Aug. 28, 1962

J. T. SCULLY

3,050,737

NECKTIE HOLDERS

Filed March 23, 1960

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1

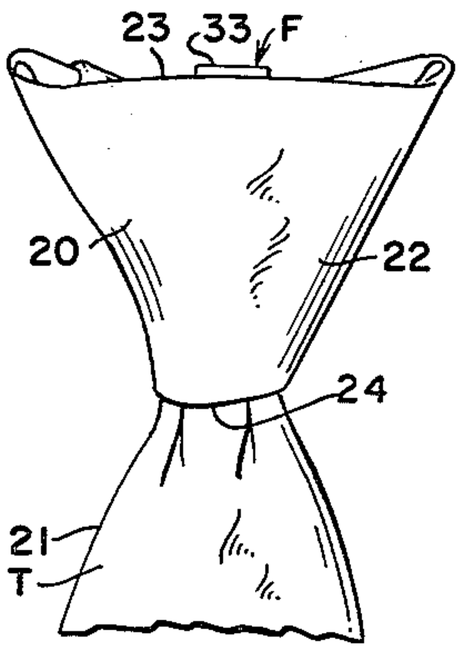


FIG. 2

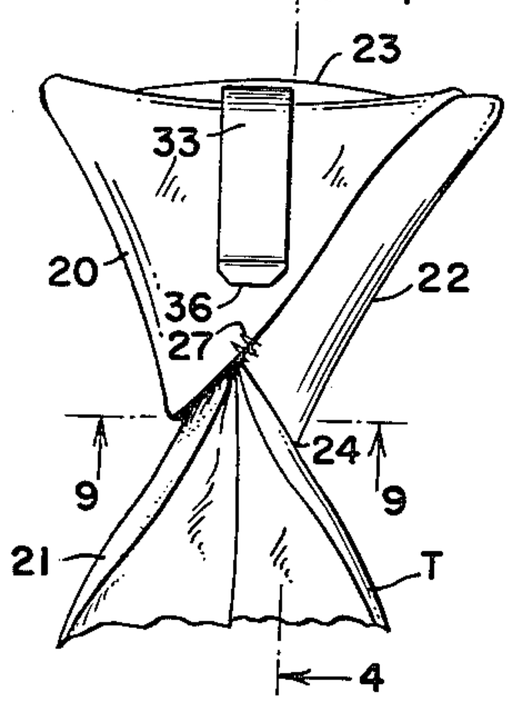


FIG. 3

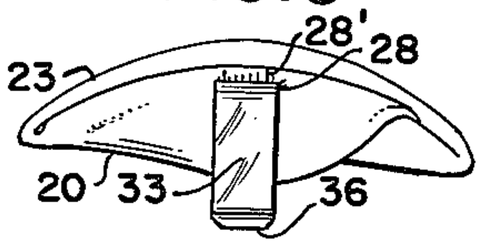


