

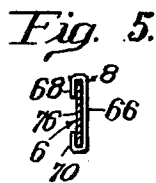
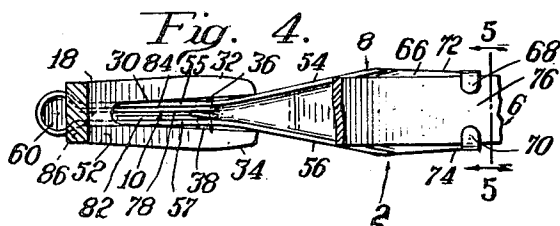
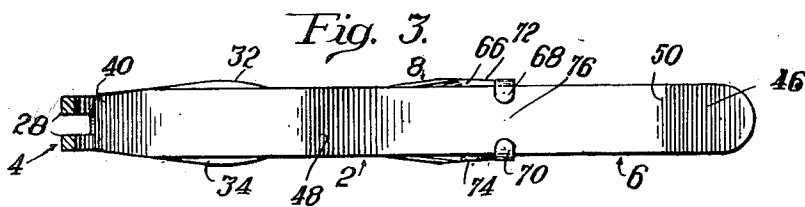
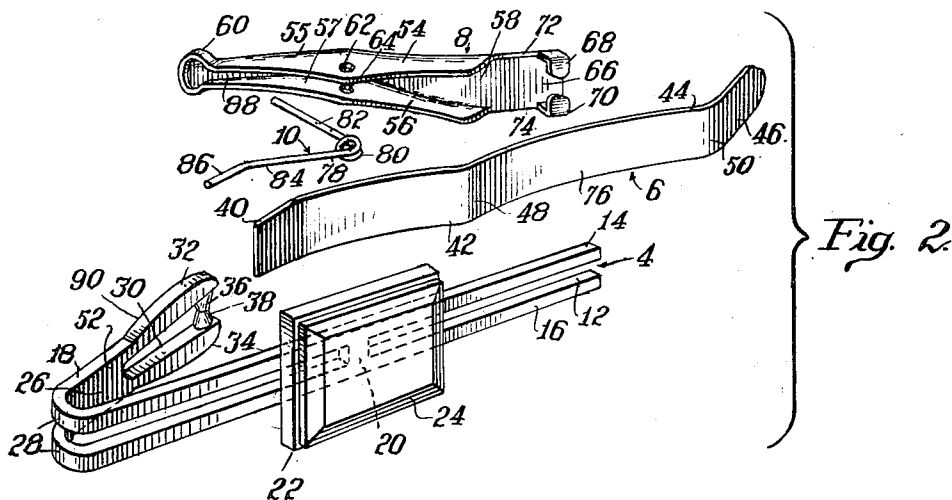
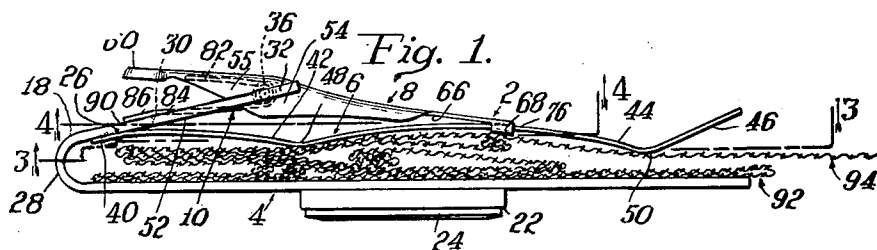
Feb. 10, 1953

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2,627,636

NECKTIE CLASP

Filed Nov. 19, 1951



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2,627,636

NECKTIE CLASP

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Application November 19, 1951, Serial No. 257,055

6 Claims. (Cl. 24-49)

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The present invention relates to improvements in necktie clasps and more particularly to the type including a front bar and a rear clamping element resiliently engageable with portions of a shirt front and necktie for clamping the same to the front bar.

The prior art has concerned itself with various types of clamping elements and various arrangements for mounting the clamping elements. For example, heretofore, arrangements have been provided wherein a resilient clamping element has an intermediate portion thereof carried by the supporting arm of the clasp, providing a pair of gripping or clamping portions on opposite sides of said intermediate portion for cooperation with the back face of the front bar. Others, such as the Mix patent, 1,973,009, employ the front bar and supporting arm with an operating lever pivotally mounted on the supporting arm and carrying at the free end thereof a clamping member having a pair of gripping portions, the lever being operable to disengage the clamping member from its clamping position. In the Mix patent, the clamping member is free to pivot, no means being provided to control the angular positioning of the clamping member relative to the front bar.

