Nov. 2, 1948. A. KONELSKY 2,453,021

HANDBAG LOCK

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FIG. 1.

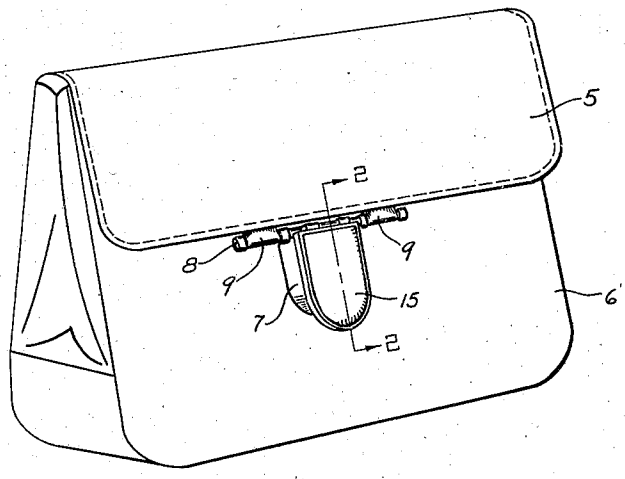


FIG. 2.

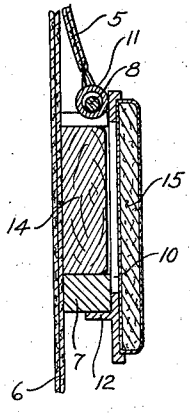


FIG. 3.

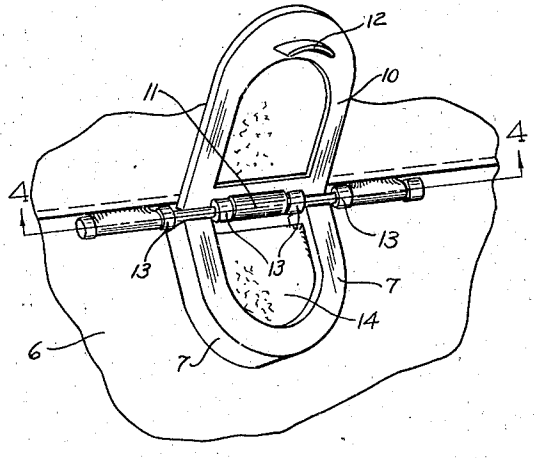
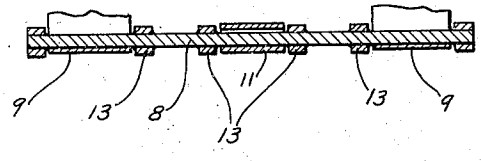


FIG. 4.



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HANDBAG LOCK

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6 Claims. (Cl. 292—1)

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The invention here disclosed relates to devices for securing handbags, brief cases and the like, in closed position.

Objects of the invention are to provide means for securing articles which may be generally considered as handbags, in closed condition and which will operate automatically to effect that result without particular attention on the part of the user.

Particularly it is a purpose of the invention to provide an automatic self-securing form of lock which will be small enough and sufficiently attractive in appearance, operation and the like, for use on ladies' handbags.

Other desirable objects are to provide securing means of the character indicated which will be of simple, inexpensive construction and readily applicable to the various forms of handbag structures.

Other desirable objects and the novel features through which the purposes of the invention are attained are set forth or will appear in the course of the following specification.

The drawing accompanying and forming part of the specification illustrates a present practical embodiment of the invention, though structure may be modified and changed as regards this specification, all within the true intent and broad scope of the invention as hereinafter defined and claimed.

Fig. 1 in the drawing is a perspective view of a lady's handbag or pocketbook having the invention incorporated therein;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged broken sectional detail as on substantially the plane of line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary perspective view illustrating a preliminary stage in the releasing of the lock;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged broken sectional view as on substantially the plane of line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

The bag shown in Fig. 1 is of the envelope type having an opening at the top, closed by a downwardly folding flap 5.

On the front of the bag structure 6, below the lower edge of the closure flap, there is mounted a permanent magnet 7 shown as of the U-shaped or horseshoe type and the flap carries a keeper to be attracted and held by such magnet.

In the special form of the invention shown, this keeper is in two parts, a rod 8 of magnetic material supported in loops 9 on the lower edge of the flap for bridging the spaced pole pieces of the magnet and a U-shaped piece of magnetic material 10 pivoted on the rod at 11 and arranged to drop down in full engagement over the face of the magnet.

