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SNAP-ON APRONS

Filed Dec. 8, 1958

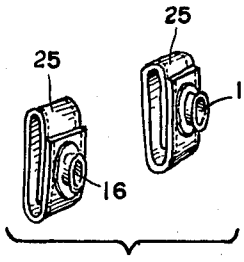


Fig 2

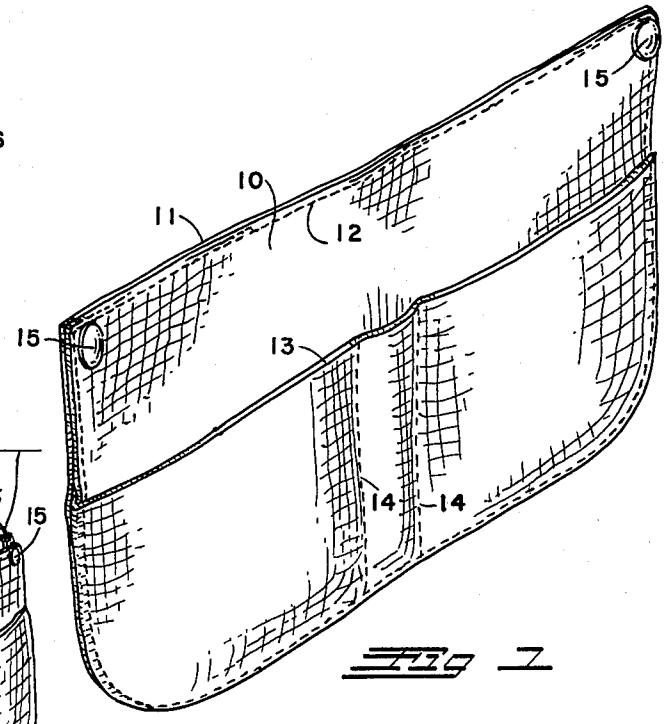


Fig 1

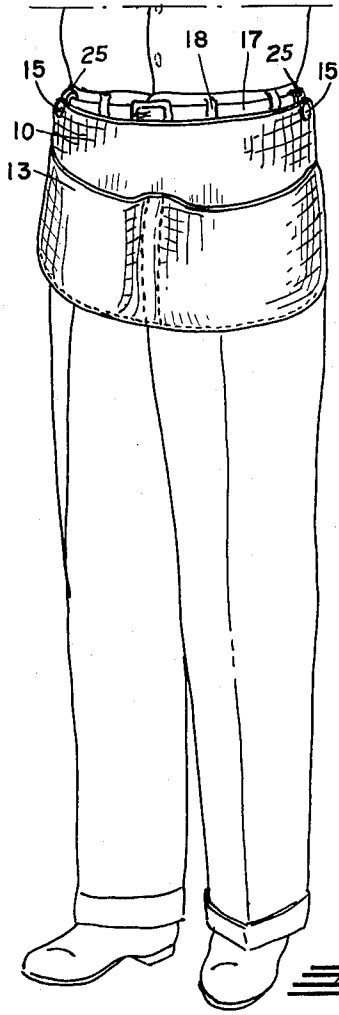


Fig 5

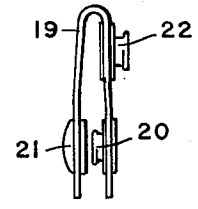


Fig 3

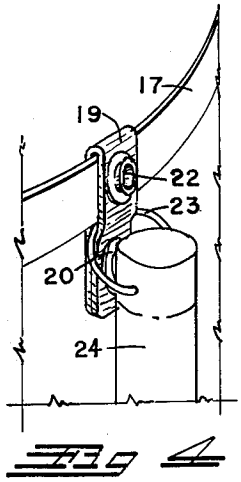


Fig 4

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SNAP-ON APRONS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 24—3)

This invention relates to a work apron and more particularly to a method and means for attaching a work apron to a user. An apron of this type is, in most cases, frequently removed and replaced. When apron strings are used, these quickly become knotted, tangled, and frayed from frequent untying and tying. The principal object of this invention is to eliminate the usual apron strings and to provide means which can be quickly applied to the conventional trouser belt of the user to enable him to instantly put on and remove the work apron when desired.

In certain classes of work, there is danger of a work apron becoming entangled in operating machinery and, if the apron is securely tied to the user, great damage and injury can result. Another object of this invention is to provide a work apron which, should it become entangled in operating machinery, will instantly detach itself from the user so that no damage can result.

A further object is to provide belt loops for application to a conventional trouser belt to which a work apron can be instantly attached, and which can be also used for attaching tools and other articles to the trouser belt.

Other objects and advantages reside in the detail construction of the invention, which is designed for simplicity, economy, and efficiency. These will become more apparent from the following description.

