Dec. 6, 1960 J. K. WEHRLI 2,962,726

NOVELTY ARM AND LEG BAND

Filed May 6, 1957

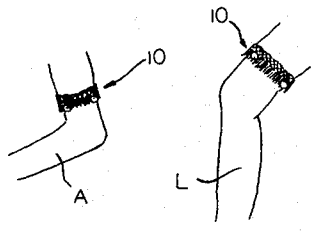


Fig. 2

Fig. 3

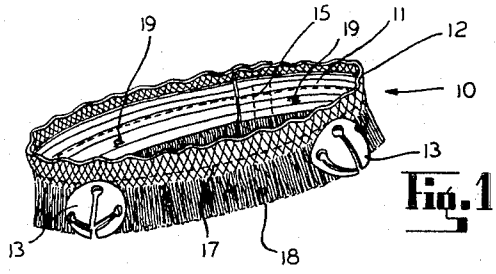


Fig. 1

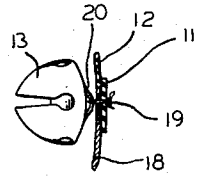


Fig. 7

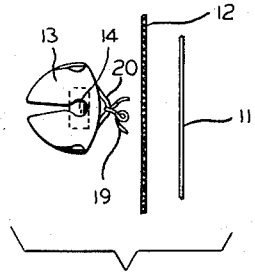


Fig. 4

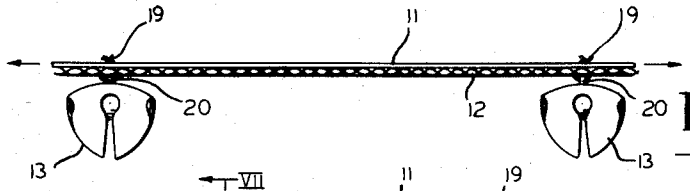


Fig. 5

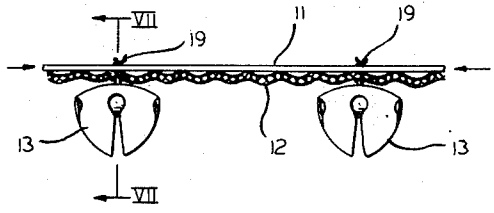


Fig. 6

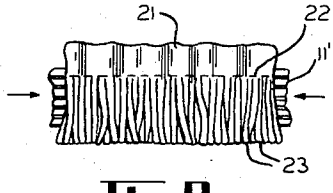


Fig. 8

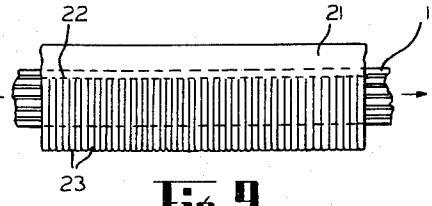


Fig. 9

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NOVELTY ARM AND LEG BAND

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The present invention relates to novelty arm or leg bands and more particularly concerns combination ornamental and sound producing devices of this kind.

It is well known that children are fond of sound-producing toys, especially of the type that emanate tinkling, bell-like, pleasant sounding tones. They also like to create more or less musical sounds. Bells hold a special fascination for them.

In practicing certain rhythmic movements such as in dances of various sorts, especially of the group, ceremonial, or like type, some sort of sounding medium is desirable for sensory coordination of effort or timing, as also on occasion to afford entertainment value.

Attractive to children, moreover, as articles of adornment are small bells or devices carrying such bells or productive of bell-like sounds.

An important object of the present invention, therefore, is to provide a device of sound producing character adapted to be worn on the person and more particularly on and about an arm or leg in order to result in predetermined sounds incident to movement of the arm or leg to which applied.

Another object of the invention is to provide a bell-carrying arm or leg band.

A further object of the invention is to provide a sound producing arm or leg band which is easily applied or removed and is self-retaining.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a bell-carrying arm or leg band especially suitable for use by juveniles.

