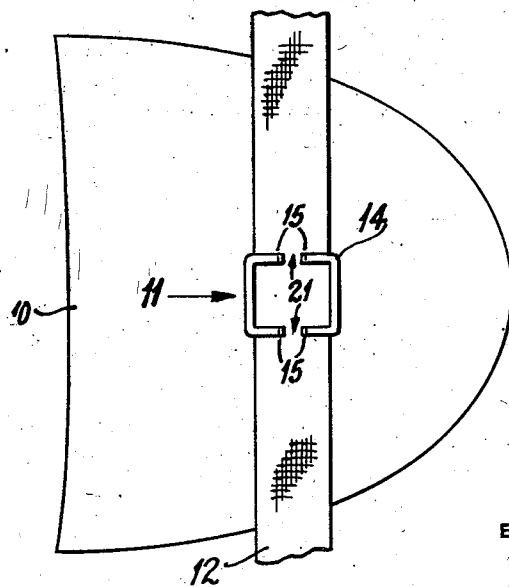


FIG. 6

FIG. 7



STEPHEN LERMA
INVENTOR

BY *Joseph Blacker*
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,619,650

SHOULDER PAD AND PRONG TYPE
ATTACHING MEANS

Stephen Lerma, Flushing, N. Y.

Application November 25, 1949, Serial No. 129,244

6 Claims. (Cl. 2—268)

1

This invention relates to a fastening and supporting device for releasably securing shoulder pads upon the shoulder straps of wearing apparel such as slips, brassières and like garments.

An object of this invention is to provide a supporting device fixed to a shoulder pad by forcing therethrough fastener elements and clinching the elements interiorly of the shoulder pad material in order that the shoulder pad may be readily attached to and supported upon shoulder straps and the like on wearing apparel.

Another object of this invention is to provide a shoulder pad or device having a prong type supporting device permanently secured thereto and adapted to be releasably attached to a shoulder strap of a slip or brassière by pressure against the shoulder strap when lying on the shoulder pad.

In present types of shoulder pads for garments, the shoulder pads are stitched to the garment but when dry cleaning is required, the stitching has to be removed. After dry cleaning, the shoulder pads must again be stitched to the garment.

With the prong type supporting device herewith disclosed, the shoulder pad may be attached to or removed from a slip or other undergarment having shoulder straps or other material running across the shoulder by prong engagement with the shoulder strap. These attaching and removing actions may be repeatedly done without any damage to the shoulder strap fabric.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention will be hereinafter more particularly described, and the combination and arrangement of parts will be shown in the accompanying drawings and pointed out in the claims which form part of this specification.

Reference now will be had to the drawings, wherein like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing two shoulder pads as applied in practice.

Figure 2 is a bottom plan view of a shoulder pad having a prong type connecting device permanently secured thereto.

Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 3—3 in Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a plan view of an assembled connecting device.

Figure 5 is a front view of the assembled connecting device shown in Figure 4.

Figure 6 is a side view of the assembled connecting device shown in Figure 4.

2

Figure 7 is a bottom view of the assembled connecting device secured to a shoulder pad and having a shoulder strap forcibly engaged and removably held thereby against a shoulder pad.

In the illustrated embodiment of the invention, the numeral 10 indicates a shoulder pad having a prong type attaching or supporting clamp 11 fixed thereto, and by means of which the shoulder pad can be firmly and safely secured to the shoulder straps 12 of the garment 13.

The shoulder pad is preferably molded of foam rubber but may be made of quilting or padding material. The shoulder pad body is of triangular wedge shaped form, having its thin portion at the apex of the triangle. The shoulder pad has its upper surface curved convexly to simulate a modified shoulder outline. The lower surface is concave and adapted to overlie the shoulder of the wearer and to fill out the contour of a wearer's shoulder.

The attaching or connecting clamp 11 comprises a rectangular grip-plate 14 having four sharp pointed prongs 15 extending laterally thereof and adapted to forcibly engage the shoulder pad 10 to securely hold a shoulder strap 12 against the shoulder pad 10. The grip-plate 14 has two spaced-apart cross-bars 16 at opposite sides and centrally thereof.

A retaining plate 17 is placed against the opposite face of the shoulder pad 10. The retaining plate 17 has two arms 18 extending laterally thereof and of a length to ride over the cross-bars 16 of the plate 14 and to be clinched over the cross-bars whereby the grip-plate 14 and the retaining plate 17 are united to function in unitary relation to grip the shoulder pad from opposite sides.

The grip-plate 14 has transverse slots 20 and openings 21 between the prongs 15 communicating with the slots 20. The widths of the slots 20 are preferably the same as the width of the shoulder strap 12. The plate 14 has a central aperture 22.

It will be seen that the shoulder pad 10 is fully adapted for the purpose of building up the shoulder line of the garment, thus imparting a neat tailored appearance to the garment.

It will also be seen that the invention provides an exceedingly useful and advantageous form of connecting means by means of which a shoulder pad may be readily and easily attached to any garment having shoulder straps and to releasably hold the shoulder pad against displacement from the shoulder strap.

When the grip-plate 14 is assembled with the

3

retaining plate 17, the arms 18 are pressed through the body of the shoulder pad 10 and passed through openings 23 in the grip-plate 14. The free ends 24 of the arms 18 are bent over or clinched over the cross-bars 16, the free ends being curved inwardly.

The filling material in the body of the pad is slightly compressed to retain the exposed surfaces of the grip-plate 14 and of the retaining plate 17 below the exposed surfaces of the shoulder pad 10 so that the metal parts will not contact the body of the wearer.