FIG. 6

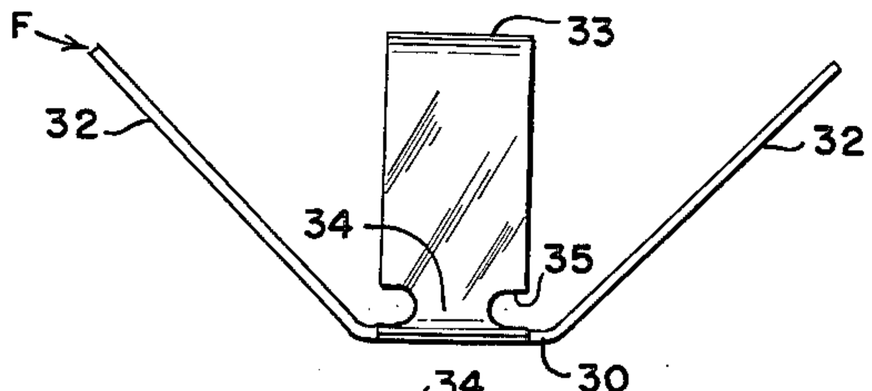


FIG. 4

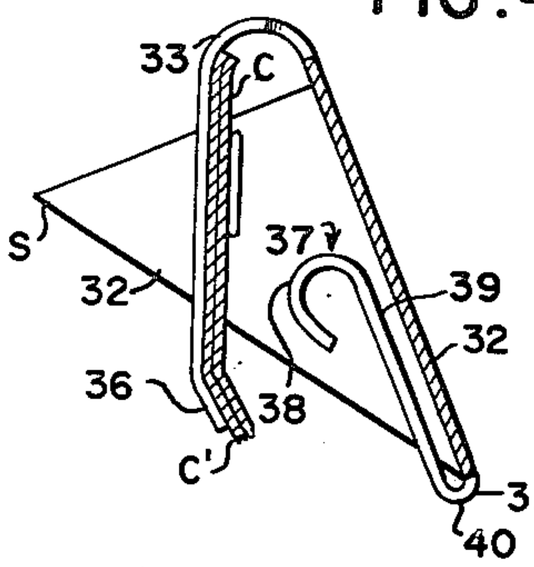


FIG. 5

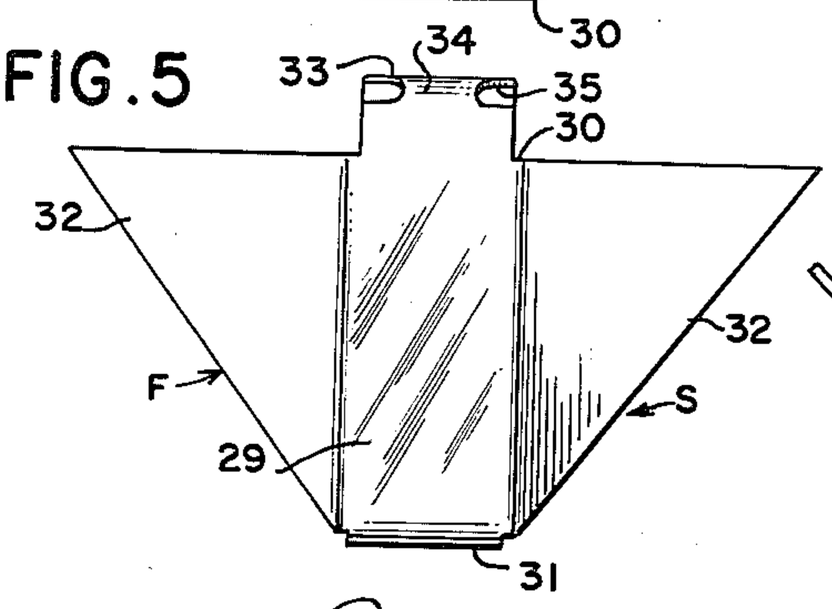
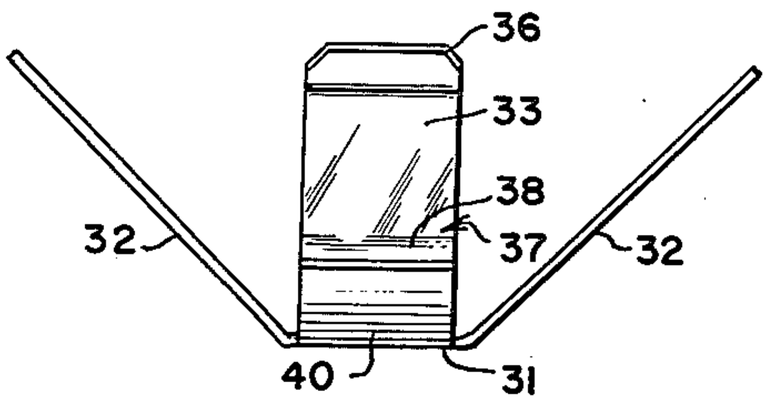


FIG. 8



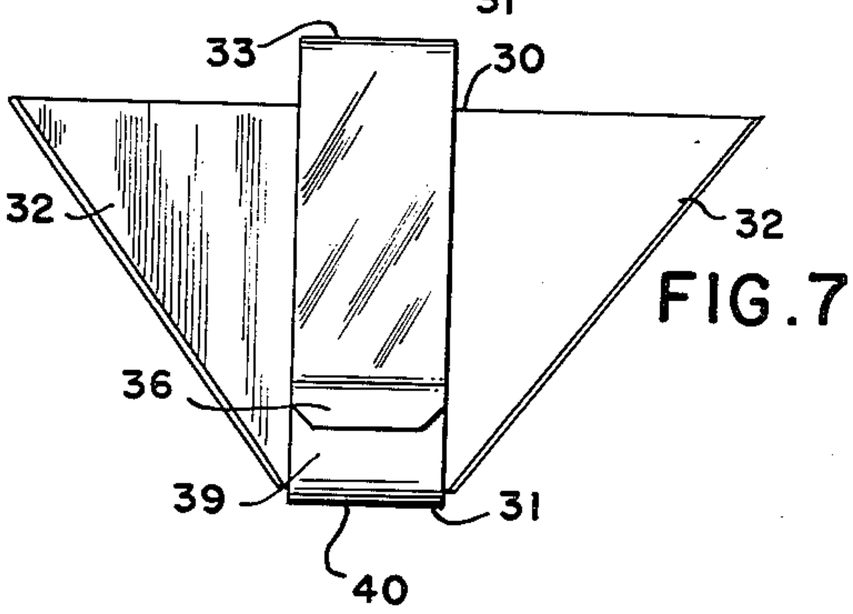


FIG. 7

INVENTOR:

