July 8, 1924. 1,500,362

S. BUCHSBAUM

BELT BUCKLE

Filed Aug. 4, 1921

Fig. 1.

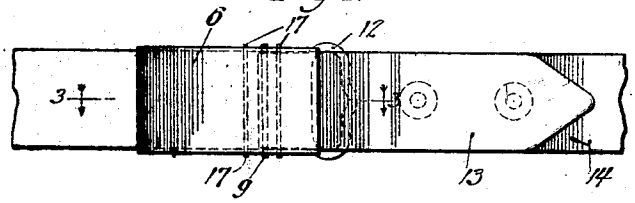


Fig. 2.

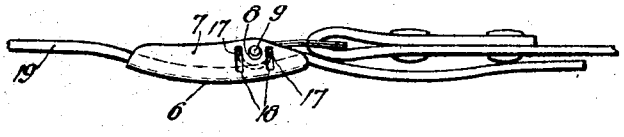


Fig. 3.

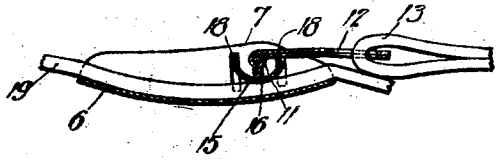


Fig. 4.

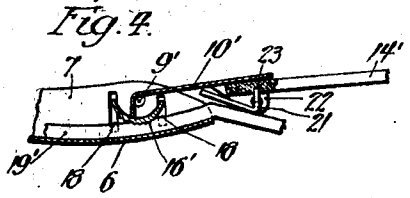


Fig. 5.

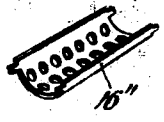
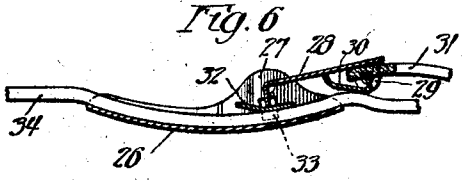


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL BUCHSBAUM, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

BELT BUCKLE.

Original application filed January 31, 1921, Serial No. 441,232. Divided and this application filed August 4, 1921. Serial No. 489,857.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL BUCHSBAUM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Belt Buckles, of which the following is a full, clear, concise, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

This invention relates to belt buckles and more particularly to a belt buckle provided with a knuckle joint clamping lever and is a division of application Serial Number 441,232, filed January 31, 1921.

It is the purpose of the invention to provide a belt buckle with clamping means comprising a belt clamping element having upturned end portions to prevent marring of the belt thereby that is slidably and tiltably mounted in the front plate of the buckle and which is adapted to be moved into engagement with the belt by means of a clamping lever having an angular end portion adapted to engage the concave face of said clamping element.

It is a further purpose of the invention to so construct a belt buckle that very little power need be applied to the clamping lever in order to clamp the belt end therein, and in which the belt will readily slide when the clamping lever is released.

It is a still further object of the invention to provide a belt buckle with a clamping means wherein the clamping lever does not contact with the belt and consequently no marring of the belt will occur.

It is another object of the invention to provide a belt buckle having a clamping plate that is connected with the front plate of the buckle by a pin and slot connection to provide for movement of said clamping plate toward and away from said front plate by means of an angular clamping lever.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear as the description of the accompanying drawings showing certain forms that my invention may take, proceeds. However, I desire to have it distinctly understood that I do not intend to limit myself to the exact details of structure shown in the drawings and described in the specification, but intend to include as part of my invention, all such obvious changes and modifications of structure as would occur to a person skilled in this art and as would fall within the scope of the claims.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of the improved belt buckle showing the same applied to a belt, the belt being partly broken away;

Fig. 2 is an edge view thereof, looking at the side edge of the belt;

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view of the buckle taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary longitudinal sectional view of a modified form of buckle;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a further modified form of clamping element; and

Fig. 6 is a view similar to Fig. 3 of a belt buckle having a single pin and slot connection on each side thereof.

Referring in detail to the drawings, the improved belt buckle comprises a front plate 6 curved longitudinally as shown in Figs. 2 and 3 and provided with rearwardly extending side flanges 7 that are provided with suitable openings 8 for the pivot pin 9 which is carried by the clamping lever 10 which may be formed as shown in Fig. 3 so as to provide an eye at 11 to receive the pin 9 and having an elongated eye at the end portion thereof at 12 to receive the loop 13 on the belt extremity 14.

