United States Patent [19]

Goele

[11] **3,848,271**

[45] **Nov. 19, 1974**

[54] **LADY'S BELT**

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[22] Filed: **Nov. 21, 1973**

[21] Appl. No.: **418,117**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **2/338**

[51] **Int. Cl.** **A41f 3/02,** A41f 9/00

[58] **Field of Search** 273/DIG. 19; 2/300–338; 119/106; 54/76; 46/32; D30/38; 116/148, 170

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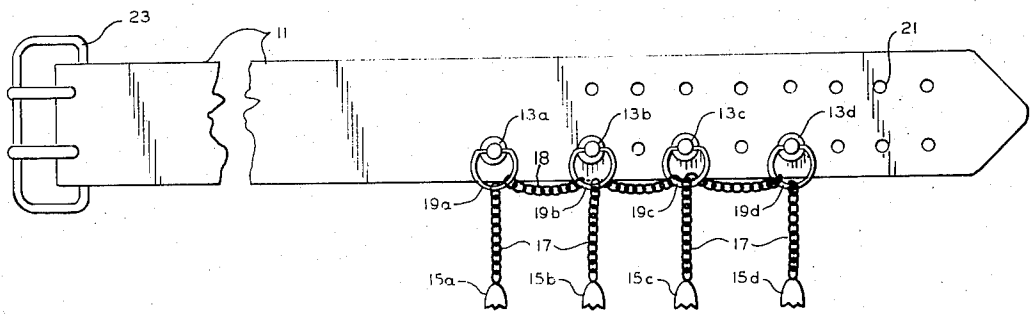
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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A decorative belt having means attached thereto which give off a sound when jiggled. In the preferred embodiment, a plurality of bells on the end of chains are attached to fastening members which are secured through holes in the belt to provide an article of apparel which is both visually and audibly attractive.