Yet another object of the invention is to provide as an article of adornment an elastic arm or leg band which is ornamental as well as sound-producing.

Other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will be apparent from the following detailed description of certain preferred embodiments thereof taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an arm or leg band embodying features of the invention;

Figure 2 is a more or less schematic view showing how the device is adapted to be worn on a person's arm;

Figure 3 shows how the device may be worn on a person's leg;

Figure 4 is a fragmentary exploded assembly view of various parts utilized in the arm or leg band assembly;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary top plan view of a portion of the arm or leg band demonstrating the elasticity of the assembly and the relationship of elements when stretched to about its elastic limit;

Figure 6 is a similar fragmentary top plan view but showing the assembly in a relaxed or contracted condition;

Figure 7 is a fragmentary vertical sectional detail view taken substantially on the line VII—VII of Figure 6;

Figure 8 is a fragmentary outer side elevational view of a modified construction of arm or leg band in relaxed condition; and

Figure 9 is an outer side elevational view similar to Figure 8 but showing the relationship of the components of the modified arm or leg band in stretched condition.

An arm or leg band **10** as shown in Figure 1 is constructed and arranged to be applied on and about a person's arm A as in Figure 2, or upon or about a person's leg L as in Figure 3. Although there is a wide choice as to just how the device is to be worn on the arm or leg, in a preferred manner of application it may be worn above the elbow on the arm and above the knee on the leg. The device may, however, be worn as a wristlet or as an anklet, if desired.

In a desirable construction of the band **10** an annular elastic member **11** carries on its outer perimeter a decorative trim **12**, and over the trim and anchored to the elastic member is a series of peripherally spaced sound producing members such as small bells **13** which may conveniently be of the minature sleigh bell type providing a slotted hollow container within which is carried a loose clapper or percussion piece **14**, in each instance (Fig. 4). The construction and relationship of the parts is such that the band can be stretched substantially in order to be easily applied to the selected limb of the wearer and will then contract to fit about the limb with sufficient tension to hold its position.

While the elastic annulus **11** may be constructed as a continuous or unbroken elastic ring, excellent results have been obtained by making the annulus **11** from strip elastic webbing wherein a longitudinally yieldable fabric webbing body carries therein a plurality of longitudinally extending elastic strands of rubber or rubber-like material. A particular advantage of using such elastic strip webbing for the body annulus **11** of the ring resides in the ease with which rings of different sizes can be produced simply by cutting predetermined lengths of the strip material as supplied in mill lengths, reels or rolls and then securing the opposite ends together as for example by means of stitching **15** across the overlapped ends.

With respect to the decorative trim **12** various materials may be used, but preferably in strip form for convenience in handling and attachment to the body annulus **11**. A knit or crocheted type of decorative strip material is desirable having longitudinal stretchability and which may be possessed of resilience or elasticity but not necessarily so since it is carried upon the elastic body annulus **11**. In a knitted or crocheted strip, the trim **12** may comprise natural or synthetic fiber yarn or thread of any preferred ornamental color or combination of colors. In the form shown in Figure 1, the decorative trim strip **12** includes a body portion coextensive with the strip from which the annulus **11** is made and secured thereto in suitable manner as by means of a longitudinal line of stitching **17**. In this instance, the trim strip **12** has extending from one side a series of fringe extensions **18** which may project beyond the lower edge of the body annulus **11** while the opposite or upper margin of the decorative trim strip **12** extends beyond the upper edge of the annulus **11**.

A desirable ornamental effect of the trim strip **12** is obtained by sewing the same onto the elastic carrying body annulus **11** while both strips are in linear condition and with the elastic strip at least slightly stretched so that when the stretching tension is released the material of the decorative trim strip **12** will be puckered or slightly crowded to give a full-bodied, dense attractive appearance. Another advantage resides in that the band or ring **10** can be stretched to a substantial extent or increased diameter without straining or damaging the ornamental trim **12**.

