

C. KLOPF.
 COMBINED BODY BRACE AND SUSPENDERS.
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919,885.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

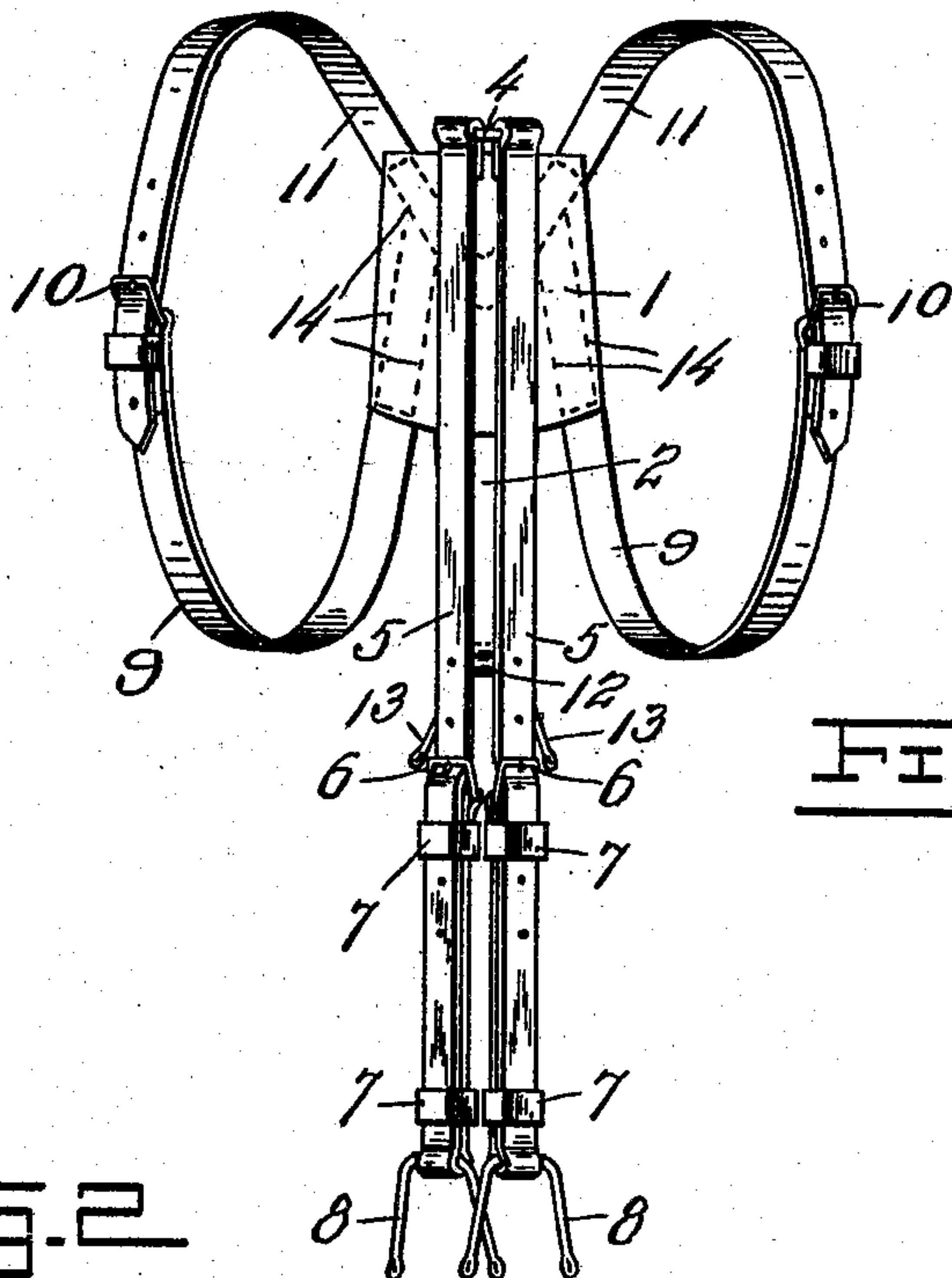


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

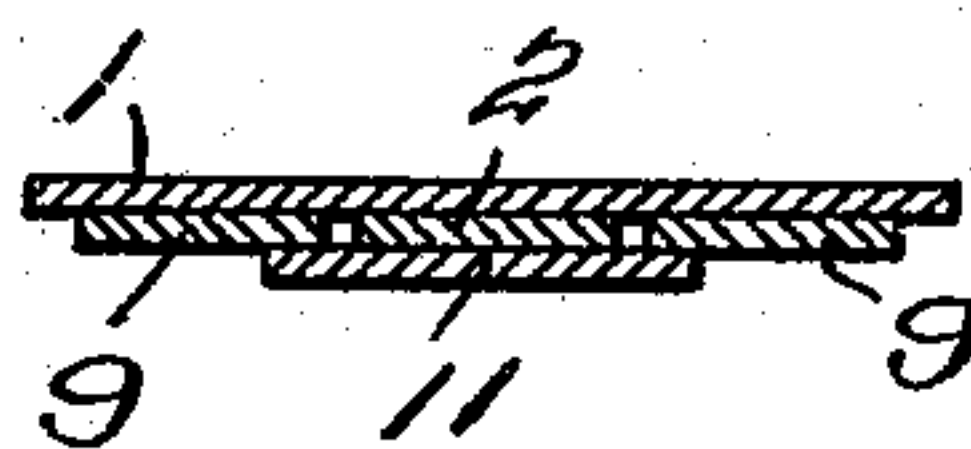
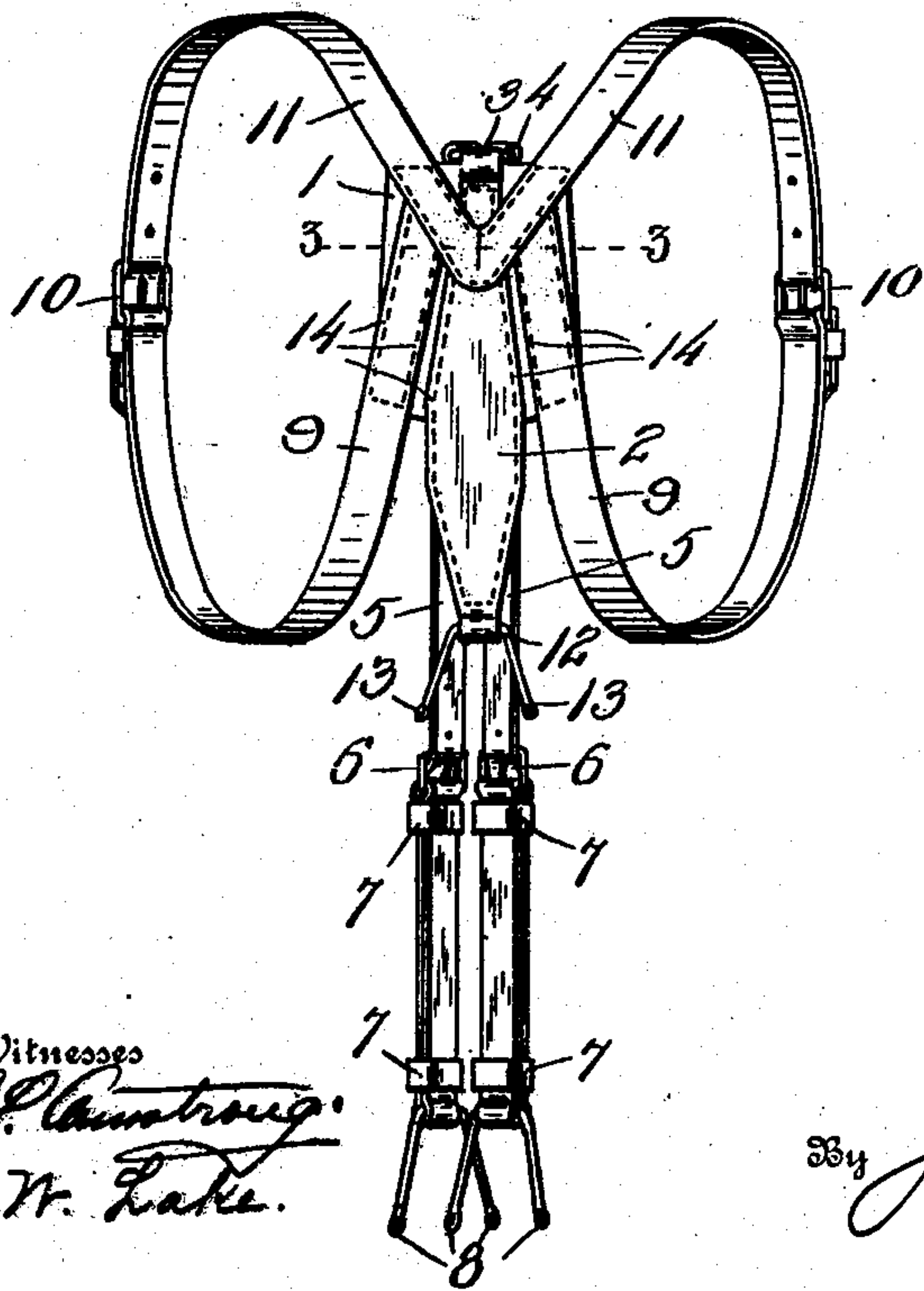


Fig. 3.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COMBINED BODY-BRACE AND SUSPENDERS.

No. 919,885.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLINTON KLOPF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Atchison, in the county of Atchison and State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Body-Braces and Suspenders; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in combined body braces and suspenders.

The object of the present invention is to provide a device of the character mentioned that is of exceedingly simple construction, and one that may be worn with comfort and ease without, however, lessening the value of the dual function of the device, and one in which is embodied means for rendering the same capable of easy adjustment in conformity with the person of the wearer, so that the body may be held erect, and maintained in such position, without undue pressure thereon, or creating any undue discomfort to the user of the device.