John J. Scully

Aug. 28, 1962 J. T. SCULLY 3,050,737

NECKTIE HOLDERS

Filed March 23, 1960 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 9

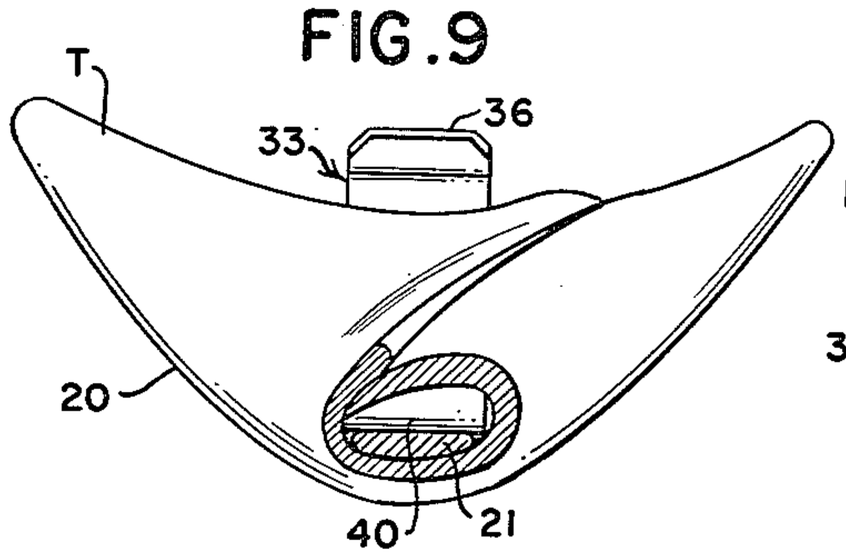


FIG. 11

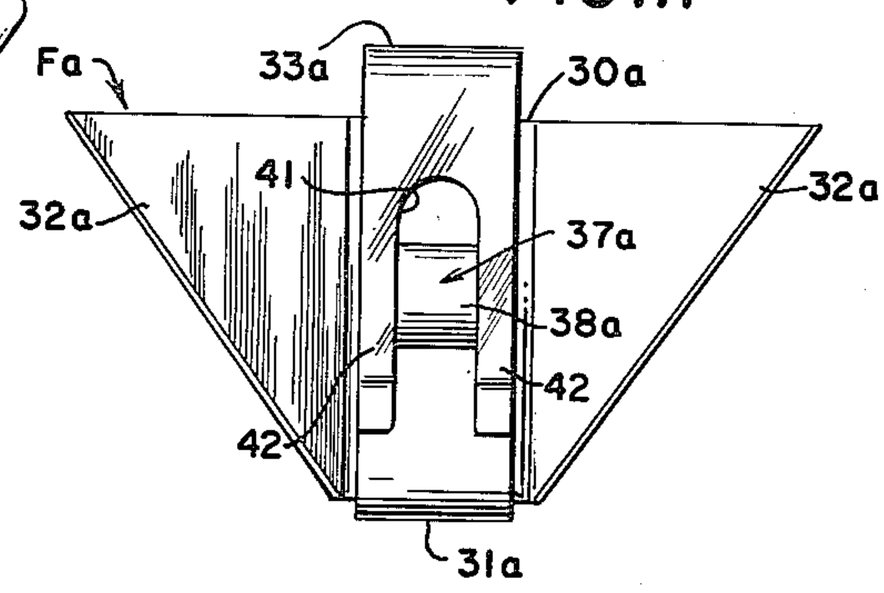


FIG. 14

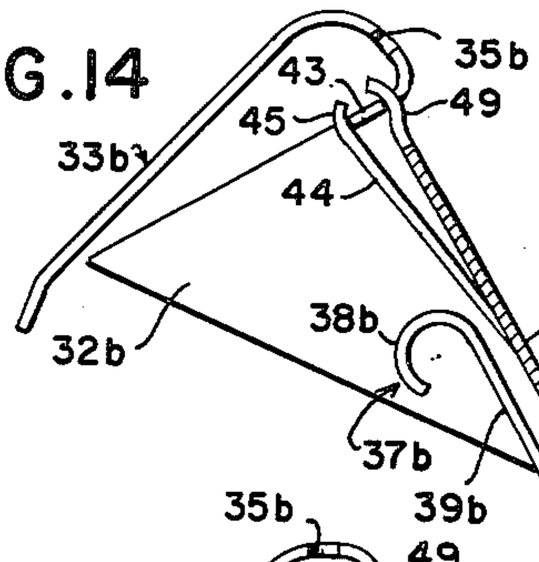


FIG. 10

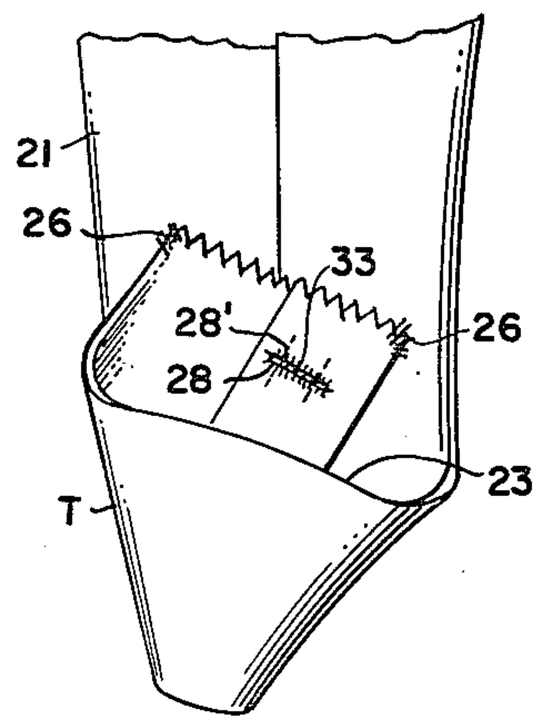


