

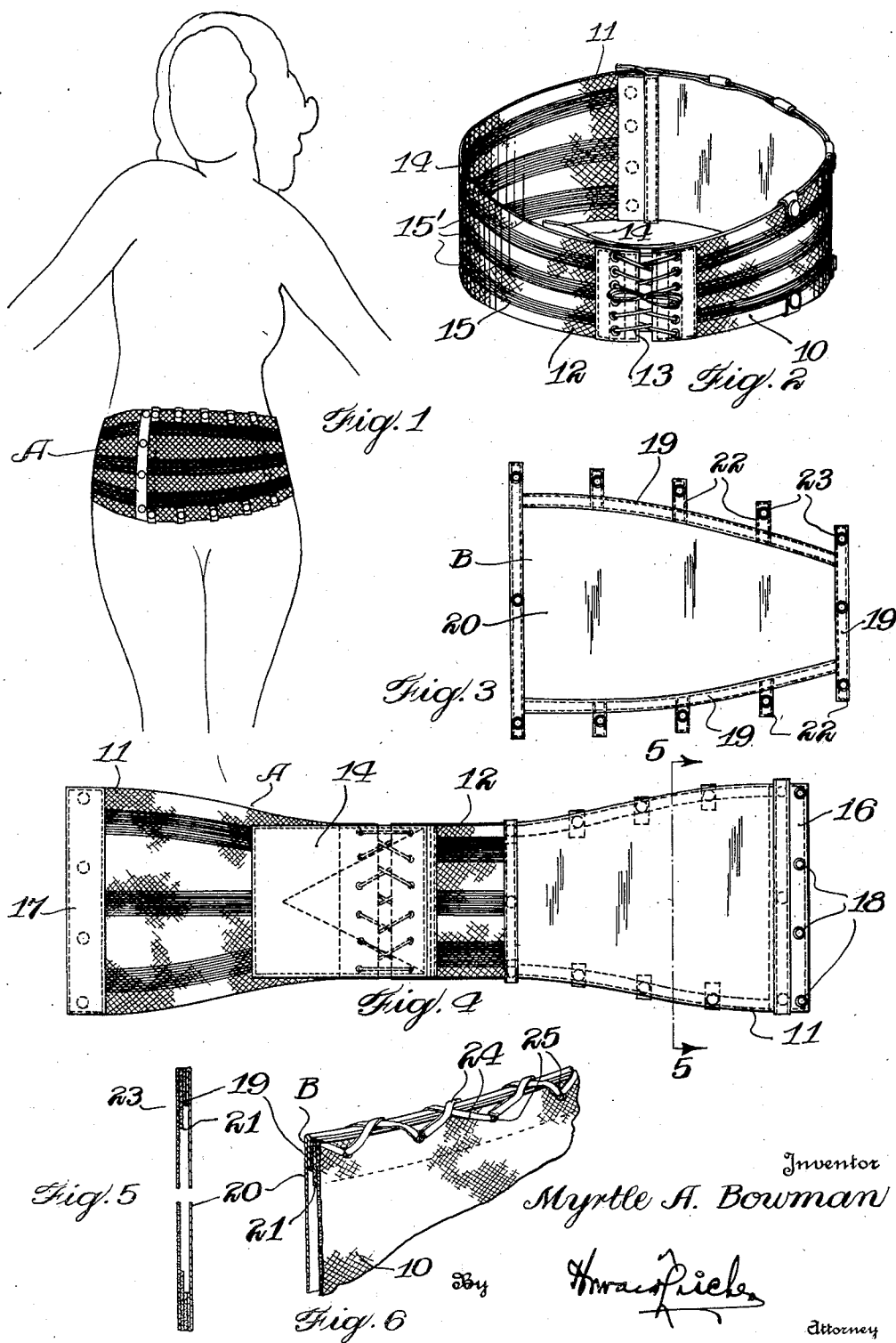
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COLOSTOMY BELT

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COLOSTOMY BELT

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My invention relates to a colostomy belt for use by persons who have had a colostomy operation so that the belt may be worn to protect the wearer and to provide a means for a support for the colostomy.

