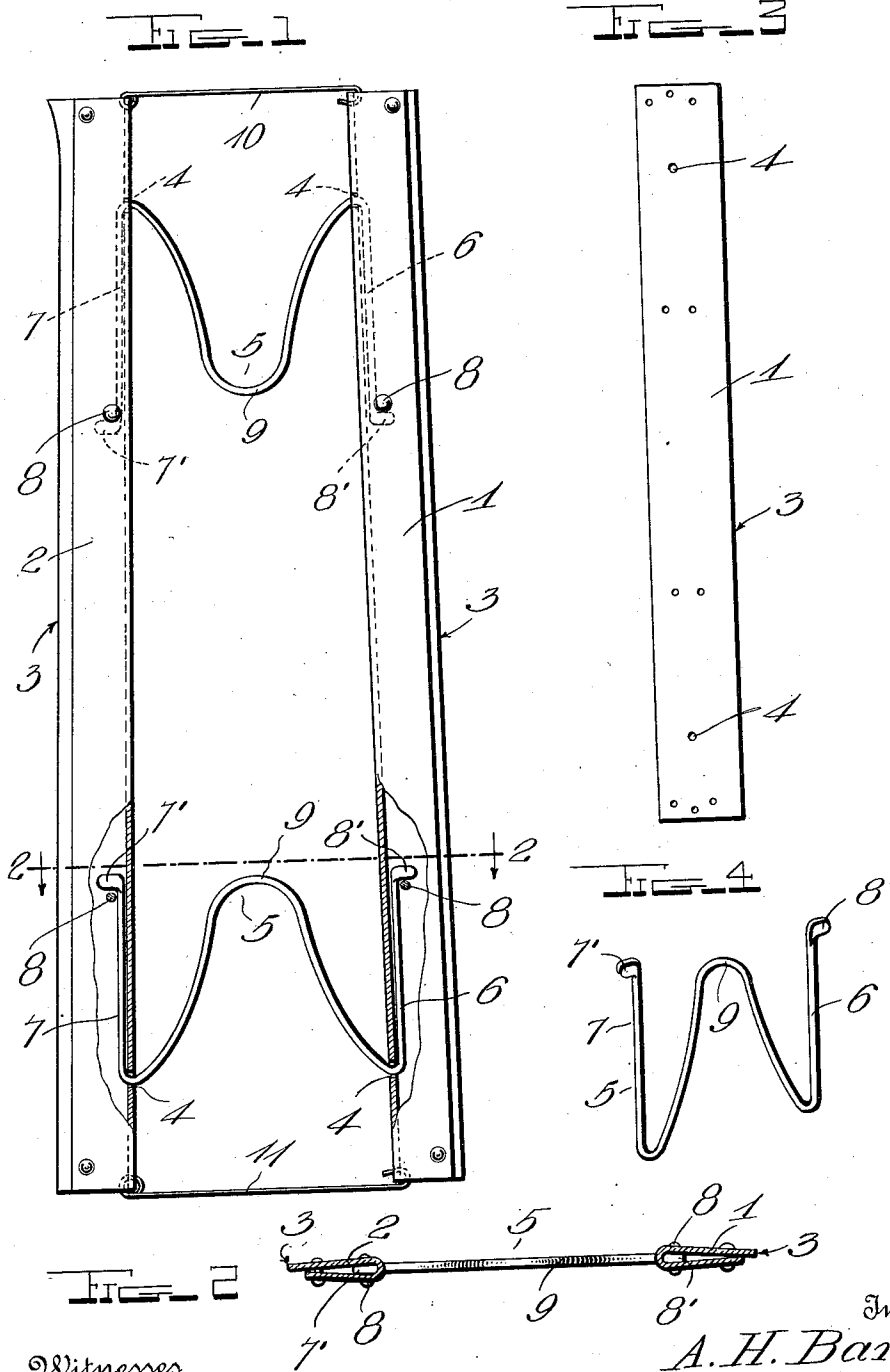


A. H. BARBER.
TROUSERS STRETCHER AND CREASER.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 5, 1911.

Patented July 2, 1912.

