April 16, 1957 L. PRESENT 2,788,785

COLOSTOMY BELT

Filed Jan. 13, 1956 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

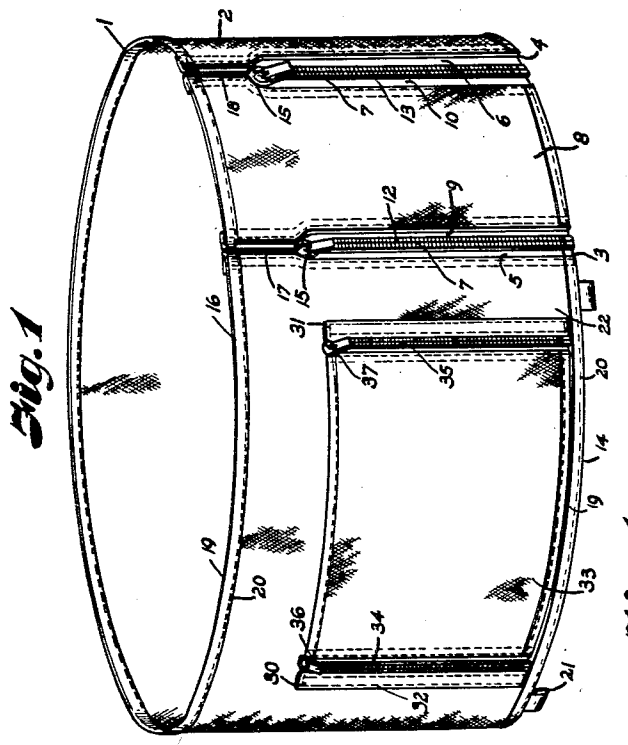


Fig. 1

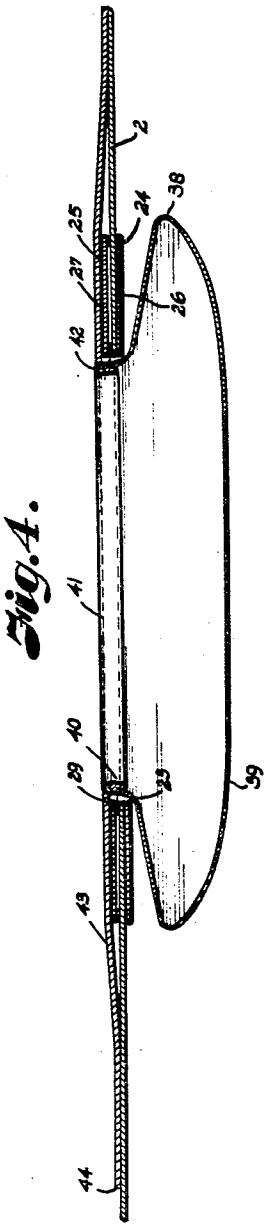


Fig. 4.

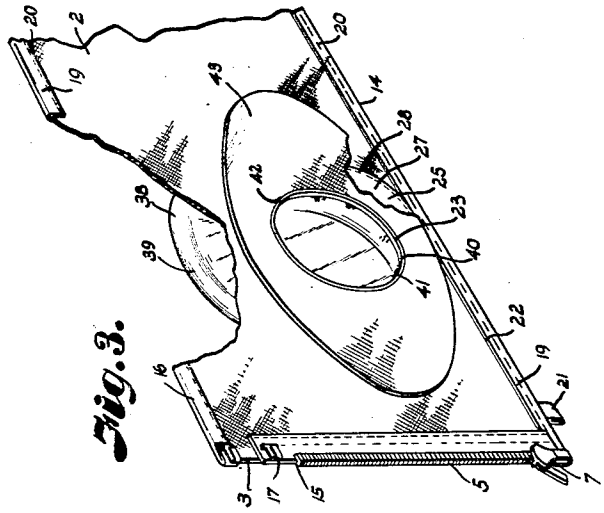


Fig. 3.

INVENTOR.
Louis Present.
BY
Fishburn and Gold
ATTORNEYS.

