June 24, 1952 F. C. CHILDERS, SR 2,601,589

LINEMAN'S BELT

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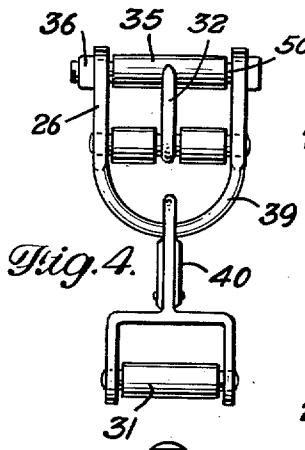


Fig. 4.

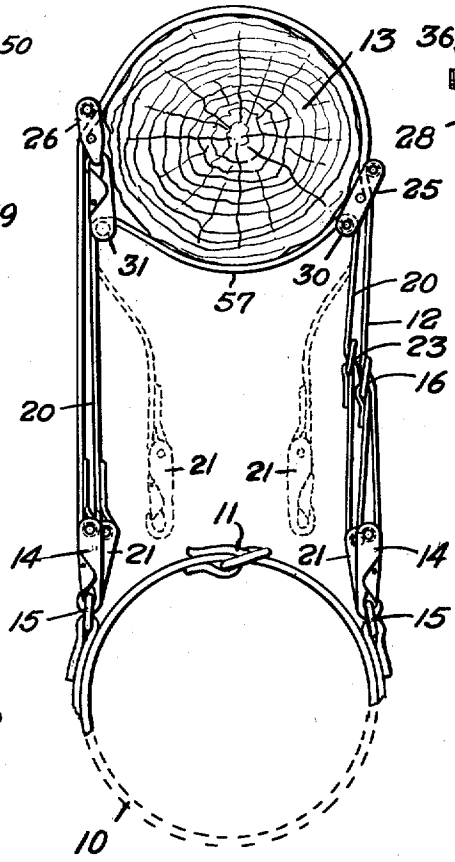


Fig. 1.

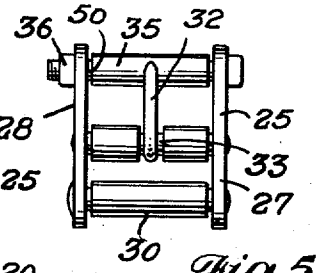


Fig. 5.

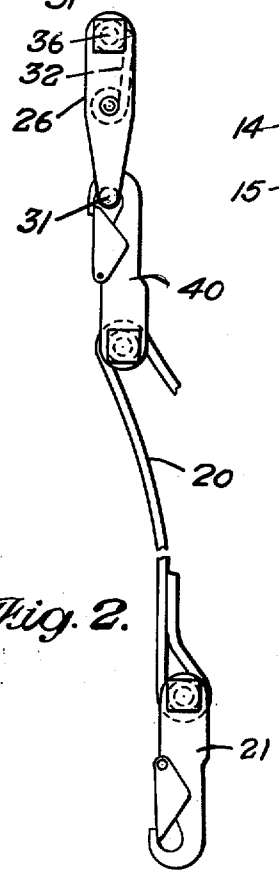


Fig. 2.

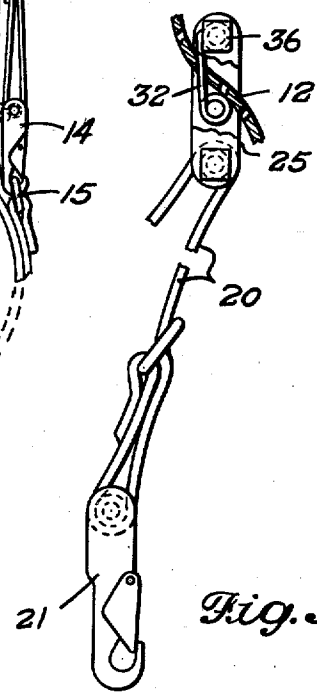


Fig. 3.

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LINEMAN'S BELT

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2 Claims. (Cl. 227—49)

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The invention relates to improvements in linemen's safety belts. The ordinary lineman's belt consists of a body belt to which is detachably secured, as by snaps or the like, an outer safety strap adapted to encircle the pole on the side of the pole away from the lineman. This is reasonably effective as long as the lineman is leaning outwardly against the belt, but should the tension on the belt be relaxed, as, for example, where a lineman comes in contact with a live wire, the safety belt is no longer effective. Various means have been proposed for overcoming this objection but none has been designed so far which has been successful in actual practice.

The object of the present invention is to provide a simple attachment for a lineman's safety belt which will automatically catch and bind the pole the instant any weight is placed upon the belt and thus will effectively prevent the lineman from falling in the event he comes in contact with a live wire.

