

June 15, 1948.

J. V. FALCON

2,443,447

COAT

Filed May 13, 1946

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1

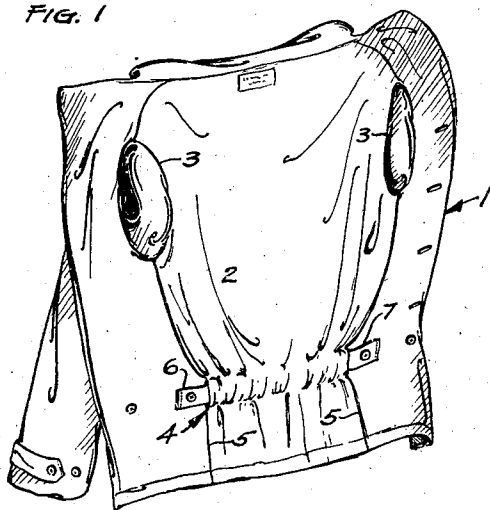


FIG. 3

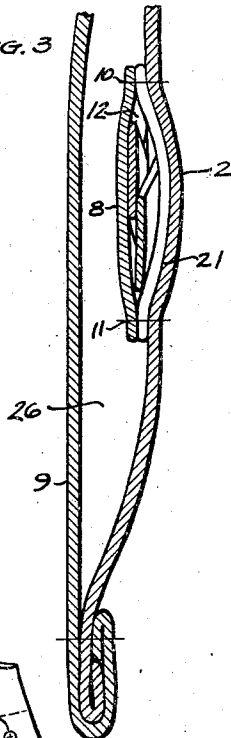


FIG. 2

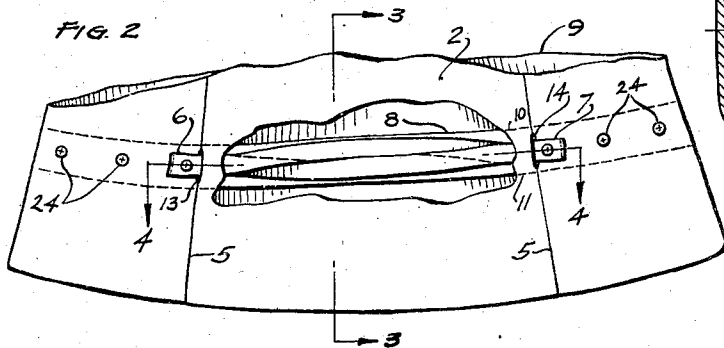
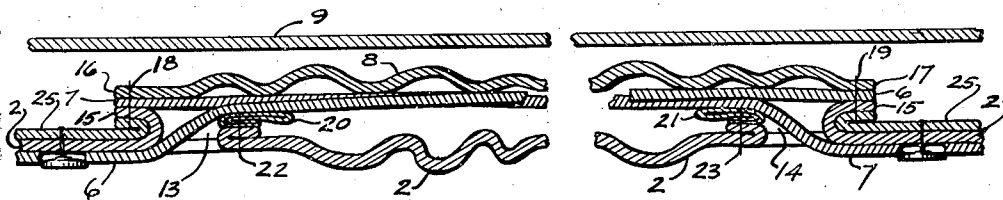


