July 1, 1941. J. B. HART 2,247,372

NAPKIN HOLDER

Filed Aug. 2, 1939

Fig. 1.

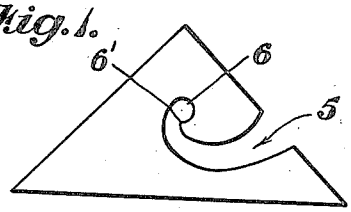


Fig. 2.

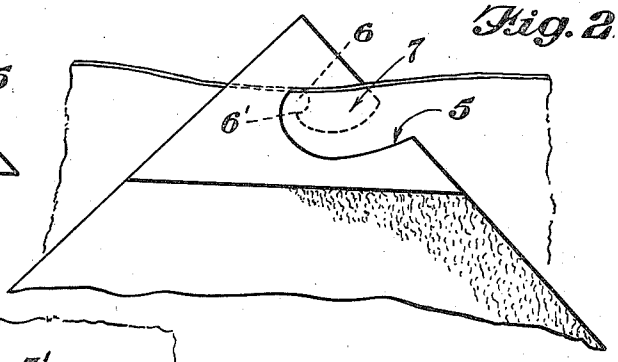


Fig. 3.

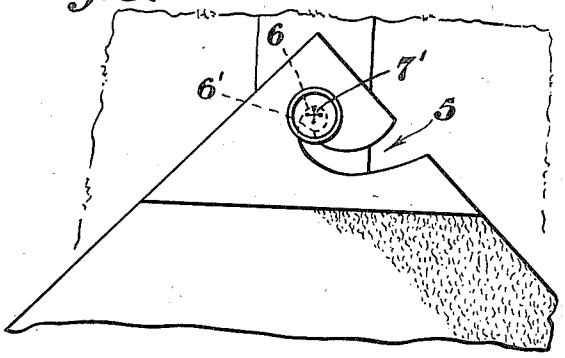
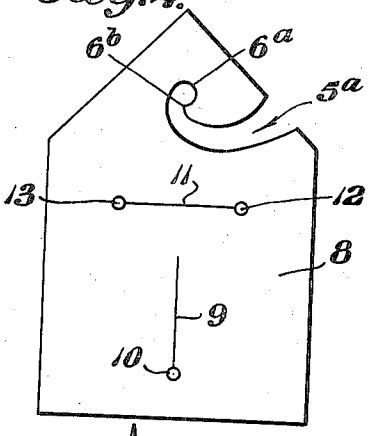


Fig. 4.



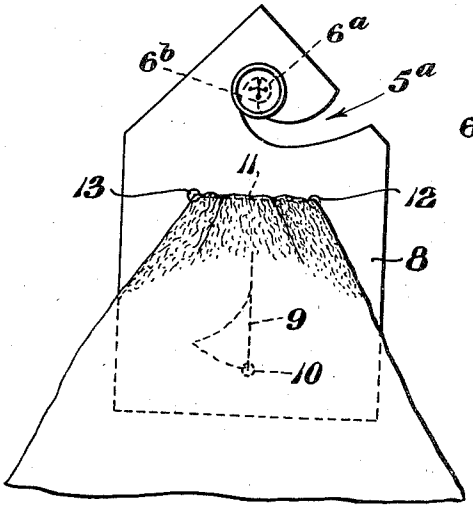


Fig. 5.

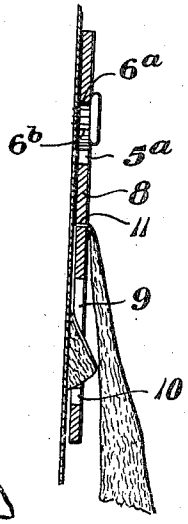
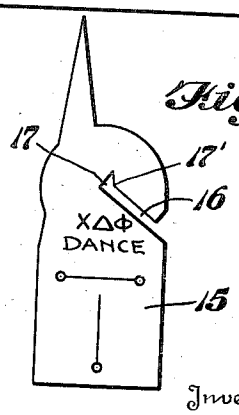


Fig. 6.

Fig. 7.



Inventor

Jason B. Hart

By A. Yates Dowell.

Attorney

Patented July 1, 1941 2,247,372

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,247,372

NAPKIN HOLDER

Jason B. Hart, Northfield, Vt.

Application August 2, 1939, Serial No. 288,043

1 Claim. (Cl. 24—8)

This invention relates to a tab or clip for attaching napkins and similar articles to and suspending them from the garments of the user while in service.

The improved tab or clip is adapted primarily for use as a napkin holder in dining car service and other places where it is desirable to retain a napkin in position. A tab for holding a napkin or the like should be capable of attachment to the garment of the user at any point desired, preferably below the level of the table, and a common failing of such devices as heretofore proposed has been the difficulty and inconvenience experienced in attaching the tab at any point desired irrespective of the type of garment worn by the user. Also, the tab should be so arranged that the napkin or other article may be readily attached to and removed from the tab and at the same time remain securely fixed when attached without damage to the article.

The invention therefore contemplates the provision of a tab which will definitely overcome the foregoing objections, and which at the same time has a pleasing appearance and is unusually simple and economical in construction or manufacture.

