Sept. 2, 1952 W. H. MEEKER 2,608,729

NECKTIE CLASP

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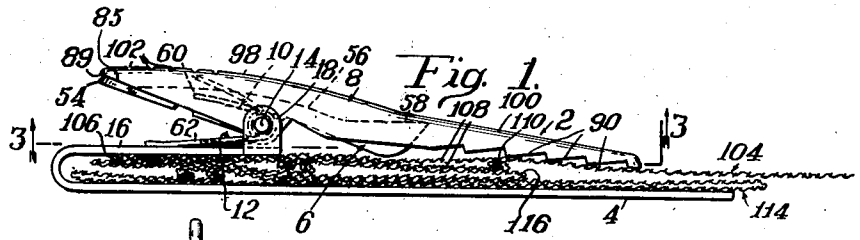


Fig. 1.

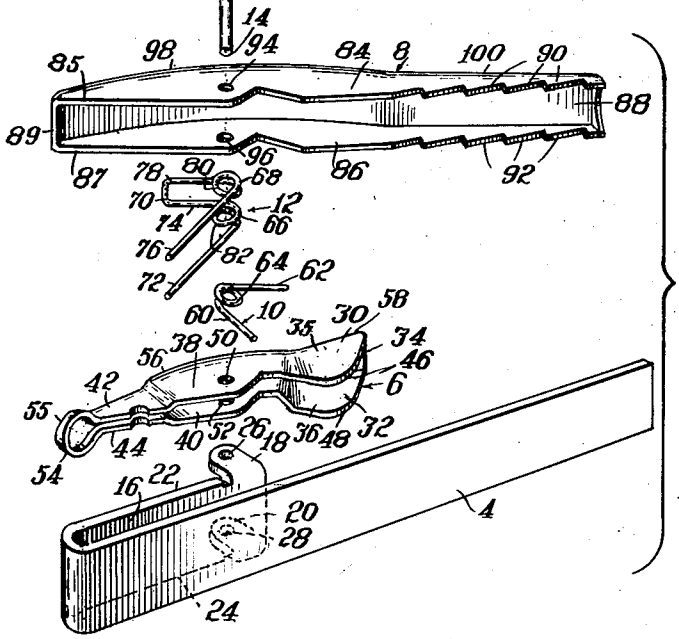


Fig. 2.

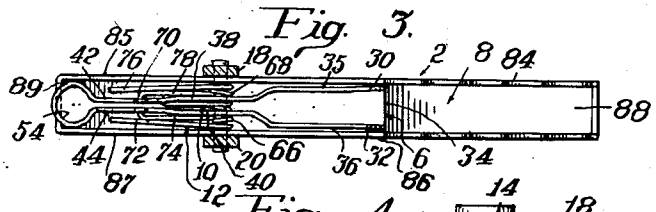


Fig. 3.

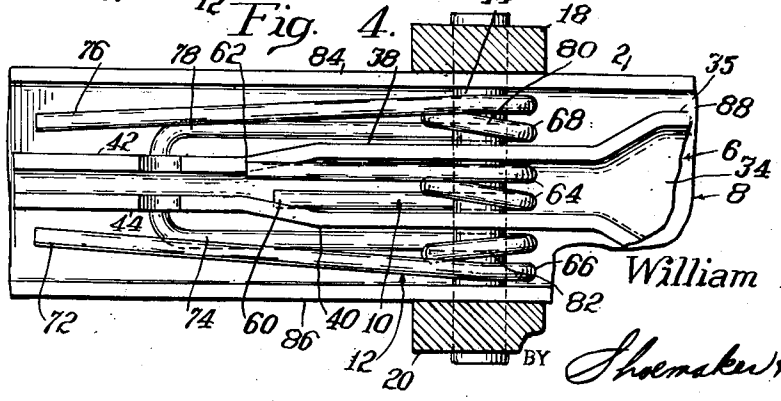


Fig. 4.

INVENTOR

William H. Meeker

BY Shoemaker & Mattare

ATTORNEYS

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NECKTIE CLASP

William H. Meeker, Rochester, N. Y., assignor to Hickok Manufacturing Co. Inc., Rochester, N. Y., a corporation of New York

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2 Claims. (Cl. 24—49)

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The present invention relates to improvements in necktie clasps and more particularly to necktie clasps adapted to clampingly engage portions of a shirt front and necktie at two or more points of unequal thickness.