In the following detailed description of the invention, reference is had to the accompanying drawing which forms a part hereof. Like numerals refer to like parts in all views of the drawing and throughout the description.

In the drawing:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view illustrating one form of the improved work apron;

FIG. 2 is a similar view illustrating the two belt loops which are employed for securing the apron in FIG. 1 to the belt of a user;

FIG. 3 is an enlarged side view of an alternate form of belt loop;

FIG. 4 is a perspective view showing the alternate form of loop in place upon the user's trouser belt; and

FIG. 5 is a fragmentary perspective view illustrating the improved work apron in place and ready for use.

The improved apron may be made in any size and shape, and of any suitable material. One of the preferred forms is illustrated in FIG. 1. The latter form comprises a front fabric panel **10** and a rear fabric panel **11**, the peripheral edges of both being inturned to provide a finished non-raveling edge when the two panels are stitched together by means of an edge seam **12**.

A pocket strip **13** extends across the lower portion of the front face of the apron. The side and bottom edges of the pocket strip **13** are inserted between the front and rear panels **10** and **11** and stitched in place thereto by means of the edge seam **12**. Vertical lines of stitching **14** secure the pocket strip **13** to the apron at desired spaced intervals to form the desired number of open top pockets. As illustrated, there are two relatively large side pockets and a relatively narrow vertical pocket in which any desired articles may be placed.

The apron is designed to be supported on the person using it by means of two belt loops **25**, such as illustrated in FIG. 2, formed from any suitable material. As illustrated, they are formed from flattened stitched fabric tubes which when flattened, form relatively strong fabric strips. The two extremities of each strip are overlapped and secured together by means of the male portions of conventional snap fasteners **16** with the connecting portions of the fasteners **16** projecting outwardly from the loops. A female portion of a snap fastener **15** of any conventional type is applied through each upper corner of the apron with the receiving socket thereof facing to the rear.

A conventional trouser belt is illustrated at **17** passing through the usual trouser belt loops **18**. To initially apply the apron, the user withdraws his trouser belt **17** from the trouser belt loops **18** and slides the apron belt loops **25** over the belt **17** so that one of the belt loops will be positioned over each hip. He then replaces the trouser belt for its conventional uses.

The apron is applied by simply pressing the two female fastener portions **15** over the two male fastener portions **16** so that the apron will occupy the position shown in FIG. 5.

The apron can be instantly removed by simply pulling it away from the male fastener portions **16** to disengage the female fastener portions **15**. It can be seen that should the apron become entangled in operating machinery tending to pull the operator toward the machinery, the tension on the apron will simply unsnap the fasteners to free the apron from the user.

In FIG. 3, an alternate form of belt loop for use with this improved apron is illustrated. It comprises a flexible strip **19** of stitched fabric or other suitable material. The strip is provided adjacent its two extremities with the male portion **20** and the female portion **21** of a conventional snap fastener so that the strip can be folded down on itself and secured in a closed loop. A second male portion **22** of a conventional snap fastener is inserted through and clamped to the strip **19** adjacent the fold therein so as to project forwardly therefrom.

It is not necessary to remove the trouser belt **17** for installing the alternate form of loop. They can be applied to the belt by simply unsnapping the fastener portions **20** and **21**, slipping the fabric strip **19** over the trouser belt **17**, then refastening the fastener portions **20** and **21**. The loops of the alternate form will occupy the positions previously described for the loops **25**. The apron is applied as previously described by simply snapping the female fastener portions **15** of the apron onto the male fastener portions **22**.

The alternate form has all of the advantages of the previous form but would be slightly more expensive to manufacture. It can, however, be unsnapped to receive tools and other articles for attachment to the trouser belt **17**. As illustrated in FIG. 5, the bail **23** of a conventional flashlight **24** has been snapped into the loop of the strip **19** for suspending the flashlight from the belt. The alternate form of loop also provides a safety feature for should the articles supported thereby be suddenly pulled upon, the fastener portions **20** and **21** will simply separate to release the article. The improved apron is applied to the alternate form of loops independently of and regardless of articles being suspended therefrom.

While a specific form of the improvement has been described and illustrated herein, it is to be understood that the same may be varied within the scope of the appended claim, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed and desired secured by Letters Patent is:

A quick detachable fastening means for securing an apron to a trouser belt comprising: a strip of flexible material, being folded back upon itself to form a bight with a front portion and a rear portion depending from said bight; cooperating snap fastener elements mounted on the portions and acting to detachably secure the extremities of the two portions together to form a closed

loop to encircle said belt; and detachable fastening means mounted on the front portion between the bight and the snap fastener elements for securing said apron thereto.

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