A. R. SILVERSTON.

NECKTIE STRETCHER.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 13, 1909.

1,027,006. **Patented May 21, 1912.**

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1

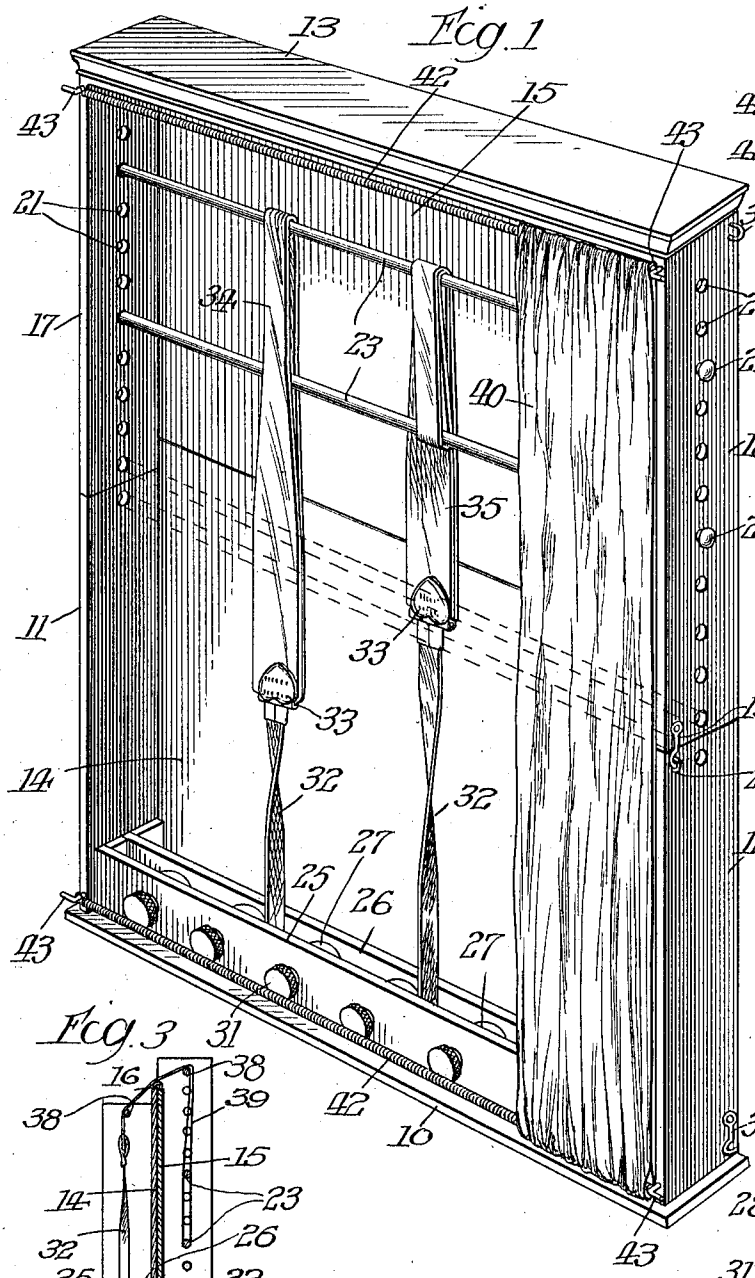

Fig. 2

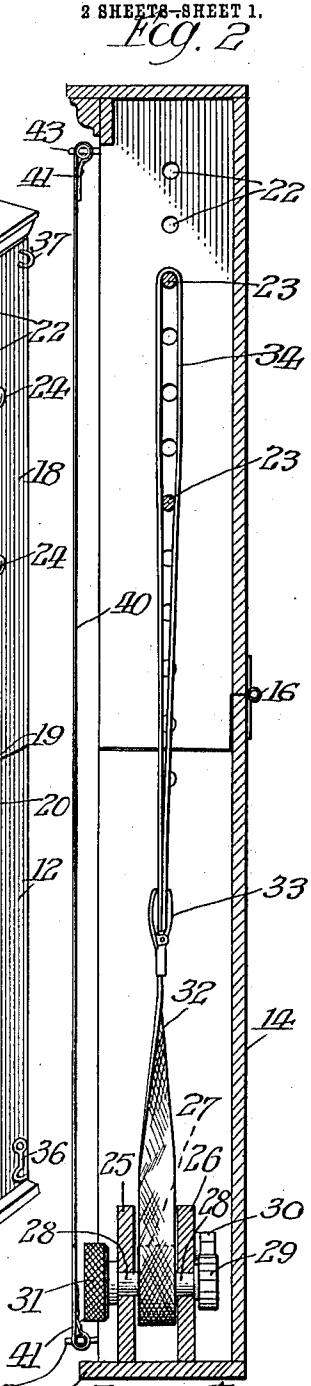

