Aug. 26, 1941. L. L. SHERWOOD 2,253,816

BELT AND BUCKLE

Filed June 22, 1940

FIG. 1.

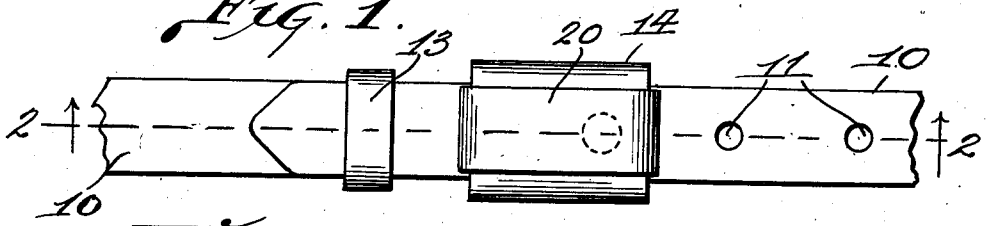


FIG. 2.

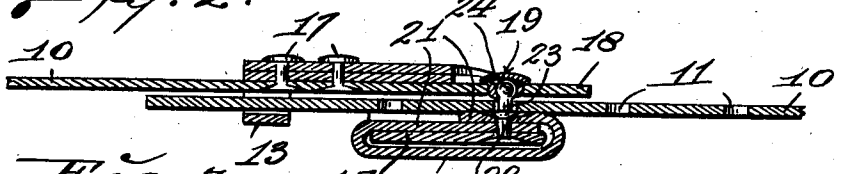


FIG. 3.

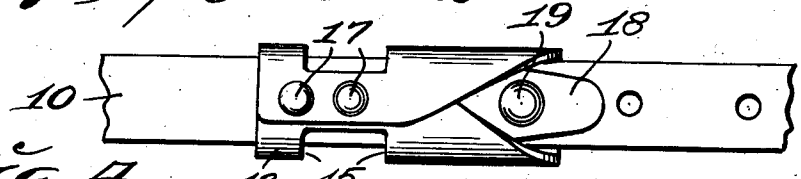


FIG. 4.

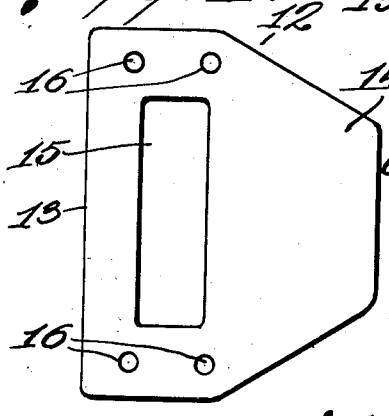


FIG. 5.

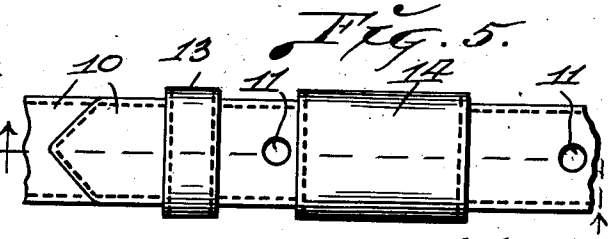


FIG. 6.

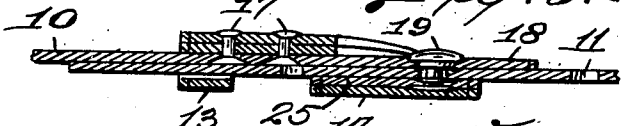


FIG. 8.

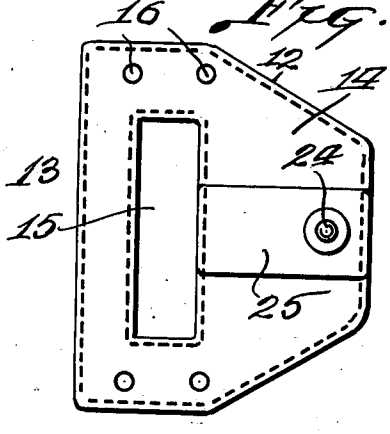
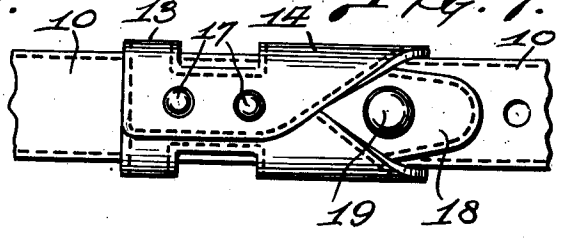


FIG. 7.



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BELT AND BUCKLE

Lester L. Sherwood, Los Angeles, Calif.

