Feb. 23, 1932. C. M. COFFMAN 1,846,846

CARRYING STRAP OR HARNESS

Filed July 27, 1929

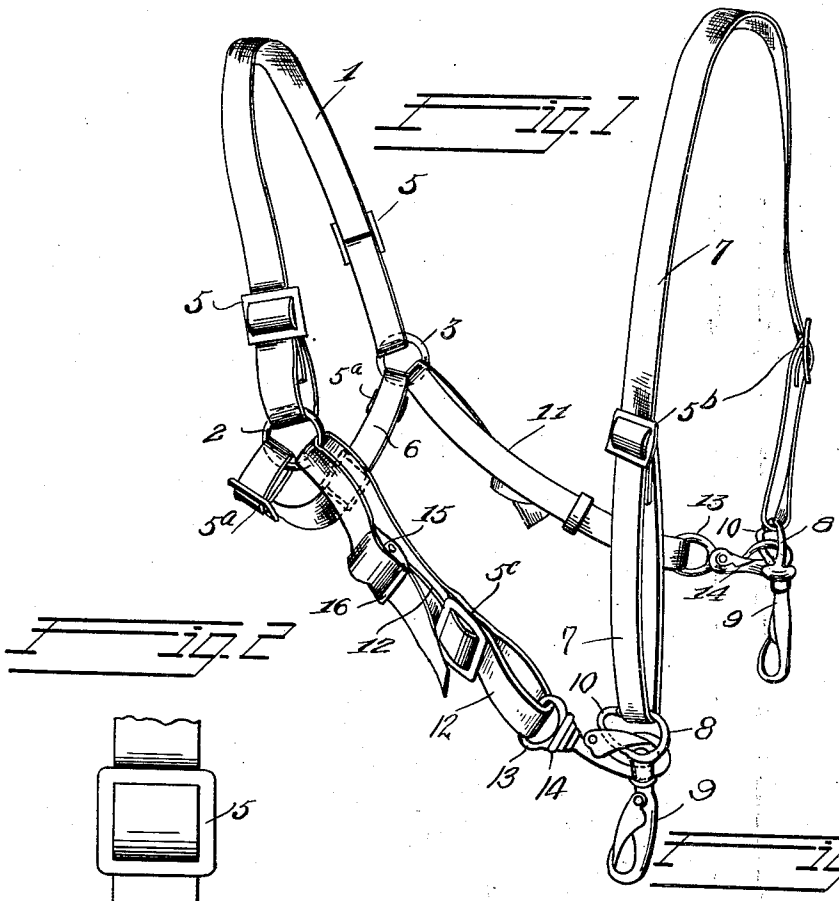


Fig. 1

Fig. 2

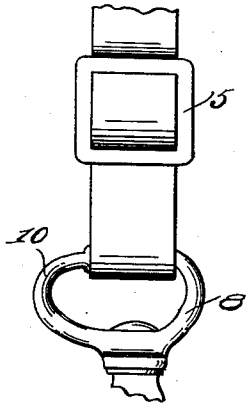
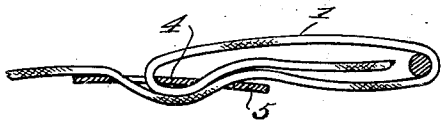


Fig. 3



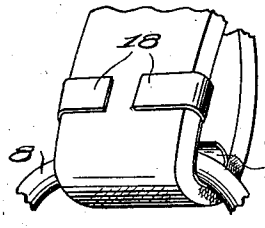


Fig. 4

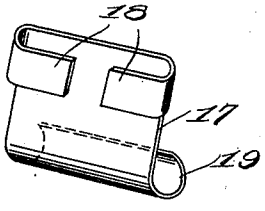


Fig. 5

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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CARRYING STRAP OR HARNESS

Application filed July 27, 1929. Serial No. 381,570.

This invention relates to improvements in carrying straps or harnesses designed for use by persons whose duties require that they carry heavy bags or the like, it being particularly adapted for the use of mailmen, newsboys, etc.

The primary object of this invention is to provide a shoulder harness which is designed to distribute the weight of the carried body evenly on the shoulders of the carrier and to support a bag at one side of the body in such a position that easy access may be had thereto.

A further object of the invention is to provide a carrying strap which is so constructed as to prevent strain or pressure upon the neck or collar of the wearer.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a harness of the above described character which may be easily and quickly adjusted to suit the size and height of the wearer and when once adjusted may be readily removed or placed in position without disturbing the adjustment for size.

