March 26, 1940. P. BRENNER 2,194,734

BELT

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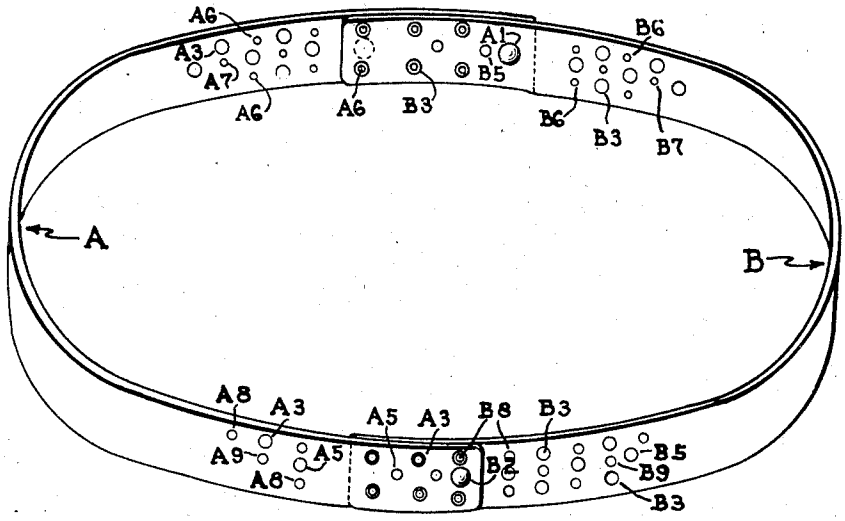


FIG. 1

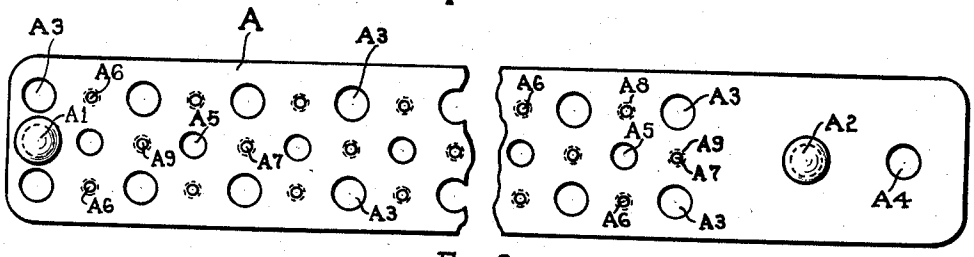


FIG. 2

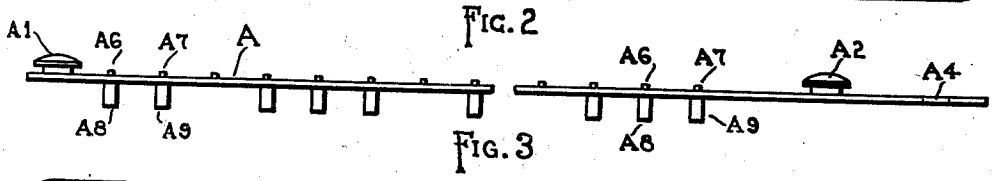


FIG. 3

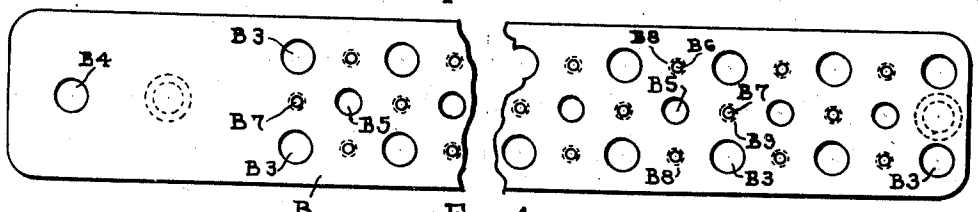


FIG. 4

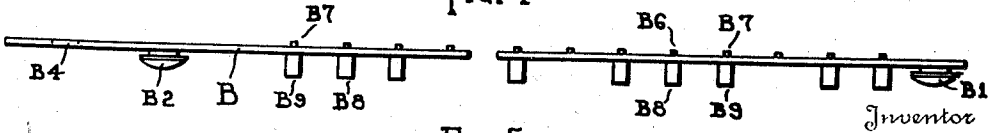


FIG. 5

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BELT

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4 Claims. (Cl. 241—8)

This invention relates to a belt adapted for use as an article of personal apparel and has for its primary function the maintaining of certain articles of clothing in proper position on the body of the wearer. More specifically, the belt is intended to be encircled about the lower portion of an outer shirt of male attire in the region of the waist line of the user to cooperate with the outer surface of the material of the shirt and the inner surface of the material of an outer garment, such as trousers, to effectively but resiliently prevent any upward movement of the lower portion of the first mentioned article of clothing.

