Nov. 30, 1965 H. KANTER ETAL 3,220,015

NECKTIE KNOT FORMING DEVICE

Filed Feb. 10, 1965

Fig. 1.

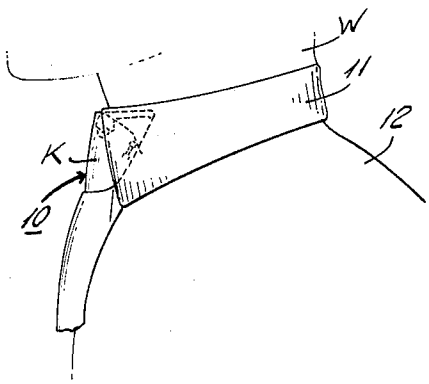


Fig. 2.

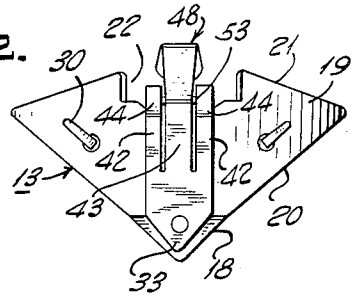


Fig. 3.

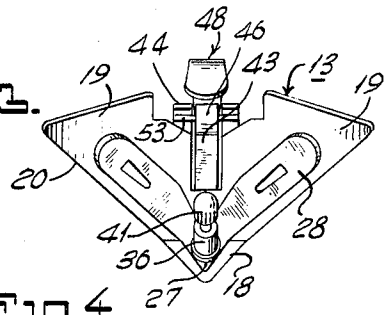


Fig. 5.

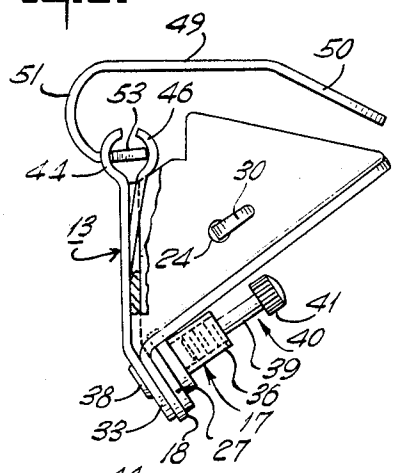


Fig. 4.

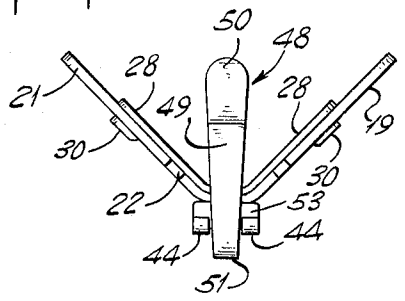


Fig. 6.

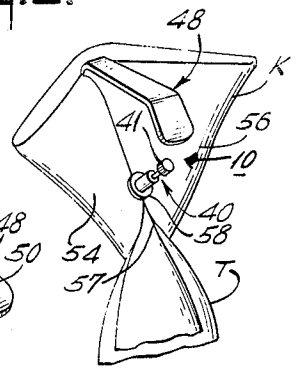
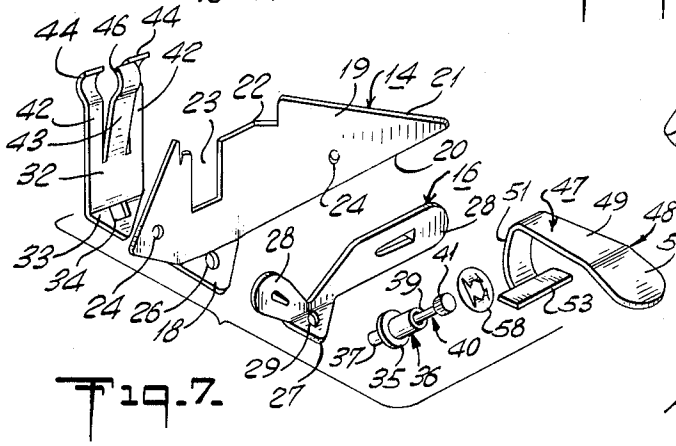


Fig. 7.



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NECKTIE KNOT FORMING DEVICE

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4 Claims. (Cl. 2—153)

This application is a continuation in part of our application Serial No. 416,461 filed Dec. 7, 1964.

The present invention relates generally to improvements in articles of neckwear and it relates more particularly to an improved necktie of the pretied type which is provided with fastening means permitting its releasable attachment to a collar neckband or the like.

