March 30, 1965 F. CARAVELLA 3,175,233

BELT BUCKLE

Filed Oct. 9, 1961

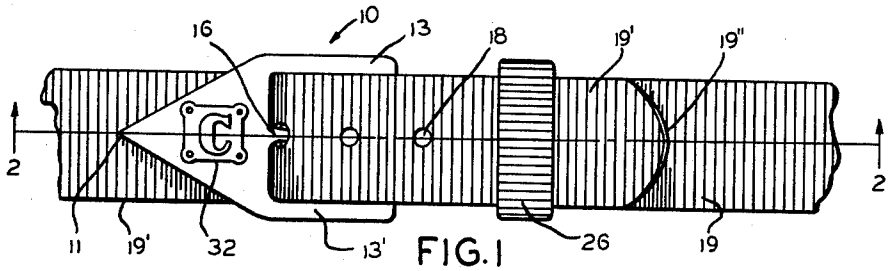


FIG. 1

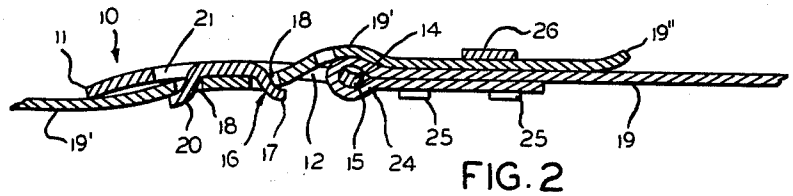


FIG. 2

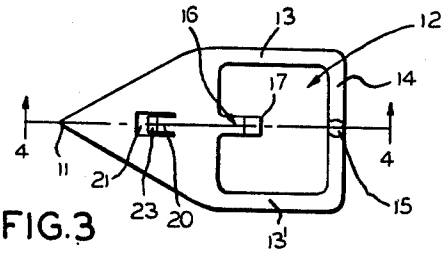


FIG. 3

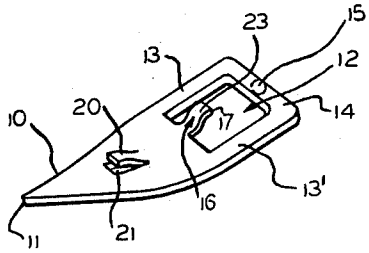


FIG. 5

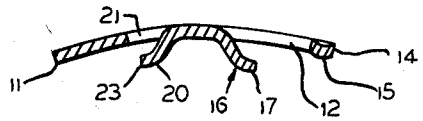


FIG. 4

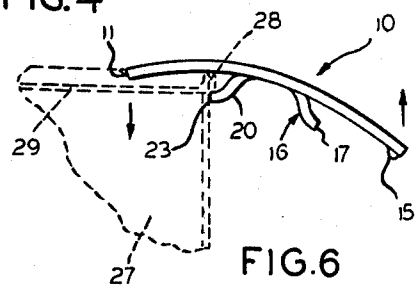


FIG. 6

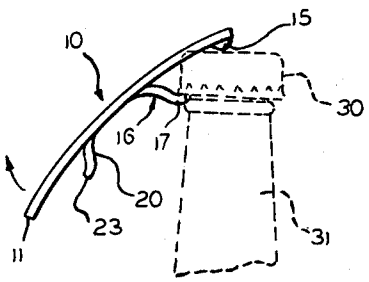


FIG. 7

INVENTOR.
FRANK CARAVELLA
BY Irwin C. Alter
ATTORNEY

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BELT BUCKLE

Frank Caravella, Milwaukee, Wis., assignor of one-half to Anthony Bellanti, Milwaukee, Wis.

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3 Claims. (Cl. 7—14.25)

My invention relates to belt buckles, and more particularly to a belt buckle that serves a plurality of purposes.

When liquid refreshments are being served at outdoor occasions or even indoor occasions, quite frequently a can piercing device or a bottle opener are not available. In order to always have such devices on hand, I have provided a device in the form of a belt buckle, that may be worn at all times. It is formed integrally in a manner that permits it to be used as a bottle cap remover, or can piercing device without any changes, additions, or movable parts. It has means for removing a bottle cap at one end, means for piercing a can at the other end thereof and means for removably associating it with a belt portion to hold the belt together thereby enabling the belt to function as a normal belt buckle.

It is, therefore, an object of my invention to provide a device which can serve a plurality of purposes that is of one piece construction.

Another object of my invention is to construct a one piece unit that will function as a belt buckle, a can piercing device and a bottle opener.

Still another object of my invention is to provide a device having all these features, whose function as a can piercing device and a bottle opener will in no way interfere with its function as a buckle, or with its general appearance as a buckle.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a device of the character described, that is equipped with sufficient surface space, to permit application of an ornamental emblem, or advertising media.

Other and further objects of my invention will become more readily apparent as the description proceeds, when taken in conjunction with the drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a top view of my device as applied to a portion of a conventional belt.