FIG. 13

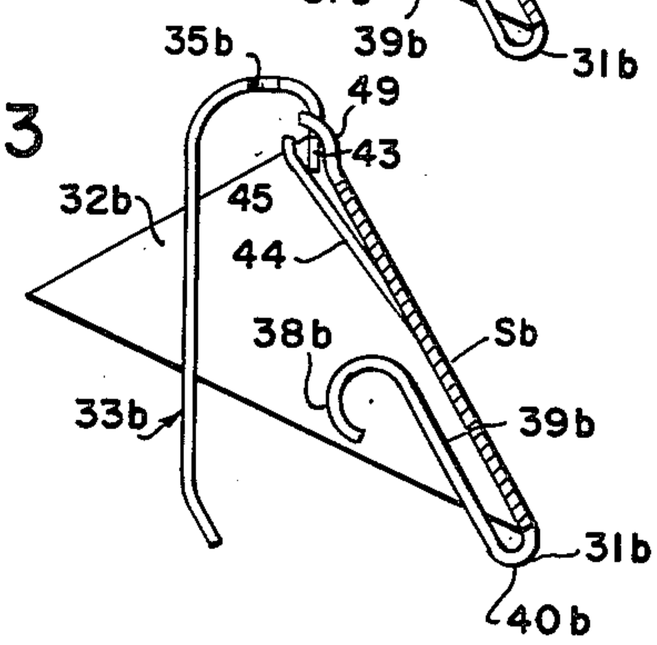


FIG. 15

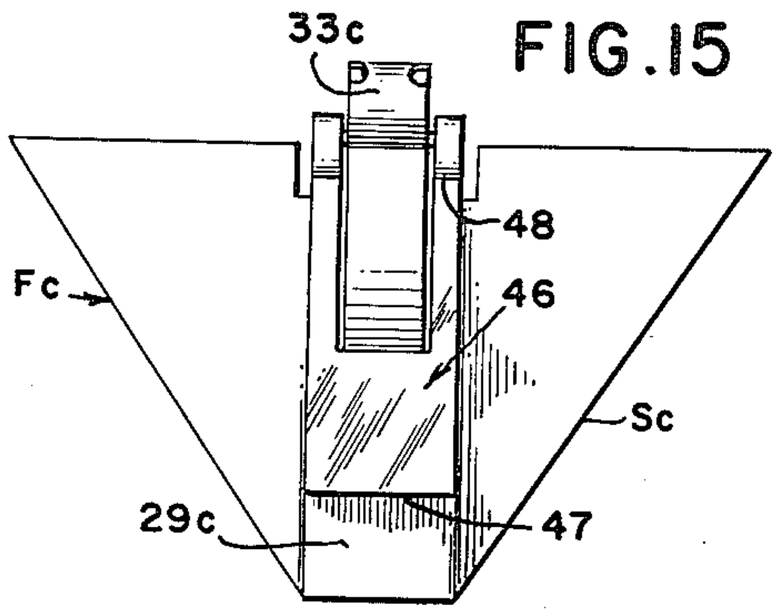
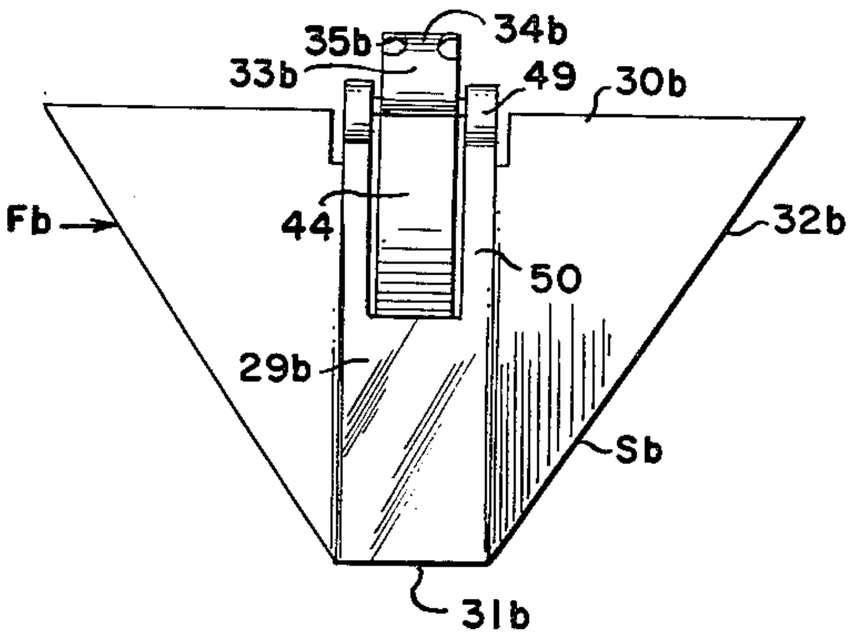


FIG. 12



INVENTOR:

John T. Scully

United States Patent Office

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NECKTIE HOLDERS

John T. Scully, 235 W. 76th St., New York, N.Y.

