Nov. 30, 1926. 1,609,212

J. R. SMITH

GARMENT SUPPORTER

Filed Feb. 18, 1926

Fig. 1.

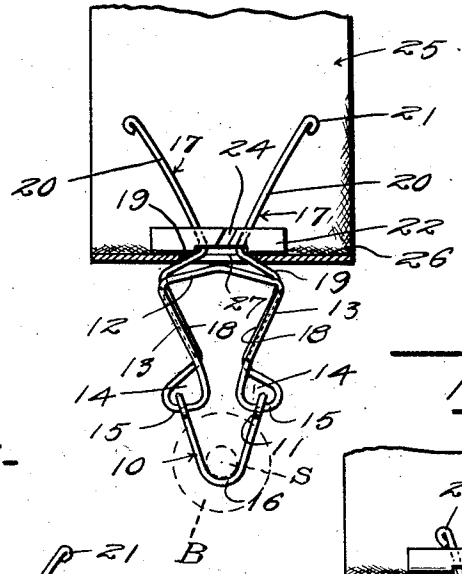


Fig. 2.

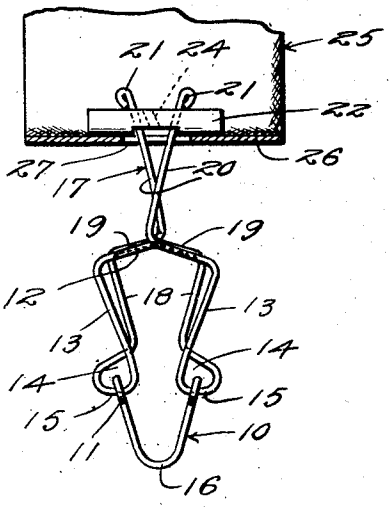


Fig. 3.

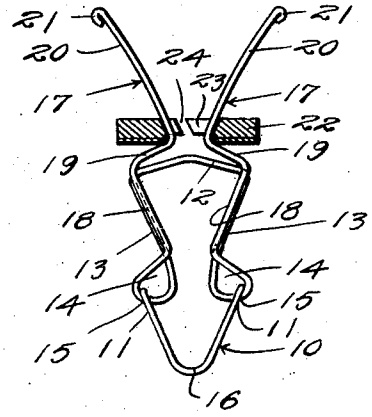
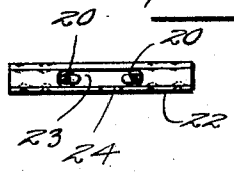


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JESSE R. SMITH, OF WHITE HALL, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FOURTH TO JOHN R. McCONATHY AND ONE-FOURTH TO EDWARD M. WALLIS, BOTH OF ROODHOUSE, ILLINOIS.

GARMENT SUPPORTER.

Application filed February 18, 1926. Serial No. 89,171.

This invention relates to improvements in garment supporters and more particularly to an improvement of garment supporters of the type illustrated in my prior Patent, No. 1,387,912, granted August 16, 1921, for garment supporters.

In the construction of the patent above referred to, an elastic button engaging support is provided in which the elasticity of the connection is provided by the button receiving element. In this structure, however, the button receiving loop is formed from a single piece of material and is accordingly substantially rigid and if designed for one size of button will not accommodate buttons of other sizes and maintain them in their applied position. An important object of this invention is to modify the structure shown in this patent so that a single construction of the resilient supporter, such as illustrated in this prior patent, may be adapted for use with all sizes of buttons ordinarily employed with overalls for use in connection with which the device is primarily intended.

A further and more specific object of the invention is to provide a button receiving loop and a resilient elastic connection between this button receiving loop and the shoulder or similar strap of the garment providing means for partially closing the upper end of the button receiving loop which is yieldable to permit the passage of the shank of the button and thus permit the button to engage in the loop.

A further object of the invention is to improve the manner of attaching the resilient connection of the type illustrated in my prior patent to the strap of the garment.

These and other objects I attain by the construction shown in the accompanying drawings, wherein for the purpose of illustration is shown a preferred embodiment of my invention and wherein:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a garment supporter including a button engaging clip and support therefor constructed in accordance with my invention

Figure 2 is a view showing the reverse side of the structure of Figure 1 and illustrating a supporting clip in the position which it assumes under tension;

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken through the holding bar;

Figure 4 is a plan view of the holding bar.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, the numeral 10 indicates a substantially U-shaped button receiving loop, the upper ends of the arms of which are provided with aligning eyes 11. A support for this loop is provided comprising a bight 12 having depending arms 13 which converge toward their free ends and are there provided with eyes 14 arranged in the general plane of the loop. The lower portions of these eyes are relatively flat, as indicated at 15, and extend through the eyes 11 of the button receiving loop 10. The bight 12 and its arms 13 are formed of resilient material and the lower ends of the arms are normally spaced to such an extent that the eyes 11 are engaged at the outer extremities of the eyes 14 and accordingly the inner extremities of the eyes 14 overlie the bight 16 of the button receiving loop in confronting relation thereto and tend to engage against and prevent withdrawal of a button shank from this loop. Since, however, the arms 13 are resilient, the button shank S may be removed from this loop by the application of a slight upward pressure to the button and the button body B may pass through the space between the arms 13 at the upper ends thereof. When the button shank has passed, the arms will again spring together so that the eyes again confront the bight of the button receiving loop 16.