FIG. 4



Inventor
JOSEPH. V. FALCON

By Lemmes, Keegin, Beale and Lemmes
Attorneys

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J. V. FALCON

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FIG. 5

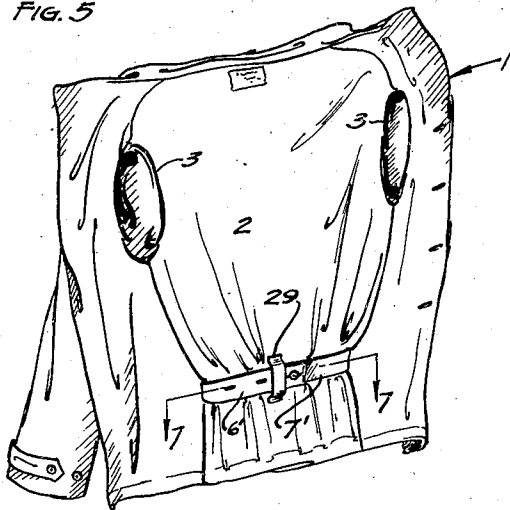


FIG. 6

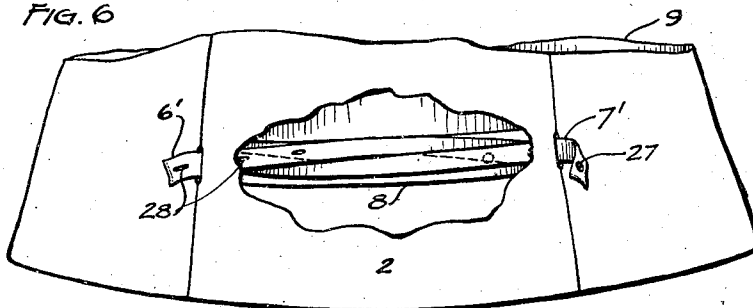
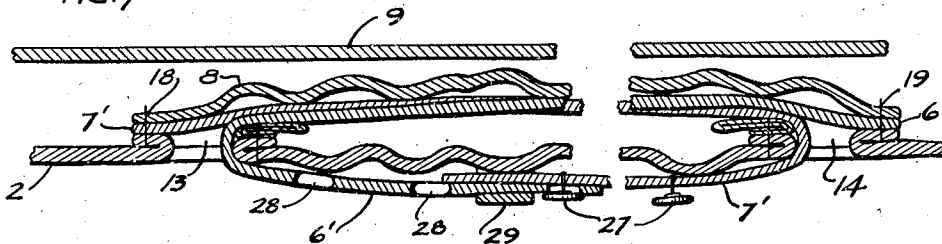


FIG. 7



Inventor

JOSEPH V. FALCON

By *Semmes, Keegin, Deale and Semmes*
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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COAT

Joseph V. Falcon, Binghamton, N. Y., assignor to
The Drybak Corporation, Binghamton, N. Y.,
a corporation of New York

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5 Claims. (Cl. 2-93)

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This invention relates to a belt and more particularly to a belt adapted to alter a coat to fit snugly against the body of the wearer.

The ordinary belt used with a coat or jacket operates by simply pressing the coat relatively tightly against the body of the wearer. In order to do so, it is necessary to fold and gather the garment to reduce its effective circumference. This bunching or gathering may occur at any point in the coat and may result in a disorderly appearance or a localized bunching which interferes with the movements of the wearer. In addition, the comfort of the coat is decreased because of a constraining member fitting relatively tightly around the body.

Ordinarily, belts are not attached to the coat and may be lost. During warm weather when it is not desired to have the coat fit so tightly against the body, the free ends of most belts become a nuisance. This objectionable feature is especially noticeable in short coats or jackets which may not be closed at all during warm weather.

Coats for use as hunting jackets often have a game pocket between the outer shell of the coat and the liner. The ordinary belt is not satisfactory when used in a coat of this kind because it holds the shell, as well as the liner against the body and thereby decreases the space available for a game pocket. A belt fitting around the body of the wearer and holding the liner only against the body is usually uncomfortable and makes the putting on of a coat a rather awkward procedure. Sometimes an elastic insert is sewed to the garment in an effort to produce a snugly fitting garment. Unfortunately, the elastic material deteriorates rather rapidly and results in a very unsatisfactory garment. This is especially true in hunting coats and the like which may be frequently completely soaked with water.

It is an object of this invention to provide a belt for a coat which will adjust the effective size of the coat so that it will fit snugly against the body of the wearer.

A further object of this invention is to provide a belt which will draw a coat snugly against the body of the wearer but in which there is no constraining member fitting relatively tightly completely around the wearer's waist.

It is also an object of this invention to provide a belt which will not have its free ends dangling from the garment whether or not the belt is in use.

Another object of this invention is to provide a means for drawing coats with a game pocket in

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their back against the wearer's body without decreasing the capacity of that pocket.

Still another object of this invention is to provide means for permanently adjusting the effective size of the garment so that it will not be necessary to make the adjustment each time the garment is worn.

With these and other objects which will become apparent during the following detailed description of the invention, in mind, this invention resides in a belt consisting of two straps attached to the garment and which have means for adjustably securing their free ends against the garment. In operation the straps are pulled so that the points of attachment are drawn toward each other to thereby reduce the circumference of the garment. The free ends of the straps are then secured to prevent the points of attachment again moving apart.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is an elevation of a coat open to show the location of the belt of this invention.

Figure 2 is an elevation of the section of garment containing the belt with the liner partly broken away to show the construction of the belt.

Figure 3 is a vertical section taken on line 3-3 in Figure 2 illustrating the manner of attachment of the belt to the garment.

Figure 4 is a horizontal section taken on line 4-4 of Figure 2 illustrating the details of construction of the belt.

Figure 5 is an elevation, similar to Figure 1, of a modification of this invention.

Figure 6 is an elevation, similar to Figure 2, of the modification shown in Figure 5.

Figure 7 is a cross section, similar to Figure 4, taken along the line 7-7 in Figure 5.