As stated in our prior application, the proper tying of a knot in a necktie around the neck of a wearer is not only frequently time-consuming, but requires a high degree skill which is often lacking in many wearers of neckties. It has accordingly been a common practice to provide neckties with a preformed knot and fastening means for releasably attaching the pretied necktie to the collar of the shirt on the wearer thereof. A type of pretied necktie is described in U.S. Patents No. 2,798,226 granted July 9, 1957 and No. 2,972,750 granted Feb. 28, 1961 to H. Kanter and although the devices disclosed therein are highly satisfactory, they possess certain drawbacks which limit the scope of their application. Some drawbacks of the pretied neckties described in the aforesaid patents are obviated by the pretied necktie described in the above co-pending patent application. The present device further improves the necktie in effectively minimizing the visibility of the attaching units when positioned on the collar, and also minimizing any undue pressure of the attaching unit on the neck of the wearer with the consequent elimination of discomfort.

The improved device also provides a knot of more natural appearance.

It is therefore a principal object of the present invention to provide an improved article of neckwear of the above preknotted or pretied type.

Another object of the present invention is to provide an improved pretied necktie in which the support and knot former member is substantially invisible when in use.

A further object of the present invention is to provide an improved pretied necktie which may be worn with a maximum of comfort.

Still a further object of the present invention is to provide an improved pretied necktie which may be easily secured in its assembled condition and which simultaneously therewith provides a more natural looking, less rigid appearance.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a device of the above nature characterized by its versatility, adaptability, ruggedness, low cost and ease, convenience and comfort of use.

The above and other objects of the present invention will become apparent from a reading of the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, wherein:

FIGURE 1 is a fragmentary side view in perspective showing a pretied necktie embodying the present invention illustrated in position on the collar of the shirt of a wearer;

FIGURE 2 is a front elevational view of the necktie knot form and support device embodying the present invention;

FIGURE 3 is a rear elevational view thereof;

FIGURE 4 is a top plan view thereof;

FIGURE 5 is a fragmentary side elevational view thereof;

FIGURE 6 is a rear fragmentary perspective view of the assembled necktie; and

FIGURE 7 is an enlarged exploded perspective view of the necktie form and support device.

In a sense the present invention contemplates the provision of a pretied necktie comprising a former member including a pair of laterally extending wing members, a fastening assembly mounted on said former member and including a rearwardly directed post, a necktie knotted about said former member and including sections traversing the rear face thereof, and a fastening element mounted on said post and engaging said necktie to secure said necktie to said former member. Another important feature of the present invention resides in the provision of a support and former device for pretied neckties in which the former member includes symmetrically disposed wing elements directed rearwardly from a medial axis and in which the fastening assembly includes a rearwardly directed pintle medially mounted at the lower part of said former member and projecting rearwardly and upwardly therefrom, a locking arm hinged adjacent its upper end to the upper part of said former member and swingable about a transverse axis substantially into and out of engagement with the rear of said pintle, and spring means urging said locking arm toward said pintle engaging position.

According to a preferred form of the present device, there is provided a support frame which includes a vertical support arm of resilient material having a pair of laterally spaced longitudinal slits formed in the upper part thereof to delineate a pair of outer legs and an inner leg, the outer legs terminating in rearwardly facing knuckles, and the inner leg in a forwardly facing knuckle. A locking arm is disposed rearwardly of the support arm and terminates at its upper part in a cross bar which registers with the knuckles to spring them apart to be urged in turn alternatively to a depending or latch position, and to a rearwardly projecting or unlatch position. A post having a tapped axial bore is mounted at the bottom of the support arm and projects rearwardly upwardly therefrom and a pintle provided with a threaded shank engages the tapped bore whereby to permit the adjustment of the latch position of the locking arm. A V-shaped support member formed of a hand deformable material which substantially retains its deformed shape is secured at its apex to the lower part of the support arm at the level of the threaded post and includes upwardly diverging and rearwardly inclined support arms which are readily bendable relative to each other. A knot former includes laterally projecting wings secured to the deformable support arms and are deformable therewith, the former wings having side edges which converge downwardly to the apex of the support member and having a medial vertical recess formed in its upper part which registers with the knuckle supporting intermediate leg. A necktie is knotted about the former and includes a pair of overlapping sections traversing the rear face of the former member and crossing each other directly above the post. A speed nut engages the post and bears on the lower borders of the crossing tie sections to fasten the tie to the former member, such fastening occurring at one point only and allowing such borders to otherwise assume a free and unsecured relationship which results in a most pleasing knot appearance.

