

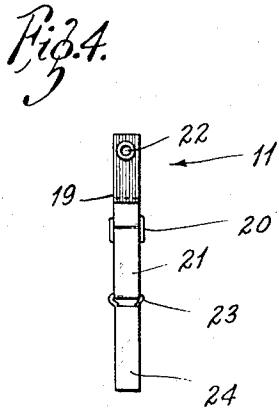
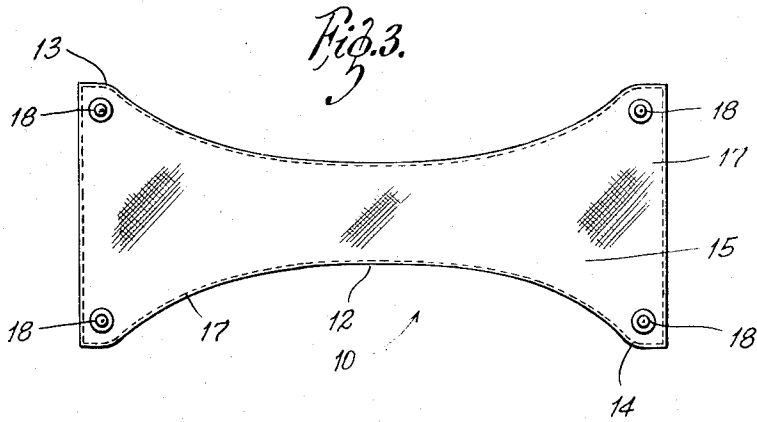
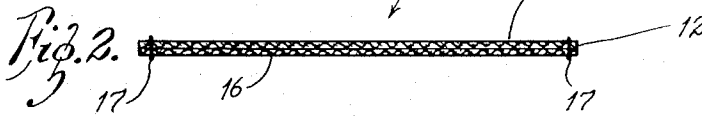
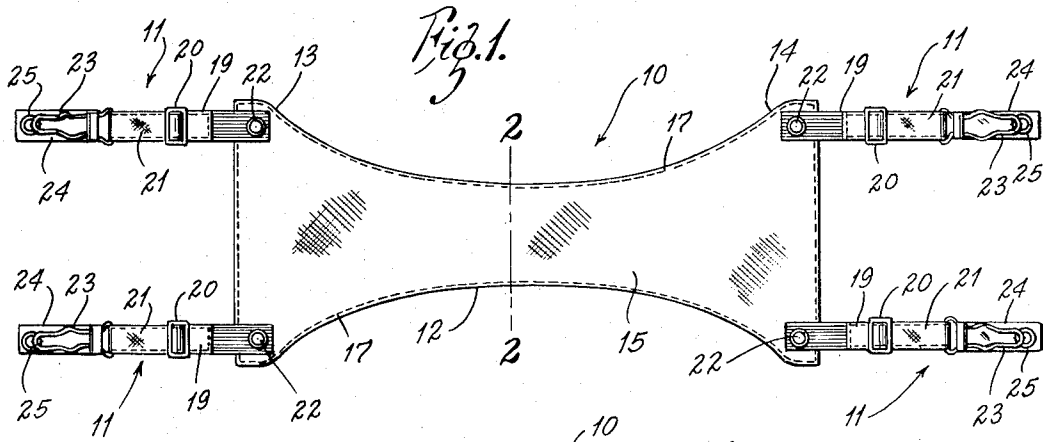
Dec. 20, 1955

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2,727,247

SHIRT RETAINING DEVICE

Filed Aug. 14, 1952



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**SHIRT RETAINING DEVICE**

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**Application August 14, 1952, Serial No. 304,372**

**1 Claim. (Cl. 2—323)**

This invention relates to improvements in shirt retaining devices, and in particular, is concerned with a washable band having removable appendages thereon for fastening to the bottom of a shirt or blouse.

The primary object of this invention is to provide a washable shirt retaining band which has shirt retaining appendages removably fastened thereto and which is adapted to fit between the legs of the user in such a manner that the shirt retaining appendages may be fastened to the rear tails of a shirt and also at the other end of the band to the front tails of the shirt. The intermediate band portion is held against the crotch of the user so as to securely fasten down the ends of the shirt and keep them from being pulled out of the trousers or skirt of the user.

It is a further object of this invention to provide such a shirt retaining band which is washable and is adapted to receive at its ends adjustable shirt fastening appendages.

Another object of this invention is to provide a washable shirt retaining band which is of such a configuration that it may be comfortably worn by the user so as to evenly distribute the shirt retaining stresses at the ends of the band for maximum shirt retaining efficiency and without binding between the legs of the user.