Figure 1 illustrates a coat, indicated generally as 1, open to show the liner 2 and arm holes 3. The belt, designated generally by 4, of this invention is naturally located at the waist of the garment and extends horizontally across its back area. Ordinarily the belt is attached so that only the material in the back panel of the coat which lies between seams 5 will be drawn together as the belt is tightened. However, this invention, of course, may be applied to either a more narrow or a wider section. In the form of the invention illustrated in Figure 1, it is only necessary that the straps 6 and 7 comprising the belt emerge from the liner 2 at a point far enough from the edges of the coat to allow considerable tightening of the belt in a manner hereinafter described.

Referring to Figure 4, a band 8 is sewed to the liner of the coat between the liner 2 and the outer

fabric 9. This band is sewed along its upper and lower edges at 10 and 11 to form a tube 12 outlined by band 8 and liner 2 as shown in Figure 3. Liner 2 is slit near the ends of band 8 and the edges formed by the slit folded back to form openings 13 and 14. The outer edge 15 at each of the slits and the ends 16 and 17 of band 8 are then sewed to the liner at 18 and 19. The inner edges of the liner resulting from the slits are folded back and reinforced with fabric 20 and 21 and then sewed to the liner at 22 and 23. Reinforcements 20 and 21 protect the lining material from wear occasioned by movement of straps 6 and 7.

One end of strap 6 lies between the end 17 of band 8 and edge 15 of the liner and is securely attached to those members by stitching 19 when they are sewed to the liner. Strap 7 is fastened in a similar manner at the opposite end of the band. Since these straps are attached against the band at the rear surface of the tube 12 and emerge through openings 13 and 14 at the front surface of the tube, it is necessary that they cross somewhere between the points of attachment as is illustrated in Figure 2. As the free ends of straps 6 and 7 are pulled, the points of attachment are drawn toward each other and the band 8 and liner 2 between openings 13 and 14, are drawn into a series of folds. When the points of attachment are drawn together, the distance between the two flaps of the garment is thereby decreased.

Some means of securing the free ends of the straps is necessary in order to hold the points of attachment in the desired adjusted positions. In this invention, the band 8 is maintained in its gathered position by attaching the free ends of the straps to the liner of the coat. As illustrated in the drawings, this may be accomplished by series of buttons 24 spaced at regular intervals along the inner surface of the liner and aligned with the band 8. Straps 6 and 7 have button holes near the free ends for securing the strap with the button. It is preferred that each of the straps have a plurality of holes spaced apart the same distance as the buttons. Then when the straps are attached to the buttons nearest the edges of the garment, the straps may be held against the liner at points intermediate openings 13 and 14 and their ends. Obviously any other suitable means could be used for securing the ends of the strap in a fixed position. If buttons are used, a band of material 25, similar to band 8 should be sewed to the liner to reinforce it.

Often in warm weather it will not be desirable to draw the garment up so that it will fit closely to the body. Then the free ends of the straps may be attached to the button nearest the openings 13 and 14. Thus when the belt is not in use it is neatly held in a concealed position where it will not interfere in any way with the movements of the wearer. If it is desirable to tighten the belt, the straps may then be attached to the selected button in the series which will pull the points of attachment on the straps closer together and decrease the effective size of the garment. The straps may be left in this position and the coat will then fit the wearer with the desired snugness without the necessity of adjusting it every time the coat is put on. When ordinary belts are used, it is necessary to draw the belt about the body and fasten it every time the wearer uses the coat.

In many cases, such as when it is desired to show a series of folds across the back of the coat, the band 8 may be attached to both the liner and the outer fabric of the coat. This may be done simply by sewing the liner, outer fabric and band

together at 10 and 11 as the coat is assembled. Of course, the drawing effect can be obtained in the outer fabric by stitching the band to the outer fabric only. If the belt is attached to the outer fabric, it may either pass through openings in the liner and have the ends of the straps secured to the liner similarly to the form illustrated in Figure 2, or it may pass through slits provided in the outer fabric and be attached along the outer surface of the garment.

In coats provided with game pockets in the back panel it will be desirable to have the belt attached only to the liner. With such construction the outer fabric 9 is free to move away from the liner to form a pocket designated by numeral 26 in Figure 3 in which game might be placed. If the liner is of a soft material, it may be necessary to install a sheet (not shown) of resistant material between the outer fabric and the band or liner to form a pocket suitable for carrying game.

A modification of this invention is illustrated in Figure 5 of the drawings. This form is similar to that described above except that a different manner of securing the free ends of the straps 6' and 7' is used. In this case, the straps 6' and 7' are supplied with connecting means so that they may be secured to each other. In the drawings, strap 7' has a series of buttons 27 attached on its rear surface and strap 6' has a series of button holes 23 for connecting with the buttons of strap 7'. A strip of material 29 is secured at its two ends to the liner of the coat to form a loop through which the free ends of straps 6' and 7' may pass. Loop 29 should be located at approximately the center of the back of the coat and at the same elevation as the belt.