FIG. 2 is a longitudinal cross-sectional view of my device, taken on the line 2—2 in FIG. 1 and looking in the direction of the arrows.

FIGURE 3 is a top view of my device when it is detached from a belt portion.

FIG. 4 is a longitudinal cross-sectional view of my device, taken on the line 4—4 in FIGURE 3 looking in the direction of the arrows.

FIG. 5 is a perspective view of FIGURE 3.

FIG. 6 is a side view of my device being applied to a beverage can shown in phantom, illustrating the leverage provided when piercing the upper surface of a can.

FIG. 7 is a similar view of my device in position to remove a cap from a bottle shown in phantom.

Referring now to the drawing, wherein similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views, the character **10** shows generally the body of the device constituting my invention. My device is constructed of a single piece of metal, blanked and formed as a unit, having all the functional parts integral therewith.

As illustrated the body **10** is radially formed, and it has a V shape which terminates into a point **11** at its forward end. A rectangular opening **12** is disposed therethrough to form a frame consisting of two side portions **13** and **13'** and a rear portion **14**, the rear portion **14** being shown with a depressed bubble portion **15** protruding therefrom.

The opening **12** has a first projecting tongue portion **16** extending inward and bent downward at **17** for engagement with one of the openings or apertures **18**, of a belt portion **19**, to which my device is to be associated.

Another projecting member, the second projecting tongue portion **20** is blanked out at **21**, from the body of my buckle **10**. The tongue portion is formed at **23** similar to the first tongue portion **16** so that it engages one of the openings **18** of the belt portion **19**, when positioned properly.

Referring to the cross-sectional view illustrated as FIGURE 2, it is seen that a loop **24** of the belt portion **19** encircles the rear portion **14** of the belt buckle **10**. The loop **24** is formed by folding over one of the ends of the belt **19** and attaching the end of the belt to itself with conventional engaging "snaps" **25**. The other end of the belt, shown as **19'**, is guided into the opening **12** formed by the buckle body **10** so that the first tongue portion **16** enters one of the openings **18** of the belt **19**, and the second tongue portion **20** enters another opening **18** of the belt **19**. The extreme end **19''** of said other end of the belt can then be threaded through a retaining loop **26** forming a part of the belt assembly. Thus it is seen that my device functions effectively and efficiently as a belt buckle.

In FIGURE 6, I show the manner in which the body **10** is employed when piercing a beverage can, or the like, shown in phantom as **27**. The bent portion **23** of the second projecting tongue portion **20** is placed beneath the bead **28** of a can **27** and the point **11** is forced downward to pierce the flat cover **29** of the can **27**.

In FIGURE 7, I show the method employed in using my device when removing the cap **30** from a bottle **31**, also shown in phantom. The bent portion **17** of the tongue **16**, is placed below the flanged portion of the cap **30** and the bubble portion **15** of the rear portion **14** is placed on the upper surface of the cap **30** and when the pointed portion **11** of the buckle **10** is raised, it will remove the cap **30** from the bottle **31**.

If desired an ornamental identification emblem **32** may be placed over the openinng **21** as shown in FIG. 1 and FIG. 2. The plate or emblem may be atached in any convenient and efficient manner.

From the above description, it will become manifest that the device is practical as a belt buckle and in addition thereto provides additional functions and although I have shown a particular construction, I am fully cognizant of the fact that many changes may be made in the shape, form and configuration of the device without effecting its operativeness and I reserve the rights to make such changes without departing from the spirit of my invention of the scope of the claims.

I claim:

1. A belt buckle intended for use with a belt having spaced apart perforations proximate to one end thereof, said belt buckle also being utilized both as a can piercing device and bottle opener, comprising: A pointed tip at one end thereof for piercing cans, a first projecting tongue portion disposed in proximity to said pointed tip, for cooperation with said tip in order that said tongue portion can be utilized to grip the bead of a can while said tip pierces said can, said first projecting tongue portion protruding downward and toward said pointed tip, said buckle having an opening with defining sides at the other end thereof, a second projecting tongue portion extending from one of the defining sides of said opening, said one of the defining sides of said opening being the closest defining side to said first projecting tongue portion, said second projecting tongue portion projecting downward and opposite in direction from said first projecting tongue

portion and being disposed to cooperate with the defining sides of said opening to remove a bottle cap, said projecting tongue portions being spaced apart at the same distance as the perforations in the belt, whereby said tongue portions also function as a pair of latching means with relation to the belt by protruding through adjacent perforations of the belt.

2. A belt buckle, as defined in claim 1 wherein said belt buckle has a radial contour to conform to the waist of the wearer thereof.

3. A belt buckle as defined in claim 2 wherein there is a bubble portion extending from one of the defining sides of said opening and being disposed to cooperate with said second tongue portion to enable removal of a bottle cap.

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