

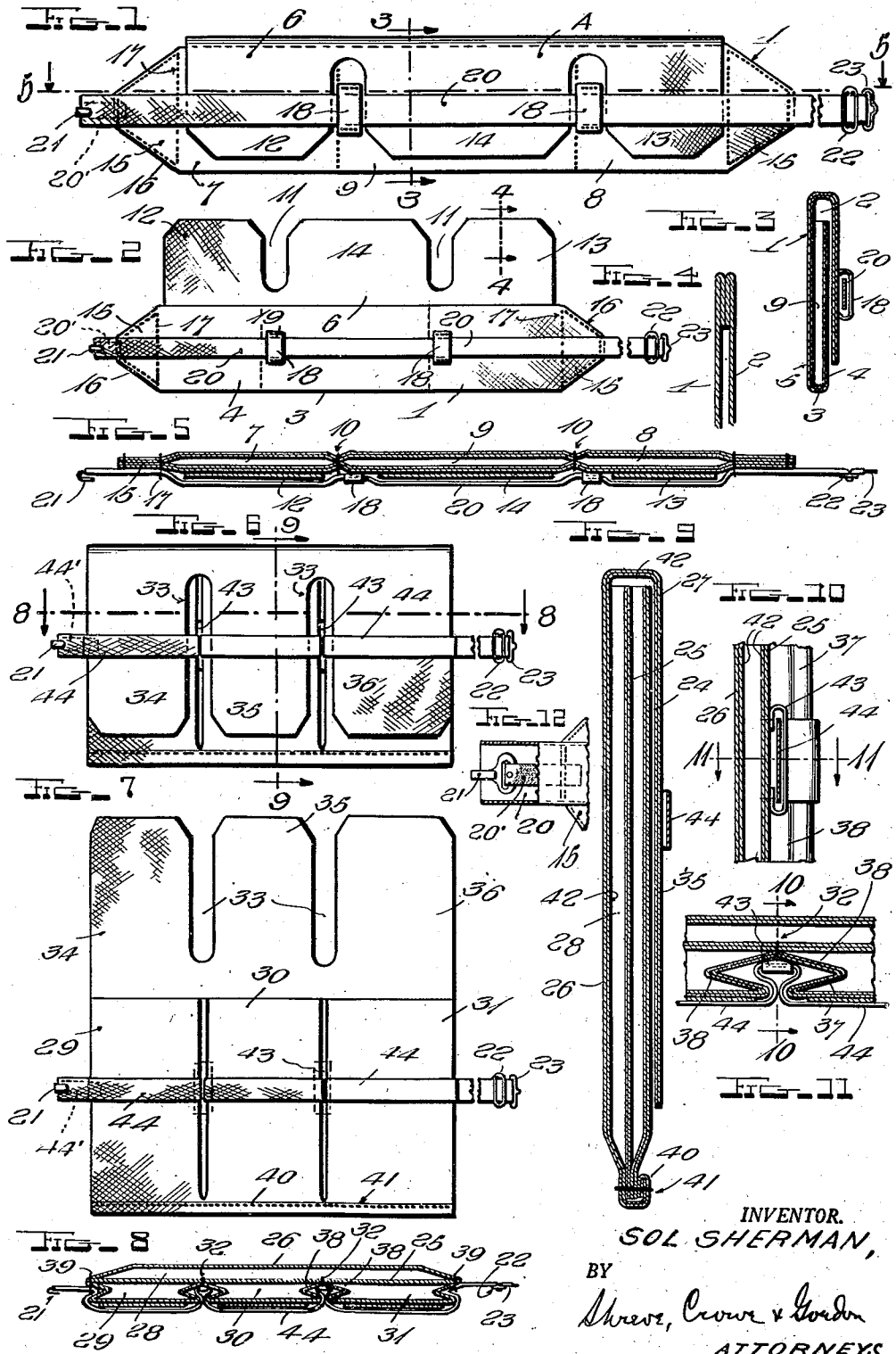
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S. SHERMAN

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MONEY AND ARTICLE CARRYING BELT

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MONEY AND ARTICLE CARRYING BELT

Sol Sherman, New York, N. Y.

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3 Claims. (Cl. 224-5)

Generically this invention relates to belts, but it is more particularly directed to a belt having a pocket or pockets adapted to carry money, personal papers, and the like.

One of the principal objects of this invention is the provision of a compartment belt for carrying money and other articles having compartment closure means, and improved means for securing said closure means in closed position without the use of buttons, metallic fastening elements or operable connections of any nature.

