



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## CHEST PROTECTOR

Sigmund Siegel, Brooklyn, N. Y.

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3 Claims. (Cl. 2-51)

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This invention relates to an improved chest protector, and more particularly to a chest protector constructed of stuffed or padded fabric, and supported on the body of the user by means of retaining bands or straps.

One of the objects of the present invention is the provision of a chest protector which will comfortably fit against the chest of the user, and which may be adjusted to the required shape and size of the body, by means available for adjustment at the forward side of the body, and which will permit of easy attachment and detachment, and securely hold the chest protector in protective position against displacement from all normal body movements.

A further object of the invention is to provide a chest protector which can be manufactured of good materials to sell at a reasonably low price, which will permit of frequent washings, and which will retain its service values for an indefinite period of time, against frequent and severe usage.

Still further the invention contemplates certain modifications which embody the essential features of the invention.

For further comprehension of the invention and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawings forming a material part of this disclosure:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing one form of the invention applied to the chest of a male, illustrating the forward side of the chest protector.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged perspective view of the chest protector, per se.

Fig. 3 is a rear view of Fig. 1 showing the portions of the chest protector which engage the back of the body.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing a modified form of the chest protector adapted for wear by a female, and arranged under the brassiere straps and partly under its body, showing the forward side of the chest protector.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view, showing the rear side of the chest protector.

Fig. 6 is an enlarged perspective view of the chest protector detached from the body.

Fig. 7 is a detail sectional view, taken on line 7-7 of Fig. 2.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, 55

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which illustrate the practical embodiment of the invention, 10 designates the main body of the chest protector, which comprises a front fabric layer 11, a rear fabric layer 12, and intermediate padding or stuffing 13, which may be of wool, cotton, or any other suitable material, or hair, or a combination of hair, fur and other material, arranged in woven fabric formation.

The lower edge of the body 10 is curved, and the side edges are curved, and converge upwardly and join the concave curved neck line edge 14. Every edge is reinforced by being in-turned and secured by multiple parallel stitching 15.

The body 10 has its maximum width about midway of the lower and upper edges thereof, so that it will extend well over the sides of the chest, adjacent the arm pits, and the converging side edges 16 and 17 are spaced sufficiently inwardly of the widest points of the body so as not to obstruct the free swinging of the arms, but to afford ample coverage for the bronchial area of the throat of the user. The chest protector may be worn either under or over a man's outer shirt, as desired.

The neck line edge 14 is supported close to the throat of the user by means of a band or strap 18, which is provided on one end with a button 18<sup>a</sup> to engage the button hole 19<sup>a</sup> of the body 10, and on the other end with a button 18<sup>b</sup> to engage the button hole 19<sup>b</sup> of the body.

The main body of the chest protector is held snugly against the forward side of the chest by means of a body strap 20, which is permanently secured at 21 to the side of the body 10, and provided with a free end portion 22, which is furnished with a terminal fabric loop 23.

The free end of the body strap is secured by passing it through the fabric loop 24 attached to the body 10 by stitching 25, inwardly of its adjacent outer edge, and by extending the flexible coupling strap 26 through the terminal loop 23, and tying the end portions thereof upon themselves in a slip knot 27. This flexible coupling strap 26 is secured intermediate of its ends by the stitching 28 to the body 10. In this way the body strap or band 20 will be held against separation from the body 10 of the chest protector.

The body strap or band 20 is also provided with another fabric loop 29, located outwardly of the fabric loop 23. By extending the flexible coupling strap 26 through the terminal fabric loop 23 on one side of the body loop 24 and through the fabric loop 29 on the opposite side of the body loop 24, the strap or band 20 will

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be tied at two separated points to the coupling strap 26.

By extending the coupling strap 26 through the outermost loop 29, after the same has been passed through the body loop 24, the body strap or band 20 may be tightened about the body of the wearer.

The body strap or band 20 is adjusted and secured on the body of the user so that it will pass below the chest bones and bear against the yielding wall of the abdomen, thereby producing a downward pull upon the neck strap or band 18, and holding the body of the chest protector snugly in comfortable pressure bearing engagement with the front side of the chest, and completely covering it.

In Figs. 4, 5 and 6 a chest protector for use by a woman is shown. This chest protector includes the body 30, which is constructed in the manner described with reference to the body 10, with two outer layers of fabric and an intermediate filling or stuffing of suitable material.

The body 30 is formed narrower than the body 10, and is provided with a lower curved edge 31, adapted to fit partly under the usual brassière worn by the user, and is further provided with a variously curved upper edge 32, which present a profile matching that of the body of the user.

The body 30 is attached to the body of the user by means of the strap or band 33, which is coupled to the side ends 34 and 35 of the body 30, by means of the buttons 36 and the button holes 37.

Both the body 30 and the band or strap 33 are preferably positioned on the body of the wearer under the usual supporting straps of the brassière, in snug covering engagement with the chest.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that I have not limited myself and do not limit myself to the precise construction herein disclosed and the right is hereby reserved to all changes and modifications coming within the scope of the invention, as defined by the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is:

1. In a chest protector having a padded body for engagement across one's chest and provided at its top edge with a strap for engagement about one's neck, a band having one end attached to a bottom corner of the body for extension about the wearer's back to an opposite bottom corner of said body, a fabric loop attached to the face of the body inwardly of said opposite bottom corner, a terminal loop formed on the free end of said band for extension through said fabric loop, and means for releasably attaching the

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free end of said band to the front face of the body after said terminal loop has been passed through said fabric loop.

2. In a chest protector having a padded body for engagement across one's chest and provided at its top edge with a strap for engagement about one's neck, a band having one end attached to a bottom corner of the body for extension about the wearer's back to an opposite bottom corner of said body, a fabric loop attached to the face of the body inwardly of said opposite bottom corner, a terminal loop formed on the free end of said band for extension through said fabric loop, and means for releasably attaching the free end of said band to the front face of the body after said terminal loop has been passed through said fabric loop, said attaching means comprising a flexible strap attached intermediate of its ends to the front face of the body inwardly of said fabric loop leaving its ends free so that one end may be threaded through said terminal loop after which the free ends of said flexible strap may be tied together.

3. In a chest protector having a padded body for engagement across one's chest and provided at its top edge with a strap for engagement about one's neck, a band having one end attached to a bottom corner of the body for extension about the wearer's back to an opposite bottom corner of said body, a fabric loop attached to the face of the body inwardly of said opposite bottom corner, a terminal loop formed on the free end of said band for extension through said fabric loop, and means for releasably attaching the free end of said band to the front face of the body after said terminal loop has been passed through said fabric loop, said attaching means comprising a second loop on said band inwardly of its free end and normally disposed on the opposite side of said fabric loop from said terminal loop when said terminal loop has been extended through said fabric loop, and a flexible strap attached intermediate of its ends to the front face of the body inwardly of said fabric loop leaving its ends free so that one of said free ends may be threaded through said terminal loop and said second loop after which the free ends of said flexible strap may be tied together.

SIGMUND SIEGEL.

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