The foregoing and other objects of the invention will become apparent in view of the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a view in elevation of a tab embodying features of the present invention adapted for use with a paper napkin;

Figs. 2 and 3 are views similar to Fig. 1 but showing a portion of the napkin to which the tab is attached and also illustrating how the tab may be conveniently applied to portions of the garment of the user;

Fig. 4 is a view in elevation of a tab for use with a cloth or linen napkin;

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 4 but illustrating a napkin connected to the tab and the latter attached to the garment of the user;

Fig. 6 is a sectional view taken substantially on the line 6—6, Fig. 5;

Fig. 7 is a view in side elevation of a slightly modified type of tab.

Referring to the drawing in detail, the form of tab shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3 is adapted for permanent attachment to the conventional paper napkin, or napkins of the disposable type. The tab in this instance is preferably generally triangular in shape, or shaped to conform to the corner portion of a napkin. The tab may be made of relatively thin cardboard or other material capable of being cut coincident with the cutting of the type of napkin to which it is applied and would thus have the same edge configuration as that of the napkin. A slot or channel 5 is formed in the tab and this slot is preferably curved and terminates in an enlargement or hole 6 defining a hook or spur 6'. The slot or channel is of the open type, or has the entrance therein opening outwardly so that the tab may be applied simply by inserting the same over the article from which it is to be suspended. For example, when used as illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3, the tab may simply be inserted over the edge of a portion of the garment, as indicated at 7, or may be engaged over the attaching threads of a button, as indicated at 7'. To further facilitate insertion or "hanging" of the tab the slot or channel is flared at its entrance end.

In actual manufacture, the one side of the clip may be coated with an adhesive and then "spotted" on the rolls of the tissue from which the napkins are made, or so located on the tissue as to register with the corner of the napkin to which it is to be applied.

The convenient manner in which the clip may be used will be apparent, it only being necessary to insert the opening or channel 5 over a button or projecting portion of the garment until the portion 6 of the slot or channel registers with the threads of the button or edge of the garment, whereupon the spur 6' hooks on said edge or threads ensuring against displacement.

Figs. 4, 5 and 6 show a clip adapted for use with a cloth or linen napkin, or napkins of the permanent or launderable type, although it is obviously also usable with napkins of the disposable type. The clip in this instance has a slot or channel 5a terminating in an enlargement 6a defining a spur 6b similar to the slot or channel of the clip of Figs. 1, 2 and 3. The napkin is attached by means of a particular arrangement of cuts or incisions. The body 8 of the clip is formed with what may be termed a reentrant cut vertically or longitudinally of the clip as indicated at 9 with the one end of the cut terminating in a cut-out portion or hole 10; and another cut, termed an entrant cut 11 is made at right angles to the cut 9 with the opposite ends of the cut terminating in cut-out portions or holes 12 and 13. The cut 9 is thus substantially perpendicular to the cut 11 and slightly spaced therefrom.

In attaching the napkin, a corner of the latter may be inserted through the entrant cut 11 simply by flexing the tab in the region of the cut to

spread the walls of the latter, and then brought back and inserted through the cut 9, note Figs. 5 and 6, the edges of the cut 9 being spread in a similar manner. The cut-out portions or holes 10, 12 and 13 facilitate flexing of the tab in the region of the cuts and ensure against tearing of the tab at the ends of the cuts. By using cuts or incisions for attaching a napkin instead of slots, a more secure attaching or retaining grip is exerted by the tab and such grip is secure even though the tab is formed of relatively thin material.

Fig. 7 shows a modified type of tab or clip which in addition to serving as a napkin holder may be used as an admission ticket or other token at a social function, such for example as a fraternity dance or the like. In this instance the body of the device is indicated at 15 and is provided with an attaching slot or channel of slightly modified construction with respect to that illustrated in the preceding figures. The channel is indicated at 16 and terminates in an enlargement 17 defining a spur 17'. Instead of being curved as in the preceding figure, the channel is cut substantially straight and extends at an incline.

In all forms of the tab or clip, the slot is of the open type terminating in a spur or hook portion which tends towards ease in attachment and removal and security against accidental release when attached, while the arrangement of the cuts for connecting a napkin simplifies such operation, the tab portions on opposite sides of the cuts gripping the napkin and holding the same securely in place. The holder may be readily arranged in a standing position at the table and serve as a place card, and accordingly may be given different configuration, color schemes and the like as occasion may demand. The tab or grip may be made of cardboard, stiff paper, leather or Cellophane and maintained in sanitary condition at all time.

It will be understood that certain minor changes in construction and design of the improved tab or grip may be adopted without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention as defined by the appended claim.

What is claimed is:

In an article of sheet material adapted to be suspended from a garment, a corner portion formed of relatively rigid thin sheet material, said corner portion comprising a hook-shape slot extending through a margin thereof and providing an entrance to said slot in said margin, the sides of said slots being formed to provide said slot with an outer compression guideway adapted to engage a compressible portion of an article of apparel, said slot having an enlarged expansion aperture communicating with said guideway at its inner end, said guideway having an inwardly diminishing taper extending towards said aperture, said guideway being less in width at its inner end than the diameter of said aperture, said aperture being less in width than the normal diameter of an apparel button, said aperture being positioned approximately on the median line of said corner portion whereby said article may be suspended from an apparel button in an approximately symmetrical position.

JASON B. HART.