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H. L. SEEGAL

2,398,258

GARMENT CONSTRUCTION

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Fig. 1.

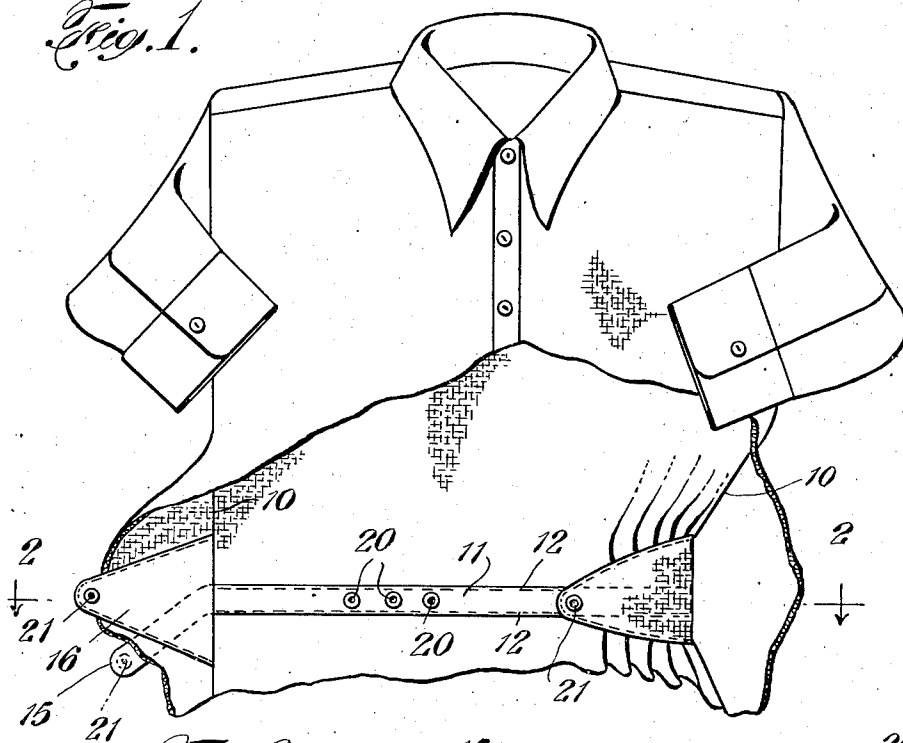


Fig. 2.

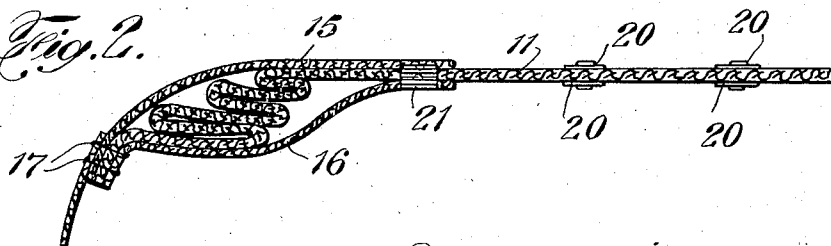
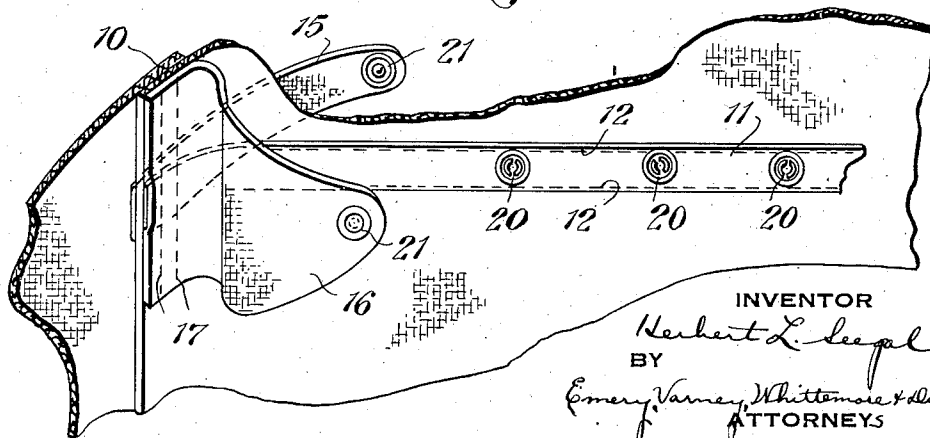


Fig. 3.



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GARMENT CONSTRUCTION

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6 Claims. (Cl. 2—115)

This invention relates to wearing apparel and more particularly to body garments such as shirts with means for controlling the fullness at the waist portion of the garment.