Filed Mar. 23, 1960, Ser. No. 17,074
3 Claims. (Cl. 2—153)

This invention relates, generally, to necktie holders for use in pre-tied, four-in-hand neckties and more particularly to pre-tied, four-in-hand neckties which are fastened to the front of a collar by a fastening hook engaged over the top edges of the fastening tabs of a collar.

Among the objects of the invention is the provision of a generally improved necktie holder of the above referred to type; the provision of such a type necktie holder which is economical and easy to manufacture and which is adapted to make pre-tied four-in-hand neckties more attractive in appearance; and the provision of a necktie holder for pre-tied, four-in-hand necktie which is clamped to the tab ends of a collar by cooperative clamping members one of which is inside the knot of the necktie and obscured from view. A further object is the provision of a necktie holder, having cooperative clamping members, which may be used to quickly and easily clamp a four-in-hand necktie to the tab ends of a collar.

These and other objects will become apparent from the description and the accompanying drawing in which similar reference characters or numerals refer to similar or corresponding parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawing in which FIGURES 4–9 and 11–15, inclusive, are shown in enlarged scale: FIG. 1 is a fragmentary front view of a necktie in which the improved necktie holder is incorporated; FIG. 2 is a view of the necktie shown in FIG. 1 turned 180 degrees; FIG. 3 is a top view of the necktie shown in FIG. 2 and showing the rear of the knot; FIG. 4 is a partly sectional and partly plan or elevational view of the necktie holder part of the knot portion hooked over collar tabs, the sectional view being taken on line **4—4** of FIG. 2; FIG. 5 is a front elevational view of the part shown in FIG. 4; FIG. 6 is a top view of the part shown in FIG. 5; FIG. 7 is an elevational view of the part shown in FIG. 5 turned 180 degrees; FIG. 8 is an elevational view of the part as shown in FIG. 6 turned upside down; FIG. 9 is a partly elevational and sectional view of the necktie shown in FIG. 2, the view being taken on the line **9—9** of FIG. 2; FIG. 10 shows a front portion of the knot portion, with parts of the knot withdrawn and showing a fastening part in section to illustrate structure details at the rear of the knot portion and on the inside thereof; FIG. 11 is a modification of a part as shown in FIG. 7; FIG. 12 is a front elevational view of a further modification of a part; FIG. 13 is a side elevational and sectional view of the part shown in FIG. 12, the sectional view being similar to the section shown in FIG. 4; FIG. 14 is a view similar to the view in FIG. 13, but with a part shown in changed or adjusted position; and FIG. 15 is a front view of a further modification of a part otherwise similar to the part shown in FIGS. 12, 13 and 14.

Referring in more detail to the drawing:

The necktie and its parts shown in FIGS. 1 to 10 inclusive comprises a tied member, generally designated T, and a necktie holder, generally designated F. The tied member may be constructed in accordance with any suitable tied member known in the art and may be particularly constructed according to the structure of any suitable member shown in my United States Patents Numbers 2,400,604, or 2,702,904, per se or with any modifications as herein disclosed. As shown herein, the tied member T is comprised of the usual pliable, foldable material and consists of a knot portion **20** and an outer depending portion **21** depending from the knot portion. The knot portion **20** includes an outer transverse band loop **22** having a top transverse edge **23** and a bottom transverse edge **24** and the band loop is formed of a band loop fold with a short end thereof extending axially oblique to the outer depending portion opposite the latters' inner face at the inner end **25** of the outer depending portion **21**. The short end of the band of the band loop is shown (FIG. 10) having a finished edge with a pinking shears cut and the corner edges are securely stitched as at **26** to the inner end **25** of the outer depending portion, if desired. Stitching **27** shown on the outside of the knot holding the longitudinal edges of the band loop in proper position at the underside of the knot adjacent its small end opening fixes or limits the size of the small end opening. Stitching **27** can, in manufacture, be made on the inside of the knot by turning the band loop fold inside out temporarily and this is the preferred manner because in the finished necktie the stitching would be invisible from the outside. Spaced from edge **23** in height, but preferably substantially parallel therewith a slit opening, preferably, but not necessaryily, with its edges stitched, as in a buttonhole, is provided through the material of the inner end of the outer depending portion **21** and spaced inwardly of the longitudinal side edges of the outer depending portion. This slit opening **28** also extends through the material of the short end of the band of the band loop and in instances in which the edges of slit opening **28** are buttonhole stitched thereby also fixing the inner end of the outer depending portion and the short end of the band together, any suitable substitute, if desired, may be used instead of stitching **26**, **26** to hold the parts in relative position while the buttonhole machine is in operation in the manufacture. Knot portion **20** is of frusto-conical shape, the big end opening being defined by transverse edge **23** and the small end opening by transverse edge **24**, and inside the knot portion is the necktie holder F having a knot supporter member S having a forward central portion **29** with a preferably flat, upwardly rearwardly, slantingly inclined outer face and preferably substantially straight, parallel upper and lower edges or portions **30** and **31** respectively. If desired, side members or wings **32**, **32** of generally right angle triangular shape may extend rearwardly from the knot supporter member central portion outwardly flaring from each other at a suitable angle, preferably an obtuse angle, and preferably symmetrically flaring relatively to the knot supporter member central portion. The wings **32**, **32** extend to the corners at the top rear of the knot and, in this necktie shown, the tips of the wings are primarily useful in supporting the top rear corners of the knot so that these corners can be used to lift up the outer fold at the front of a turn down collar to facilitate passing a fastening hook over the top of the collar tabs C with the corners of the knot between the outer fold and the neckband or inner band of the collar and the tips of the wings are also useful in holding the knot corners in proper position between the collar folds and preferably contiguous with the inner fold or neckband. At the top of member F, a fastening or clamp hook **33** extends through the slit opening **28** at the top rear of the knot portion **20** from the inside of the knot portion and downwardly outside the knot portion at the rear thereof. At the closed top end of the hook **33** is a necked-in top portion **34** on the forward end of the hook, in this instance formed by oppositely disposed grooves which form retaining shoulders **35** on the closed top end of the hook which shoulders serve to prevent the inner end of the depending portion of the tied member, which forms part of the rear of the knot portion, from being accidentally moved rearwardly downwardly and thereby lowering the position of opening **28** relatively to transverse edge **23**.