To attach the shoulder pad to a shoulder strap of a garment, the user folds the shoulder pad body away from the prongs 15 and passes the shoulder strap through an opening 21 and places the shoulder strap under two prongs and into a slot 20. This folded portion of the pad body is then released to its normal position against the prongs. The user then takes an adjacent portion of the shoulder strap and engages it under the two opposite prongs in a similar manner. This causes a multiple grip of the shoulder strap.

It is to be noted that the filling material 25 is highly compressible and resilient and springs back into normal position when released after folding. This resiliency causes body pressure against the prongs to grip the shoulder strap between the body and the prongs.

In accordance with the patent statutes I have described and illustrated the preferred embodiment of my invention, but it will be understood that various changes and modifications can be made therein without departing from the spirit of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In combination, a shoulder pad having a flexible body, means for removably connecting said shoulder pad to a shoulder strap of a garment, said connecting means comprising a flat rectangular plate secured to said shoulder pad, said plate having transverse slots and openings communicating with said slots, adjacent portions of said shoulder strap being adapted to extend inwardly through said openings into said slots and to be positioned respectively in interengagement with opposite sides of said connecting means, said connecting means having laterally extending prongs at said openings for engaging adjacent portions of said strap after insertion into said slots, said strap being releasably secured by said prongs against the body of said shoulder pad at each end of said connecting means.

2. In combination, a shoulder pad having a flexible body, means for removably connecting said shoulder pad to a shoulder strap of a garment, said connecting means comprising a perforated flat rectangular plate having centrally positioned bars, a retaining plate on the opposite face of said shoulder pad and having laterally extending arms passing through said body and through said perforations and being clinched over said bars to secure said perforated plate to said retaining plate and to said shoulder pad, said perforated plate having transverse slots and openings communicating with said slots, adjacent portions of said shoulder strap being adapted to extend inwardly through said openings into said slots and to be positioned respectively in interengagement with opposite sides of said connecting means, said connecting means having laterally extending prongs at said openings for engaging adjacent portions of said strap after insertion into said slots, said strap being releasably secured by said prongs against the body of said

4

shoulder pad at each end of said connecting means.

3. In combination, a shoulder pad having a flexible body, means for removably connecting said shoulder pad to a shoulder strap of a garment, said connecting means comprising a perforated flat rectangular plate having bars, a retaining plate on the opposite face of said shoulder pad and having laterally extending arms passing through said body and through said perforations and being clinched over said bars to secure said perforated plate to said retaining plate and to said shoulder pad, said perforated plate having transverse slots and openings communicating with said slots, adjacent portions of said shoulder strap being adapted to extend inwardly through said openings into said slots and to be positioned respectively in interengagement with said connecting means, said connecting means having laterally extending prongs at said openings for engaging adjacent portions of said strap under said prongs after insertion into said slots, said strap being releasably secured by said prongs against the body of said shoulder pad.

4. In combination, a shoulder pad, means for removably connecting said shoulder pad to a shoulder strap of a garment, said connecting means comprising an apertured grip-plate on one face of said shoulder pad, said grip-plate having cross-bars, a retaining plate on the opposite face of said shoulder pad and having laterally extending arms passing through said shoulder pad and through said apertures and being clinched over said cross-bars to secure said plate to said retaining plate and to said shoulder pad, said grip-plate having transverse slots and openings communicating with said slots, adjacent portions of said shoulder strap being adapted to extend inwardly through said openings into said slots and to be positioned respectively in interengagement with said connecting means, said connecting means having laterally extending prongs at said openings in said grip-plate for engaging adjacent portions of said shoulder strap under said prongs and against said pad, said strap being releasably secured by said prongs.

5. A two-piece connector for removably connecting a device to a shoulder strap of a garment, said connector comprising a perforated flat rectangular plate having centrally positioned bars adapted to lie on one face of said device, a retaining plate adapted to lie on the opposite face of said device and having laterally extending arms for passing through said device and through said perforations and being adapted to be clinched over said bars to secure said perforated plate to said retaining plate and to said device, said perforated plate having transverse slots and openings communicating with said slots, adjacent portions of said shoulder strap being adapted to extend inwardly through said openings into said slots and to be positioned respectively in interengagement with opposite sides of said connector, said connector having laterally extending prongs at said openings for engaging adjacent portions of said strap after insertion into said slots, whereby said strap is adapted to be releasably secured by said prongs against said device at each end of said connector.

6. A two-piece connector for removably connecting a device to a shoulder strap of a garment, said connector comprising an apertured grip-plate adapted to lie on one face of said device, said grip-plate having cross-bars, a retaining plate adapted to lie on the opposite face of

5

said device and having laterally extending arms for passing through said device and through said apertures and being of a length sufficient to be clinched over said cross-bars to secure said grip-plate to said retaining plate and to said device 5 and grip said device from opposite sides, said grip-plate having transverse slots and openings communicating with said slots, adjacent portions of said shoulder strap being adapted to extend inwardly through said openings into said 10 slots and to be positioned respectively in inter-engagement with said connector, said connector having laterally extending prongs at said openings in said grip-plate for engaging adjacent por-

6

tions of said shoulder strap under said prongs and against said body, said strap being adapted to be releasably secured by said prongs.

STEPHEN LERMA.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
2,422,834	Kleinman	June 24, 1947
2,467,488	Markham	Apr. 19, 1949