When it is desirable to make the coat fit more snugly about the body, the ends of straps 6' and 7' are pulled to draw the points of attachment of these straps more closely together. The straps are doubled back toward the center of the coat and one strap passed through the belt loop and then attached to the other strap. When strap 7' is doubled back, the buttons on the rear surface then face the front of the garment where they may be conveniently engaged with strap 6'. The plurality of buttons allows adjustment of the degree of tightening. Belt loop 29 holds the straps flatly against the liner of the coat so that they will not hang down below the bottom of the coat when the coat is not buttoned, and also keeps the straps in an out-of-the-way position where they will not catch on any objects. In this adaptation, the free ends of the straps are doubled back toward the center of the garment rather than pulled towards the edges of the coat when the belt is tightened; consequently, it is possible to extend the band 8 and tube 12 completely across the width of the garment.

A coat equipped with a belt of the nature described may be adjusted to fit snugly against the wearer's body and thereby prevent cold air from passing between the coat and the wearer. There is no necessity for a belt extending completely around the wearer's body when this belt is used, nor is any elastic material required in the construction of the garment.

A belt constructed according to this invention may be securely fastened in a convenient, out-of-the-way position when it is not being used. Unlike ordinary belts, it is not necessary to adjust the belt described every time the belt is worn. Furthermore, this invention also provides a means for holding a coat having a game

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pocket in its back panel snugly against the body without reducing the capacity of the pocket.

Although the details of construction of a belt employing the concept of this invention have been described in the above specification, it is to be understood that the scope of the invention is not to be limited by those details, but is limited only by the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A garment comprising an outer fabric, a liner, a compressible band attached along its sides and ends to said liner to form therewith a tube, a strap having one end attached at one end of said band and extending through said tube to emerge therefrom at the end remote from its point of attachment, a second strap having one end attached to said band at the end remote from the point of attachment of the first mentioned strap and emerging at the end of said tube remote from its point of attachment, the entire portion of said liner between the ends of said band being gathered by pulling said straps, and means for adjustably securing the free ends of said straps to maintain the attached ends the desired distance apart, whereby the liner is secured compactly against the complete circumference of the wearer's body.

2. A garment comprising an outer fabric, a liner, a supple band attached along its sides to said liner to form therewith a tube, a strap having one end attached at one end of said tube and extending through said tube to emerge therefrom at the end remote from its point of attachment, a second strap having one end attached at the end of said tube remote from the point of attachment of said first mentioned strap and emerging at the end of said tube remote from the point of attachment of the second strap, the entire portion of said liner between the ends of said tube being puckered by pulling said straps, and means for adjustably securing the free ends of said straps to the garment to maintain the attached ends the desired distance apart, and to hold the liner closely against the wearer's body completely around its circumference.

3. A garment comprising an outer fabric, a liner, a soft band lying between said liner and outer fabric and attached along its sides to the liner to form a tube therewith, a strap having one end attached to said band and extending longitudinally through the tube to emerge through the liner at the end remote from its point of attachment, a second strap having one end attached to the band at the end remote from

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the point of attachment of the first strap and emerging through the liner at the end remote from its point of attachment, the entire portion of said liner between the ends of said band being pleated by pulling said straps, and means for adjustably securing the free ends to the inner surface of the liner, to hold the liner snugly against the complete circumference of the wearer's body.

4. A garment belt comprising a pliant band attached along its sides to said garment to form a tube therewith, a strap attached at one end of said band and extending through said tube to emerge at the end remote from its point of attachment, a second strap attached to the band near the point of emergence of the first strap and emerging from the tube near the point of attachment of the first strap, means for connecting the free ends of the straps together, whereby the garment is held trimly against the complete circumference of the wearer's body, and a strip attached to the garment between the points the straps emerge from the tube forming a loop through which the free ends pass for holding the straps against the garment.

5. A garment comprising an outer fabric, a liner, a pliable band attached to said liner forming therewith a tube, a strap having one end secured to the garment at one end of said tube and extending through said tube to emerge through the liner at the opposite end of the tube, a second strap having one end secured to the garment at said opposite end of the tube and emerging through the liner at the first mentioned end of the tube, means secured in said straps for connecting them together at various points, and a strip attached to said liner between the points the straps pass through the liner forming a loop through which the free ends of the straps may be passed to hold the straps close to the liner.

JOSEPH V. FALCON.

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