In the manufacture of men's shirts the size of the collar and the length of the sleeves are the controlling measurements. Some men who require a 34 inch sleeve and a size 15 neckband have a large waist measure and others have a small waist. A stock shirt must be large enough to accommodate the heavier man. On a man of normal waist measure, or on thinner men, such a shirt has excessive fullness through the body. Among military men, for example, where special attention is given to neatness of uniforms, some men have their shirts cut down at extra expense to smaller waist measure, and others gather the fullness of the shirt to the sides and pin it or tuck it under their belts in order to obtain a snug fit and neat appearance for their shirts across the waist portion of the front of the shirt.

It is an object of this invention to provide an improved construction for obtaining a better body fit and neater appearance of ready-made shirts, particularly men's shirts, or similar garments. The invention includes fastening means located at the waist region for adjusting the fullness to limited locations at the back and sides of the garment. One feature of the invention relates to a construction for limiting the fullness in the waist portion of a shirt without creating uncomfortable lumps under the belt of the wearer.

Another feature of the invention relates to a combination of fastening means, and fabric elements to which the fastening means are attached, for obtaining adjustments of the waist measure of a shirt with advantageous distribution of the stresses, resulting in maximum strength and resistance to ripping or tearing of the garment. The preferred embodiment of the invention is so proportioned that the fastening means and fabric elements for gathering the fullness at the waist portion of the shirt are slightly below the belt line of the average wearer. This prevents the gathering elements from showing and improves the appearance of the shirt, particularly at the back.

It is another object of the invention to provide a shirt construction that has an adjustable waist that can be made without an excessive increase in the number of manufacturing operations required in the construction of the shirt.

The term "shirt" as used in this specification and in the claims is used in a broad sense to designate blouses, waists, and other garments in the

nature of a shirt for wear by both men and women.

Other objects, features and advantages of the invention will appear or be pointed out as the specification proceeds.

In the drawing, in which like reference characters indicate corresponding parts in all the views:

Figure 1 is an elevation, partly broken away, of a shirt having adjusting means embodying this invention.

Figure 2 is an enlarged sectional view across a part of the shirt, at the level of the section line 2—2, but showing the fullness of the shirt at the left hand side of Figure 1 gathered and confined between the tabs.

Figure 3 is an enlarged, fragmentary, perspective view showing the tabs, waist band and fastening means of the shirt shown in the other figures.

Figure 1 shows the invention applied to a man's shirt that has conventional side seams 10, and that has a waist band 11 extending across the back of the waist portion of the shirt between the side seams 10. The purpose of the waist band 11 is to impart additional strength to the material and the waist band is attached to the material of the shirt by a line of stitching 12 along both the upper and lower edges of the waist band. The ends of the waist band 11 extend into the side seams 10.

On the outside of the shirt there is a tab 15. On the inside of the shirt there is another tab 16. Each of these tabs is attached to the shirt by having one end of the tab extend into the side seam 10 so that it is attached to the shirt by the stitching 17 of the side seam 10. This construction reduces the number of operations necessary in manufacturing the shirt as compared with a construction in which the tabs 15 and 16 would be connected to the material of the shirt by a separate stitching operation. It is a feature of the invention that the tabs 15 and 16 are connected to the shirt along the side seam so that they pull against a portion of the shirt that is reinforced by the extra thickness of material along the seam, but the invention can be applied to shirts by attaching the tabs 15 and 16 at some other location which is provided with sufficient reinforcement.

There are fastening means for connecting the unattached or free ends of the tabs 15 and 16 to the waist band 11 at locations which are spaced along the waist band at such distance from the side seam 10 that various amounts of the fullness

of the waist portion of the shirt are gathered between the tabs 15 and 16, as shown in Figure 2, when the free end of the tabs are connected to the waist band.

In the preferred embodiment of the invention these fastening means comprise snap fasteners, such as commonly used on gloves, men's undershorts, etc. The fasteners 20 along the waist band 11 preferably comprise double snap-socket elements which extend through the material of the shirt and through the waist band 11, and have one socket opening toward the inside of the shirt and the other socket opening toward the outside of the shirt. Complementary snap fastener elements 21 are connected to the free or unattached ends of the tabs 15 and 16. It is more advantageous to have the socket portions of the snap fasteners in the waist band because the sockets are flatter than the complementary ball elements 21 and therefore make the back of the garment more comfortable.

The fastening devices 20 and 21 are merely representative of fastening means for connecting the ends of the tabs with the waist band at spaced regions along the waist band. Constructions in which fastening devices are connected with the tabs and extend through holes in the waist band at the same locations as the double sockets 20 may be used in place of the specific fasteners shown.

Both of the tabs 15 and 16 should be of the same effective length, the expression "effective length" being used to designate the distance from the fastening device 21 to the line along which the tab is connected with the shirt. The inside tab 16 is of generally triangular shape and is connected with the side seam 10 along the base portion of the triangle. The fastening device 21 is located adjacent the apex of the triangle.