The invention will be best understood from a consideration of the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings forming a part of the present invention with the understanding, however, that the invention is not confined to any strict conformity with the showing of the drawings but may be changed or modified so long as such changes or modifications mark no material departure from the salient features of the invention as expressed in the appended claim.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a view in perspective showing a harness constructed in accordance with an embodiment of my invention.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary view in elevation of one of the eyes or loops as herein embodied and the parts directly associated therewith.

Figure 3 is a view partly in section and partly in elevation of one of the slip buckles and associated shoulder straps as herein embodied.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary view in perspective illustrating in detail one of the wear plates as herein embodied.

Figure 5 is a view in perspective of the wear plate as embodied in Figure 4 showing the same unapplied.

Referring more particularly to the drawings wherein like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views, the numeral 1 indicates a shoulder strap designed to be placed over the left shoulder of the wearer when the harness is to be employed for supporting a bag upon the right side. This strap has its ends passed through metal rings 2 and 3 and these ends are turned back and frictionally held in engagement with the body portion of the strap by passing between the spaced bars 4 of a slip buckle, indicated as a whole by the numeral 5.

Connecting the rings 2 and 3 is a short side strap 6 each of the ends of which loops about a ring and is adjustably held to the body of the strap by one such buckle as described in connection with the strap 1, these buckles here being indicated by the numerals 5^a.

Associated with the left shoulder strap is a strap 7 designed for use over the opposite or right shoulder. This strap 7 has each of its ends looped about the eye or loop 8 of a snap fastener 9 and one side of the loop 8 of each of these snap fasteners is extended slightly, as indicated at 10 and is designed to be directed toward the left side of the wearer to receive a snap fastener of an adjacent strap in the manner about to be described.

The ends of the strap 7 after passing through the loops 8 are secured to the main body of the strap by the slip buckles 5^b which are of the same type as the buckles 5.

Adapted to extend across the chest and back of the wearer of the harness are the front and back straps 11 and 12 respectively. Each of these straps has one end adjustably engaged through the eye 13 of a snap buckle 14, the end of the strap after passing through the eye being secured to the adjacent portion of the body thereof by a slip buckle 5^c. This end of each of the straps 11 and 12 is formed to provide an additional loop 15 through which is engaged the center bar of a clasp buckle 16, this clasp buckle being designed to receive the other end of the strap after the same has been extended through the adjacent one of the rings to which the straps 1 and

6 are connected. It will thus be seen that the front and back straps of the harness are doubled whereas the other straps are single.

The snap fasteners 14 of the front and back straps engage in the offsets 10 of the adjacent snap fasteners 9, in the manner shown, and the snaps 9 which form the terminals for the right shoulder strap 7 are employed for engaging the supporting ring of a mail or other type of bag.

In order to prevent undue wear upon the loops formed at the various strap ends there is provided a special type of wear plate which is here indicated as a whole by the numeral 17. This plate is designed to position within each of the loops and is provided at each side edge with an ear 18 which is turned back across the opposite face of the strap in the manner shown in Figure 4. The bottom edge of the plate is rolled, as indicated at 19, and this rolled portion has passed therethrough the adjacent ring or the adjacent loop of a snap fastener.

It will thus be seen that any strain placed upon the loops will be evenly distributed thereacross and actual contact of the ring and snap fastener loop will not be had with the strap so that wear will not result from the movement of the ring through the strap loop.

From the foregoing description it will be readily seen that with the present supporting strap or harness when a load is attached to the ends of the right shoulder strap 7 the weight thereof will be more or less evenly distributed between the shoulders of the wearer and the positions of the shoulder straps will not be altered to place strain upon the neck of the wearer. It will also be readily seen that as the load carried by the wearer of the strap is lightened so that the right strap alone might be employed if desired for supporting it the snaps 14 may be disengaged from the loops of the snaps 9 and the left shoulder, left side and front and back straps removed and only the right shoulder strap employed.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:—

A body harness of the character described, comprising right and left shoulder straps each having each end turned back to form a loop and adjustably secured by a slip buckle, a ring engaging each loop of one of said shoulder straps, a snap fastener engaging in each loop of the other shoulder strap and designed to engage a body to be carried, a side strap having each end turned back to form a loop and secured by a slip buckle and further having each of said loops engaged by one of said rings, front and back straps each having one end turned to form a loop, a snap fastener engaging the loop of each of the last mentioned straps and designed to engage an adjacent one of the first mentioned snap fasteners, said front and back straps each having its other end extended through an adjacent one of said rings, and a clasp buckle carried by each of the front and back straps for adjustably holding the said other end thereof.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

CHARLES M. COFFMAN