April 16, 1957 L. PRESENT 2,788,785

COLOSTOMY BELT

Filed Jan. 13, 1956 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

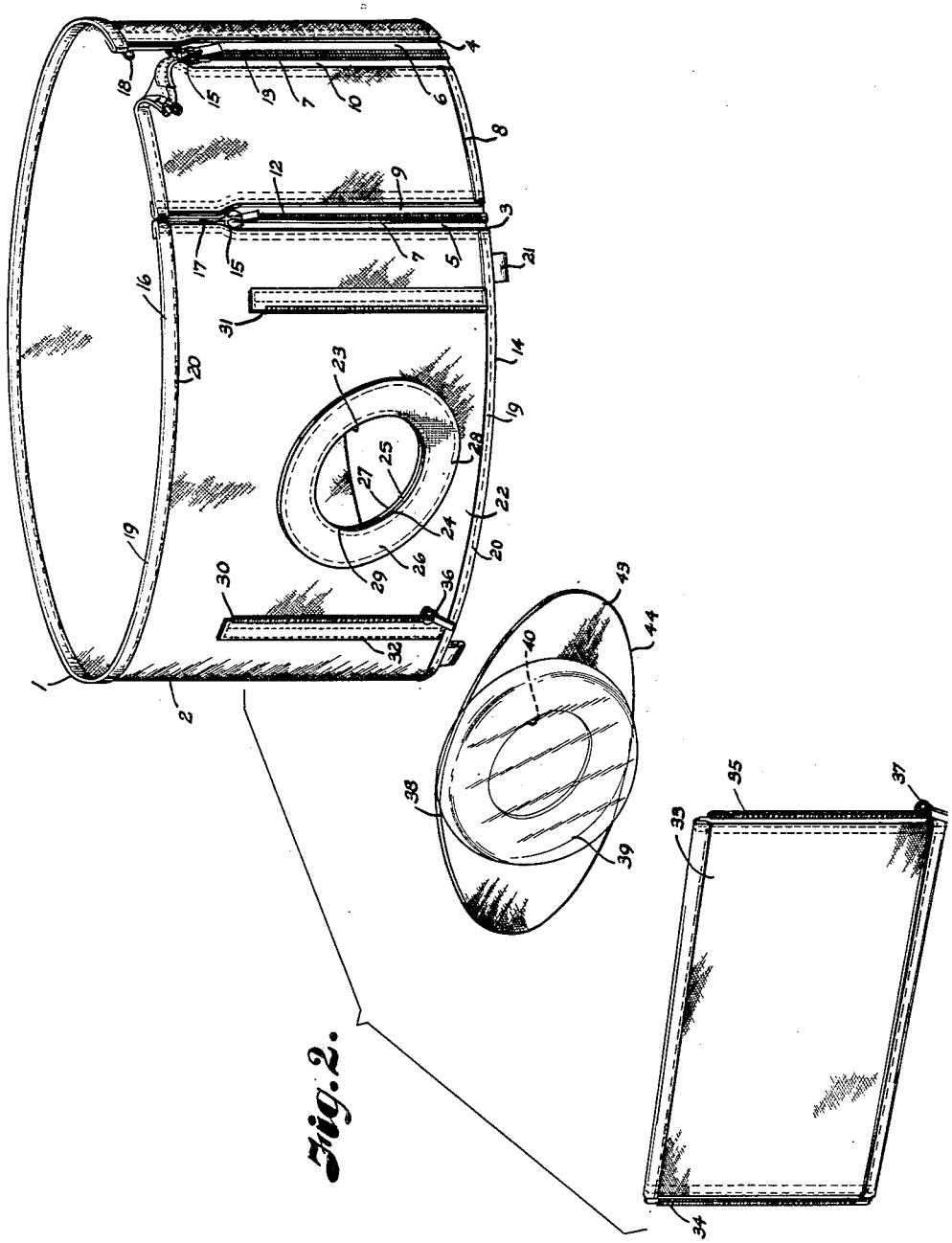


Fig. 2.