A feature resides in a colostomy belt having a detachable pocket portion so that it may be replaced, cleansed or removed when desired from the main or belt portion.

My colostomy belt is designed to lie normally flat against the abdomen of the wearer with a pocket portion which is reinforced about the margin of the same and having a central portion adapted to expand and contract to shape the same to the body and to permit the same to expand to receive fecal matter into the pocket without draining from the belt or pocket while the same is being worn or in use.

It is important that the colostomy belt lie as flat and close to the body as possible so as not to be bulky or add materially to the thickness of the clothing over the body of the wearer. Therefore my colostomy belt has a material advantage over others which have been designed for use heretofore or over other appliances or medical belts used for colostomies.

It is important that the pocket of my colostomy belt be removably supported on the body of the belt and when in operative position that it is smooth and held without wrinkling to the body of the belt which supports the pocket. The pocket and the belt are flexible in the central portion of the pocket while the outer marginal edge of the pocket is reinforced to provide a strong holding means which lies firmly against the body of the wearer. This holds the colostomy pocket so that it can be worn flat over the abdomen of the wearer and the pocket which is made of a pure grade of rubber or other suitable moisture proof material, may be changed readily or may be replaced by a new pocket whenever it is desired.

These features and other details will be more fully described and set forth in the specification and claims.

In the drawing forming a part of this specification:

Figure 1 illustrates the use of my colostomy belt, showing the position thereof upon the wearer.

Figure 2 is a perspective of the belt removed from the wearer, buttoned as it would be about the body of the wearer.

Figure 3 illustrates the pocket removed from the main body of the belt.

Figure 4 illustrates the belt open and laid out virtually flat.

Figure 5 is a section on the line 5—5 of Figure 4.

Figure 6 is a detail showing another form of attaching the colostomy pocket to the body of the belt proper.

The colostomy belt A is provided with a body portion 10 formed of webbing or other suitable flexible material, which may be of a woven type with a reinforced body portion adapted to fit about the body. The front portion 11 of the belt A is considerably wider than the rear portion 12, so as to provide a wider portion extending over the abdomen. The rear portion 12 may be provided with lacing 13 and an overlapping flap 14 on the inside which protects the body from the lacing. This lacing permits the belt to be adjusted within certain limits to different sizes, so as to fit the abdomen.

The belt A is in a band-like formation so as to extend about the body of the wearer and by shaping the same with the wider portion 11 at the front and the narrower portion 12 at the back, the belt A will fit around the body with the narrow portion over the small of the back, and the wider portion held in position over the abdomen. It is desirable to form the belt A in a manner so that it may be used for the right or left side and usually the belts should be designated as for which side it is to be used. However, the colostomy may be positioned somewhat centrally of the abdomen and then the belt can be adjusted accordingly.

The body portion 10 of the belt may be formed of reinforced elastic material so that it will give to the shape of the body and will also be held snugly to the same when on the wearer and may have reinforcing portions along the edges with reinforcing portions 15 extending longitudinally with the formation of the belt. These reinforcing portions are not in any sense a rigid or stay portion, but are flexible as textile elastic material is made so as to fit closely to the body.

The belt A is provided with ends 16 and 17 which are adapted to be held by suitable fasteners 18 to close the belt over the abdomen. The fasteners 18 may be of any suitable nature, such as snap fasteners, and are anchored in the reinforced ends 16 and 17.

The colostomy belt A is provided with a fecal pocket B, made of pure, thin rubber sheathing, or other suitable material, which is formed of a similar shape as one side of the front of the body 10 of the belt A and is sufficiently loose to stretch

to fit the body of the wearer when the belt A is on the body. The pocket B is provided with marginal reinforcing strips 19 to provide a marginal binding for the rubber sheathing 20 to make the pocket B with a marginal reinforced edge which is of a flat nature so as to lie flat with the body portion of the belt A. The marginal reinforcing of the pocket B may extend entirely about the pocket and the thickness of these strips is just sufficient to provide a shoulder-like portion 21 extending marginally around the entire pocket B or along the longitudinal edges of the pocket. This performs the important function of providing a slight offset along the edge of the pocket when the same is worn against the abdomen, so that no leakage or seepage will take place in wearing the colostomy belt A over the colostomy. This is important because the nature of this structure of the pocket B provides a means of forming a colostomy belt of a very desirable nature having all of the advantages of fitting closely to the body and not being bulky or uncomfortable to wear. In fact, I have found that the wearers of my belts find them to be so comfortable that they hardly realize that they have them on after they have worn them for a short time.