In applying the ornamental trim strip **12** to the body or backing elastic strip **11**, the body strip may be stretched

as shown in Figure 5 and the trim strip 12 applied flat thereagainst and the stitching 17 then effected on a sewing machine. When the elastic supporting body member 11 is then relaxed and allowed to contract to its normal condition as shown in Figure 6, the attachment stitches 17 are, of course, also drawn together or cramped into reduced length to thereby draw the trim strip 12 into uniformly puckered condition as shown in Figure 6. By virtue of the crowding together of the stitches 17 in the relaxed condition of the backing or body member 11, strain upon the stitches is avoided when the ring or band 10 is stretched even to a substantial extent.

Preferably after the ornamental trim 12 has been secured to the elastic body strip 11, attachment of the bells 13 is effected. While this may be effected by some sort of staple or other bendable device or anchoring medium, satisfactory results have been attained by means of string or cord or thread loops 19 (Figs. 1, 4 and 7) looped through integral attachment eye loops 20 on the backs of the respective bells and passing through the ornamental trim strip 12 and the body elastic strip 11 and anchored thereto. Through this arrangement, the bells 13 appear to be carried by the ornamental trim 12 but are actually supported by the generally more durable and form sustaining elastic body member 11 and serve to assist in holding the trim 12 in place. There may be as many of the bells 13 as preferred, in the form shown in Figure 1 there being four of the bells equidistantly spaced about the perimeter.

In Figures 8 and 9 is shown a modification wherein an elastic body or backing and supporting strip 11' has attached thereto in suitable manner a decorative trim strip 21 by means such as stitching 22. In this instance the trim strip 21 comprises a suitable thin material of more or less solid web form such as paper, crepe paper, rubber, rubber substitute, pliable plastic, or like strip provided with a solid body portion that is stitched to the backing elastic member 11' and may if preferred be subdivided by partial transverse slitting through the lower margin into a continuous series of fringes 23.

As shown in Figure 9, the trim strip 21 may be attached by sewing to the elastic supporting body strip 11' while the latter is stretched as indicated by the directional arrows so that when the body strip 11' is relaxed to contract as shown by the directional arrows in Figure 8, the ornamental trim strip 21 will be uniformly buckled or crowded, into more or less shirred appearance similarly as in Figures 1 and 6. Sound producing devices such as bells similar to the bells 13 may be applied to the assembly of backing elastic strip 11' and ornamental trim 21 in any preferred number or location. Moreover, the assembly may be made in a more or less continuous strip and then severed into suitable lengths and the ends overlapped and secured together similarly as described in connection with Figure 1.

It will be understood that modifications and variations may be effected without departing from the scope of the novel concepts of the present invention.

I claim as my invention:

1. In an ornamental and sound producing elastic arm and leg band, a strip of longitudinally stretchable elastic material providing a closed circle body structure of predetermined perimeter for the band, the outer face of the band having ornamental material thereon, a bell having sound producing means therein and a base portion with an integral loop projecting rearwardly, and a connecting loop secured to said elastic body structure of the band through said ornamental material and looped through said bell loop and thereby securing the bell to the band in superimposed relation to said ornamental material, said ornamental material comprising a longitudinally extensible body strip secured adjacent to one margin of the elastic body structure of the band and projecting beyond such margin and having a series of closely related fringes projecting across the remainder of the elastic body structure of the band and extending at their ends beyond the opposite margin of the band.

2. In an ornamental and sound producing elastic arm and leg band as defined in claim 1, said ornamental material comprising a knitted or crocheted strip secured by sewing the same onto the body structure of the band in a puckered or slightly crowded condition to afford extensibility for the body strip of the ornamental material.

3. In an ornamental and sound producing elastic arm and leg band as defined in claim 1, said ornamental material comprising a more or less solid web form in the body strip thereof and with the fringes comprising partial transverse slitting through a marginal portion of the web.

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