This object is obtained in accordance with the present invention by providing an inside belt which is adapted to be snapped on to the body belt and which may be secured to the outer safety belt by means of buckles having tongues adapted to penetrate holes in the outer safety belt and hold the attachment in position, and also equipped with rollers which guide a portion of the inner belt so as to pass inside the pole; that is to say, on the same side of the pole as the lineman and on the opposite side of the pole from the outer reach of the outer belt.

The invention will be more readily understood by reference to the accompanying drawing and the following detailed description, in which are set forth an illustrative embodiment of the invention.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a plan view showing the improved safety belt illustrated as applied to a pole which is shown in horizontal section:

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary view on a larger scale than Fig. 1 of the left hand portion of the inner safety buckle, including the buckle for attachment to the outer belt, the pole engaging loop being partially broken away;

Fig. 3 is a similar view of the right hand portion of the inner safety belt;

Fig. 4 is a detail view of the attaching buckle and associated rollers of Fig. 2; and

Fig. 5 is a detail view of the attaching buckle and associated roller of Fig. 3.

My improved safety attachment is adapted

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to be secured to an ordinary lineman's belt which comprises a body belt portion **10** equipped with an adjusting buckle **11** and an outer safety belt portion **12** which is adapted to surround a pole or the like **13**. The outer safety belt is normally equipped with snaps **14** adapted to engage rings **15** carried by the body belt portion. The outer belt is also normally equipped with an adjusting bluckle **16** for regulating the length of the belt, which buckle is equipped with the usual tongue for engaging in holes in the belt **12**. These holes, in accordance with the present invention, extend through a substantial portion of the length of the outer belt so as to permit attachment of the auxiliary safety strap by means of buckles with which said safety strap is equipped, as will be more fully described.

The improved safety attachment comprises a strap **20** preferably of different width than the outer strap **12** so that it can be readily distinguished from the outer strap by feel. This inner strap is equipped with a pair of snap hooks **21**, **21** permitting attachment with the safety device to the rings **15** of the body belt portion **10**. The inner belt **20** is also preferably secured with an adjustable buckle **23** to vary the length of the belt as desired. The safety attachment is equipped with a pair of roller carrying buckles **25** and **26** for attachment to the outer safety belt **12**. These buckles include depending lower rollers **30** and **31**, respectively, over which a portion of the inner belt **20** passes to form a holding portion **57** adapted to engage the inner side of the pole and thus automatically grip the same the instant any weight is applied to the belt, thereby preventing the lineman from falling.

The buckles **25** and **26** are of special construction to permit ready attachment to the outer safety belt and also to provide roller supports for the inner and outer belts. As shown, the buckle **25** includes side pieces **27** and **28** and is provided with a central tongue **32** mounted for oscillation on a pivot pin **33** and adapted to engage a hole in the outer belt to hold the buckle and the auxiliary safety attachment in adjusted position with reference to the outer belt. The buckle is also provided with a removable upper roller **35** mounted on a central pin **50** detachably secured within the frame members by means of a nut **36**, which roller **35** overlies the outer belt **12** as indicated in Fig. 1.

Similarly, the buckle **26** is provided with a tongue **32** for engagement with a hole in the outer belt and also includes a removable roller

35 mounted on a pin 50 secured by a nut 36. As shown, the frame 39 of the buckle 26 is U-shaped and the lower roller 31 is attached thereto by means of a hook 40 which snaps over the roller 31.

The belt with the improved safety attachment can be put on on the ground and used as the lineman ascends the pole. He can perform all kinds of work while wearing the belt and then descend the pole without unfastening the safety attachment. However, the instant any weight is applied to the belt the safety attachment catches automatically and binds the pole. The attachment works on rollers and accordingly will not hang up or fail to catch. The lineman can not fall even if he overbalances or becomes unconscious on receiving a shock from a live wire. The auxiliary safety belt attachment may be taken off of one conventional belt and applied to another within a few seconds by simply removing the screws in the adjustment buckles. The inside belt is preferably adjusted so as to be a little tighter and shorter than the outside one so that it will tighten just on the application of weight thereto. The outside belt is preferably wider than the inner belt, which enables the lineman to distinguish between the two by feel.

The invention has been described in detail for the purpose of illustration but it will be obvious that numerous modifications and variations may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention.

I claim:

1. In a lineman's belt, the combination with a body belt portion having attaching rings, and an outer safety belt portion detachably secured to the rings of the body portion and adapted to encircle the outer side of a pole or the like; of an inner safety belt having means for attachment to the rings of the body belt and buckles for attachment to the outer belt, said buckles including roller means for guiding a portion of the inner belt to encircle the pole on the opposite side from the outer belt.

2. In a lineman's belt for use in connection with a body belt having attaching rings, and an outer safety belt portion having means for detachably securing the same to the rings of the body belt, and being adapted to encircle the outer side of a pole or the like; an inner safety belt having means for attachment to the rings of the body belt, and buckles for attachment to the outer belt, said buckles including roller means for guiding a portion of the inner belt to encircle the pole on the opposite side from the outer belt.

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