Having this general object in view, and others that will appear as the nature of the improvements is better understood, the invention consists substantially in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a combined body brace and suspenders embodying the hereindescribed invention. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation thereof. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view on the line 3—3, Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a rear elevation showing the combined body-brace and suspenders in use.

Referring in detail to the drawings, the numeral 1 designates the back plate of the hereindescribed structure. This plate is preferably formed of a comparatively inflexible material, in order not to yield to any appreciable extent, and the same is of sufficient dimensions to permit attachment of the respective straps, so that the latter may be held in associated relation with respect to each other.

Arranged at the central portion of the back plate 1 is a back strap 2, which back strap extends the length of the plate 1, the upper end of the back strap 2 terminating in a loop

3 wherein is positioned a ring 4. Connected to this ring is a pair of diverging suspender straps 5, said straps being designed to pass over the shoulders of the wearer, and the free ends of said suspender straps are folded back upon the bodies thereof and are provided with suitable buckles 6, or equivalent devices, to enable the straps 5 being either lengthened or shortened. The folded end portions of the straps 5 are provided with slides 7 for the purpose of holding the folded portions of the straps together, and those slides that are located at the extremities of the straps 5 serve to hold within such extremities suspender ends 8, these ends being of usual construction. It will thus be seen that through the medium of said slides coacting with the loop portions of the straps 5 the suspender ends are effectually held in place, although capable of sliding in such looped portions under the movements of the body.

Carried by the back plate 1, and arranged at the sides of the back strap 2, are lower arm straps 9, the extremities of these straps being provided with buckles 10, and arranged at the upper portion of the back plate 1, and overlying the upper ends of the lower arm straps 9 and the back strap 2 are upper arm straps 11. These latter are arranged in V form relatively to each other, so that the upper straps diverge, and thus effectually pass about, and to each side of, the neck of the wearer. The upper straps 11 are adapted to be buckled to the lower straps 9, and when so united these straps effectually serve to draw back the shoulders of the wearer, and thereby maintain the body in an erect position. The lower end of the back strap 2 terminates in a loop 12, which loop receives a suspender end 13, which also may be of usual construction, and it will be observed that the respective straps are held upon the back plate 1 through the medium of stitching 14, or equivalent fastenings.

In the use of the herein described combination device it is manifest that the suspender ends will be attached to the trousers in the usual manner, and as the back plate 1 will occupy a position at the back of the wearer, it is also quite manifest that the upper and lower arm straps may be readily passed about the shoulders and united to compress the shoulders, or draw back the same to the desired extent, the suspender straps 5 passing over the shoulders in the manner that is common with the ordinary

form of suspenders. When so applied the shoulders will be firmly held, the body maintained in an erect position, and from time to time the respective straps may be adjusted as to their length in order to suit the conditions under which the device is being employed.

Especial attention is directed to the fact that the back strap 2 is a continuous piece from the lower loop 12 to the upper loop 3, so that the strain is exerted throughout the entire length thereof, and by positioning this strap intermediate the lower arm straps, and placing the upper arm straps so as to overlie the upper ends of the lower arm straps and the back strap, a compact structure is provided, and one which may be easily borne by the back plate 1 without causing discomfort to the wearer by reason of projections or protuberances that might indent the flesh.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is:

1. In a combination device of the class described, the combination with a back plate, of a back strap carried thereby, a suspender end connected to said back strap, suspender straps also connected to said back strap, and arm straps also carried by said back plate and provided with means whereby the ends thereof may be united to enable the arm straps to embrace the shoulders of the wearer.

2. In a combination device of the class described, the combination with a back plate, of a back strap carried thereby, a suspender end connected to said back strap, suspender straps also connected to said back strap, and arm straps carried by said plate

and arranged at the sides of the back strap, said arm straps being provided with means whereby the ends thereof may be united to enable the arm straps to embrace the shoulders of the wearer.

3. In a combination device of the class described, the combination with a back plate, of a back strap carried thereby and extending throughout the length thereof, suspender straps also connected to said back strap, lower arm straps carried by said plate and arranged at the sides of the back strap, upper arm straps also carried by the back plate and overlying the lower arm straps and the back strap, and means for uniting the ends of the upper and lower arm straps to enable the latter to embrace the shoulders of the wearer.

4. In a combination device of the class described, the combination with a back plate, of a back strap carried thereby and extending throughout the length thereof, suspender straps also connected to said back strap, lower arm straps carried by said plate and arranged at the sides of the back strap, upper arm straps also carried by the back plate and arranged in V form relatively to each other, said upper arm straps overlying the lower arm straps and the back strap, and means for uniting the ends of the upper and lower arm straps to enable the latter to embrace the shoulders of the wearer.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in the presence of two witnesses.

CLINTON KLOPF.

Witnesses:

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FRANCES COSTELLO.