INVENTOR.
Louis Present.
BY
Frishburn and Gold
ATTORNEYS.

United States Patent Office 2,788,785 Patented Apr. 16, 1957

2,788,785

COLOSTOMY BELT

Louis Present, Kansas City, Mo.

Application January 13, 1956, Serial No. 558,903

5 Claims. (Cl. 128—283)

This invention relates to surgical belts, and more particularly, to colostomy and like belts which support colostomy bags or pouches on the abdomen of a patient, and has for its principal object to provide a colostomy belt or the like which is easily applied and removed and reduces to a minimum the bluges or protrusions that affect the appearance of the garments of the wearer.

Other objects of the invention are to provide a belt of the character described which includes an elastic webbing extending around the person with a removable panel of the same elastic webbing overlying the pouch to hold same substantially flattened; to provide such a belt with a removable pouch member that is easily cleaned; to provide such a belt wherein substantially all portions contacting the body are pliable for conforming to the shape of the person with maximum comfort to the wearer; to provide such a belt with removable sections for adjustment of the size for optimum fit on the patient; and to provide such a surgical belt that is economical to manufacture, relatively comfortable to the patient, efficient in holding the pouch member in place and adapted to be laundered in its entirety.

In accomplishing these and other objects of the present invention, I have provided improved details of structure, the preferred form of which is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a surgical belt constructed in accordance with the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a disassembled perspective view of the surgical belt, removable panel and pouch member.

Fig. 3 is a partial perspective view of the interior of the belt with the pouch member in place.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional view through a portion of the belt and pouch member.

Referring more in detail to the drawings:

1 designates a surgical belt which includes a band 2 made from elastic webbing of suitable width, for example, approximately 8 inches, and provided on each of its end edges 3 and 4 with portions 5 and 6 of a separable fastener 7 such as a slide fastener whereby said end edges may be connected together to extend about the body of a patient or wearer. While the band 2 is of elastic webbing capable of elongation, for maximum comfort of the wearer the elongation and pressure imposed on the body by the band should be somewhat uniform. Therefore, inserts or sections 8 of elastic webbing are arranged with portions 9 and 10 of a separable slide fastener suitably secured on each end 12 and 13 respectively adapted to be engaged with the fastener portions 5 and 6 respectively to adjust the belt to a suitable size to provide the proper fit around persons of different size. Different length or a plurality of sections 8 may be used to give desired variation in the size of the band. It is preferable that the slide fasteners extend from the lower edges 14 of the band 2 and section 8 upwardly therefrom and terminate as at 15 with the portion of the ends of the band between the end 15 of the slide fastener and the upper edge 16 of the band being provided with hooks 17 and eyes 18, the ends

of the sections 8 also being provided with corresponding mating hooks and eyes for connection thereto. The hook and eye or other suitable fastener arrangement is preferably used with the slide fastener so as to assure connection for substantially the full length of the ends of the band 2 and sections 8. The edges 14 and 16 of the band are preferably covered by a suitable elastic binding 19 secured thereto as by stitching 20 to prevent the band from folding or curling up on the wearer. Loops of fabric 21 are preferably secured in spaced relation to the band adjacent the lower edge 14 for attachment of garters or other straps if desired. Also, the lower edge 14 and upper edge 16 of the band 2 and sections 8 may be of equal length or one shorter than the other to fit the body of the wearer; however, usually the upper edge 16 is slightly shorter as it should extend substantially about the waist of the wearer.

In the illustrated structure, the ends 3 and 4 are adapted to be positioned substantially at the left side of the wearer and the front portion 22 is provided with an opening 23 and rings 24 and 25 of fabric stiffening material such as crinoline are arranged on opposite sides of the band covering the margins of the opening. Coverings 26 and 27 are provided over the rings 24 and 25 respectively with the edges of said covering turned under the stiffening and then the covering and stiffening margins sewn or suitably secured to the elastic webbing as by stitching 28, the inner edges 29 of the rings substantially registering with the inner edges of the opening 23. The coverings 26 and 27 are preferably of a relatively thin sheet of synthetic resin such as polyethylene or like washable impervious material. The stiffening rings 25 and covering 27 on the inner surface of the elastic webbing provide a slight thickness that slightly increases the pressure applied to the body in the area surrounding the opening 23 and also eliminate stretching or distortion of the margins of the opening 23.