It is, therefore, an object of the present invention to provide a necktie clasp wherein a resilient clamping member is employed with lever means for effecting movement of the member into and out of clamping engagement with the front member, and wherein the means controls the angular relationship between the clamping member and front bar.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a necktie clasp wherein the lever means is in sliding operative connection with the clamping member and the clamping member has an end portion fixedly secured to the supporting arm whereby pivoting of the lever means effects flexing of the clamping member, movement of the outer clamping portion of said clamping member being to a greater degree than the movement of the inner clamping portion so that the clasp can be readily engaged with portions of a necktie and shirt front.

Another object of the present invention is to provide an arrangement wherein the clamping member is of flat elongated form provided with a pair of gripping portions, the member being resilient and having one end thereof fixed to the inside surface of the supporting arm so that the axis of the clamping member is in substantially parallel relationship with the front bar when clamping a necktie to a shirt front portion.

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

The best form in which I have contemplated

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applying my invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein:

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of the entire necktie clasp showing the same in clamping engagement with portions of a shirt front and necktie;

Fig. 2 is a detail perspective exploded view of 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;

Fig. 4 is a horizontal longitudinal sectional view taken substantially along the plane of line 4-4 of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 5 is a vertical transverse sectional view taken substantially along the plane of line 5-5 of Fig. 4.

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 an elongated bar 4, clamping or clamping member 6, operating lever 8 and spring element 10.

Looking first at Fig. 2, it will be seen that the elongated bar 4 is formed from flat metallic stock having an elongated slot 12 throughout a substantial portion of the length thereof providing separated bar portions 14 and 16. A substantial length of the bar 4 comprises the front bar of the necktie clasp whereas the end portion 18 bent backwardly upon the front bar provides a supporting arm. Intermediately of the ends of the front bar, the pair of front bar portions 14 and 16 are joined as at 20. At this intermediate portion, ornamentation can be applied to the front bar such as the rectangular plate 22 having the ornamental element 24 carried thereby. It is to be understood that various types of ornamentation can be applied to the front bar or entirely omitted as desired.

The supporting arm 18 has a main imperforate portion 26 immediately adjacent the bend 28 joining the supporting arm with the front bar with the free end of the supporting arm 18 bifurcated at 30 providing the furcations 32 and 34. Each of the furcations 32 and 34 has a bearing projection or pin 36, 38 extending therefrom and in axial alignment for a purpose to be understood more fully hereinafter.

The clamping or clamping member 6 is formed from flat thin resilient material and is provided with an attaching portion 40 and reversely curved portions 42 and 44, the end remote from the attaching portion 40 extending in a direction substantially opposite to that in which the attaching portion 40 extends, at 46. The reversely curved portions 42 and 44 provide a pair of clamping ribs at 48 and 50. The clamping member 6 is of

a width substantially equal to the width of the bar 4 so that with the attaching portion 40 secured to the inside surface 52 of the imperforate portion 26 of the supporting arm, as by solder or rivets or any other suitable means, the clamping member may coact with the back surface of the front bar in a manner to be more fully described hereinafter.

With continued reference to Fig. 2, it will be seen that the operating lever 3 is of substantially channel form, having a pair of side walls 54 and 56 joined by a top wall 58. One end of the operating lever 3 is formed with an enlarged flattened substantially circular head at 60 providing a finger-engaging portion for operation of the lever when mounted on the necktie clasp. The closely spaced portions 55 and 57 of the pair of side walls 54 and 56 have aligned openings 62 and 64 for reception of the bearing projections 36 and 38 of the supporting arm 18. The width of the operating lever at the wall portions is sufficiently narrow for free pivoting movement between the furcations of the supporting arm. The end of the operating lever remote from the enlarged head 60 is provided with a wide, flat portion 66 having a pair of intumed ears 68 and 70 carried by the opposing edges 72 and 74. The width of the widened portion 66 and the distance between the intumed ears 68 and 70 is such as to slidably receive the intermediate portion 76 of the clamping member.