Fig. 3

Witnesses:

Inventor:
Anthony R. Silverston
Brown & Hopkins
Attys

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4

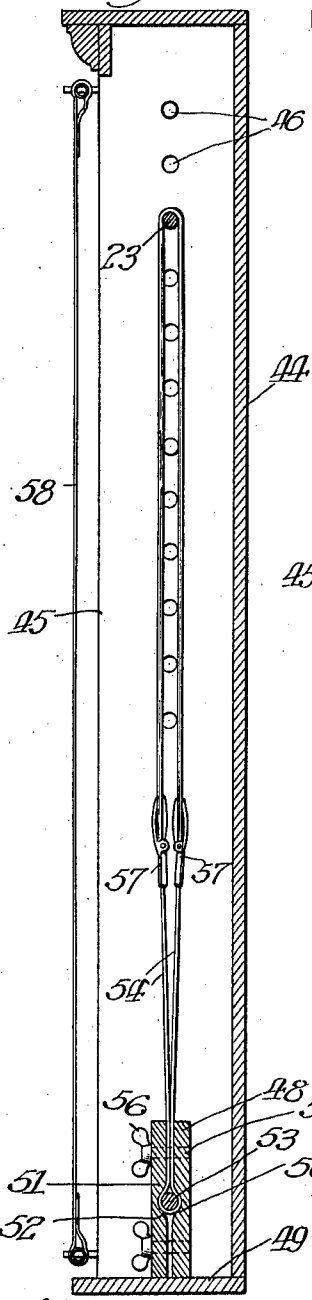


Fig. 5

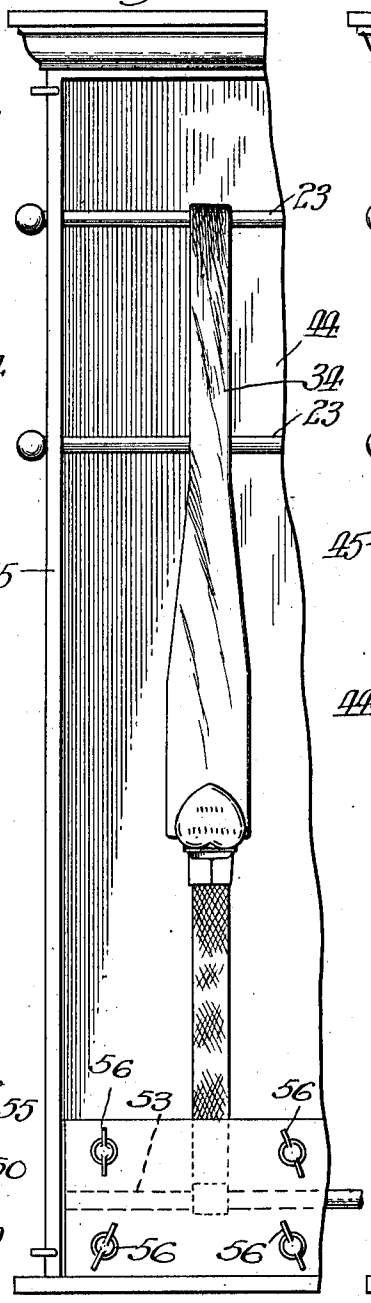
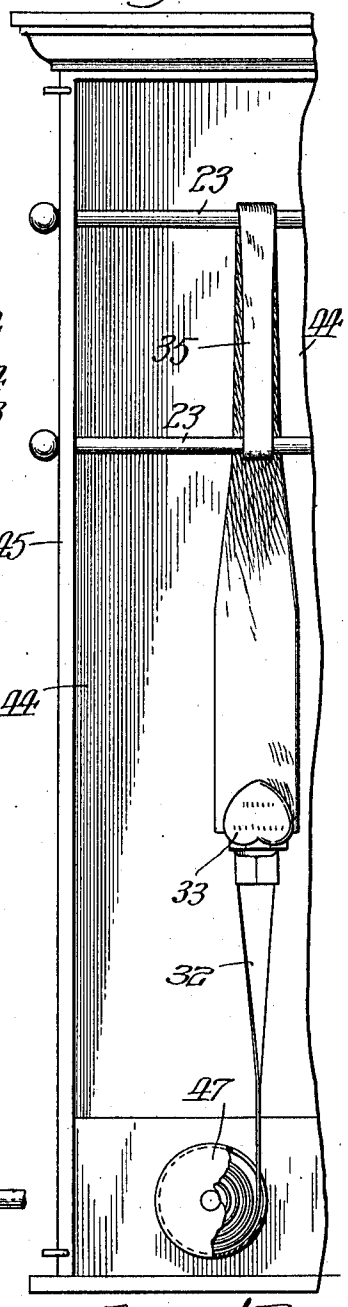