Another principal object of this invention is the provision of a compartment belt provided with a large pocket coextensive with the belt proper and an overlying series of extensible pockets, one wall of said large pocket being provided with an extension foldable over and constituting a closure for the upper ends of all of the pockets, said extension terminating in a series of flap or tongue portions each adapted to overlie a respective extensible pocket, and a flap or tongue retaining means operable to permit movement of the closure and flap or tongue means to and from their closed and secured positions without the operation of any connecting devices, such as buckles, snap fasteners, buttons, or other fastening elements.

A further important object of this invention is the provision of a belt of this character having a series of pockets or compartments, a closure means common to all of the pockets and operable as a unit with respect thereof, at the same time constituting individual closures for the respective compartments independently operable without regard to adjacent compartments.

Another principal object of this invention is the provision of a belt of this character formed from three layers of material, one of said outer layers extending beyond the other layers and forming with the intermediate or partition layer a compartment, the other outer layer forming with said partition layer a series of extendible pockets, said extension being foldable to provide a closure for said compartment and pockets and including closure portions overlying said pockets and independently operable with respect thereto without disturbing an adjacent portion, and means for securing said portions in closed position without the use of manually operable fastening elements, said means including a yieldable and adjustable waist encircling and belt body supporting member attached to said body and arranged in a manner adapted to compensate for the relative expansion of said pockets.

With these and other objects in view, which will

become apparent as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts, hereinafter more fully described and claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which like characters of reference indicate like parts throughout the several figures, of which:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of one form of my compartment belt invention closed.

Fig. 2 is a similar view with the closure in open position.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged transverse vertical section on the line 3-3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a detail view taken on the line 4-4 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a horizontal section on the line 5-5 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 6 is a front elevation of another form of my invention closed.

Fig. 7 is a view similar to Fig. 6 showing the closure in open position.

Fig. 8 is a horizontal section on the line 8-8 of Fig. 6.

Fig. 9 is an enlarged vertical section on the line 9-9 of Fig. 6.

Fig. 10 is an enlarged detail on the line 10-10 of Fig. 11.

Fig. 11 is a detail section on the line 11-11 of Fig. 10.

Fig. 12 is a detail of the belt strap and yieldable member.

In the illustrated embodiment characterizing this invention there is shown a compartment or money belt A (Figs. 1 to 5), formed from a one piece blank of fabric or other suitable material 1 and in the present instance having superimposed thereon a suitable lining material 2. Said materials are folded upon themselves along their surrounding edges as shown in Fig. 4, and their engaging surfaces are cemented, sewed or otherwise suitably united as will be well understood.

Said material 1 and its lining 2 are folded longitudinally as at 3 to form the front and back walls 4 and 5, respectively. The rear wall 5 is of a height corresponding to that of wall 4 and is formed with an extension 6 adapted for foldable engagement with front wall 4, and constituting a closure common to the compartments 7 and 8 and the larger intermediate compartment 9 formed by uniting the walls 4 and 5 by the transversely extending lines of stitching 10. The extension 6 is formed with the substantially U-shaped cut out portions 11 providing the individual closure portions 12, 13 and 14 adapted to normally overlie the compartments or pockets 7,

8 and 9, respectively, and constituting closure portions for said compartments independently operable with respect to each other and closure portion 6, as will more directly fully appear.

The body portion of said belt A comprising the folded over front and back wall portions 4 and 5, is formed with the stiffened or stabilizing tapered end portions 15 extending in opposite directions beyond the closure portion 6, and united by the triangular lines of stitching 16, the transverse portions 17 of which form the end walls of the compartments 7 and 8, and correspond to the lines of stitching 10, which form the other ends of said compartments.

A pair of loop members 18, of similar or other suitable material to front wall 4 are secured to said wall by stitching 19 and positioned to project to or through the cut out portions 11 when the closure members 12, 13, and 14 are in closed position as shown in Fig. 1.

Longitudinally superimposed on said wall 4 and slidably extending through the loops 18 is a strap member 20 of similar material to said wall or other suitable material, and, in the present instance, is secured thereto by the stitching 16. Said strap is adapted to encircle the body of the wearer and has suitably secured within one end a section of elastic or yieldable material 20' and to the free end of which is suitably secured a conventional hook 21 and to the other end of the strap an adjusting buckle 22 and a slidable eyelink 23 for engagement with said hook. Said strap and section 20' are attached to the body portion by said stitching 16, and from which point to the hook 21 said belt constitutes a loose housing or piping normally concealing said section 20' which automatically effects adjustment of said encircling portion with respect to the body movements of the wearer. Said strap is of the proper length intermediate its points of connection to the wall 4 by the stitching 16 to constitute a flap or closure retaining means freely adjustable between said points and adapted to secure the closure and flap portions 12, 13, and 14 in closed position and is adjustably operable with respect to each flap or closure portion to effect its ready opening and return to closed and secured position without regard to and independently of an adjacent compartment and its respective closure, and whereby an automatic compensating and tensioning adjustment with respect to filled and unfilled compartments or pockets is effected.