Heretofore, the prior art has concerned itself with various arrangements for clampingly engaging portions of a shirt front and necktie which are of unequal thickness at two or more points, the pressure exerted at each of the points being a variable portion of the entire exertive force in some instances or substantially equal portions of the entire exertive force in other instances. Examples of these types of necktie clasps are shown in the patents to Mix, 1,973,009, patented September 11, 1934; Silverman, 2,300,068, patented October 27, 1942 and Rogers, 2,168,946, patented August 8, 1939.

These prior art devices have the disadvantage of not being able to clamp points of unequal thicknesses of material together with predetermined substantially constant clamping pressure at each point.

The edge of a shirt band or the button edge with the portions of the tie superimposed thereon provide varying thicknesses of material along a line transversely of the tie. It is desirable that the pressure exerted on the thicker portions be greater than at the point of reduced thickness. It is also desirable that the means for exerting pressure at the points of varying thickness be actuatable by manual operation of a single element rather than by a pair of individual elements operable exclusively of each other. It is still further desirable that the necktie clasp be of compact form in view of the use to which it is to be put.

In view of the foregoing, it is a primary object of the present invention to provide a necktie clasp possessive of the desirable features of construction and function as hereinabove set forth.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a necktie clasp having means whereby the pressure exerted at points of unequal thickness be of predetermined magnitude and substantially constant.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a necktie clasp wherein the means are such as to exert greater pressure upon the thicker portions than at the points of lesser thickness.

It is still another object of the present invention to provide an arrangement of necktie clasp elements such that the pair of elements providing the means for exerting pressure at points of unequal thickness are of such form as to be

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nested one within the other in order that the overall necktie clasp will be of compact form.

Another object of the present invention is to provide individual means for resiliently urging each of the pair of elements for effecting pressure at points of unequal thickness and wherein the means comprise a pair of springs each of which is engageable against one of the elements for effecting clamping movement thereof.

A further object of the present invention resides in the provision of a pair of clasping elements pivotally mounted about a common axis, one being nested within the other and substantially concealed thereby and having an enlarged flattened head engageable with the other element when moved in a first direction so that pivoting operation of the other element first effects release of the clamping action of that other element and then engagement with the first element for effecting release of that first element from its clamping action.

Various other objects and advantages will become apparent from the detailed description to follow.

The best form in which I have contemplated applying my invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein:

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of the necktie clasp showing the finger-operated clasp element pivoted to engagement with the lever nested therewithin so that the two clasping levers are out of clasping engagement with the portions of the shirt front and necktie;

Fig. 2 is an exploded perspective view showing the several elements which comprise the necktie clasp of the present invention;

Fig. 3 is a horizontal longitudinal sectional view taken substantially along the plane of line 3—3 of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 4 is an enlarged view of Fig. 3, parts being broken away.

Referring more particularly to the drawings wherein like numerals designate like parts throughout, the numeral 2 designates generally the necktie clasp of the present invention which is comprised of the front bar 4, first lever 6, second lever 8, first spring 10, second spring 12 and pin 14.

The bar 4 is formed of an elongated flat strap of metal having an end portion 16 bent backwardly upon itself to a position in spaced parallelism with the main portion of the bar 4. The end portion 16 provides a supporting arm having a pair of ears 18 and 20 perpendicularly extending therefrom, the ears 18 and 20 being in parallel relationship and disposed at opposite side

edges 22 and 24 of the supporting arm 16. The ears 18 and 20 are each formed with a bearing aperture 26, 28, the pair of apertures 26 and 28 being axially aligned for reception of the pin 14 therethrough as will be understood more fully hereinafter.