Fig. 6.



Witnesses:

Inventor:
Anthony R. Silverston

Brown & Hopkins
Attys.

COLUMBIA PLANOGRAPH CO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANTHONY R. SILVERSTON, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

NECKTIE-STRETCHER.

1,027,006. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 21, 1912.

Application filed January 13, 1909. Serial No. 472,027.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANTHONY R. SILVERSTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Milwaukee, county of Milwaukee, and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Necktie-Stretchers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in necktie stretchers and the primary object of the same is to provide an improved, simple, durable, cheap and compact case for the neckties and improved means for stretching the ties while in the case to smooth the same.

A further object is to provide an improved necktie case which may be readily folded into a compact space for packing purposes.

To the attainment of these ends and the accomplishment of other new and useful objects, as will appear, the invention consists in the features of novelty in substantially the construction, combination and arrangement of the several parts hereinafter more fully described and claimed and shown in the accompanying drawings illustrating the embodiment of the invention, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an improved device of this character constructed in accordance with the principles of this invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view of the case, folded. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view similar to Fig. 2 of a modified form of the invention. Fig. 5 is a detail front elevation of Fig. 4. Fig. 6 is a detail front elevation similar to Fig. 5 of still another modified form of the invention.

Referring more particularly to the drawings and in the present exemplification of the invention, the case comprises a base 10, side walls 11, 12, top 13 and back 14 which are secured together to form a case having an open front. In the exemplification of the invention shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3, the sides 11 and 12 and the back 14 are sectional in construction and the back embodies an upper section 15 connected thereto by means of suitable hinges 16 and the upper sections 17, 18, of the sides are arranged so that the lower extremities thereof will abut the upper extremities of the lower sections of the side walls when the case is in the position shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings. In order to secure the case against accidental folding suitable fastening devices, such as hooks 19 and eyes 20, may be provided, preferably on the sides to lock the casing in position when unfolded. The sides are provided with a plurality of apertures or openings 21, 22, which aline with each other and passing through the registering apertures are suitable rods 23 which may be constructed of any suitable material and are held against accidental displacement in any desired or suitable manner, preferably by means of knobs or enlargements 24 which are secured in any desired manner to the extremities thereof on the outside of the casing and are of a size somewhat larger than the size of the openings 21, 22. Arranged within the casing, preferably adjacent the bottom 10 thereof and between suitable supports 25, 26, are drums 27 which may be of any desired configuration and these drums are provided with an axle 28 which latter is journaled in the supports 25, 26.