Application June 22, 1940, Serial No. 341,859

11 Claims. (Cl. 24—163)

My invention relates to a combined belt and buckle and has for its principal object, the provision of a buckle that is composed wholly of leather or analogous material, thus eliminating the metal buckles that are ordinarily associated with leather belts and providing a buckle that harmonizes with the belt and combines therewith to present a neat, finished and pleasing appearance.

A further object of my invention is, to provide a belt buckle composed wholly of leather or analogous flexible material and to mount on said buckle and upon the end of the belt that passes through said buckle, simple and efficient cooperating means, for instance, the stud and socket members of a conventional snap fastener for detachably connecting the ends of the belt when the same is positioned upon the wearer.

A further object of my invention is, to construct the belt buckle wholly from leather or other flexible material, thereby eliminating the possibility of discomfort to the wearer as a result of the use of a rigid buckle constructed from metal or the like.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, my invention consists in certain novel features of construction and arrangement of parts that will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is a front elevational view of the end portions of a belt that is equipped with a flexible buckle constructed in accordance with my invention.

Fig. 2 is a horizontal section taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is an elevational view looking against the inner faces of the end portions of the belt and the buckle carried thereby.

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the piece of leather or like material utilized in the construction of the flexible buckle and showing the same as it appears before being folded and applied to the belt to produce the buckle.

Fig. 5 is a front elevational view of the end portions of a belt and showing a modified form of the buckle in position thereupon.

Fig. 6 is a horizontal section taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5.

Fig. 7 is an elevational view looking against the inner faces of the end portions of a belt and showing the modified form of the buckle attached thereto.

Fig. 8 is a plan view of the piece of material utilized in the construction of the modified form of flexible buckle.

Referring by numerals to the accompanying drawing and particularly to the construction illustrated in Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive, 10 designates a belt composed of leather or analogous flexible material and formed in the end portion of said belt opposite the end that carries the buckle is a series of spaced apertures 11 that are adapted to receive a part of the fastening means carried by the flexible buckle.

The body of the buckle which is formed in a single piece from leather or the like and which is illustrated in blank form in Fig. 4, has the form of an irregular hexagon. This body which is designated generally by the numeral 12 has a wide portion 13 and a narrower portion 14 that gradually tapers in width toward its outer edge.

Formed in the wide portion 13 of the buckle body is a transversely disposed opening 15 and formed in the end portions of the wide portion 13 beyond the ends of the opening 15 are apertures 16 for the reception of rivets 17 or like fastening means that secures the buckle to the belt.

In applying the buckle to the belt, the ends of the wide portion 13 of the buckle or those portions having the apertures 16 are brought together with one portion overlying the other and with one end portion of the belt passing through the buckle which now has the form of a loop, with said belt lying immediately against the under face of the underlying end portion of the buckle having the apertures 16. Rivets or like fastening devices 17 are now inserted through the coinciding apertures 16 and through apertures formed in the belt which coincide with said apertures and after said rivets have been "set," the buckle is permanently secured to the belt.

The tapered narrow portion 14 of the buckle provides the loop through which the perforated end of the belt is passed when the belt is applied for use and that portion of the wide member 13 of the buckle to the side of the opening 15 functions as a retaining loop for that end of the belt that projects through and beyond the loop that is formed by the narrow portion 14 of the buckle.

In applying the buckle to the end of the belt strap, the parts are disposed so that a short portion of the end of the belt and which is designated by the numeral 18 projects slightly beyond the narrow end portion 14 of the buckle, such extension forming a tab that may be readily manipulated for the convenient disengagement of the parts that detachably secure the

perforated end of the belt to the buckle, and seated in this tab portion 18 is the socket member 19 of a conventional snap fastener.

The intermediate portion 20 of a narrow strap of leather or the like is disposed longitudinally and overlies the intermediate portion of the narrow end portion 14 of the buckle and the end portions 21 of this strap are positioned beneath the portion 14 of the buckle and overlap each other.

Seated in these overlapping portions 21 and in the portion 14 of the buckle is the base portion of a rivet 22, the same having a short shank portion 23 that projects beyond the overlying one of the overlapping portions 21 and formed on the end of this shank is a head 24 that is adapted to enter the socket 19. Thus the shank 23 and its head 24 form the stud portion of a conventional snap fastener.

When the ends of the belt strap are to be connected, the end of the belt having the apertures 11 is inserted through the looped portion 14 of the buckle between the tab 18 that carries the socket 19 and the stud comprising the shank 23 and head 24, and after the belt has been adjusted to the convenience of the wearer, the perforated end of the belt and the buckle are manipulated so that the stud passes through one of the apertures 11 with the head 24 of the stud projecting inwardly from the inner face of the perforated end portion of the belt. Tab 18 is now manipulated to bring the socket 19 into position directly over the head 24 and by slight pressure exerted upon the socket and upon that portion of the buckle bearing the stud, the head 24 snaps into the socket, thus providing a convenient and readily detachable connection between the ends of the belt.