1 Claim, 3 Drawing Figures



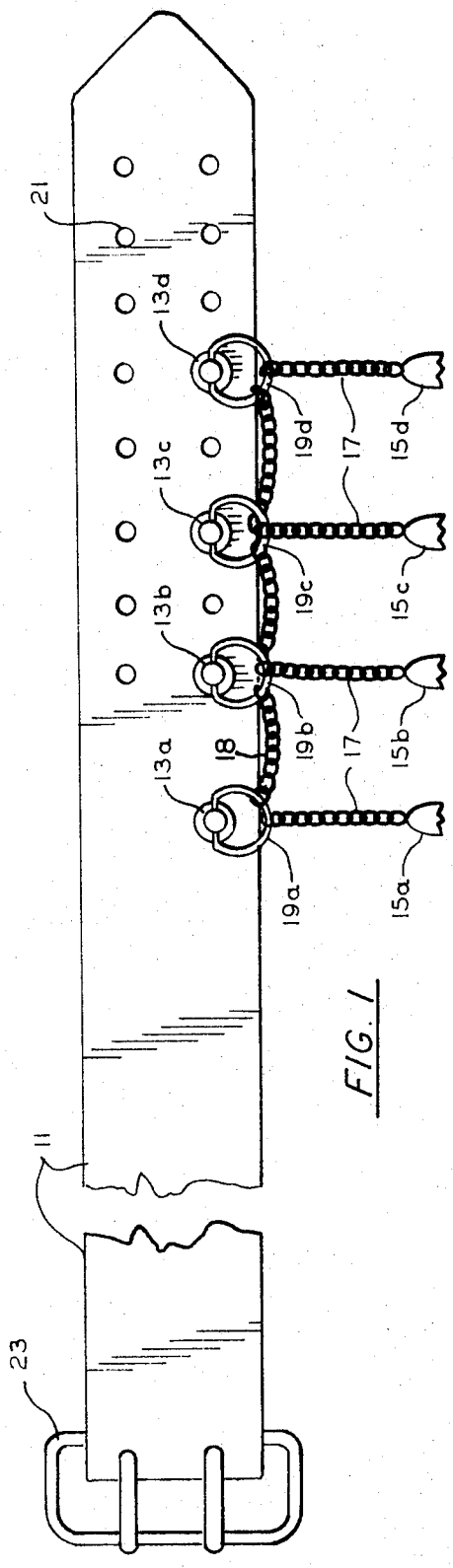


FIG. 1

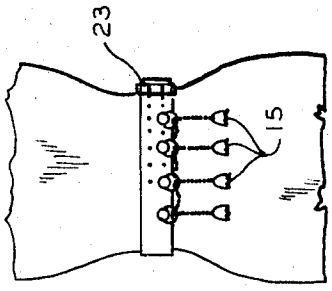


FIG. 3

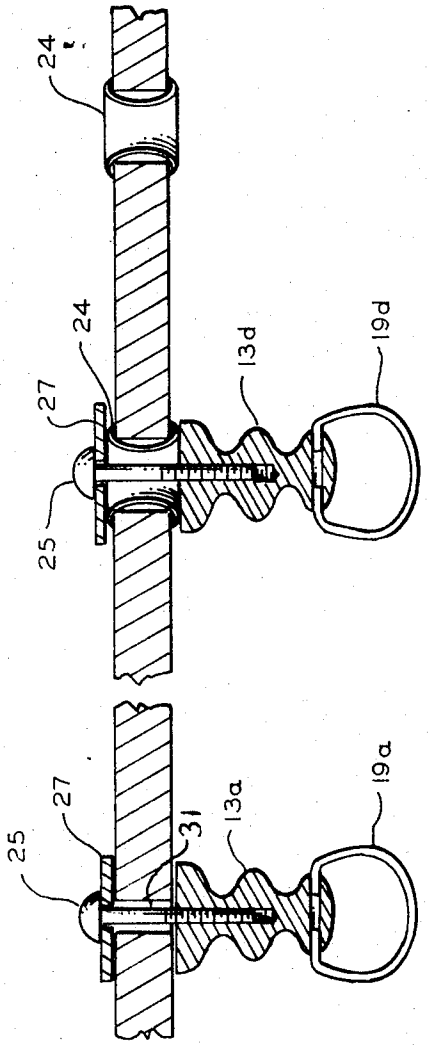


FIG. 2

LADY'S BELT

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to decorative apparel in general and more particularly to a belt having decorative sound producing means attached thereto.

It has been shown that if a message can be transmitted to a person through more than one of his senses, that message is reinforced within his mind to a greater degree than if he had obtained the impression through only one sense. Thus, there is great emphasis in the educational processes in using the various senses, particularly the senses of seeing and hearing. It is equally well known that persons who wish to call attention to themselves often do so through their manner of dress. Someone having a particularly attractive or unusual type of apparel will attract the attention of others. Such attraction, although it may not result in a lasting contact between the attractor and the attractee, does serve to break the ice and helps in forming social contacts. Such is particularly important to the single members of society who are interested in attracting companionship of the opposite sex.

Such use of apparel for the purposes of attraction has been limited primarily to the visual effect created by such apparel. Thus, we have seen the development of various types of eye-catching fashions such as strapless gowns, platform shoes, multi-colored garments and so on. Each of these various fashions relies on the visual effect. None combines that visual effect with an audible effect, such that the two reinforce each other.

It is thus an object of this invention to provide an article of apparel which is both visually and audibly attractive.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides such an article in the form of a belt having a plurality of sound producing devices attached thereto which are both visually and audibly attractive. Although designed primarily for women, it can conceivably be worn by both sexes. In the illustrated embodiment, the sound producing means are suspended from the belt and located on the front thereof. The location of these devices is not restricted to this arrangement; they may also be on the sides or back of the belt. Placing them on the front has the obvious advantage that the person visually and audibly attracted thereto will be able to immediately get a full front view of the wearer.

In the preferred embodiment, a belt made of leather, or other material such as a synthetic, in conventional fashion with a buckle thereon for securing it about the wearer's waist is provided with a plurality of essentially equal spaced holes. Into selected ones of the holes are placed attachment means, terminating in a decorative stud having a ring attached thereto. Attached to the rings are a plurality of chains having on the ends thereof small bells. Furthermore, in the preferred embodiment, the bell chain in some cases is attached to one ring and the chain then led through another ring to obtain a more decorative appearance. Additional chains may be placed from ring to ring. If desired, bells may also be pyramided. The result is an attractive article which will emit sound as the wearer moves and jiggles the chains and bells. Thus, another person will be attracted to the wearer by both sight and sound with his attraction reinforced by the dual sensory input.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

FIG. **1** is a plan view of the belt illustrating the chains and bells hanging therefrom.