Referring now to the drawing which illustrates a preferred embodiment of the present invention, the reference numeral **10** generally designates the pretied or preknotted tie which is illustrated as attached to the band of a collar **11** of a shirt **12** on a wearer W. The knot K of the tie **10** is formed on and supported and releasably attached to the neck band by an improved tie or knot

former and support device 13 constructed in accordance with the present invention. The device 13 comprises a knot former and support member 14, a frame member 16, and a fastening or attaching assembly 17.

The former member 14 is formed of resilient pliable material, advantageously of a relatively heavy sheet of a synthetic organic polymer such as polyethylene, polypropylene or the like, which is easily hand deformable and is of approximately triangular configuration with a bottom medially located downwardly rearwardly inclined apex 18, and a pair of laterally rearwardly directed wings 19 symmetric to the vertical medial axis of the former member 14. The side edges 20 of the former member converge downwardly to the apex 18 and the upper edges 21 thereof are substantially horizontal or outwardly downwardly inclined. A shallow relatively wide first recess 22 is medially formed in the upper edge 21 and a deep relatively narrow recess 23 is medially formed in the base edge of the recess 22. A pair of laterally spaced first anchoring apertures 24 are formed in the wings 19 and a second anchoring aperture 26 is located along the former medial axis shortly below the upper edge of the apex section 18.

The frame 16 is substantially V-shaped, having a bottom downwardly rearwardly inclined apex or crotch section 27 and rearwardly extending upwardly diverging legs 28. It is important to note that the frame 16 is so dimensioned and formed of a material which permits the easy deformation of the legs 28 preferably relative to each other about the vertical medial axis of the frame 16, the frame 16 retaining its deformed shape. The frame 16 may be stamped of soft brass, soft steel or other suitable advantageously metal material possessing the above properties.

The frame 16 is symmetrically located relative to and is superimposed on the rear face of the former member 14 with the apex 27 substantially overlying the apex 18 and provided with an aperture 29 which is coaxial with the aperture 26. Fastening tongues 30 are formed on and directed rearwardly from the frame legs 28 through corresponding apertures 24 and are folded over to firmly engage the former wings 19 and secure them to corresponding frame legs 28.

The attaching assembly 17 includes an upright arm 32 formed of resilient sheet metal and medially disposed along the front face of the former member 14. The bottom of the arm 32 is tapered to a downwardly rearwardly inclined apex 33 which substantially overlies the front face of the apex 27 and is provided with an aperture 34 which is coaxial with the apertures 26 and 29. A post 36 is provided at its forward end with a cylindrical shank 37 of reduced cross-section which engages the apertures 26, 29 and 34 and is delineated from the post 36 by a peripheral flange 35 and has its end face upset or swaged to an expanded head 38 to embrace and firmly secure the arm 32, former member 14 and frame 16 between the head 38 and the flange 35.

The post 36 projects rearwardly upwardly from the arm 32 substantially perpendicular to the apex sections 27, 18 and 33 and is provided with a tapped axial bore. An abutment member or pintle 40 includes an end threaded shank 39 which engages the tapped axial bore and terminates in an enlarged head 41 provided with a rearwardly facing arcuate end face. Thus, the pintle 40 may be axially adjusted along the post 36 by turning the pintle 40. The adjustable outward spacing of pintle 40 causes the tie knot to become elevated or more horizontal, thus improving its appearance.

The upper part of the arm 32 is provided with a pair of laterally spaced vertical slits which divides the arm upper section into a pair of upwardly directed laterally spaced resilient outer legs 42 and an inner resilient leg 43 intermediate the legs 42, the leg 43 being forwardly sprung and registering with the former recess 23. The legs 42 terminate at their upper free ends in rearwardly facing knuckle defining crotch sections 44, and in a forwardly facing knuckle defining crotch section 46.

Swingably supported by the knuckles or crotch sections 44 and 46 and cooperating with the pintle 40 to define a fastening device is a locking arm 47 comprising an elongated leg 48 including an upper section 49 having downwardly diverging side edges and an enlarged lower end section 50, which is downwardly forwardly inclined relative to the upper section 49 and has a curved bottom edge. Integrally formed with and directed forwardly from the upper end of the leg 48 is a curved upwardly convex arm 51 which terminates in a pintle defining rectangular-shaped flat cross-bar 53, which is engaged by and between the knuckles 44 and 46. The locking arm 47 is swingable between a latch position in which the leg section 50 is resiliently maintained in engagement with the pintle head 41 by reason of the resilient arm 43 bearing upon the lower edge of the cross bar 53 and the knuckles 44 bearing on the upper edge thereof, and an unlatch position, as seen in FIGURE 5, with the locking arm 47 being in a raised rearwardly directed position and releasably maintained therein by the opposite edges of the cross bar 53 registering with the bases of the knuckles 44 and 46.

