

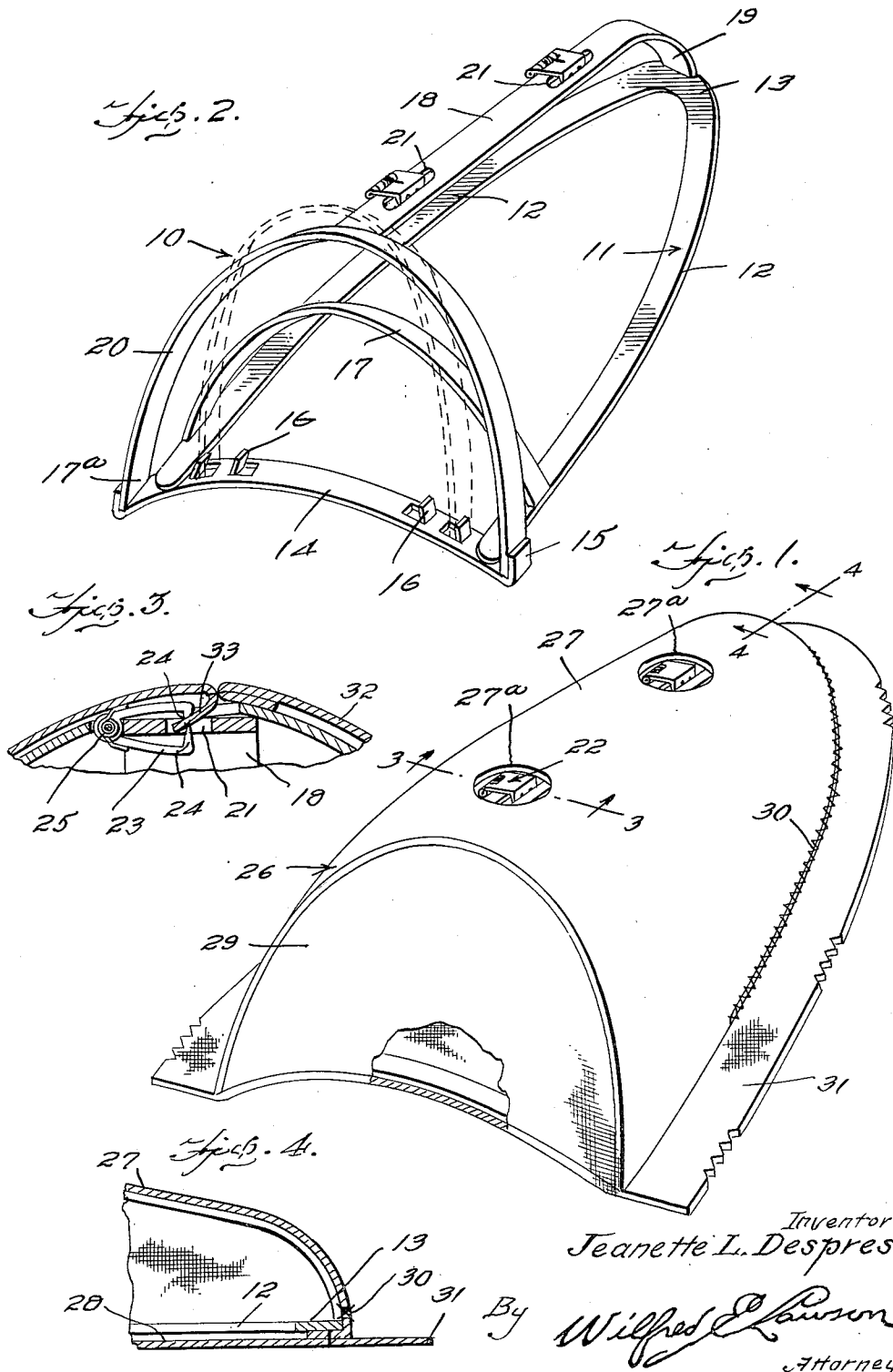
May 13, 1952

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2,596,842

SHOULDER FRAME

Filed March 29, 1950



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,596,842

SHOULDER FRAME

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Application March 29, 1950; Serial No. 152,653

2 Claims. (Cl. 2-268)

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This invention relates to garment accessories and is directed particularly to improvements in frame devices to be placed upon the shoulders to elevate or pad out the shoulder of a garment.

An object of the present invention is to provide an improved, light weight, resilient frame device formed to fit on and generally conform to the shape of the shoulder and having a removable cover, with means carried by the frame and operable through openings in the cover, for detachably securing the device to the garment under which it is located.

Another object is to provide a device of the character set forth having means by which it may be adjusted for height and width at its inner end, that is, at the inner part of the shoulder.

A further object is to provide a shoulder frame of the character stated having spring clasps adapted to grip a shoulder seam of the garment in which it is used, whereby the device is secured in place for use.

Other advantages of the invention will become apparent as the description proceeds and the invention will be best understood from a consideration of the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing forming a part of the specification, with the understanding, however, that the invention is not to be limited to the exact details of construction shown and described since obvious modifications will occur to a person skilled in the art.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a shoulder lift device constructed in accordance with the present invention, with a part of the cover broken away.