FIG. **2** is a cross sectional view illustrating the manner in which the studs and rings to which the chains are attached are mounted to the belt.

FIG. **3** is an illustration of a typical manner in which the belt is worn.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

As illustrated by FIG. **1**, the apparel item of the present invention comprises a belt **11** to which are attached a plurality of means **13** such as studs which are used to support a plurality of sound producing means such as the bells **15** and the chains **17** shown on the figure. In the illustrated embodiment, a plurality of more or less equally spaced studs **13** are attached to the belt **11** with each stud having on its end a ring **19.** To the ring **19** are attached chains **17** having on their ends the bells **15.** In the illustrated embodiment, the chains and bells are arranged so that there is a chain hanging down from each bell and a chain extending between each of the rings **19.** In the illustrated embodiment, the bell **15***a* is attached to the ring **19***a* and a separate chain **18** brought from that ring through the ring **19***b* associated with stud **13***b*. The bell **15***b* is attached at the end of a chain extending through the ring **19***b* and attached to the ring **19***c*, thus permitting a single chain **17** to both support a bell and run between rings. In like manner, the bell **15***c* is at the end of a chain passing through ring **19***c* and attached to ring **19***d*. The bell **15***d* is suspended directly from the ring **19***d*. Alternatively, each bell could be suspended directly from its own ring and chains between the rings provided or not provided as desired. Pyramiding of additional bells **15** is also possible. The belt **11,** which may be a conventional belt made of leather or synthetic material, in the illustrated embodiment has two sets of belt holes **21** which are used in conventional fashion for fastening the belt about a wearer with a belt buckle **23** when the belt is put on. It will be recognized that other types of belts may equally well be used, which belts may use the type of belt buckle shown or any other types of fastening devices.

Also, in the illustrated embodiment, as will be more clearly seen from FIG. **2,** the holes **21** already existing in the belt are used for attaching the studs **13** where possible. That is, the studs **13***b*, **13***c* and **13***d* are attached through pre-existing holes. For the stud **13***a*, a separate hole is made through the belt material. Again, depending on the type of belt used, the studs may all be attached at pre-existing holes or all attached through separately made holes as the case may be. Any number of different means of attachments may be used. In the cross section illustrated in FIG. **2,** each of the studs **13** has a central internal thread and is attached by means of a bolt **25** and washer **27** with the bolt **25** being inserted from behind the belt and screwed into the stud **13.** Illustrated is the stud **13***d* which is attached through the belt hole **21** having a grommet **24** formed therein. Also shown is the stud **13***a* attached in similar manner through a specially formed hole **31.** Other means of attachment may equally well be used. For example, the studs may be glued using an epoxy glue or the like or

may be formed so that they can be riveted to the belt much in the same way as the grommets **24.**

FIG. **3** illustrates the belt on a wearer. As noted above, other arrangements are also possible. The bells could, for example, be worn in the back or on one or both sides. For example, two groups of bells could be placed on the belt so that when worn they would fall along each side of the wearer. It should also be noted that fewer or lesser numbers of bells may be used. The use of four bells as in the illustrated embodiment is only by way of example. Similarly, the bell spacing may be other than that shown. These and other modifications may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention which is intended to be limited solely by the appended claim.

What is claimed is:

1. A decorative article of apparel comprising:

a. a belt having a plurality of essentially equally spaced holes therein and including means for fastening said belt about the waist of the wearer;

b. a plurality of studs having central internal threads extending in from the rear attached to said belt by means of bolts inserted from the back of said belt through said holes and screwed into said threads;

c. a plurality of rings one being attached to each of said studs at the end which projects from the front of said belts;

d. a plurality of chains, one being suspended from each of said rings, said chains each having one end attached to a ring with at least some of said chains passing through one ring and suspended therefrom and attached to another of said rings;

e. additional chains attached to and extending between any two of said rings not having a chain attached to one and suspended from the other so that each of said rings has a section of chain extending between it and the next adjacent chain;

f. a plurality of bells, one attached to the other end of each one of said plurality of suspended chains.

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