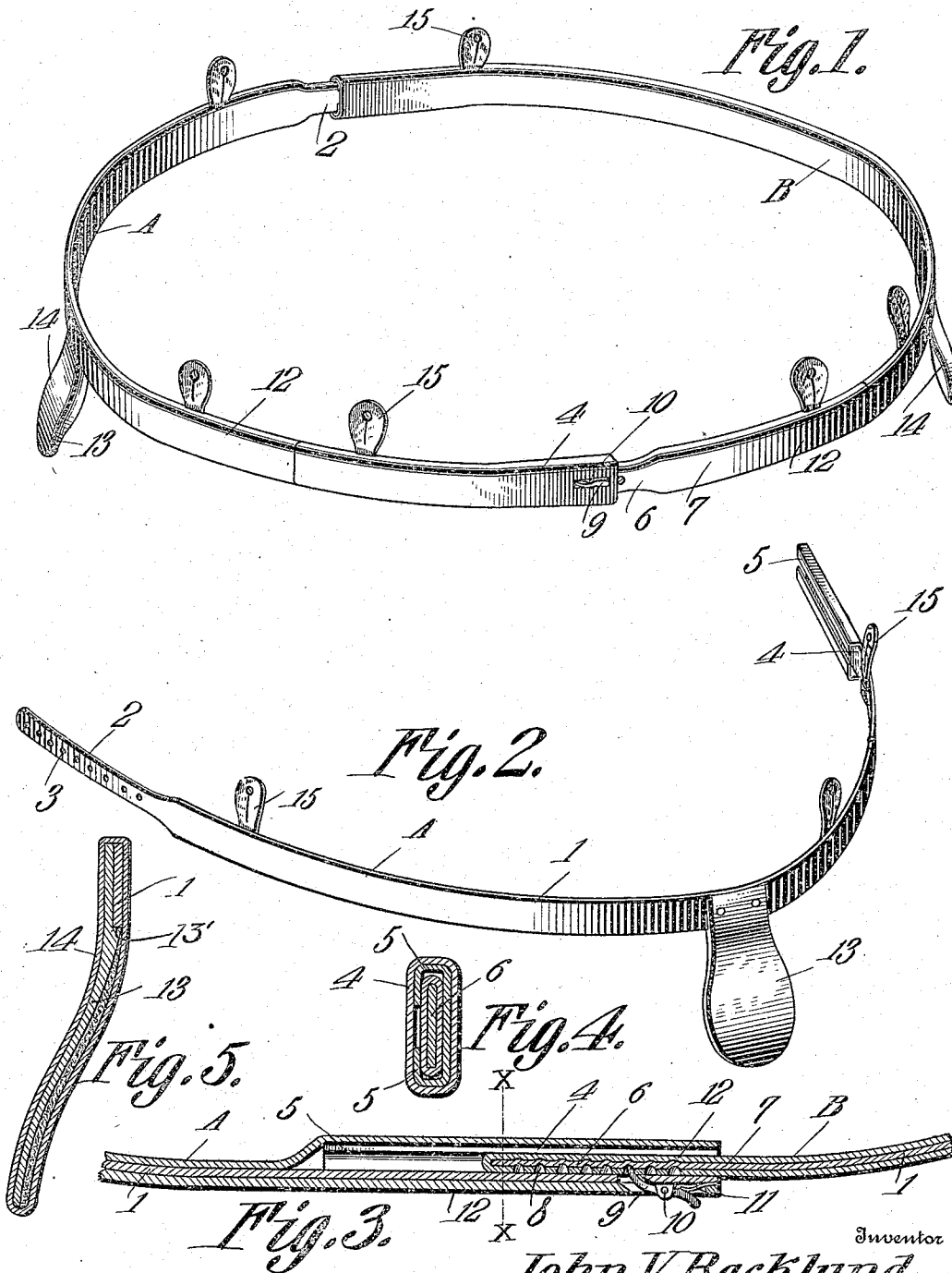


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TROUSERS SUPPORT.  
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Patented Dec. 7, 1909.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## TROUSERS-SUPPORT.

942,126.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 7, 1909.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN V. BACKLUND, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lisbon, in the county of Ransom and State of North Dakota, have invented a new and useful Trousers-Support, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to supporting devices for trousers and is more particularly designed as a substitute both for suspenders and for the ordinary forms of leather belts worn. Suspenders are objectionable in warm weather because of their unsightly appearance when a coat is not worn, and because they cause the clothing to cling closely to the body. Belts are also objectionable, because it is necessary to tighten them about the body in order to properly support the trousers. This results in considerable discomfort to the wearer because of the pressure upon the back and abdomen.

