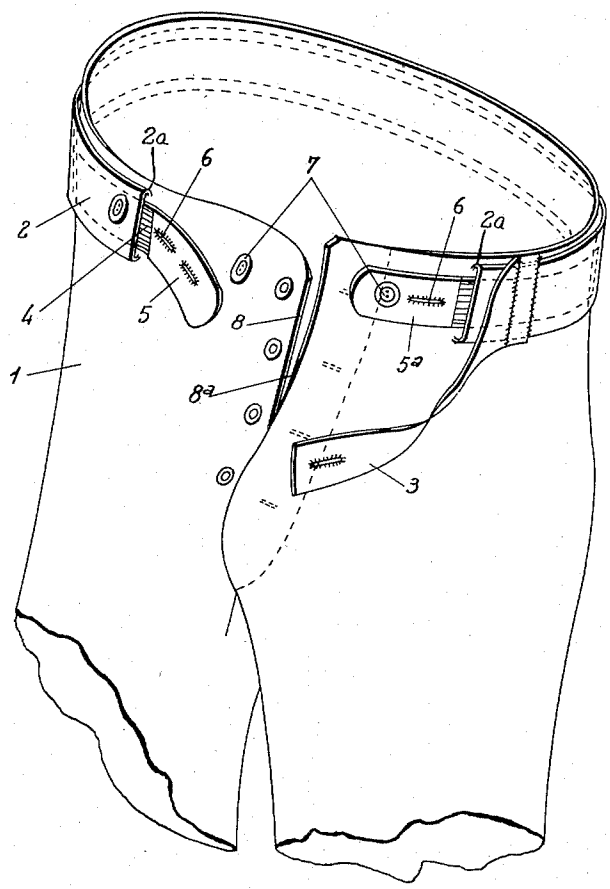
Jan. 29, 1952 M. R. BOUTELOUP 2,583,992

TROUSER WAISTBAND CONSTRUCTION

Filed Jan. 7, 1949



Michel René Bouteloup
Inventor
by J. Allattre-Segny
Attorney

Patented Jan. 29, 1952 2,583,992

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,583,992

TROUSER WAISTBAND CONSTRUCTION

Michel René Bouteloup, Neuilly sur Seine, France

Application January 7, 1949, Serial No. 69,687
In France January 15, 1948

1 Claim. (Cl. 2—237)

1

This invention relates to retaining systems for trousers comprising a belt formed by a strap preferably made of resilient materials and mounted in a hem-casing partially enveloping the trousers.

Such systems have already been provided in which the hem-casing is closed at one of its ends by a line of stitches which at the same time engage one end of the belt proper, the hem-casing being open at its other end to allow the belt to freely protrude therefrom, said hem-casing being moreover extended by a tab adapted to conceal thereunder an adjustable-tension closure means integral with the free end of the strap.

As a result of the described arrangement the belt is permanently fast in the hem-casing, and should the extensible belt break, it would be necessary to unstitch the end thereof stitched to the hem-casing in order to remove the broken pieces and replace the belt. Moreover, the dissymmetrical disposition of the fastening may frequently cause unwanted creases to appear on the article of clothing.

With a view to overcome the above drawback and to provide for a ready removability of the belt with respect to the hem-casing of the trousers the main object of the invention is to provide a belt located in the hem-casing the ends of which are respectively connected with terminal fastening tabs substantially identical with each other and freely protruding through openings formed at the ends of said hem-casing.

Another object of the invention is to provide, in a trouser-retaining system of the character described, fastening means integral with said tabs and comprising means for adjusting the length of the belt, thereby enabling adjustment of the belt tension.

Thus, such a belt will be much easier to make since, first by the tabs arranged at the ends of the belt are identical, then in the second place attachment thereof to the resilient strap may be made independently of the belt into the hem and, finally, once in place, simple fastening means such as buttons, fasteners or the like make it possible to secure the belt in the hem without regarding the provision of any stitches which would require passing the trousers through a sewing machine.

The ensuing description made with reference to the accompanying drawing given by way of illustration and not of limitation will provide a clear understanding of the manner in which the said invention may be practically carried out.

The single figure in the drawing illustrates a

2

perspective of the top of a pair of trousers provided with a hem-casing in which a belt according to the invention is arranged.

There is shown in dotted outline the external contour of the trousers 1 provided with a hem-casing 2 terminating at one of its ends in a tab 3 stitched thereto and adapted to be folded down in overlapping relationship over the opposite end of the hem-casing. The belt arranged within the hem-casing 2 and protruding from apertures 2*a* terminating said hem-casing comprises an extensible or resilient strap 4 connected at both ends thereof through any suitable means with tabs 5 and 5*a* preferably of a comparatively rigid material such as leather. Said last-mentioned tabs are formed with button-holes such as 6 through which buttons 7 fastened to the trousers at the level of the hem-casing, between its apertures and the fly opening 8 and 8*a*, are adapted to be inserted.

The button holes 6 are provided in such number as to make it possible to obtain a certain latitude in the range of tension adjustment by engagement of the buttons 7 with selected ones of said button holes. The tension adjustment means thus produced is concealed by the tab 3 which is adapted to be folded over so as to overlap the end of the hem-casing situated opposite to the tab 5.

Thus it will be seen that the belt may be quickly put into place outside of the manufacturer's workshop and in the event of a break occurring the belt may also be replaced by the actual wearer.

Further, said belt may be fixed immovably on the trousers after adjustment, whereby the trousers may be put on or put off by the wearer without subsequent adjustment of the tension of said belt.

It will of course be understood that without exceeding the scope of the invention alterations may be made in the form of embodiment described and illustrated. Thus in particular the tabs 5 and 5*a* may be provided with retaining means, or a slight restriction may for instance be provided in the apertures formed on the hem so as to avoid the possibility for the tabs 5 and 5*a* to inadvertantly retract into the body of the hem-casing itself, since such retraction of the tabs would require some amount of manipulation in order to restore said tabs back to this normal protruding position.

What I claim is:

In a garment of the trousers type provided with a fly opening having means cooperating to close

said opening, the combination of: a waist band; a hem-casing, partially and unobstructedly enveloping, and carried by, said waist-band; said hem-casing terminating at each of its two ends in a transverse aperture, each of said apertures being slightly and equally distant from said fly opening on each side thereof; an elastic strap located, and freely movable, within said hem-casing and having substantially identical non-elastic terminal tabs respectively attached to its two free ends, each of said tabs having at least one fastening device; said elastic strap and its end tabs being adapted to emerge equally and simultaneously from both of said apertures; at least a pair of fixing devices respectively attached to said waist-band on each side of said fly opening and substantially symmetrically to each other between said transverse apertures and said fly opening, said fixing devices cooperating respectively with the said fastening device located on the same side of the waist band relative to the fly opening, whereby said strap and tabs form a belt the tension of which may be adjusted on said waist-band immovably and equally on each side of said fly opening by means of said fastening and fixing devices without overlap of said belt over said fly opening; a covering tab attached at one end to said hem-casing near one of said apertures, directed towards said fly opening and having a tying device near its free end, and fastening means attached to said hem-casing near the other of said apertures and cooperating with said tying device, whereby said covering tab covers said fixing and fastening devices.

MICHEL RENÉ BOUTELOUP.

REFERENCES CITED

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

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
871,426	Melanson et al.	Nov. 19, 1907
1,735,657	Sacks et al.	Nov. 12, 1929
1,831,451	Jackson	Nov. 10, 1931
2,393,392	Lyons	Jan. 22, 1946

FOREIGN PATENTS

Number	Country	Date
250,639	Switzerland	Oct. 16, 1948