Since this invention gathers the fullness of the shirt into a region under the belt of the wearer, the inside tab 16 must be of sufficient area to prevent the gathered material from pressing against the wearer as an uncomfortable lump. The greatest thickness and concentration of gathered material is between the top and bottom edges of the outside tab 15. Beyond these edges of the outside tab the gathered material spreads out both upwardly and downwardly. By having the inside tab 16 of sufficient vertical dimension so that it extends both above and below the outside tab 15, the pressure against the wearer's body is sufficiently distributed so that the gathered fullness between the tabs is not uncomfortable even though it is under a comparatively tight belt. Experience has shown that the height of the inside tab 16 should be at least two inches and preferably of the order of four inches. For the most advantageous distribution of pull on the inside tab, the effective length of this tab should be at least half as great as the width of the attached end of the tab and the effective length is preferably of the same order as the width of the attached edge.

The preferred embodiment of the invention has been described. Terms of orientation are, of course, relative. Some features of the invention can be used without others, and various modifications can be made in the illustrated embodiment without departing from the invention as defined in the claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. The combination with a shirt or the like, of means for localizing the fullness in the waist portion of the shirt, said means comprising a waist-

band secured to the material of the shirt across the back of said shirt, a tab attached at one end to the outside of the shirt at a location along the length of the waistband, another tab attached at its corresponding end to the inside of the shirt along the waistband at substantially the same location as the outside tab, and fastening means for holding the free ends of both tabs at any selected one of several fixed locations along the length of the waist band, said fixed locations being spaced from the attached ends of the tabs by distances along the waistband greater than the effective lengths of the tabs so that fullness of the waist portion of the shirt is gathered between the tabs when their free ends are fastened at any one of said fixed locations.

2. A shirt-like garment having a waist portion, and including a tab of generally triangular form with its base extending in an up-and-down direction and attached to the inside of the garment, and fastening means for connecting the apex end of the tab with the waist portion of the garment at a region spaced from the attached end of the tab by a distance, across the material of the garment, greater than the effective length of said tab so that fullness of the garment is localized behind the tab, said tab being correlated with the gathered fullness, to prevent said fullness from being felt as an uncomfortable lump against the wearer's body, the tab extending both above and below the region where the material is most closely gathered and the up-and-down length of the attached end of the tab being in excess of two inches and the length of the tab transverse of its attached end being at least as great as one half of the up-and-down length of the attached end.

3. A shirt including two tabs of equal effective length and attached to opposite sides of the material of the shirt along substantially the same vertical line at the waist portion of the shirt, and fastening means opposite each other for connecting the unattached ends of the tabs to the waist portion of the shirt at various locations at distances from the attached ends of the tabs, said distances, when measured along the material of the shirt being greater than the effective length of the tabs.

4. A shirt having a waist portion and including a tab attached to the outside of the waist portion along a vertically extending seam, another tab of generally triangular cross section attached along the base of the triangle to the inside of the shirt along substantially the same line as the outside tab, and fastening means for connecting the unattached ends of the tabs to the waist portion of the shirt at a location on the back of the shirt that gathers fullness of the waist portion between the tabs, the vertical dimension of the inner tab being sufficient to cover the gathered material for some distance above and below the outside tab.

5. A shirt including a waistband, a tab attached at one end to the inside of the shirt at a location along the line of the waistband, another tab attached at its corresponding end to the outside of the shirt at substantially the same location as the inside tab, and glove-type fastening means for securing the unattached ends of the tab to the waistband, said fastening means comprising an element connected to the waistband and having snap sockets on both the inside and outside of the shirt, and a complementary ball

element connected to each of the tabs for insertion into one of said snap sockets.

6. A shirt having a waist portion and side seams, and including a band attached to the waist portion across the back of the shirt between the side seams, a tab connected at one end to the outside of the shirt along one of the side seams, another tab of generally triangular shape connected along the base of the triangle to the inside of the shirt along the same portion of the side seam as the outside tab, a number of fastener elements in the waist band of the shirt at locations spaced along the waist band at distances from the side seam greater than the effective lengths of the tabs, each of said fastener elements comprising the snap socket portion of

5 a glove-type snap fastener and having sockets opening to both the inside and outside of the shirt, a fastener element at the unattached end of the outside tab, a similar fastener element at the corresponding end of the inside tab, the fastener elements on said tabs being equally spaced from the side seam of the shirt and each comprising the ball end of a snap fastener, and similar tabs and fastener elements on the back of the shirt and associated with the side seam on the other side of the shirt, the triangular inside tabs at both sides of the shirt being wide enough to cover gathered material between the tabs for a substantial distance above and below the out-
10 side tabs.
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