The object of the present invention is to provide an efficient substitute for supporting devices such as above mentioned, the present invention providing means whereby the weight of the trousers can be supported entirely upon the hips of the wearer without the necessity of binding the garments tightly upon the body.

A further object of the invention is to provide a supporting device which will maintain the top of the trousers in proper position at the waist-line and prevent any portion of the waist-band from sagging.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists of certain novel details of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter more fully described and pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings the preferred form of the invention has been shown.

In said drawings:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of the supporting device. Fig. 2 is a similar view of one side portion of the supporting device. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section through the interlocking portions of the buckle of the supporting device. Fig. 4 is a section on line  $x-x$  Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a longitudinal section through one of the hip-plates or rests.

Referring to the figures by characters of reference "A" and "B" designate the two side members of the device, each of said members consisting of a metal band 1, so proportioned as to readily flex transversely but which is practically rigid in the direc-

tion of its width. A tongue 2 is formed at the rear end of the section or member "A" and this tongue has a series of notches 3 therein for the purpose hereinafter set forth.

Hingedly connected to the front end of the metal band 1 of section "A" is a buckle member 4 having flanges 5 disposed longitudinally along its upper and lower edges. This buckle member is designed to swing outwardly relative to the band 1 and the space formed between the flanges 5 is designed to receive a tongue 6 formed at the free end of the other buckle member 7 of the device, said member 7 being hingedly connected to the band 1 of section "B".

A series of notches 8 is formed in the tongue 6 of this buckle member 7 and any one of said notches is designed to be engaged by the end of a locking lever 9 pivotally mounted as at 10 upon the buckle member 4 and having a spring 11 bearing against one end thereof for holding its other end normally seated within one of the notches 8. That end of the band 1 of section "B" which is farthest removed from the buckle member 7 is constructed similarly to the flanged portion of the buckle member 4 and provided with a similar spring catch. The space formed between the flanges of this rear end portion of said band 1 is designed to receive the tongue 2 heretofore referred to. Both of the bands 1 and the two buckle members 4 and 7 are provided with jackets or coverings 12 of leather or other suitable material, the covering on the buckle member 4 and on the rear end of band 1 of section "B" cooperating with the flanges 5 to form recesses or sockets for the reception of the respective tongues 2 and 6. All metal parts of the device with the exception of the fastening lever 9 are concealed by the coverings 12 so that the device not only presents an attractive appearance but will not present a hard unyielding surface to the garments and wear them.

Each of the bands 1 has a downwardly extending inclined hip-rest or plate which is preferably substantially semi-oval in contour, each of said plates having been indicated at 13 in Figs. 1 and 2. The plates are provided with transversely extending inwardly projected shoulders 13' on which the band rests, said shoulders thus relieving the fastening means employed for securing the plates to the band and receiving all the downward pressure due to the weight of the

garment supported by the device. Said plates are so shaped as to rest comfortably upon the hips and are provided with coverings 14 of leather or other suitable material.

- 5 Tabs 15 having button-holes therein are secured to the bands 1 and buckle members 4 and 7 by means of rivets or in any other preferred manner. These tabs extend short distances above the device and are designed  
10 to be attached to the buttons of the garments.

- In using the device the two bands A, B, are adjustably connected at their rear ends by means of the tongue 2 and the catch used  
15 for engaging the tongue, and the buckle members 4 and 7 are disconnected from each other so as to permit the two bands A, B, to be sprung outwardly in opposite directions to enable the device to be placed around the  
20 waist of the wearer. Said bands are then allowed to return to their normal positions around the waist and the tongue 6 of the buckle member 7 is inserted into the buckle member 4 and secured by means of the  
25 spring-controlled locking lever 9. The device is to be adjusted so as to fit comfortably around the waist without pressing against the body and with the hip-plates 13 resting on the hips of the wearer. The tabs 17 are  
30 then placed in engagement with the buttons of the garment, it being understood that the supporting device is to be placed within the

upper portion of the garment where it will be concealed thereby. The hip plate 13 extends entirely below the band and thus positively supports the lower edges thereof out of contact with the body. 35

By providing a construction wherein the two sections "A" and "B" are adjustably connected at both front and back it becomes possible to so shift the sections relative to each other as to bring the hip-plates above the hips of wearers of different proportions. 40

By forming the device in two sections which can be separated, it becomes possible to store the support in a small space because the two sections, after being disconnected, can be placed face to face. This is important, because it is impossible to fold the metal support in the same manner as a leather belt or the like. 45 50

What is claimed is:—

A garment supporter including non-flexible opposed downwardly and outwardly curved hip pads, and a belt secured to the upper ends of the pads. 55

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN VICTOR BACKLUND.

Witnesses:

W. F. GRANGE,  
J. E. CRUNTIVE.