The combination of these two relatively adjustable keeper elements assures full magnetic couping between the permanent magnet and keeper elements and enables one to hold while

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possibly the other is being released in the act of releasing the lock to open the bag. Thus, as shown in Fig. 3, the rod 8 in engagement with the pole pieces will hold the cover 5 closed while the dependent keeper element 10 is raised to effect a preliminary or partial separation, and then this raised keeper portion 10 may be used as an effective handle for pulling the magnetic bar away from the poles of the magnet.

Similarly in closing the bag, the magnetic rod will drop down automatically into magnetically held engagement with the pole pieces, primarily positioning the swinging keeper 10 so that it will swing down naturally and automatically into fully coupled magnetic engagement over the body of the magnet.

The swinging keeper element 10 is shown as having an inwardly projecting lug 12 at its lower end to hook in under the lower end of the magnet to add, as shown in Fig. 2, a mechanical form of coupling between keeper and magnet securely resisting direct vertical pull on the cover. Thus while the cover can be quickly and easily released by an outwardly swinging and upwardly lifting movement of the keeper portion 10, it will be held securely locked against accidental or intended releasing movements in other directions. The hook lug 12 may be arcuate in shape, as indicated in Fig. 3, so as to grip the magnet more securely, resisting sidewise movements and automatically centering the keeper over the magnet. At the top the keeper bar or rod 8 is centered over the ends of the pole pieces by spacing collars 13 fixed on the rod at opposite sides of the keeper hinge loop 11 and at the inner edges of the loops or strips 9 which secure the rod to the cover.

The magnet, particularly in the horseshoe shape shown, may serve an ornamental purpose on the front of the bag and therefore may be mounted as shown, in an exposed, projecting position secured about a positioning and supporting block 14 of wood, plastic or other material.

The swinging keeper 10 is shown covered by a pad 15 which may be ornamental in character and serve as well for a convenient handle for operating the device.

The invention provides an attractive form of lock which can be applied at small cost to ladies' handbags and the like and which will operate automatically to close and to hold the bag cover closed. At the same time, anyone familiar with the lock can easily release it by simply lifting the tab to free the swinging keeper and then further lifting to free the bar keeper from the magnet. While particularly desirable for securing covers of the envelope flap type, because of the fact that such a closure will automatically drop the keeper down into position for attraction and holding by the magnet, it will be realized

that the lock structure may be applied to other forms of closures.

What is claimed is:

1. A lock for handbags of the envelope type including a bag body and a downwardly swinging closure flap, said lock comprising a permanent magnet mounted on the front of the bag body and a magnetic keeper mounted on the lower edge of the cover flap in position for attraction by and cooperative engagement with said magnet, said keeper being in two parts, including a magnetic bar at the top and a dependent swinging keeper element below the same.

2. A lock for handbags of the envelope type including a bag body and a downwardly swinging closure flap, said lock comprising a permanent magnet mounted on the front of the bag body and a magnetic keeper mounted on the lower edge of the cover flap in position for attraction by and cooperative engagement with said magnet and an inwardly projecting lug on said keeper mechanically engageable beneath the lower edge of said magnet.

3. A lock for handbags comprising a permanent U magnet for mounting on one portion of a handbag and a keeper bar for mounting on the companion portion of the handbag in position to bridge the poles of said U magnet and a swinging keeper plate pivoted on said bar in position to swing over the face of the U magnet when said bar is engaged with the poles of the magnet and an arcuate lug on the inner face of said swinging keeper element engageable beneath the curved bottom portion of said U magnet.

4. A lock for handbags comprising a permanent U magnet for mounting on one portion of a handbag and a keeper bar for mounting on the companion portion of the handbag in position to bridge the poles of said U magnet and a swinging keeper plate pivoted on said bar in position to swing over the face of the U magnet when said bar is engaged with the poles of the magnet and positioning elements on said bar for centering the same over the ends of said pole pieces.

5. A lock for handbags comprising a permanent U magnet for mounting on one portion of a handbag and a keeper bar for mounting on the companion portion of the handbag in position to bridge the poles of said U magnet and a swinging keeper plate pivoted on said bar in position to swing over the face of the U magnet when said bar is engaged with the poles of the magnet, positioning elements on said bar for centering the same over the ends of said pole pieces and a projecting lug on said swinging keeper engageable over the lower end of said magnet for positioning said swinging keeper thereon.

6. A lock for handbags comprising a permanent magnet and means for mounting the same on one portion of a handbag, a keeper and means for mounting the same on the companion portion of such a handbag, said keeper comprising a handtab portion pivoted to swing down over the face of the permanent magnet and a projecting keeper lug at the free swinging end of said pivoted handtab portion positioned to engage over the edge of the permanent magnet to mechanically interlock therewith when said pivoted keeper is magnetically coupled over the face of said permanent magnet.

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The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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