In order to prevent the edges of slit opening **28** from slipping, or being moved, backwardly over shoulders **35**, the length of opening **28** is reduced, after the hook is properly inserted, to be shorter than the width of the hook at the shoulders, for example by stitching as per lines **28'** (see FIG. 10) in manufacture.

Preferably, necktie holder F is of any suitable resilient material throughout and more preferably of a thin spring metal which, if desired for lightness and economy can be as thin as .015 of an inch. Consequently, hook member **33** is resiliently adjustable and will bear against the inner face of the inner collar tab in the direction towards the rear of the knot portion of the necktie for securely holding the necktie in proper place at the front of a collar. The side edges, particularly the inner side edges of the hook member are reasonably rectangularly sharp in order that these longitudinal side edges of the hook in combination with the pressure exerted by the hook on the collar tabs will engage against the ridges of the collar tab fabric caused adjacent the hook edges by the inward pressure of the clamping hook **33** on the tab material engaged by the clamping face of the hook and, thereby, preventing or greatly minimizing any tendency for the necktie to laterally slide or rock out of position on the collar. At its open or bottom end hook **33** is slightly inturned as at **36**, both to avoid irritation to the wearer's neck at any time and also to extend beneath the collar tabs and engage or lift outwardly the shirt front C' immediately adjacent the collar tabs (see FIG. 4.) to minimize any opportunity for the hook to work or be accidently worked upwardly on the collar.

On the inner side of member F and projecting towards the hook member is an inner backing clamp **37**, also preferably resiliently adjustable, which is provided with a clamping face **38** which is convexly curved in the upward-downward direction and is facedly opposite the clamping face of the hook and cooperates with the hook to centrally clamp the necktie to the collar tabs. Inner backing clamp **37** is preferably located entirely in the concavity or hollow formed by the rearwardly flaring wings **32, 32** and is entirely disposed inside the knot portion of the necktie and may be formed on or secured to the knot supporter member in any suitable manner as for example by welding or by forming a downwardly hanging tongue in the central portion of the knot supporter member and then bending the tongue rearwardly; as shown here, clamp **37** is supported by a rearwardly upturned extension **39** of central portion **29** arcuately bent as at **40** at bottom edge **31**. Clamp **37** is preferably completely covered from view by the material of the tied member with the result that of all the parts of the necktie holder F only the closed end and downward portion of the hook are visible for commercial presentation and, it will be noted, the closed end of the hook is spaced from the inner backing clamp, and the latter is spaced upwardly of the bottom of member F and spaced downwardly of the top of member F. The material of the tied member which is disposed around the wings and externally opposite the clamping face of the inner backing clamp member, in addition to covering these parts from view substantially, also serves as a cushion to rest against the front of a collar and, thereby, minimize accidental sliding or other shifting of the necktie on the collar. The inner backing clamp has the bottom of its clamping face sufficiently far enough below the forward end of the hook and the top of the central portion of the knot supporter member to cooperate with the hook and the side members in clamping the knot supporter member to a neckband of a collar with the knot supporter member positioned in a plane angularly acute to a neckband of a collar.