It is further apparent that the principal or main closure 6 may be moved to open position to give access to all of the pockets or any individual closure portion 12, 13 or 14 may be opened and closed without regard to its adjacent member or pocket.

In Figs. 6 to 11 there is shown another form of the invention similar in principal to the form above described except varying in structural arrangement incident to a three walled structure and increased carrying capacity.

This form comprises a front wall 24, a partition wall 25, and a rear or back wall 26. Said rear wall 26 is formed with an extension 27 adapted for foldable engagement with the front wall 24 and constitutes a common closure for the compartment 28 formed by the back wall 26 and partition wall 25, and the compartments or pockets 29, 30 and 31 formed by uniting the front wall 24 and the partition wall 25 by the transversely extending lines of stitching 32. Said extension 27 is formed with the substantially U-shaped cut out portions 33, forming the individual closure

portions 34, 35 and 36 adapted to normally overlies and to constitute closures for said compartments or pockets 29, 30 and 31, respectively, and independently operable with respect to each other and the closure portion 27, as will more directly fully appear.

Before the front wall 24 is attached to the partition wall 25 it is folded inwardly on its end edges as at 37, then outwardly upon said fold as at 38, to effect a bellows construction and which forms the extensible end walls of compartments 29 and 31 and said material is similarly folded inwardly of its compartment to form the opposite walls thereof and adjacent to such folds is similar folded to form the end walls of intermediate chamber 30, except that the portions 38 of the adjacent fold of chambers 31 and 30 and 29 and 30 are integrally connected, forming a strip adapted to lie flat against the partition 25 when said adjacent compartments are empty, said strip being centrally connected to said partition by stitching 32 and functioning as a hinge for said wall portions 38 of adjacent compartments, as clearly shown in Figs. 8 and 11, and with the foldable walls partially extended. The collapsible portions 38 of the outer end walls of compartments 29 and 31 are united to partition wall 25 and the rear wall 26 by stitching 39 which stitching unites the three walls at their end edges. The back wall member 26 is formed with a projection extending beyond the lower overlapping longitudinal edges of the front wall 24 and partition wall 25 and is folded upon itself along its edge forming the hem 40 and is folded over the lower edges of said walls 24 and 25 and with the hem 40 in overlying engagement with the outer surface of wall 24, said parts being united by a line of stitching 41 and which completes the formation of the belt proper. The walls 24 and 26 are formed with a lining 42 similar to form A, though the partition wall 25 is only lined on one side within chamber 28. It is apparent that it may be lined on both sides if desired.

A pair of loop members 43 of similar or other suitable material to front wall 24 are secured to said wall substantially central of its height by stitching 32 and in alignment with the cut out portions 33 when the closure members 34, 35 and 36 are in closed position. Said loops when the front portion is collapsed are substantially concealed by the overlying portions 37 as shown in Figs. 6 and 7.

Longitudinally superimposed on wall 24 and slidably extending through the loops 43 and over the closure members 34, 35, and 36 is a strap member 44, of similar material to said wall or of other suitable material, and is secured at each end to the belt proper by the stitching 39 which is normally concealed from view. Said strap is adapted to encircle the body of the wearer and has suitably secured within one end a section of elastic or yieldable material 44' and to the free end of which is suitably secured a conventional hook 21 and to the other end of said strap an adjusting buckle 22 and a slidable eyelink 23 for engagement with said hook. Said strap 44 and yieldable section 44' are secured to the body portion by the stitching 39, and the piping and adjusting action of said section 44' is identical to such parts above described in connection with strap 20 and section 20'. It will be noted that the strap in this instance, while freely slidable in the loops 43, presents a substantial loop formation within the bellows portions 37 and 38 when a compartment or compartments are in extended

position. Said strap is of a length intermediate its connected points 39 to retain the closures 34, 35, and 36 insertible thereunder in closed position and adjustable with respect to said compartments to compensate for their extension and tending to equalize the tension with respect thereto during different degrees of expansion and with respect to said loops adjustably operable to permit ready opening and closing of the respective independently operable closure portions or flaps by insertion thereunder as will be well understood.

The formation and operation of the main closure and the independently operable closure members and the strap and cooperating loop closure defining and strap retaining means are substantially identical in both forms of the invention. In both forms the closure securing strap means is adjustable from end to end of the front wall and adjustable independently with respect to each flap closure to permit easy insertion thereunder or removal therefrom of the closure portion of a respective compartment, and independently and automatically adjustable with respect to the body movements of the wearer.

