March 24, 1931. B. WURM 1,797,890

GARMENT SHOULDER STRAP

Filed July 1, 1929

Fig. 1.

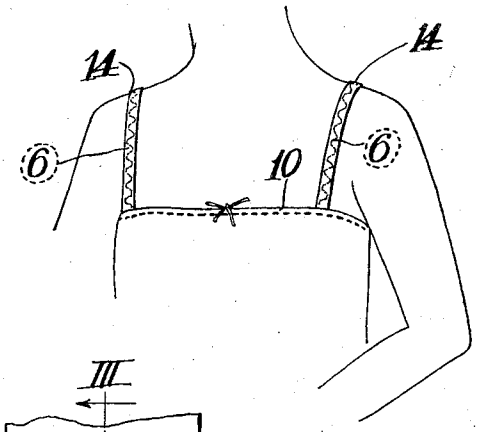


Fig2.

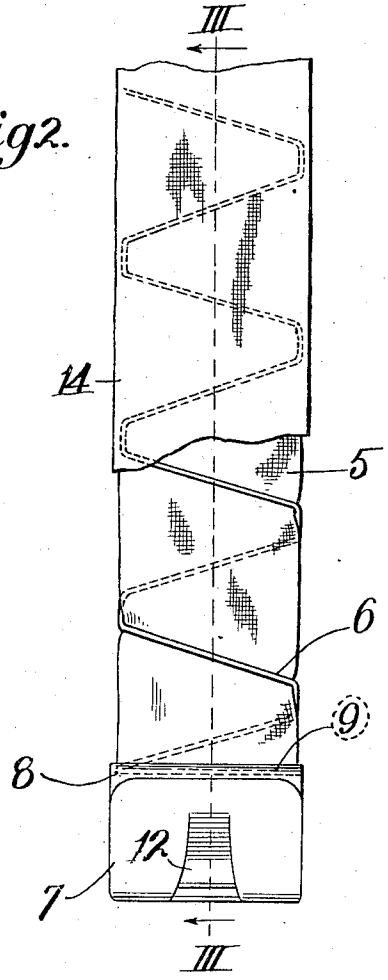
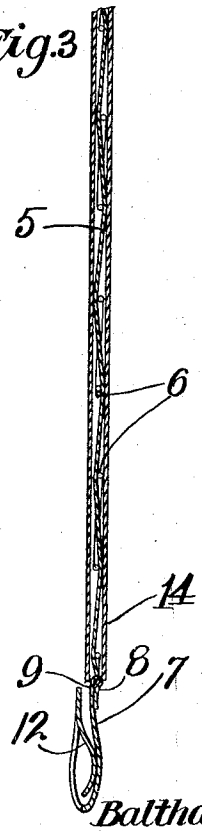


Fig.3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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GARMENT SHOULDER STRAP

Application filed July 1, 1929. Serial No. 375,083.

The present invention relates to wearing apparel, and particularly to undergarments, and the primary object in view is to devise an improved shoulder strap structure for supporting garments from the shoulders of the wearer, and of such a character as to overcome the tendency of such support to work down out of supporting position.

Accordingly, I have devised a shoulder strap having an improved form of stiffening and reinforcing means, of such a nature as to conform easily and comfortably to the shoulder, and effectively maintain its proper supporting position, for sustaining the garment in place.

In its preferred form, the invention comprises a shoulder strap device which is adapted to be detachably secured to the front and back of a garment, and having a resilient or spring wire element enclosed within the strap structure and adapted to yieldingly conform to the shoulder and at the same time maintain a proper supporting position upon the shoulder in opposition to any tendency to creep down out of supporting position.

With the foregoing general objects in view the invention will now be described by reference to the accompanying drawing illustrating one form of shoulder strap structure which I have devised for embodying the proposed improvements, after which the novel features and combinations will be particularly set forth and claimed.

In the drawing—

Figure 1 is a front elevation, illustrating a portion of the garment supplied with the improved shoulder straps in their position of use;

Figure 2 is an enlarged and fragmentary detail plan view, illustrating one end portion of the shoulder strap structure; and

Figure 3 is a sectional view, illustrating a section on the line III—III of Figure 2.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, this illustrates the improved shoulder strap structure as comprising a band or ribbon element 5 of suitable non-elastic material, of a length corresponding approximately to the length of the completed device, about which band or ribbon 5 is applied a flat coil of suitable resilient or spring wire material, preferably of a non-corrosive character, such as a brass composition, the strand of wire being formed into a succession of turns or coils 6, from one end of the band or ribbon 5 to the other. This strand may be formed with the succession of coils or turns 6, and the band or ribbon conveniently threaded through the turns or coils as by a zig-zag threading movement, as will be readily apparent. At each of the opposite ends of the strand of wire is attached a suitable garment securing element, such as a clasp member 7 adapted to be stamped from sheet material, and formed with a marginal roll or bead 8 for permanently securing the corresponding terminal portion of the wire, as indicated at 9. For frictional clamping engagement with the edge portion of the garment 10, one side of the clasp member 7 is formed with a spring tongue element 12 adapted to be struck inwardly from the material forming the clasp element, as clearly illustrated in Figures 2 and 3, whereby the margin of the garment may be readily inserted into the clasp, and securely retained by frictional engagement with the resilient tongue 12.

For imparting a finish and attractive exterior appearance to the supporting strap structure, I prefer to enclose the ribbon or band 5 and its reinforcing wire strand 6 within a tubular sheath 14 of suitable cloth material, of a length adapted to extend from one of the clasp elements 7 to the other, this sheath member 14 being also of inelastic material, and adapted to be ornamented or trimmed, if desired, in any preferred manner.

From the foregoing it will be apparent that I have devised a practical and efficient strap structure designed to fulfill all the desired objects of the invention. The band or ribbon 5 provides an appropriate filler for the coils or turns of the wire material, and these being enclosed by the tubular sheath 14 provides comfortable supporting engagement with the shoulders, while permitting all the necessary expansion and contraction of the supporting strand 6 in response to any movements of the body. The shoulder straps readily con-

form to the contour of the shoulders without any uncomfortable action, and on account of the character of the wire strand material, the straps automatically maintain their supporting position as illustrated, and without any tendency to slump down off the shoulders, which is a very common objection to the prevailing type of bands and ribbons worn as a support for undergarments of this type.

The shoulder strap structure is of a neat and simple character, very inexpensive and economical to manufacture, as well as very durable and efficient in its function as a garment supporting device.

While I have illustrated and described what is now regarded as the preferred form of construction, I desire to reserve the right to make such changes or modifications as may fairly fall within the scope of the appended claim.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A garment shoulder strap structure, comprising a strand of spring wire material formed with a plurality of turns, a garment securing device carried by each end of said strand, a band of inelastic material threaded through said turns of wire from one end of the strand to the other, and a tubular sheath of cloth material extending from one of said securing devices to the other and enclosing said strand and band elements.

In witness whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

BALTHASAR WURM.