Referring more particularly to FIGS. 1, 2 and 3, it will be observed that transverse edge **23** of the knot portion will substantially hide, and may completely hide by overhanging, the top end or closed end of the hook from view when fastened to a collar and that the opening **28** is at the top rear of the knot rather than being in the lower part of the knot as is the fastener receiving opening shown in my Patent No. 2,400,604 and that the opening **28** is at the top of the inner end of the depending portion at the rear of the knot and adjacently beneath the transverse edge **23** of the band loop fold of the tied member. As shown in FIG. 1, the band loop fold is very slightly moved downwardly to show the hook location in this view while in FIG. 2, the band loop fold is moved slightly upwardly to show a preferred relationship of edge **23** to the upper or closed end of the hook **33** and in which the band loop rearwardly overhangs the closed end of the hook. By virtue of the fact that all parts of member F except the hook are wholly inside the knot portion, that part of member F exclusive of the hook may be called the knot supporter member.

It will be clear, upon particular reference to FIG. 4 (having FIG. 3 in mind) that the open bottom end of hook **33** extends downwardly below the clamping face **38** of the inner backing clamp whereby the lower end of the hook terminating in end **36** will serve as a guiding or leading end to initiate the engagement of the hook over the top of the tab ends of the collar, for example: by holding the knot of the tied member or necktie, the user may first engage end **36** over the tab ends of a neckband and insert the hook partially down behind the tab ends and then may facilitate the seating or quicken proper positioning of the hook on the neckband by pulling forwardly on the knot and thereby causing the resilient hook to become further separated from the inner backing clamp and thus widen the space therebetween and whereby the neckband will more easily be received between the clamping face of the hook and the material of the necktie opposite the clamping face of the inner backing clamp. Also, it will be observed, upon particular reference to FIGS. 4 and 8, that with the hook in its normal closed position or state of equilibrium, as in FIG. 4, the clamping face of the hook is, preferably, separated from the clamping face of the inner backing clamp a distance greater than the combined thickness of the outerlying and innerlying tab ends of the front of a neckband of a collar and, consequently, and in its preferred form, the knot supporter member will not serve as a resilient clip device to clip or clamp a necktie to a neckband of a collar unless additional material, for example necktie material, is placed between the neckband of a collar and the inner backing clamp. However, this preferred construction of normally spacing the clamping face of the hook from the clamping face of the inner backing clamp a distance greater than the combined thickness of the tab ends of a neckband of a collar presents the advantage that the user can more easily and more quickly position the necktie in proper position at the front of a collar by avoiding forcing the hook to force crushing or collapsing, such as wrinkling downwardly, of the inner tab end and progressively making more difficult, if not impossible, proper positioning of the hook relative to the neckband. The improved necktie holder shown herein makes provision whereby the material of the tied member may cover the inner backing clamp and provide a cushion of yielding material between the backing clamp and the neckband whereby the hook need only be forced backwardly a slight distance to slightly increase the space between it and the inner backing clamp as the hook is gently forced down behind the inner tab end of the neckband and yet the pressure resiliently exerted by the hook against the tab end is strong enough to securely clamp the tie in position when the hook is in final clamp position and, importantly, the tab ends will not have been crumpled or otherwise dragged down or disarranged so as to discourage use of such neckties. It is well known in these modern times that the collar attached shirt with its relatively soft collar is enormously much more in use than the detachable or stiff collar and that because of the softness of the tab ends of the collar attached shirt the inner tab is very susceptible to being dragged downwardly unless, as shown herein, provision is made to

avoid this in instances where the cooperative clamp outside the neckband is covered by the material of the tied member.

In the modification of part shown in FIG. 11, necktie holder F*a* differs from member F by the slot **41** formed in hook **33***a* resulting in a pair of fingers **42** having inner edges also reasonably rectangularly sharp to engage against collar tab material squeezed or bulged into the slot, by hook pressure, to further minimize any tendency for the necktie to laterally slide or laterally rock on the collar tabs. Also, the bifurcated hook will function to permit the necktie to be properly positioned centrally at the front of a detachable collar by passing the hook over the top edges of the two collar tabs and then downwardly between the inner collar tab and the outer tab of the shirt neckband with the slot **41** of hook **33***a* receiving the shank of the collar button with fingers **42** on opposite sides of the shank of the collar button. In other respects necktie holder F*a* is similar to necktie holder F.

In the further modification of part shown in FIGS. 12, 13 and 14, fastening member F*b* differs from fastening member F in that hook **33***b* is pivotally connected to knot support member S*b* for resilient adjustment. Hook **33***b* has on its closed end adjacent the necked-in portion **34***b* a pair of oppositely disposed lateral extensions **43** spring pressed by spring tongue **44** on the knot supporter member by its bent tongue end **45** against the concave faces of bent finger ends **49** of fingers **50** in the knot supporter member whereby the hook as shown in FIG. 13 can be resiliently adjusted to the position shown in FIG. 14 to facilitate placing the hook over and rearwardly down behind the collar tabs and from which open position it can then be resiliently snapped back into closed position as in FIG. 13. In some instances hook **33***b* may be similarly bifurcated as hook **33***a* to provide a similar slot and similar fingers in its hook.