The invention, residing in several novel features of construction and in the arrangement of elements to be hereinafter fully described, has as its principal object the provision of a device for the purpose defined which is simple in construction and use, economical to manufacture, capable of long life, and which can be worn without discomfort or annoyance on the part of the user.

Another object of the invention is to provide an article for the purpose described which is readily adjustable to various lengths but which nevertheless does not require the use of any metallic or other yieldable parts or portions.

A further object of the invention is to provide an article for the purpose described which may be wholly manufactured from but a single material.

Still another object of the invention is to provide an article as described which may simultaneously be used to support the trousers or other outer garment of the user, the article being provided with inherent means to cooperate with buttons or other connecting means on the inner surface of the waist band of the outer garment to support the outer garment as well as to hold the lower portion of the article of clothing first described above in proper position in relation to the body.

These and other objects and advantages of my invention will become apparent from a consideration of the drawing and the following detailed specification wherein there is disclosed a preferred embodiment of my invention.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a pictorial representation of an assembled belt constructed in accordance with the principles of my invention;

Figures 2 and 3 are broken plan and elevation views, respectively, of one section of the two section belt illustrated in Figure 1; and

Figures 4 and 5 are broken plan and elevation views, respectively, of the other section of the belt of Figure 1.

As evident from the above short description of the drawings and an inspection of the latter, the belt consists of two sections A and B substantially similar to each other but having certain elements thereof reversed in relation to each other to provide complementary fitting sections resulting in a unitary adjustable belt. Each of the sections is manufactured preferably by molding from a single piece of base material and I have found that pure latex is best suited for the purpose by reason of its great strength and elasticity, its pleasing appearance, and its moldability, but it should be understood, however, that various other materials may be used for the purpose and that the sections may be fabricated by other means than that specifically mentioned.

Referring more particularly to Figures 2 and 3, the section A is shown as comprising a unitary strip of elastic material having a desired width and a length somewhat greater than one half of the total length of the assembled belt. Section A is provided with an integral flanged knob A1 adjacent one end thereof and a second similar knob A2 spaced from the other end thereof. A series of evenly spaced apertures A3 are located along either side edge of the strip beginning with a pair laterally aligned with the flanged knob A1. A second series of equally evenly spaced apertures A5 extend along the center line of the strip and each is positioned longitudinally intermediate adjacent pairs of the apertures A3. A series of small knobs A6 extend outwardly from one surface of the strip and along either side edge thereof in longitudinal alignment with the apertures A3 and each of the knobs A6 is positioned intermediate adjacent apertures A3. Similarly the centrally positioned small knobs A7 identical with knobs A6 are positioned intermediate the central apertures A5. Knobs A7 are laterally aligned with apertures A3. Extending outwardly from the other surface of the strip and axially aligned with certain of the small knobs A6 and A7 are the large knobs A8 and A9, the former being disposed along the side edges opposite alternate knobs A6 and the latter being disposed along the center line of the strip opposite alternate knobs A7, the series A9 being staggered in relation to the series A8 providing spaced diamond-shaped groups of large knobs along the strip. Completing the structure of section A is an aperture A4 located interme-

diate flanged knob A2 and the adjacent end of the strip.

Section B is similar in all respects to section A with the exception that in section B the flanged knobs B1 and B2, which correspond to flanged knobs A1 and A2 of section A, are on the same side of the strip as are the large knobs B8 and B9 (corresponding to knobs A8 and A9 of section A) whereas in section A the flanged knobs are on the opposite side from the large knobs. In Figures 4 and 5 the elements B3 to B9 are identical with the elements A3 to A9 in Figures 2 and 3 and have the same positions on the strip and the same positions relative to one another.

The sections A and B are assembled as shown in Figure 1 with the flanged knob A1 extending in a direction opposite to that of flanged knob B1. The knob A1 is buttoned through a selected aperture B5 of section B and the knob B1 is buttoned through a selected aperture A5 of section A thus joining the two sections together by means of the overlapped ends and positioning the large knobs of both sections on the same side of the assembled belt and all the small knobs on the opposite surface thereof. The elasticity of the material used enables the flanged heads of the knobs A1 and B1 to be readily inserted through the apertures B5 and A5, respectively, while the substantial mass of the heads normally prevents their withdrawal from the apertures. When the sections are connected as explained, those knobs B8 and B9 extend through certain of the apertures A3 and A5, respectively, of the overlapped portion of Section A and those small knobs A6 and A7 on the overlapped portion of section A extend into the apertures B3 and B5 of the overlapped portion of section B thus enabling the strips proper of the sections to come into flat contact with each other thereby minimizing the thickness of the belt at the place of connection between the sections. Due to the spacing and arrangement of the apertures and knobs on both sections, the overlapped portions will nest as explained above irrespective of the apertures selected for the insertion of the flanged knobs A1 and B1.