That portion of the perforated end of the belt that projects through the loop of the buckle formed by the part 14 passes beneath the keeper or retaining member formed by the portion 13 of the buckle that lies in front of the end of the belt strap to which the buckle is secured.

In the form of belt and buckle heretofore described, the intermediate portion of strap 20 overlies and thereby hides from view the disc that is formed on the outer end of rivet 22 and thus, the belt and its buckle when positioned upon the wearer presents a neat, finished and attractive, all-leather appearance.

In the modification illustrated in Figs. 5 to 8 inclusive, the construction of the leather buckle and belt strap are practically identical with the construction illustrated in Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive, but in the modified form the narrow strap 20 that passes around and which is secured to the portion 14 of the buckle, is eliminated.

In order to secure the base portion of the shank that carries the head 24 to the portion 14 of the buckle, a narrow strap 25 of leather or the like has its ends secured to the intermediate portion of member 14 of the buckle on the inner face thereof, and riveted to this member 25 is the base portion of the shank that carries the head 24 and thus, the stud portion of the snap fastener is entirely concealed when the buckle is viewed from in front.

The shank of the stud that carries head 24 passes through the strap 25, through one of the apertures 11 in the belt strap, and the head of said stud is adapted to enter the socket 19 carried by the end of the belt strap that functions as the tab 18.

In the modified construction illustrated in Figs. 5 to 8 inclusive, the buckle and strap are shown with stitched edges and which construction is provided in order to add to the attractive appearance of the belt.

Thus it will be seen that I have provided a belt and buckle that is simple in construction and which may be properly termed an all-leather belt and buckle by reason of the fact that the belt and buckle per se are composed wholly of leather or analogous flexible material and the only metal parts used are the rivets and the two parts of the snap fastener, all of which metal parts are concealed from view when the belt is in service.

It will be understood that minor changes in the size, form and construction of the various parts of my improved belt and buckle, may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described, without departing from the spirit of my invention, the scope of which is set forth in the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. An apparel belt comprising a strap provided in one end portion with a row of apertures, a buckle formed from a single piece of flexible material that is folded to form a flat loop which is transversely disposed upon and encircles said strap, the inner portion of which loop is secured to the end of the belt strap opposite the end provided with the row of apertures and cooperating means carried by the end of the strap on which the buckle is mounted and said buckle, for detachably securing said buckle to the perforated end portion of the strap, with a part of the securing means extending through one of the perforations in said strap.

2. An apparel belt as set forth in claim 1 and with means carried by the front portion of the buckle for covering the end of the fastening member that is seated in said buckle.

3. An apparel belt comprising a strap provided in one end portion with a row of spaced apertures, a combined buckle and keeper formed from a single piece of flexible material secured to the other end of the belt strap and cooperating means carried by said flexible buckle and the end of the belt strap to which said buckle is secured for engaging the end of the strap that is provided with the row of apertures.

4. An apparel belt comprising a belt strap provided adjacent one end with an aperture, a loop of flexible material secured to the other end of said belt strap and cooperating means carried by said loop and the end of the belt strap to which said loop is connected for detachably connecting the ends of the belt strap, a portion of which cooperating means passes through the aperture in said belt strap.

5. An apparel belt as set forth in claim 4 and with a keeper formed integral with said flexible loop for receiving the end of the belt strap that passes through said loop.

6. An apparel belt as set forth in claim 4 and with means secured to said flexible loop for covering a portion of the fastening means that is seated in said loop.

7. In an apparel belt, a buckle formed from a single piece of flexible material and comprising a loop forming portion and a belt strap keeper portion and means for securing said flexible buckle to a belt strap.

8. An apparel belt as set forth in claim 7 and with cooperating means carried by said flexible buckle and the end of the strap to which said buckle is secured for receiving and securing the other end of said belt strap.

9. In an apparel belt, a belt buckle formed from a single piece of flexible material and comprising a loop portion and a keeper portion, there being an opening formed in the piece of material between said loop and keeper portions and means for securing opposite portions of said section of material to each other.

10. In an apparel belt, a belt buckle formed from a single piece of flexible material in which is formed an opening and, opposite sides of which piece of material at the ends of said opening are folded inwardly and secured to each other so as to provide a belt strap receiving loop and a belt strap keeper.

11. In an apparel belt, a buckle formed from a single piece of flexible material in which is formed a transversely disposed opening, the sides of the piece of material adjacent the ends of said opening being folded together and secured to each other so as to form a belt strap receiving loop and a belt strap keeper, a loop of flexible material passing lengthwise around the central portion of the belt strap receiving loop and a stud securing the ends of said second mentioned loop to each other and to the belt strap receiving loop.

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