Slide fastener portions 30 and 31 are suitably secured as by stitching 32 in transverse relation on the band 2 on opposite sides of the opening 23, the fastener portions being spaced from the outer margins of the ring 24, said fastener portions being of a length whereby the end extremities extend both above and below the upper and lower margins of the ring 24.

A removable panel 33 of elastic webbing has a length substantially corresponding to the space in between the fastener portions 30 and 31 whereby slide fastener portions 34 and 35 suitably secured to the ends of the panel 33 are adapted to engage the slide fastener portions 30 and 31 respectively and be secured thereto by slide members 36 and 37 respectively, and when so secured, the panel will lie substantially flat on the outer face of the band 2 between the slide fastener portions 30 and 31.

A pouch member 38 is adapted to be connected to the belt in covering relation to the opening 23. The pouch member consists of a bag 39 formed of flexible synthetic resin such as polyethylene and is formed by a relatively thin sheet of such material having its edges drawn together to form a circular opening or mouth 40 and the edges secured as by stitching 41 to edges of an opening 42 in a flat piece of sheet material 43 which in the illustrated structure is oval-shaped with its outer edges 44 spaced from the opening 42. The opening 42 is preferably circular and slightly smaller in diameter than the opening 23 whereby the pouch member assembly 38 is such that it will extend through the opening 23 with the sheet 43 engaging the inner surface of the cover 27 and belt 2 in the area surrounding the opening 23, and the bag 39 extending through the opening 23 and positioned on the exterior of the ring member 24 and cover 26 therefor as illustrated in Fig. 4 whereby the bag member underlies the panel 33 when the panel is

secured to the belt. The sheet material **43** is preferably of a synthetic resin such as polyethylene or like impervious washable material that is flexible yet with slightly more thickness than the bag member to provide a tendency for the sheet **43** to lie flat against the body of the wearer. The sheet material **43** also adheres slightly to the body to form a seal therewith.

In using a colostomy belt constructed as described, one of the slide fasteners **7** and corresponding hooks **17** and eyes **18** are disengaged and the belt extended around the body of the wearer. Then a suitable section **8** is selected whereby the circumference of the belt **2** and section **8** is slightly smaller than the body of the patient so as to provide the desired pressure to be applied by the belt. Then the panel **33** is removed and the pouch member **38** applied to the belt. Then the belt is placed around the body of the wearer and the slide fastener **7** engaged and secured. The hooks and eyes **17** and **18** are then engaged to secure the belt to the patient with the opening **23** and the pouch member **38** therein positioned over the abdominal opening of the patient. The panel **33** is then placed over the pouch member and secured to the belt. While there is sufficient elasticity of the belt for the pouch member to be removed without removing the belt, it is usually desirable in removing the pouch member **38** to disconnect one of the slide fasteners and the hooks and eyes to release the belt from the patient to facilitate removal of the pouch member for emptying and cleaning. In normal use, the panel **33** is kept in place during wearing, for example, when the patient is up and around during the daytime, and at night, for convenience and comfort of the patient, the panel **33** is completely removed. In either case, the elasticity of the belt and the slight thickness of the stiffening **25** and cover **27** presses the portion of the sheet **43** surrounding the opening tightly against the abdomen of the patient, but the stiffening material is such that it still conforms to the shape of the abdomen so that the pressure does not cause any discomfort, but the pressure is sufficient to substantially form a seal around the opening into the pouch.