In wearing position, the belt is arranged substantially as shown in Figure 1 with the larger knobs A8, A9, B8 and B9 extending radially outward thereby presenting a very rough surface for engagement with the material of the outer garment of the wearer and preventing free movement between the belt and the garment. The smaller knobs A6, A7, B6 and B7 extend inwardly and engage the material of the shirt or other garment preventing upward movement of the same. The use of the cloth engaging knobs results in a tenacious grip between the cloths and belt enabling the belt to perform its function in a highly efficient manner while avoiding the use of clasps or other ancillary equipment and enabling the belt to be economically manufactured of a single material by simple processes. Although various elastic materials may be used, latex is particularly desirable for the reasons advanced above and for the additional reason that a high coefficient of friction is provided between the belt and cloth whereby the desired results are secured without the use of uncomfortable tension in the belt.

As mentioned above, another use to which the belt may be put, and this may be simultaneous with the principal use thereof, is to support the trousers or other outer garment of the wearer. For this purpose certain of the apertures A3, A5, B3 and B5 are adapted to be drawn over the buttons usually placed inside the waistband of the outer garment and normally intended to be secured to the conventional supporting brace. The elasticity of the material of the belt enables the said apertures to be drawn over the buttons regardless of the variation in the size of the latter. Whether the belt is used solely for its principal purpose or for its dual purpose, as explained, it may be fastened about the wearer by inserting the flanged knob B2 through the aperture A4 and by inserting the flanged knob A2 through the aperture B4. The flanges on knobs A1, A2, B1 and B2 are sufficiently stiff to normally hold the fastened belt in connected position but the same may be readily unfastened by simply laterally jerking the end of the strip adjacent the knob desired to be disconnected.

The above specifically described embodiment of my invention should be considered as illustrative only as obviously many changes may be made therein and the novel features disclosed may be incorporated in belts or bands of different construction and intended for different purposes without departing from the spirit or scope of my invention. For example, the belt may be adapted for use as an arm band to maintain the position of the sleeves of a shirt or coat or for use about the leg to maintain the socks in proper position on the same.

Having thus specifically described my invention what I claim is:

1. An article for the purpose described comprising a strip of highly elastic material having cloth engaging projections extending outwardly from one side thereof, a plurality of apertures in said strip intermediate said projections, the geometrical arrangement of said projections being similar to that of said apertures whereby certain of said projections will enter certain of said apertures when portions of said strip are overlapped.

2. An article for the purpose described comprising a complementary pair of highly elastic strips, each strip having an end portion adapted to overlap with a similar end portion of the other strip, a plurality of spaced apertures in each of said portions, a plurality of spaced projections extending outwardly from one face of each of said portions, means to maintain said portions in overlapped position, the pattern of said apertures being similar to the pattern of said projections whereby the projections on one of said portions will enter into the apertures in the other of said portions when said portions are in overlapped position.

3. An article for the purpose described comprising a complementary pair of highly elastic strips, each strip having an end portion adapted to overlap with a similar end portion of the other strip, said end portions each being provided with an integral flanged projection, each of said end portions being provided with apertures having normal diameters smaller than the diameters of said projections immediately adjacent the surface of said strips into which said projections are adapted to be extended and secured, a plurality of other spaced apertures in each of said portions, a plurality of spaced projections extending outwardly from one face of each of said portions, means including said projections to maintain said portions in overlapped position, the pattern of said apertures being similar to the pattern of said projections whereby the projections on one of said portions will enter into the apertures

in the other of said portions when said portions are in overlapped position.

4. An article for the purpose described comprising a strip of highly elastic material having cloth engaging projections extending outwardly from one side thereof, cloth engaging projections considerably less in extent than said first mentioned projection extending outwardly from the other side thereof, a plurality of apertures in said strip intermediate said projections, the geometrical arrangement of said first mentioned projections being similar to that of said apertures whereby certain of said first mentioned projections will enter certain of said apertures when portions of said strip are overlapped.

PAUL BRENNER.