In the exemplification of the invention shown in Figs. 1 to 3, one extremity of the axle 28 projects beyond the support 26 which latter is spaced a suitable distance from the back 14 of the case and secured to and for rotation with the axle is a ratchet wheel 29. A pawl 30 is pivotally supported in any suitable manner, preferably on the support 26 and coöperates with the ratchet wheel 29 to lock the drum 27 and the axle 28 thereof against retrograde movement. The other extremity of the axle projects beyond the support 25 and is provided with an operating handle 31 preferably in the form of a milled or knurled knob, which is adapted to be grasped by the operator when it is desired to rotate the axle and the drum. A suitable flexible member 32 is secured by one extremity to the drum 27 and is adapted to be wound around the drum when the latter is rotated. This flexible member 32 may be constructed of any desired or suitable material but is preferably elastic fabric, although it is obvious that a spring may be used instead of the elastic fabric whenever desired. Secured to the free extremity of the flexible member 32 is a clamp 33 which may be of any ordinary and well known construction. In use and with this form of the invention, one of the rods 23 may be adjusted to a position adjacent the top 13 of the case and the necktie 34 is adapted to

be placed over the rod to be supported thereby. The extremities of the necktie are then preferably brought together and placed within the clamp 33, after which the knob or handle 31 may be rotated by the operator to wind up the flexible member 32 to exert a tension upon the necktie to stretch and smooth the latter. As the ratchet 29 is rotated with the drum the pawl 30 will lock the drum against retrograde movement for holding the necktie under tension. Obviously the elasticity of the member 32 will prevent damage to the tie. When the tie is an exceptionally long one, a second rod 23 may be placed within the casing in a manner similar to the first rod 23 but at a suitable distance below the latter. The tie 35 may be then looped over the lowermost rod 23 and both strands of the tie then passed over the uppermost rod, after which the extremities may be brought together and placed within the clamp 33, as shown in Fig. 1. After the tie has been thus placed in position it may be stretched in the manner as already set forth.

When it is desired to fold the case, the fastening members 19, 20 may be disengaged and the upper section 15 of the back folded downwardly and against the back 14, as shown in Fig. 3, and may be locked in this position by means of a suitable fastening device 36 such as a hook or the like which is secured to one of the sections of the side and is adapted to engage in a suitable eye 37 secured to the other section of the side. Obviously when the casing is thus folded, the ties may be stretched in a manner similar to that already set forth and when folded an additional rod 38 may be provided, if desired, which is placed within suitable registering apertures in the lower sections of the sides 11, 12 and over which rod the ends of the tie 39 will pass when secured to the elastic members 32.

Any suitable closure may be provided for the casing to protect the ties and in the present exemplification of the invention, a curtain 40 is provided. The curtain is provided with suitable hems 41 along its edges through which hems are threaded suitable supporting members 42 which may be constructed of any suitable material, but in the present exemplification of the invention are shown as being constructed of coil springs, one of which is provided for the top and one for the bottom of the curtain. These members 42 are secured adjacent the top and bottom respectively of the casing in any desired or suitable manner, preferably by passing or looping the extremities of the respective springs over suitable hooks 43 and the springs are of such a length that when secured in position across the casing, a tension will be exerted thereon. While in the present exemplification of the invention this curtain is shown and described, it is to be understood that any other form of closure suitable for the purpose may be provided, such, for instance, as the ordinary form of spring roller curtain or suitable doors may be provided.

In the exemplification of the invention shown in Figs. 4, 5 and 6, the back 44 is constructed of a single piece, as are the sides 45, the sides being provided with registering apertures 46 and rods 23 are provided which pass through the registering apertures. The neckties 34, 35, are placed within this casing in the same manner as in the folding casing and in the exemplification shown in Fig. 6, the extremities of the tie 35 are secured by means of the clamp 33 to the flexible member 32 but in this form of the invention there is provided the ordinary form of spring controlled drum 47, around which the free extremity of the member 32 passes, so that when the tie is placed in position the flexible member 32 may be adjusted in the ordinary and well known manner to cause the spring controlled drum to wind the elastic member thereon to create a tension upon the necktie.