It is to be understood that while I have illustrated and described one form of my invention, it is not to be limited to the specific form or arrangement of parts herein described and shown except insofar as such limitations are included in the claims.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A surgical belt adapted to support a colostomy pouch comprising, a relatively wide band of elastic webbing of such length as to extend substantially around the abdomen of a patient, separable fastening means on the ends of the band for connecting same, said band having an opening therein spaced from the ends thereof and adapted to be positioned over an abdominal opening in the patient, stiffening fabric rings surrounding the band opening on the inside of the band, a covering over the stiffening ring, means securing the stiffening ring and cover therefor to the band at the margins of the band opening, a pouch of flexible non-porous material having a mouth portion for positioning in the band opening, a flange extending from the pouch mouth on the inside of the band, and a panel member of elastic webbing releasably secured to the band in overlying relation to the pouch.

2. A surgical belt adapted to support a colostomy pouch comprising, a relatively wide band of elastic webbing of such length as to extend substantially around the abdomen of a patient, separable fastening means on the ends of the band for connecting same, said band having an opening therein spaced from the ends thereof and adapted to be positioned over an abdominal opening in the patient, stiffening fabric rings surrounding the band opening in the inside and outside of the band, a covering over the stiffening rings, means securing the stiffening rings and covers therefor to the band at the margins of the band opening, a pouch of flexible non-porous material having a mouth portion for positioning in the band opening, a flange of flexible material extending from the pouch mouth on the inside of the band, and a panel member of elastic webbing releasably secured to the band in overlying relation to the pouch.

3. A surgical belt adapted to support a colostomy pouch comprising, a relatively wide band of elastic webbing of such length as to extend substantially around the abdomen of a patient, said band including a removable section for varying the length thereof, separable fastening means on the ends of the band for releasably securing said ends together, said band having an opening therein spaced from the ends thereof and adapted to be positioned over an abdominal opening in the patient, a pouch of flexible non-porous material having a mouth portion slightly smaller than the band opening and adapted to be positioned therein, a flange extending from the pouch mouth on the inside of the band, and a panel member of elastic webbing overlying the exterior of the band adjacent the opening therein in overlying relation to the portion of the pounch on the exterior of the band.

4. A surgical belt adapted to support a colostomy pouch comprising, a relatively wide band of elastic webbing of such length as to extend substantially around the abdomen of a patient, said band including a removable section for varying the length thereof, separable fastening means on the ends of the band for releasably securing said ends together, said band having an opening therein spaced from the ends thereof and adapted to be positioned over an abdominal opening in the patient, a stiffening fabric ring overlying the margins of the band opening on the inside of said band, covering over the stiffening ring, means securing the stiffening ring and cover therefor to the band at the margins of the band opening, a pouch of flexible non-porous material having a mouth portion slightly smaller than the band opening and adapted to be positioned therein, a flange of flexible material extending from the pouch mouth on the inside of the band, and a panel member of elastic webbing overlying the exterior of the band adjacent the opening therein in overlying relation to the portion of the pouch on the exterior of the band.

5. A surgical belt adapted to support a colostomy pouch comprising, a relatively wide band of elastic webbing of such length as to extend substantially around the abdomen of a patient, said band including a removable section for varying the length thereof, separable fastening means on the ends of the band for releasably securing said ends together, said band having an opening therein spaced from the ends thereof and adapted to be positioned over an abdominal opening in the patient, stiffening fabric rings overlying the margins of the band opening on the inside and outside of said band, covering over the stiffening rings, means securing the stiffening rings and covers therefor to the band at the margins of the band opening, a pouch of flexible non-porous material having a mouth portion slightly smaller than the band opening and adapted to be positioned therein, a flange of flexible material extending from the pouch mouth on the inside of the band, a panel member of elastic webbing overlying the exterior of the band adjacent the opening therein in overlying relation to the portion of the pouch on the exterior of the band, said panel extending beyond the pouch member in all directions, and separable fastening means releasably securing the ends of the panel to the band in spaced relation to the pouch.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

2,476,513	Scott	July 19, 1949
2,503,056	Lay	Apr. 4, 1950
2,611,364	Mann	Sept. 23, 1952