Still another object of this invention is to provide a reinforced washable shirt retaining band which may be used as an athletic supporter or catamenial accessory retainer and which has outwardly flaring ends having built-in fasteners, such that shirt retaining appendages can be easily fastened or removed therefrom.

Other objects of this invention will appear in the detailed description which follows in connection with the drawings and will in part be obvious from this disclosure when considered with the drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of the washable band with the shirt retaining appendages fastened thereto;

Fig. 2 is a cross-section of the washable band taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the washable band showing connections at the ends for receiving the shirt retaining appendages;

Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of the shirt retaining appendages having a connection at the end for fastening to the band.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, it will be seen that the shirt retaining device comprises a washable band generally indicated at 10 and four shirt retaining appendages generally indicated at 11 which are removably fastened to the ends of the band.

The band 10 is made out of a flexible material such as cotton cloth or, if desired, woven elastic fabric and includes a narrow center section 12 and outwardly flaring end sections 13 and 14. As shown in Fig. 2, the band may be of reinforced construction and consists of a top section 15 and a bottom section 16 fastened together by stitching 17.

The fastening mechanism on the band is shown at the

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ends 13 and 14 in Fig. 3 and may comprise snap-on connection 18 which is anchored in the fabric. It is to be understood that other conventional fastening devices may be used including buttons and the like.

The shirt retaining appendages 11 are of conventional structure similar to the sock-retaining appendages used in garters and the like. These shirt retaining appendages comprise a flexible strip 19 which is adjustable in length by the usual tri-bar buckle 20 so as to adjust the loop 21. The end of the elastic section is provided with a conventional snap-on button 22 which is adapted to mate with the snap-on connection 18 so as to fasten the two together. The other end of the shirt retaining appendage comprises a conventional gripping element which is disposed in the loop 21. This element includes a wire loop 23 which is anchored at one end to a flexible base strip 24 containing at its other end a button 25 which is adapted to grip the cloth or fabric to be retained in the loop in a conventional manner.

*Use*

The shirt retaining band of this invention is adapted to be connected to the shirt retaining appendages in a simple snap-on operation and can be just as simply removed therefrom. When the band is connected to the shirt retaining appendages 11, the user of the article may anchor his shirt securely within trousers or a skirt, whichever is worn, by first adjusting the flexible straps 19 by proper manipulation of the buckles 20 and then fastening the appendages at the end to the bottom of the shirrtail in the front or the rear. After this preliminary operation in which the two appendages 11 are fastened to the bottom of the shirt at the one end of the shirt retaining device, the other end is passed between the legs of the wearer so that the middle section 12 bears comfortably against the crotch of the user after which the unfastened end is brought upward so that the two remaining appendages 11 can be fastened to the other side of the shirt in the same way as previously described. Due to the particular configuration of the shirt retaining band, the shirt is retained at spaced points so that the stress is evenly distributed so as to effectually eliminate any possibility of binding on the user. Further, this outwardly flaring end section of the retaining band serves as an added protection to the lower body portions of the torso.

In this invention, the shirt retaining device is adapted to serve as an athletic supporter or for securing catamenial accessories when properly anchored to the ends of a shirt or blouse in the manner above-mentioned.

Accordingly, it is evident that there has been provided by means of this invention a simple and efficient means for retaining the ends of a shirt in such a manner that an even and proper support of the shirrtails is effected with a secure anchoring thereof. The retaining band is of such fabrication that when it is removed from the shirt retaining appendages it may be easily washed and used over and over again without impairment of the efficiency of the shirt retaining appendages, which are not well adapted to be washed due to the metal parts which they contain. By the construction of this device, these shirt retaining appendages are positioned at the ends of the band in such a manner that they do not readily become soiled, and in the eventuality that replacement is necessary, this may be simply effected due to their expendable nature.

Various slight changes in the general form and arrangement of the parts described, such as in the shape of the washable band and the fabric utilized in its manufacture, may obviously be made without departing from the scope of this invention, and hence, it is desired that this invention be limited only within the spirit and scope of the appended claim.

What is claimed is:

A shirt retaining device comprising a flexible retaining band and shirt gripping retainers, which retainers are adjustable in length and are adapted to be removably secured to the front and rear shirrtails of the user, said band having a narrow intermediate section and outwardly flaring end sections, said last-named sections being adapted to serve selectively as an athletic supporter and catamenial accessory retainer, said band being washable and having at least two securing elements at each end which removably secure the adjustable shirt gripping retainers thereto, the endmost securing elements at each end being laterally spaced from one another a distance greater than the width of said intermediate section so as to evenly distribute the stresses upon said band.

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