The first lever 6 is formed from a thin flat metallic piece and is of substantially channel shape having a pair of side walls 30 and 32 and a top wall 34 joining the side walls. Each of these side walls 30 and 32 is comprised of a clasping section 35, 36, an intermediate pivoting section 38, 40 and an operating end section 42, 44. The clasping sections 35 and 36 are formed with arcuate edges 46 and 48 which are adapted to engage against material for clasping the same to the bar 4 in the assembled necktie clasp. The intermediate sections 38 and 40 of the side walls 30 and 32 are in substantially parallel relationship and have aligned openings 50 and 52 formed therein through which the pin 14 can be extended. The operating end sections 42 and 44 are in close substantially parallel relationship to each other and terminate at their free ends in a flat enlarged head 54 of substantially circular cross-sectional form. As seen best in Fig. 1, the wall 34 joining the side walls 30 and 32 of the first lever 6 is of arcuate form at 56 with the clasping section of the wall 34 being substantially flat at 58 in order that the overall configuration of the first lever is such that the same can be nested within the second lever 8 in a manner to be described in detail hereinafter.

The first spring 10 is formed of a single elongated resilient wire having a pair of legs 60 and 62 and a coiled intermediate portion at 64 joining the legs 60 and 62 and maintaining the same is preselected angular relationship. The second spring 12 is somewhat similar to the first spring 10. It may be generally described as comprising a pair of spring elements 66 and 68 joined by the bight portion 70. Each of the spring elements 66 and 68 is comprised of a pair of legs 72, 74 and 76, 78, each pair of legs being joined by a coiled intermediate portion as at 80 and 82. The legs 74 and 78 of each of the spring elements 66 and 68 are joined by the bight portion 70 to form a single integral spring.

The second lever 8 is formed from the same material from which the first lever 6 is formed and is also of substantially channel shape having side walls 84 and 86 joined by the upper wall 88. The side walls 84 and 86 are maintained in substantially parallel relationship and have common edge portions thereof serrated as at 90 and 92 for clasping engagement with material. The side walls 84 and 86 are formed with axially aligned openings at 94 and 96 for engagement of the pin 14 therethrough. The upper wall 88 is arcuated at 98 and is substantially flat at 100 at the portion of the lever over the serrated edges 90 and 92. The arcuated portion 98 of the upper wall 88 is formed with grooves 102 to provide a finger-gripping surface.

Looking once again at Fig. 1, it will be seen that with the first lever 6 nested within the second lever 8, and the openings 50, 52 aligned with the openings 94, 96, the enlarged flattened head 54 of the first lever underlies the operating end of the second lever 8 with the upper surface 55 of the enlarged head 54 adapted to engage the end edge 89 of the wall 88 or, if desired, the upper surface of the enlarged head can be such as to be engageable with the edges 85 and 87 of the side walls 84 and 86. It will also be seen that the arcuate upper wall portion 56 of the first lever 6 is in spaced relation to the arcuate wall portion 98 of the second lever with the clasping sections 34 and 36 of the first lever terminating short of the clasping end section of the second lever having the serrations 90, 92.

In assembling the nectkie clasp of the present invention, the first spring 10 is nested within the first lever 6 with the leg 60 thereof disposed between the side walls 38 and 40 and engaging the inside surface of the wall 34 at the arcuate portion 56 thereof. The loop of the coil 64 of the first spring is aligned with the openings 50 and 52 of the first lever. The second spring 12 is disposed over the first lever 6 with the bight portion 70 engaged against the upper surface of the arcuate portion of the wall 34, that is, on the side of the wall 34 opposite to that against which the leg 60 of the first spring is engaged. The loops of the coils 66 and 68 are disposed without the intermediate sections 38 and 40 of the first lever and are aligned with the openings 50 and 52 of the first lever. Next, the second lever 8 is engaged over the assembly of the first lever and the first and second springs with the openings 94 and 96 aligned with the loops of the springs and the openings 50 and 52 of the first lever and the enlarged head 54 disposed adjacent to the edges 85 and 87 of the second lever. The entire assembly of the first and second levers and springs is disposed on the supporting arm 16 of the bar 4 with the legs 62, 72 and 76 of the springs engaged against the flat upper surface of the supporting arm 16 with the aligned openings through the assembly in alignment with the bearing apertures 26 and 28 with the ears 18 and 20. The pin 14 may then be engaged through the aligned openings and the ends 13 and 15 of the pin may be peened over or otherwise worked in order to prevent the removal therefrom, seen best in Fig. 4.

The relative positioning of the several elements of the tie clasp of the present invention is best shown in Figs. 3 and 4. In Fig. 3, it will be noted that the flat enlarged head 54 of the first lever is engaged against the end edge 89 of the second lever, although if desired, the enlarged head could be of such form as to engage the edges 85 and 87 of the second lever.