The pocket B may be provided with attaching tongues 22 which are provided with snap fasteners 23. These fasteners 23 are adapted to engage complementary fastening means carried by the body 10 of the belt, properly positioned to permit the pocket B to be detachably secured to the body 10 of the belt A. The pocket B can also be secured in the manner illustrated in Figure 6, by means of suitable lacing 24 extending through openings 25 formed in the marginal edge of the body 10 where the pocket B fits and in the marginal reinforced edge 19 of the pocket B.

In this manner I provide a colostomy belt A wherein the water proof portion of the belt which forms the pocket B may be readily removed or replaced and yet having a flat thin nature, fitting closely to the body and providing a means of protecting the wearer over the colostomy so that the greatest comfort may be afforded to the wearer under these conditions. The pocket B may expand centrally thereof, to provide a receiving means for fecal matter, and the fact that the body 10 of the belt A is of an elastic material permits the same to expand at the desired point or centrally of the pocket B. The remainder of the belt lies flat and firm to the body in a very desirable manner.

In accordance with the patent statutes I have described the principles of my colostomy belt and while I have illustrated a particular form and construction thereof, I desire to have it understood that the same is only illustrative of the best embodiment and that the invention should be interpreted within the scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. A colostomy belt including, a band-like body portion, having means for closing the same over the abdomen of the wearer, a narrow rear portion adapted to fit over the small of the back, the body of said belt having an elastic expandable nature, a detachable moisture proof sheet-like pocket extending over a portion of the inner face

of said belt, having marginal reinforcing slightly less flexible than said belt body thereabout to provide a colostomy pocket therein and means loosely connecting said pocket to said belt.

2. A colostomy belt including, a band-like body portion having a narrow portion at the rear and a wider abdominal portion in the front, means for securing the ends of said belt together, a removable colostomy rubber sheet-like pocket supported entirely extending over the inner surface of said belt and foldable attaching means on said pocket for securing said pocket to said body portion.

3. A colostomy belt including, a band-like body portion, a removable moisture proof colostomy pocket held extending over a portion of the inner surface of said belt, and means loosely connecting said pocket to said belt the central portion of said pocket and the body of said belt being formed of an elastic material and a less flexible edge formed on said pocket.

4. A colostomy belt comprising, an abdominal band-like body, a flexible removable moisture proof sheet-like colostomy pocket, means for supporting the same, and less flexible marginal reinforcing means extending about said pocket to strengthen and to provide a shoulder about the margin of said pocket.

5. A colostomy belt adapted to lie flat over the abdomen of the wearer having a band-like body portion formed of elastic material, a sheet-like elastic colostomy pocket formed of moisture-proof material, means for loosely supporting said pocket removable to the inner surface of said body, and marginal reinforcing means extending about said pocket having an elastic nature with a greater resistance against stretching than the sheet-like body of said pocket to permit the body of said pocket to expand freely while the margin will expand only under greater force, thereby providing a colostomy pocket lying normally flat within said body of said belt.

6. A colostomy belt including, a band-like body portion, and a flat flexible resilient water proof removable colostomy pocket carried by said belt.

7. A colostomy belt including, a band-like body adapted to encircle the body of the wearer, means for adjusting the length of said body, means for detachably securing the ends thereof separate from said adjusting means, a detachable moisture proof flexible sheet-like colostomy pocket adapted to lie normally flat with said body secured to overlie a portion of the inner surface of said body and means on said pocket securable to the outer side of said body for holding said pocket to said body.

8. A colostomy belt having a nature to lie normally flat against the abdomen of the wearer, a removable moisture proof sheet-like colostomy pocket extending entirely on the inner surface of said belt and having a marginal reinforcing extending around the same of a flat nature and providing a marginal shoulder to prevent seepage out of said pocket and means on said pocket securable to the outer side of said body for holding said pocket to said body.

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