It will be seen from Fig. 3 that the clamping lever comprises a long arm and a short arm extending at substantially right angles to each other. The short arm 15 is adapted to engage a belt clamping member 16 which is curved as shown in Figs. 2 and 3 so as to turn the end edges thereof away from the front plate and the belt, and which is provided with end portions or lugs 17 that are adapted to operate in slots 18 provided in the flanges 7.

The lugs 17 do not fit snugly in the slots and have a loose sliding movement therein so that the clamping member 16 will slide toward the front plate 6 and will also rock slightly relative thereto when the clamping lever 10 is moved in a clockwise direction into the clamping position shown in Fig. 3.

The member 15 moving along the concave face of the clamping plate 16 will draw the same by a combined sliding and rocking movement into clamping position relative to the free belt extremity 19. By this arrangement, the clamping lever does not contact with the belt extremity and thus any scraping or biting action thereof which would in-

jure the belt is removed, the clamping plate 16 being smooth and being rounded on a gradual curve will not injure the belt in any way.

When the clamping lever 10 is moved in counterclockwise direction, the clamping plate 16 will be released and will move away from the plate so as to loosely contact with with the same and permit withdrawal of the belt end 19 from between the clamping plate and the front plate.

The clamping plate may be provided with serrations or grooves or roughened portions 20 as is shown for the clamping member 16′ in Fig. 4 the member 16′ being mounted in the front plate 6 in slots 18 provided in the side flanges 7 in a similar manner to the mounting of the plates 16 in Fig. 3.

The clamping lever 10′ in this form is shown as having an integral pivot member 9′ and is provided at the extremity thereof with a gripping member 21 pivoted to ears 22 and having teeth 23 that are adapted to grip the belt extremity 14′, it being, of course, understood that the free belt extremity 19′ is gripped between the front plate 6 and the clamping member 16′ in a manner similar to that of the belt extremity 19. Instead of providing grooves or serrations to provide gripping means on the clamping plate, the holes or openings 24 may be provided as shown in Fig. 5 in the clamping plate 16″.

In Fig. 6 is shown a belt buckle having a front plate 26 curved longitudinally, and provided with rearwardly extending side flanges 27 between which is pivoted the clamping lever 28 which comprises a long arm and a short arm as previously described. The long arm is provided with ears 29, carrying the belt gripping means 30 engaging the belt extremity 31. The short arm of the clamping lever is adapted to engage a belt clamping member 32 which is shaped as shown in Fig. 6 so as to have the ends thereof extending rearwardly away from the belt so as to avoid any sharp edge engaging the belt. The member 32 is provided with means engaging a guide slot 33 in each of the ears 27 in a similar manner as shown in Figs. 1 to 5 except that a single guide slot is used on each side. As the lever 28 is swung clockwise the short end thereof is adapted to move the belt clamping member 32 toward the front plate 26 and clamp the belt extremity 34 between the said belt clamping member and front plate.

From the above it will be seen that a belt buckle has been provided that will grip the free belt extremity securely without in any way injuring the same and without there being any contact between the pivoted member or clamping lever and the belt extremity, thus avoiding all wear between the clamping lever and the belt extremity.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:

1. A belt buckle of the character described comprising a front plate having rearwardly extending side flanges, a clamping plate having a body portion curved so as to approach nearer said front plate from the ends toward the middle thereof, mounted between said side flanges, and being connected to said flanges with a pin and slot connection at each end thereof to provide for movement thereof toward and away from said front plate, and means for moving said clamping plate toward said front plate, said clamping plate being mounted on said front plate independently of said last mentioned means.

2. A belt buckle of the character described comprising a curved sheet metal front plate having side flanges, a curved sheet metal clamping plate positioned between the side flanges of said front plate, said clamping plate being of sharper curvature than said front plate and having its convex side toward said front plate and being mounted for movement toward and away from said front plate by means of a pin and slot connection, and means for moving said clamping plate toward said front plate comprising an angular clamping lever engaging said clamping plate on the concave side thereof at one end thereof and being provided with belt gripping means at the other end thereof.

3. A belt buckle of the character described comprising a front plate having rearwardly extending side flanges, having guide slots thereon, a clamping plate having a curved belt engaging portion and provided with lugs operating in said slots whereby said clamping plate is movable toward and away from said front plate, said belt engaging portion having its convex side facing said front plate and adapted to engage said belt, and means for moving said clamping plate toward said front plate comprising a clamping lever pivotally mounted between said side flanges and engaging said clamping plate.

In witness whereof I hereunto subscribe my name this 29th day of July A. D. 1921.

SAMUEL BUCHSBAUM.