Looking once again at Fig. 1, it will be seen that the necktie clasp is in position for clamping a necktie to a shirt front. The numeral 104 refers to the shirt front folded at 106 to provide a doubled portion 108 stitched together at 110. The numeral 114 designates the front piece of a necktie while the numeral 116 designates the narrow rear portion of the necktie. The front and rear portions of the necktie 114 and 116 and the shirt front 104 are shown in their usual relationship. It will thus be seen that, along a line transversely of the necktie 114, the material to be clasped will be of varying thickness. In order to clasp the varying thicknesses of material, the necktie clasp of the present invention is first operated by depressing the second lever 8 by engagement of a finger against the finger-engaging portion thereof, operation of the second lever being accompanied by operation of the first lever as well. The necktie clasp is then engaged in the position shown in Fig. 1 with the bar 4 in front of the necktie 114 and the supporting arm 16 and levers disposed behind the shirt front 104.

Upon release of the second lever, the resilient action of the springs 10 and 12 will be such as to individually urge the first and second levers to

their clasping positions. The movement of the two levers will at first be simultaneous with the enlarged head 54 of the first lever engaged against the second lever. The clasping edges 46 and 48 of the first lever will engage the thickened portion of the necktie and shirt front and clasp the same to the bar 4, the pressure of the clasping action being dependent solely upon the spring 10. The second lever will continue to pivot as a result of the action of the second spring until the serrated edges 90 and 92 are engaged against the shirt front and necktie for clasping the same to the front bar 4. It will, of course, be seen that the portions against which the second lever engages are of less thickness than the portion against which the first lever is engaged. Thus the second lever will pivot to a further extent and the pressure exerted by the second lever will be solely dependent upon the tension of the second spring 12. In this manner, the pressures exerted by the clasping portions of the levers at the points of varying thickness can be preselected, it ordinarily being desirable to have a greater pressure acting against the thicker portions for effective clasping.

In view of the foregoing description, it will be seen that a necktie clasp has been provided which is of compact form and wherein individual clasping levers are provided for exerting pressure at points of varying thickness and wherein the clasping levers are movable about a common axis and wherein one of the levers is adapted to effect pivoting of the other lever to and from its clasping position. Thus a necktie clasp has been provided which is believed to attain all of the objects hereinbefore set forth.

Having thus described my invention, what is claimed is:

1. A clasp for neckties comprising an elongated bar having one end thereof bent backwardly upon itself to provide a supporting arm, a pair of levers pivotally carried by said supporting arm, one of said levers being shorter than the other lever and having clamping engagement with one portion of a shirt front and necktie, the second longer lever being clampingly engageable with another portion of the shirt front and necktie, said first and second levers being of channel shape with the first lever nested within the second lever, a first spring having a first leg engaged within the channel of said first lever and a second leg engaging said supporting arm for resiliently urging said first lever to its clamping position, and a second spring straddling said first lever and having a first pair of legs engaged within the channel of said second lever on opposite sides of said first lever, and said second spring having a second pair of legs engaging said supporting arm for resiliently urging said second lever to its clamping position.

2. A clasp for neckties comprising an elongated bar having one end thereof bent backwardly upon itself to provide a supporting arm, a pair of levers pivotally carried by said supporting arm about a common pivotal axis, one of said levers being shorter than the other lever and of channel shape with one end thereof providing a pair of spaced clamping sections for clamping engagement with one portion of a shirt front and necktie, the second longer lever being of channel shape and engageable with another portion of the shirt front and necktie and having said first lever nested therein, said second lever having an intermediate portion thereof at the pivotal axis of reduced width relative to the width of said clamping sections, a first spring having a first leg engaged within the intermediate, reduced width portion thereof and a second leg engaging said supporting arm for resiliently urging said first lever to its clamping position, and a second spring straddling said first lever at the reduced width portion and having a first pair of legs engaged within the channel of said second lever on opposite sides of said first lever, and said second spring having a second pair of legs engaging said supporting arm for resiliently urging said second lever to its clamping position.

WILLIAM H. MEEKER.

REFERENCES CITED

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

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
1,973,009	Mix	Sept. 11, 1934

FOREIGN PATENTS

Number	Country	Date
600,127	France	Nov. 3, 1925