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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

**"Improvements in or relating to Cartridge Belts, Bandoleers
or the like".**

(A communication from THE MILLS WOVEN CARTRIDGE BELT COMPANY of
Worcester, Massachusetts, U.S.A.)

We, THE MILLS EQUIPMENT CO. LTD., Manufacturers, of 72, Victoria Street,
Westminster, London, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in
what manner the same is to be performed to be particularly described and
ascertained in and by the following statement:—

5 This invention relates to cartridge belts or bandoleers and has for its object
to provide a belt or bandoleer to which cartridge carriers, braces and similar
articles can be detachably connected in an improved manner.

Hitherto when the cartridge carriers or pouches have been detachable from
the belt either loops have been rigidly or detachably connected to their rear
10 walls, the waist belt or bandoleer being passed through these loops, or C-shaped
metal members have been connected to the backs of the cartridge carriers, the
extremities of these members engaging eyeletted holes in the body of the belt
or passing over the longitudinal edges thereof and extending a short distance
over its rear surface. In both cases the loops or metal fingers prevent the
15 belt fitting close to the wearer's body, the metal fingers moreover not only rub
the tunic and cause discomfort when thin clothing is worn but also tend to
wear out the selvage of the belt and thus cause the pouch to slip from its
required position. When loops permanently connected by both ends to the
back of the pouch are employed it is impossible to detach the pouch without
20 unfastening the belt.

According to this invention in its simplest form the cartridge belt or bandoleer
comprises two plies or thicknesses of material which are suitably connected
together at intervals so as to leave between the plies open ended flat sheaths
adapted to receive the flat ends of C-shaped members attached to the cartridge
25 carriers, braces or the like.

Preferably the belt is formed of woven material and comprises three warps or
plies two of which are woven together throughout the entire length of the belt
by suitable binders so as to form a solid backing while the third ply is incor-
porated or interwoven with the backing except at regular intervals where it is
30 woven separate to form with the backing a series of transversely disposed
sheaths the length of each of which is less than the width of the belt. In all
cases whether the belt be of woven fabric or otherwise the width of each sheath
does not exceed that of the finger which it is to receive so that the sheaths
do not bulge or form projecting loops from the surface of the belt.

35 When the belt is of leather the sheaths are conveniently formed of short
strips of leather attached to the face of the belt by sewing or otherwise.

When it is desired to attach the carrier it is only necessary to contract the
belt transversely to permit of the flat metal fingers entering the open ends
of the sheaths a sufficient number of which is provided to permit the carrier
40 or pouch to be adjusted upon the belt to suit the convenience of the wearer.
After the belt has been contracted to permit of the fingers being inserted it is
released and at once assumes its former flattened position with the result that
the fingers are securely held by the sheaths.

[Price 8d.]

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In the accompanying drawings which show one form of belt according to this invention,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a woven waist belt,

Figure 2 is a cross section through the belt and cartridge carrier, and

Figure 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

In the construction illustrated the belt A is of woven fabric and is provided with two cartridge carriers B each of which comprises three pockets.

Mounted on the rear wall of the cartridge carriers are metal clips C which are preferably attached by means of rivets C¹. The members C which are conveniently formed of brass strips or flattened wire have their extremities C² bent over towards each other so that in side elevation the whole clip resembles the letter C. The fingers C² are adapted to engage the open ends of sheaths A¹ woven integral with the belt proper A as clearly shown in Figures 2 and 3, a number of these sheaths A¹ being formed on the face of the belt to enable the position of the cartridge carrier B to be shifted if desired.

Sheaths A² are also formed on the inner side of the belt these sheaths being adapted to receive the fingers of clips attached to the ends of the braces D (only one of which is shown in the drawings) similar to the clips C on the cartridge carriers B. The braces can however be connected to the outer surface of the belt if desired and by making their clips of the same size as those on the cartridge carriers the position of the braces on the belt can be adjusted as found convenient.

When it is desired to attach the cartridge carrier or braces it is only necessary to contract the belt by bringing its longitudinal edges nearer to each other thus enabling the fingers C² to be inserted in the open ends of the sheaths A¹ or A² whereupon the belt is released and it immediately springs back to its normal flat position.

It will be seen from Figure 3 that the width of each sheath A¹ which is of one ply does not exceed in width that of the backing which is of two plies so that when the fingers C² are inserted the pouch is held close against the outer surface of the belt, the inner surface of the latter being made to bulge inwards to a slight extent.

It will be appreciated that if desired the sheaths may be of the same length as the depth of the belt and that these may be formed by sewing together or otherwise connecting two superimposed strips of leather or other suitable material. Further such articles of the equipment as the bayonet frog, haversack or water bottle may be connected to the belt in a manner similar to that employed for cartridge carriers in the present case.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of this said invention as communicated to us by our foreign correspondents, and in what manner the same is to be performed, we declare that what we claim is:—

1. The method of attaching cartridge carriers, braces or the like to a belt or bandoleer which consists in forming in or mounting on the belt open ended flat sheaths adapted to be engaged by the flat ends of C-shaped members attached to the cartridge carriers or the like as set forth.

2. In a cartridge belt, bandoleer or the like the combination with cartridge carriers braces or the like having flat ended C-shaped members attached thereto of open ended flat sheaths formed in or mounted on the belt or bandoleer and adapted to be engaged by the ends of the C-shaped members as and for the purpose set forth.

3. A cartridge belt, bandoleer or the like comprising two plies or thicknesses of woven material suitably connected at intervals so as to leave between the plies open ended flat sheaths adapted to receive the flat ends of C-shaped members attached to the cartridge carriers braces or the like as set forth.

4. In a woven cartridge belt, bandoleer or the like the combination with cartridge carriers braces or the like having flat ended C-shaped members attached

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thereto of open ended flat sheaths formed integral with the belt in the manner described by weaving and adapted to be engaged by the ends of the C-shaped members as and for the purpose set forth.

5 5. A cartridge belt, bandoleer or the like of the kind set forth in Claims 2, 3 or 4 wherein the length of each flat open ended sheath is less than the width of the belt as set forth.

6. The combination and arrangement of parts constituting the complete cartridge belt substantially as described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

10 Dated this 11th day of November 1908.

B. E. DUNBAR KILBURN,
Agent for the Applicants.