It is important to observe that the locking arm 47 may be, and is, diminished in length because of the upward tilt of post 36. This shortness of locking arm 47 is important because it avoids digging into the user's neck, which, of course, should be avoided where possible.

The tie T which is shorter than the conventional necktie, is laced about the former member 14 to form a knot K in the well known manner as described in the above identified Kanter patents. The tie T may, if desired, be provided with suitably spaced apertures to facilitate its knotting on the former member without impeding the locking assembly. The knot K includes a pair of angularly related overlapping sections 54 and 56 which traverse the rear face of the former member 14 and extend from the upper edge thereof. The inner edges of the overlapping sections 54 and 56 intersect at a point directly above the post 36 and embrace the sides of the post. A push-on speed nut 58 engages the post 36 and is pressed in any suitable manner into tight engagement with the rear borders of the tie sections 54 and 56 to tightly retain them in a sandwiched position between the flange 35 and the speed nut 58 and firmly secure the knot K and the device 13 in an assembled condition. The aforesaid assembly procedure is simple, rapid and highly reliable.

Moreover, it is important to note that the knot sections 54 and 56 are inter-engaged by the speed nut 58 at the bottom rear of the former member and of the knot K, per se, leaving the remainder of the knot, that is the upper portion thereof, free to assume an equilibrium position which is of a soft attractive appearance. The speed nut 58 is conventional, comprising as it does a normally slightly concave-convex disk having a diamond-like opening defined by opposing gripping arms which bite against the post 36.

The pretied necktie is attached to the collar by opening the locking arm 47 inserting it behind the neckband and snapping it to its lock position to embrace the neckband between the pintle head 41 and the leg section 50. The specified angular relationship between the pintle 40 and the former and support member assembly affords a novel and superior arrangement which is characterized by its ruggedness and compactness, ease of applications, being substantially out of view in use, and by its high comfort and convenience.

While there has been described and illustrated a preferred embodiment of the present invention it is apparent that numerous alterations, omissions and additions may be made without departing from the spirit thereof.

What is claimed is:

1. A pretied necktie comprising a former member

including a pair of laterally extending wing members, a fastening assembly mounted on said former member and including a post directed rearwardly from the lower part of said former member, a necktie knotted about said former member and including angularly related overlapping sections providing intersecting borders traversing the rear face of said former member and having lower edges intersecting at a point directly above said post, and a speed nut engaging said post and bearing on the intersecting borders of said tie sections to clamp said borders between the confronting faces of said nut and said former member, said intersecting borders being otherwise substantially free of each other.

2. A pretied necktie comprising a former member including a pair of laterally extending wing members and having side edges converging downwardly to a bottom downwardly rearwardly inclined apex section, a fastening assembly mounted on said former member and including an inclined post directed upwardly and rearwardly from said apex section and a locking arm hinged adjacent its upper end to the upper part of said former member and swingable about a transverse axis toward and away from the rear of said post, a necktie knotted about said former member and including angularly related overlapping sections traversing the rear face of said former member and having lower edges intersecting at a point directly above said post, and a speed nut engaging said post and bearing on the intersecting edges of said tie sections to clamp said edges between the confronting faces of said nut and said former member, said intersecting edges being otherwise substantially free of each other.

3. A support and former device for pretied neckties comprising a former member including symmetrically disposed wing elements directed rearwardly from a medial axis and having oppositely downwardly converging side edges, a fastening assembly including a post having a tapped axial bore medially mounted at the lower part of said former member and projecting rearwardly and upwardly therefrom, a pintle co-axial with said post and having a threaded shank engaging said tapped bore, a locking arm hinged adjacent its upper end to the upper part of said former member and swingable about a transverse axis between a latch and unlatch position substantially in and out of engagement respectively with the rear of said pintle, and spring means alternatively urging said locking arm to said latch and unlatch positions.

4. The support and former device of claim 3 including a speed nut engaging said post.

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JORDAN FRANKLIN, *Primary Examiner.*