The spring 10 is formed from an elongated resilient wire element 78 having a coiled portion at 80 and legs 82 and 84, the leg 84 having an angulated portion at 86.

The assembly of the elements individually shown in Fig. 2 is best disclosed in Figs. 1, 3, 4 and 5. The clamping member 6 has the tapered attaching portion 40 secured to the inside surface 52 of the tapered imperforate portion 26 of the supporting arm by solder, weld or any other means, as desired. The configuration and resiliency of the clamping member will be such as to have the clamping member normally resiliently engageable with the back side of the front bar. The operating lever 3 has its ears 68 and 70 engaged over the clamping member and moved to a position wherein the ears are in engagement with the intermediate portion 76 of the clamping member whereupon the bearing projections 36 and 38 of the supporting arm can be engaged in the apertures 62 and 64 of the operating lever. The spring 10 has the leg 82 nested within the operating lever 3 with the leg 82 engaged against the inside surface 88 of the top wall 58 as seen in Fig. 1. The loop or coil 80 of the spring is axially aligned with the openings 62 and 64 and is engaged over the bearing projections 36 and 38. The other leg 78 of the spring extends through the bifurcated portion of the supporting arm with the angulated end 86 of the leg 84 engaged on the outside surface 90 of the imperforate portion 26 of the supporting arm.

With the foregoing arrangement of parts, it will be seen that the spring 10 and normal resiliency of the clamping member will normally urge the clamping ribs 48 and 50 into clamping engagement with the front bar of the necktie clasp. When it is desired to apply the necktie clasp to portions of a shirt front and necktie, the enlarged head 60 of the operating lever is depressed toward the supporting arm. It will be seen that, upon depression of the operating

lever, the ears 68 and 70 and the flat wall portion 66 will slide relative to the clamping member and move from a first intermediate position to a second intermediate position. Inasmuch as the supporting arm 18 is disposed in angular relationship with the front bar, and since the operating lever is pivoted about an axis spaced outwardly of the attachment portion of the clamping member relative to the front bar, the action of the operating lever upon depression will be such as to effect movement of the outer clamping rib 50 away from the front bar to a greater extent than the rib 48 will be moved relative to the front bar. With the clamping member in the retracted position, the necktie clasp can be engaged with the front bar in front of the necktie 92 and the clamping member behind the portion of the shirt front 94. Upon release of the operating lever, the clamping member will be urged into clamping engagement with the portions of the necktie and shirt front in the manner shown in Fig. 1.

It will be seen that, with the provision of one end of the clamping member attached to the inside surface of the supporting arm, the positioning of the clamping member relative to the front bar will be controlled. The movement of the clamping member will be substantially pivotal in nature but will be accompanied by substantial flexing due to the fixed connection between the attachment portion and the supporting arm. In this fashion, the clamping member may be moved into and out of engagement with the portions of the shirt front and necktie in a substantially uniform manner. Furthermore, the operation of the clamping member will be such as to eliminate the wrinkling of the tie and shirt front occurring in necktie clasps of the prior art such as hereinbefore referred to.

In view of the description of the construction and operation of the necktie clasp of the present invention, it is believed that all of the objects hereinbefore set forth have been effectively attained.

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 through an arc less than 180°, providing a supporting arm in angular relation to the bar, said supporting arm being bifurcated and having a pair of axially aligned bearing projections extending from the pair of furcations, an operating lever pivotally carried by said pair of bearing projections, and a resilient clamping member having one end thereof connected to said supporting arm at a portion spaced from the pivot of the lever with the main portion thereof disposed for resiliently clamping portions of a shirt front and a necktie against said bar, said lever having a portion spaced from the pivotal axis thereof provided with a pair of intumed ears, an intermediate portion of said clamping member being slidably received between said ears and slidably engaged against said portion of the lever, pivoting movement of said lever effecting relative movement between said portion of the lever and said clamping member whereby the free end portion of said clamping member is moved relative to said bar a distance greater than the distance the remaining portions of the clamping member move.