In the further modification shown in FIG. 15, necktie holder F*c* differs from necktie holder F*b* in that on the outer face of the central forward portion of the knot supporter member S*c* a bifurcated plate **46** having a bottom **47** and a top **48** is welded to thicken the knot supporter member outwardly laterally of the tongue and, if desirable, to stiffen the fingers engaging the hook. Hook **33***c* may also be bifurcated to provide the slot to receive a collar button shank as described in reference to FIG. 11. In other respects, necktie holder F*c* is similar to necktie holder F*b*. It will be understood that any other suitable pivoted hook construction may be substituted for the pivoted hook construction shown in FIGS. 12, 13, 14 and 15.

It will be understood that the relationship of the size of the necktie holder, more particularly the knot supporter member, to the size of the inside of the knot portion of the tied member may be any suitable relationship, for example the knot supporter member may be relatively large enough for the tied member to fit on it closely and present a hard feel to the knot or, as herein shown, the tied member may, preferably, fit over the knot supporter member loosely to present a soft or cushiony feel to the knot.

It will be observed that the clamping hook has a clamping position or positions at an acute angle to the plane of the knot supporter member and its central outer face portion and it will be further observed that because of the upwardly-downwardly convexly curved clamping face of the inner backing clamp its face will be parallel to the clamping face of the hook at various degrees of clamping angle of the hook acute to the knot supporter member and its central outer face portion. It will also be observed that the preferably straight clamping portion of the hook clamp element engages the inner side of the neckband of a collar (see FIG. 4) and that the inner backing clamp element has its rearmost clamping face portion spaced down from the generally horizontal upper edge of the knot supporter member a distance equal to approximately one-half the distance from the generally horizontal upper edge of the knot supporter member to the generally horizontal lower edge thereof; this relative arrangement of the parts prevents the knot supporter from rocking or being rocked on the neckband forwards or backwards relative thereto and maintain the necktie secure on the neckband with the knot at the desired acute angle thereto.

Although I have described several embodiments of the invention for purposes of illustration, I wish it to be understood that these embodiments should not be construed as limitations and that the invention is susceptible to minor changes in proportions and details without departure from its spirit and scope.

Having described the invention, I claim:

1. A necktie holder for use in conjunction with a pretied necktie and comprising a knot supporter member having a forward central portion and a generally horizontal upper edge and a generally horizontal lower edge, the lower edge defining the bottom of said central portion, the central portion having an outer face generally straight in the up and down direction, the knot supporter member having side members diverging rearwardly with respect to the outer face of the central portion, said side members having bottom side edges inclined relatively to said upper and lower edges of the knot supporter member and converging downwardly from the rearward direction towards the lower edge of said central portion, an inner backing clamp element extending rearwardly on said knot supporter member and disposed substantially centrally widthwise thereon and having a rearmost clamping face portion spaced rearwardly of the outer face of said central portion, said side members extending rearwardly in the form of wings a distance further than said backing clamp element extends to form a concavity rearwardly of said backing clamp element, and a hook clamp element depending from said forward central portion rearwardly downwardly and in said concavity and being resiliently adjustable with respect to said backing clamp element and cooperative with said clamping face portion thereof to clamp a necktie to the neckband of a collar, the hook clamp element having a closed top end and an open bottom end, said closed top end of the hook clamp element spaced upwardly of said backing clamp element and having its forward end supported by and joined to the forward central portion of the knot supporter member whereby said top end of the hook clamp element forms substantially a rearward extension of the top of the forward central portion of the knot supporter member, the hook clamp element being open from said bottom open end thereof substantially to said closed top end thereof to receive necktie material and being adapted to receive the neckband of a collar passed upwardly through the bottom open end of the hook clamp element to dispose the neckband of a collar adjacently beneath the top end of the hook clamp element, said hook clamp element spaced throughout its length at all times from the inner backing clamp element and having a downwardly extending, generally straight, divergent clamping portion adapted to engage the inner side of the neckband of a collar to cooperate with the inner backing clamp element to position and clamp the knot supporter member on a collar with said rearmost clamping face portion of the backing clamp element opposite said divergent clamping face portion of the hook clamp element and with the outer face of the forward central portion inclined to and diverging downwardly with respect to said divergent clamping portion of the hook clamp element and adapted to be disposed in a plane at an acute angle to the neckband of a collar, said divergent clamping portion of the hook clamp element diverging, at all times, in the downward direction relatively away with respect to the plane of the outer face of the central portion of the knot supporter member, said rearmost clamping face portion of the inner backing clamp element disposed on the knot

supporter member only in a position spaced downwardly from said upper edge of the knot supporter member.

2. A necktie holder as claimed in claim 1 and with said hook clamp element extending downwardly a distance further than the clamping face of said inner backing clamp element extends to provide the bottom end of the hook clamp element as a leading end to engage over the top of the front of a neckband of a collar.

3. A necktie holder as claimed in claim 1 and with said hook clamp element extending downwardly a distance further than the clamping face of the inner backing clamp element extends to provide the bottom end of the hook clamp element as a leading end to engage over the top of the front of a neckband of a collar, and said position being spaced downwardly from said upper edge of the knot supporter member a distance equal to approximately one-half the distance from said upper edge of the knot supporter member to said generally horizontally lower edge thereof, and with said clamping face portion of the backing clamp element convexly curved in the upward-downward direction.

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