1,031,511.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TROUSERS STRETCHER AND CREASER.

1,031,511.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 2, 1912.

Application filed June 5, 1911. Serial No. 631,199.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALPHA H. BARBER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Leipsic, in the county of Putnam and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trousers Stretchers and Creasers; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in trousers stretchers and creasers.

The object of the invention is to provide a simply constructed, cheap and efficient device of this character which when applied will hold the trousers legs yieldably in flat stretched position and form creases in the front and rear in the usual places.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description and it will be understood that changes in the specific structure shown and described may be made within the scope of the invention as claimed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a trousers stretcher and creaser constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse section thereof taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a front elevation of one of the blanks from which the side members are constructed. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one of the springs detached.

In the embodiment illustrated two laterally spaced strips 1 and 2 are shown preferably composed of sheet metal such as aluminum, tin or sheet iron. These strips are formed by folding metal plates of about three or four inches in width longitudinally throughout their length, the fold being preferably formed at a point at one side of a median line to cause one edge of said plate to project beyond the other to form a thin sharp creasing edge 3. These strips 1 and 2 are provided along the fold thereof with a plurality of longitudinally spaced apertures as 4 through which the ends of springs as 5 are designed to be inserted. These springs 5, any desired number of which may be employed, are preferably made M-shaped and the arms or legs 6 and 7 thereof are inserted through registering apertures as 4 in the two strips 1 and 2 and extend parallel with the folded edges of

said strips, said edges being arranged face to face as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The free ends of these arms 6 and 7 are bent outwardly at right angles and flattened as shown at 7' and 8' to prevent any possibility of the strips turning on the springs and to enable said ends to fit neatly between the side members of the strips. These flattened ends are secured to the strips preferably by rivets as 8 which are arranged at the angle of said ends whereby the springs are firmly secured in operative position. These arms 6 and 7 are inserted within the strips until the bends at the inner ends thereof engage the walls of the apertures 4, said bends serving as stops to limit the extent of insertion of the springs within the strips. The side members of the strips formed by the folds therein are preferably riveted together at intervals throughout their lengths. The intermediate bend 9 of said springs provides the necessary resiliency for normally forcing said strips 1 and 2 apart to cause them to engage the trousers leg at diametrically opposite points whereby said leg is held in flattened extended position and the sharp edges 3 of said strips being forcibly held against the inner faces of the leg at these points form the desired creases therein.

The opposite ends of the strips 1 and 2 are preferably connected by means of rods 10 and 11 which are movably but permanently connected to one strip and detachably connected with the other strip. The lower end of one of the strips is preferably flared slightly to adapt it to the spring which occurs at the lower end of the trousers leg.

It is obvious that the connecting rods 10 and 11 may be disconnected from one of the strips when it is desired to apply the stretcher of greater or less width, the expansibility of the springs adapting the device for use with legs of varying widths. The rods 10 and 11 are intended principally to hold the strips in proper relation when the device is not in use to prevent the springs from permanently expanding and thus losing their resiliency.

I claim as my invention:—

A trousers stretcher and creaser comprising metal strips folded longitudinally, with the edges formed by the folds thereof facing each other and one of the free edges of each strip projecting beyond the other free edge to form a creaser, M-shaped springs disposed between said strips with the opposite

arms of each spring closely confined in the
folds of the opposed strips and having their
terminals bent outwardly at right angles
and flattened to conform to the inner bind-
5 ing walls of the strips, and fastening means
extending transversely through said strips
at the bend of the terminals of said springs
and in contact with the arm of the springs.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto
set my hand in presence of two subscribing 10
witnesses.

ALPHA H. BARBER.

Witnesses:

ANDREW J. HOFFMAN,
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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents,
Washington, D. C."