Figure 2 is a view in perspective of the device with the cover removed, showing the frame only.

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken substantially on the line 3-3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary section taken substantially on the line 4-4 of Figure 1.

Referring more particularly to the drawing the numeral 10 generally designates the frame part of the shoulder lift or pad, as seen when removed from its cover.

The frame comprises a bottom or base 11 of substantially U form, the two sides 12 of which are longitudinally curved and convergent toward the outer end of the device and are joined by the rounded end part 13. This bottom or base is fashioned from flat band material, as shown, which may be of steel, plastic or any other suitable material.

The above referred to "outer end" designates

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that end of the device which lies over the outer part of the wearer's shoulder or over the shoulder socket.

The sides 12 at their inner ends are joined by the flat, slightly arched base bar 14, at each end of which is the upturned lip 15. The ends of the sides 12 are permanently joined to the bar 14 inwardly of the lips 15, as shown. Inwardly of the attached ends of the sides 12, the bar 14 has struck up therefrom the ear stops 16, the purpose of which will be hereinafter described.

In addition to the bar 14, the sides 12 of the base are connected by the low arch 17 which is close to the bar 14 but curved or bowed upwardly in a higher arc than the bar 14.

The numeral 18 designates the top, longitudinal bar of the frame. This bar has its outer end curved downwardly as at 19 and permanently joined to the rounded end 13 of the base. This bar 18 extends inwardly at a slight upward incline from the curved end 19 and has its inner end joined or secured to the center of an adjustable spring arch 20, which is in the form of a flat band. This spring arch is of greater height than the low arch 17 and it has its ends 17a hooked behind, and held from spreading outwardly by the lips 15. However, if the height of the frame at its inner end is desired greater the ends 17a may be sprung in, or pressed toward one another to be hooked behind the ear stops 16 as shown in dotted outline.

The bar 18 has formed therethrough two elongated openings 21, and to the edge of the bar at one side of each opening, is secured a hinged clasp or clip 22, having the two arms 23 which extend in toward the opening and the jaws 24 thereof meeting through the opening as shown in Figure 3. A suitable coil spring 25 encircling the pivot pin on which the arms are mounted, constantly urges the top arm and jaw drawn into gripping relation with the under arm and jaw.

The frame 10 is enclosed in a removable cover 26, which comprises a top 27, a bottom 28 and an inner end wall 29. The top 27 is shaped to completely overlie the top bar 18 and extend down to the base 11 along the sides and outer end thereof where it joins the bottom at the inner end of the frame and along a portion of each side adjacent to the inner end. The remaining portion of the bottom edge of the cover is separable from the bottom 28 around the outer end and along the remainder of the sides as indicated at 30 to facilitate placing the cover on and removing it from the frame.

The inner end wall 29 of the cover is joined to

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the top and bottom along its edges as shown to complete the cover.

As shown the bottom 28 extends slightly beyond the edge of the top 27, at its sides and outer end to provide a flange 31.

The top 27 has formed therein an opening 27a for each of the clasps 24, whereby a part of a garment seam may be extended through the cover to be gripped by the clasps as hereinafter described.

The numeral 32 designates a portion of the shoulder of a garment having a shoulder seam which comprises the turned under edges 33.

In the use of the present device it is placed, in the customary manner, beneath the shoulder part 32, where the top bar 18 will be beneath and parallel with the garment seam. One of the edges 33 of the seam is gripped between the jaws 24 of the two clasps 22 as shown in Figure 3 and in this manner the device is secured against shifting.

It will be seen from the foregoing that the device of the present invention provides a desirable shoulder lift, without adding materially to the garment weight and without making the shoulder uncomfortably warm, because of the hollow, skeleton form of the frame.

By this provision of the adjustable arch 20 the height of the device at the inner end thereof may be easily adjusted.

The cover may be formed of cotton, synthetic resin fabric or any other suitable material, and, being readily removable, it be taken off for exchange for another cover to suit the color of the garment with which it is to be used, or for cleaning.

I claim:

1. A shoulder lift for a garment, comprising an elongated frame structure having a high inner end and tapering in height and width toward the outer end, means at the inner end of the frame for adjusting the height of the same comprising a transverse base bar forming a part of the frame, a longitudinal top bar secured at its outer end to a base portion of the frame, an arch piece at

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the inner end of the frame and having the inner end of said top bar secured thereto, said arch piece having bendable side portions resting upon said base bar, and means carried by and projecting upwardly from the base bar adjacent to each end against the inner sides of which the end portions of said arch piece are engaged.

2. A frame unit for a garment shoulder lift of the character set forth, comprising a flat base of elongated U form having side portions and an outer end connecting the side portions, a low arch member connecting the side portions adjacent to the inner ends thereof, an arcuate base bar extending between and coupling the inner ends of said side portions, said base bar having adjacent to each end a number of upstanding elements, a resilient high arch member overlying the base bar and having side portions, said arch member side portions having free ends positioned between and detachably held against opposing faces of two of said upstanding elements by the inherent resiliency of the arch member tending to separate said side portions thereof, a long top bar having one end secured to the top of the arch member and extending outwardly and downwardly toward and secured to the said outer end of the base, and a clasp member carried by said top bar.

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