With a button loop support of this character, I employ resilient arms 17 of the type illustrated in the prior patent above mentioned and these arms, in order that they may have the proper resiliency, are attached to the arms 13 adjacent the lower ends thereof. A convenient method of providing this attachment is illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein the upper ends of the eye portions are continued to form the

arms 17. From the eye portions, the lower ends of the resilient arms 17 diverge upwardly with substantially the same degree of divergence as the arms 13 of the U as illustrated at 18. The upper ends of these divergent lower portions are bent inwardly toward one another, as at 19, and from the inner ends of the inbent portions again diverge upwardly and outwardly, as at 20. The upper ends of the upwardly and outwardly diverging portions are provided with enlargements 21, the purpose of which will presently appear.

The numeral 22 designates a supporting bar which is provided centrally with a vertical slot 23 and one side wall of the bar has a diagonally disposed slot 24 which communicates with the slot 23 and of such size that the portions 20 of the arms 17 may be inserted into the slot 23 therethrough. This diagonal slot communicates with the slot 23 at a point intermediate its ends and when the arms 17 are inserted therein, they will, by reason of their resiliency, separate to opposite ends of the slot so that they do not align with the slot 24 and will not accidentally pass therethrough. The bar 22 is arranged within the loop 25 usually provided in garment straps for the connection of similar fastenings and is supported by the bight 26 of this loop. The bight 26 has formed therein an opening 27 through which the arms 17 may first be inserted. After the arms have been inserted through the opening 27, they are passed through the slot 24 and the attachment is in applied position.

As in my prior patent, if any strain is applied to a button engaged with the loop 16, the downward movement of the loop will cause the arms 17 to be drawn through the slot 23 of the bar 20 and because these arms diverge and are resilient, they will yieldably resist such downward movement. When the strain is relieved, the arms will move upwardly through the slot and will normally occupy a position, such as shown in solid lines in Figure 1. It is pointed out that as the upper ends 21 of the arms 17 approach one another when they are drawn into the channel 23, the tension applied will cause the lower ends of the arms 21 to tend to separate. This results in the loops or eyes 14 being forced apart. It will, therefore, be obvious that by grasping the support and drawing the same downwardly, the eyes 14 are automatically separated so that a button may be readily disengaged from the button receiving loop 16. It will also be obvious that these resilient eyes 14 will serve not only to permit the passage into the button receiving loop of buttons of varying sizes, but will also act to prevent accidental disengagement of the button from the loop.

Since the construction hereinbefore set forth is obviously capable of a certain range of change and modification without materially departing from the spirit of the invention, I do not limit myself to such specific structure except as hereinafter claimed.

I claim:—

1. In a garment supporter, a substantially U-shaped button receiving loop having eyes at the upper ends of the arms thereof and a support therefor comprising a bight having at the ends thereof arms which converge toward their free ends, the free ends of the arms having out-turned portions directed through the eyes of the button receiving loop and being normally spaced from one another a distance such that the eyes of the button receiving loop are engaged with said out-turned portions adjacent the outer ends thereof, the free ends of the out-turned portions being continued to provide upwardly extending arms, the upper ends of which diverge from one another and a strap engaging element having an opening through which said arms are directed, said support and arms being formed of resilient material.

2. In a garment supporter, a substantially U-shaped button receiving loop having eyes at the upper ends of the arms thereof and a support therefor comprising a bight having at the ends thereof arms which converge toward their free ends, the free ends of the arms having out-turned portions directed through the eyes of the button receiving loop and being normally spaced from one another a distance such that the eyes of the button receiving loop are engaged with said out-turned portions adjacent the outer ends thereof, the free ends of the out-turned portions being continued to provide upwardly extending arms, the upper ends of which diverge from one another and a strap engaging element having an opening through which said arms are directed, said support and arms being formed of resilient material, said strap engaging element having a diagonally disposed slot through the side wall thereof and communicating with said opening intermediate the ends thereof to thereby permit insertion of the arms into the openings.

3. In a garment supporter, a substantially U-shaped button receiving loop having eyes at the upper ends of the arms thereof and a support therefor including resilient arms having their lower ends engaged in said eyes and including portions projecting over and partially obstructing the mouth of the button receiving loop, said portions being transversely shiftable in the eyes of the button receiving loop to permit unobstructed passage of a button thereto and means shifting the portions transversely within the eyes upon the application of strain to said loop.

4. In a garment supporter, a substantially U-shaped button receiving loop having eyes at the upper ends of the arms thereof and a support therefor including resilient arms having their lower ends engaged in said eyes and including portions projecting over and partially obstructing the mouth of the button receiving loop, a pair of resilient arms connected with the first named arms immediately adjacent the lower ends thereof and having at their upper ends diverging portions and a support having an opening through which said diverging portions are extended.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

JESSE R. SMITH.