From the above it is apparent that I have designed a money belt or article carrying belt having a plurality of compartments or pockets having a foldable closure common to all of the compartments and including closure portions independently operable with respect to certain of the compartments, and means for securing in closed position the common closure and constituting an adjustable retaining means for each of the independent closures, without the use of buckles, buttons, zippers, snap fasteners or other metallic or separable fastening means, yet simple in construction, pleasing in appearance, adjustably comfortable to the wearer, versatile in its adaptive use, readily accessible as to all of the compartments or a particular compartment, manufacturable at a minimum of cost, and efficient for the purpose intended.

Although in practice it has been found that the form of the invention illustrated in the accompanying drawing and referred to in the above description as the preferred embodiment is the most efficient and practical, yet realizing that conditions concurrent with the adoption of the invention will necessarily vary, it is well to emphasize that various minor changes in details of construction, proportion and arrangement of parts, may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claims without departing from or sacrificing any of the principles of the invention.

Having thus described the invention, what is desired protected by Letters Patent is as set forth in the following claims:

1. In a belt, front and back walls connected at their longitudinal lower edges and adjacent their end edges constituting the body portion, a plurality of compartments intermediate said walls and said end connections, said back wall having an integral extension foldable over said front wall constituting a common closure for said compartments and including a plurality of spaced independent flap closure members overlying and being substantially coextensive in length and breadth with said compartments, each of said flaps being individually operable to open and close the respective compartments without disturbing the remaining flaps, means for securing said flap members in closed position, said means including a plurality of flexible guide means secured to said front wall in alignment

with the spaces between said flap members and a waist encircling belt body supporting member connected intermediate its length at spaced points to the opposite ends of the body portion, the portion of said supporting member intermediate said points of connection therewith being adapted to pass over the flaps and loosely through the guide members to secure said flaps of said common closure in closed position, said portion being readily adjustable through said guides to compensate for the relative expansion of the compartments and to facilitate the manipulation of the respective flaps to open and closed position.

2. In a belt, a front, a back and a partition wall connected at their lower longitudinal edges and at their end edges constituting the body portion, said front wall being formed to constitute a plurality of compartments within said body, said compartments being formed with accordion folds forming normally collapsed extensible end walls, the end walls of adjacent compartments being integrally connected, said integral connections and partition wall being connected in parallelism with said end connections, a guide member secured to the respective integral connections adapted to be normally substantially concealed by said collapsed end walls, said back wall having an integral extension foldable over said front wall constituting a common closure for said compartments, said common closure being formed intermediate its ends to provide a plurality of spaced flaps extending substantially to the lower edge of said front wall, said flaps being independently operable to open selectively respective compartments without disturbing adjacent compartments, a waist encircling belt body supporting member connected intermediate its length at spaced points to said body, the portion of said member intermediate said points and overlying said body being adapted to pass over the flaps and loosely through the guide members to secure said flaps of said common closure in closed position, said latter portion being adjustable through said guides to compensate for the relative expansion of the compartments and to facilitate manipulation of the respective flaps to open and closed position, and means for adjustably securing said encircling member about a person's waist.

3. In a belt, a front, a back and a partition wall connected at their lower longitudinal edges and at their end edges and constituting the body portion, said front wall being arranged to form with said partition wall a plurality of compartments, said compartments being formed with accordion folds forming normally collapsed extensible end walls, the end walls of adjacent compartments having integrally connected portions, said integral connections and partition wall being connected in parallelism with said end connections, a guide member secured to the respective integral connections adapted to be substantially concealed by said collapsed end walls, said partition and back wall forming a compartment substantially coextensive with said body portion, said back wall having an integral extension constituting a common closure foldable to close the upper ends of all the compartments, said common closure being notched intermediate its ends to provide a plurality of flaps, the flaps being substantially coextensive in length and breadth with the surfaces of the underlying compartments formed by said front wall and independently operable to open selectively the respective

compartments, a waist encircling belt body supporting member connected intermediate its length to the ends of said belt body, the portion of said member overlying said body being adapted to pass over the flaps and loosely through the guide members to secure said flaps of said common closure in closed position, said latter portion being adjustable through said guides to compensate for the relative expansion of the compartments

and to facilitate manipulation of the respective flaps to open and closed position, said adjustable portion normally forming loops between and substantially concealed by said end walls, and inter-
5 connecting means in connection with the free ends of said encircling member for adjustably securing said member about a person's waist.

SOL SHERMAN.