2. A clasp for neckties comprising an elongated bar having one end thereof bent backwardly upon itself to provide a supporting arm in spaced re-

lation to the bar, an operating lever pivotally carried by said supporting arm, and a clamping member having one end thereof fixedly secured to said supporting arm at a portion spaced a fixed distance from the pivot of the lever with the main portion thereof disposed for normally resiliently clamping portions of a shirt front and necktie against said bar, means longitudinally slidably connecting an end portion of said lever relative to an intermediate portion of said clamping member so that upon depression of said lever, relative longitudinal movement between said end portion of the lever and said clamping member is effected and the free end portion of said clamping member is moved relatively away from said bar a distance greater than the distance the remaining portions of the clamping member move so as to receive the portions to be clamped with facility.

3. A clasp for neckties comprising an elongated bar having one end thereof bent backwardly upon itself to provide a supporting arm in spaced relation to the bar, an operating lever pivotally carried by said supporting arm, and a clamping member having one end thereof fixedly secured to said supporting arm at a portion spaced a fixed distance from the pivot of the lever with the main portion thereof disposed for normally clamping portions of a shirt front and necktie against said bar, means longitudinally slidably connecting an end portion of said lever relative to an intermediate portion of said clamping member so that upon depression of said lever, relative longitudinal movement between said end portion of the lever and said clamping member is effected and the free end portion of said clamping member is moved relatively away from said bar a distance greater than the distance the remaining portions of the clamping member move so as to receive the portions to be clamped with facility, and spring means interposed between said lever and said supporting arm for resiliently maintaining the former in its clamping relationship.

4. A clasp for neckties comprising an elongated bar having one end thereof bent backwardly upon itself to provide a supporting arm in spaced relation to the bar, an operating lever pivotally carried by said supporting arm, and a clamping member having one end thereof fixedly secured to said supporting arm at a portion spaced a fixed distance from the pivot of the lever with the main portion thereof disposed for normally resiliently clamping portions of a shirt front and necktie against said bar, said lever having means on an end thereof engaging and connected to an intermediate portion of said clamping member and longitudinally slidable relative thereto so that upon depression of said lever, relative longitudinal movement between said means on the end of the lever and said clamping member is effected and the free end portion of said clamping member is moved relatively away from said bar a distance greater than the distance the remaining portions of the clamping member move so as to receive the portions to be clamped with facility, said clamping member having a clamping rib disposed on each side of said sliding connection.

5. A clasp for neckties comprising an elongated bar having one end thereof bent backwardly upon itself through an arc less than 180°, providing a supporting arm in angular relation to the

bar, said supporting arm being bifurcated and having a pair of axially aligned bearing projections extending from the pair of furcations, an operating lever pivotally carried by said pair of bearing projections, and a resilient clamping member having one end thereof connected to said supporting arm at a portion spaced a fixed distance from the pivot of the lever with the main portion thereof normally disposed for resiliently clamping portions of a shirt front and a necktie against said bar, said lever having means at a portion spaced from the pivotal axis thereof longitudinally slidably linked to an intermediate portion of said clamping member, pressure releasing engagement of said lever effecting pivoting movement thereof relative to said supporting arm and longitudinal movement of the means at said portion of the lever relative to said clamping member so as to effect retraction of the latter from its clamping relationship with the bar, the outermost free end of said clamping member moving a substantially greater distance away from said bar than does the intermediate portion thereof, said clamping member returning to its clamping position upon release of said lever.

6. A clasp for neckties comprising an elongated bar having one end thereof bent backwardly upon itself to provide a supporting arm in spaced relation to the bar, an operating lever pivotally carried by said arm, and a clamping member having one end thereof connected to said bar at a portion spaced from the pivot of the lever with the main portion of said clamping member normally disposed for resiliently clamping portions of a shirt front and a necktie against said bar, said lever having a portion spaced from the pivotal axis thereof provided with a pair of intumed ears, a portion of said clamping member being longitudinally slidably received between said ears and slidably engaged against said portion of the lever, pressure releasing engagement of said lever effecting pivoting releasing movement thereof relative to said arm and longitudinal movement of said ears relative to said clamping member so as to effect retraction of the latter from its clamping relationship with the bar, the outermost free end of said clamping member moving a substantially greater distance away from said bar than does the intermediate portion thereof so as to facilitate positioning the clasp for receiving the portions of the shirt front and the necktie to be clamped.

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