In the exemplification shown in Figs. 4 and 5, there is provided a support 48 which is secured to the base 49 of the casing and extends across the casing. This support 48 is preferably provided with a recess 50 in one face thereof. A clamping member 51 is also provided, which coöperates with the support 48 and is provided with a recess 52 coöperating with the recess 50. A bar 53 is provided which is adapted to be seated within the coöperating recess 52 and any desired number of elastic members 54 may be looped over the bar 53 and to project for any desired distance beyond the support 48. The clamping member 51 may be removably secured to the support 48 in any desired or suitable manner, preferably by means of fastening bolts 55 passing through the support and member and to which fastening bolts are secured thumb nuts 56 so that the bar 53 and flexible members 54 may be removed when desired. With this form of the invention, the tie may be looped over one of the rods 23 and each of the extremities of the tie placed within a suitable clamp 57 secured to each extremity of the flexible member 54. In this form of the invention the flexible members 54 are of such a length as to permit the bar 23 over which the tie is looped to be adjusted so that when the extremities of the tie are clamped between the clamps 57, the elasticity of the members 54 will create a tension upon the tie to stretch or smooth the same. In this form of the invention a suitable closure 58 may be provided for the casing which closure is preferably in the form of a curtain, similar to the curtain 40.

In order that the invention might be fully understood, the details of the foregoing em-

bodiment thereof have been thus specifically described but

What is claimed as new is—

1. In a device of the character described, the combination with an inclosing casing having an opening, of a support within the casing and over which a necktie is adapted to be looped, means also within the casing and adapted to engage the tie beyond the support for exerting a tension upon the tie, and a closure for the opening in the casing.

2. In a device of the character described, the combination with a folding closing casing, of a support within and separate from the casing and over which a tie is adapted to be looped, means for holding the casing in its unfolded position, means for holding the casing in its folded position and means adapted to be secured to the tie beyond the support for exerting a tension upon the tie when the casing is either folded or unfolded, the last said means permitting the casing to be folded and unfolded without releasing the tension on the tie.

3. In a device for the purpose described, the combination of an open casing including side walls, said walls being provided with a plurality of pairs of alined apertures, one or more supports removably passing through the alined apertures and over which a necktie is adapted to be looped, an elastic member, one portion of the member being secured to a fixed support remote from the first said support, and means for detachably securing another portion of the elastic member to the tie, said elastic member coöperating with the first said support to exert a tension on the tie.

4. In a device of the character described, the combination of an open casing including side walls, said walls being provided with alined apertures, a support removably passing through the alined apertures and over which a necktie is adapted to be looped, an elastic member, one portion of the member being secured to a fixed support remote from the first said support, means for detachably securing another portion of the elastic member to the tie, said elastic member coöperating with the first said support to exert a tension on the tie, and a closure for the casing.

5. In a device for the purpose described, the combination of an open casing including side walls, said walls being provided with a plurality of pairs of alined apertures, one or more supports removably passing through alined apertures and adjustable with respect to the casing and over which a necktie is adapted to be looped, an elastic member, means for detachably connecting one portion of the elastic member to the tie, an adjustable member remote from the said support and mounted upon a fixed support, said elastic member being secured to the adjustable member whereby a tension will be exerted upon the tie when the said adjustable member is adjusted, and means for holding the last said member in its adjusted position.

6. In a device of the character described, the combination of an inclosing casing, one or more supports within the casing and over which a necktie is adapted to be looped, a flexible member, one portion of the member being secured to a fixed support remote from the first said support, means for detachably connecting another portion of the flexible member to the tie whereby the member will coöperate with the first said support to exert a tension on the tie, and means whereby the first said support may be adjusted with respect to the point at which the flexible member is secured to the fixed support.

7. In a device of the character described, the combination of an inclosing casing, one or more supports within the casing and over which a necktie is adapted to be looped, a flexible member, one portion of the member being secured to a fixed support remote from the first said support, means for detachably connecting another portion of the flexible member to the tie whereby the member will coöperate with the said support to exert a tension on the tie, means whereby the first said support may be adjusted with respect to the point at which the flexible member is secured to the fixed support, and means whereby the flexible member may be adjusted to vary the tension on the tie.

8. In a device of the character described, the combination of an inclosing casing, one or more supports within the casing and over which a necktie is adapted to be looped, a flexible member, one portion of the member being secured to a fixed support remote from the first said support, means for detachably securing another portion of the flexible member to the tie, whereby the member will coöperate with the said support to exert a tension on the tie, means whereby the first said support may be adjusted with respect to the point at which the flexible member is secured to the fixed support, and means whereby the casing may be folded between the supports without releasing the tension on the tie.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, on this 9th day of January A. D. 1909.

ANTHONY R. SILVERSTON.

Witnesses:
EDWARD D. SPENCER,
ADDIE M. JACQUES.