Aug. 23, 1927. 1,639,651

J. A. EWEN

POCKET AND PENCIL CLASP

Filed April 20, 1925 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

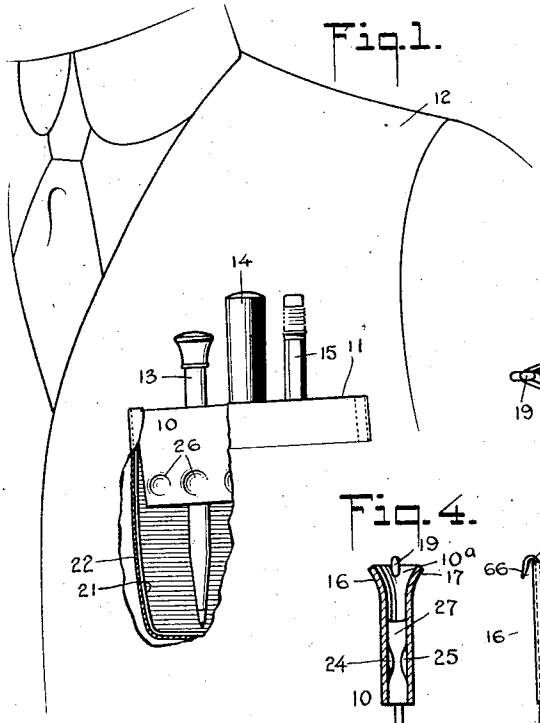


Fig. 3.

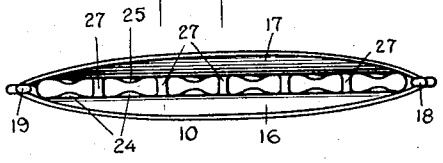


Fig. 4.

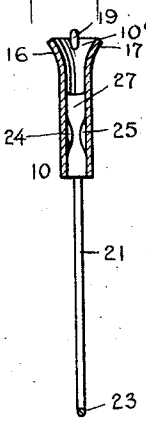


Fig. 2.

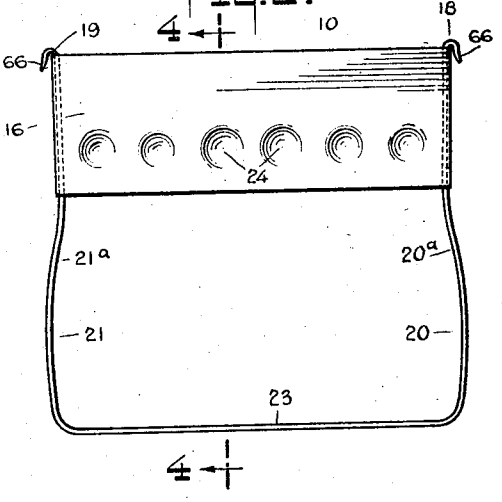


Fig. 5.

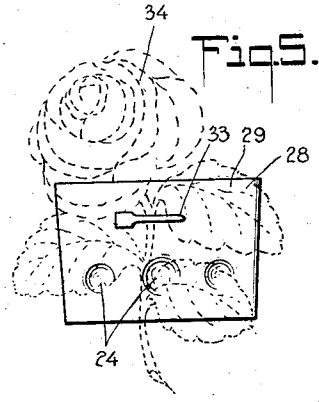


Fig. 6.

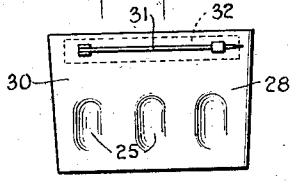
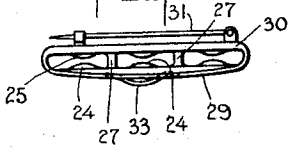


Fig. 7.



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Fig. 8.

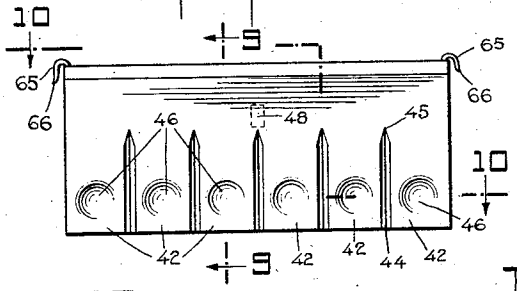


Fig. 9.

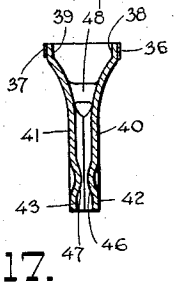


Fig. 10.

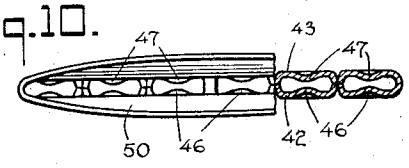


Fig. 17.

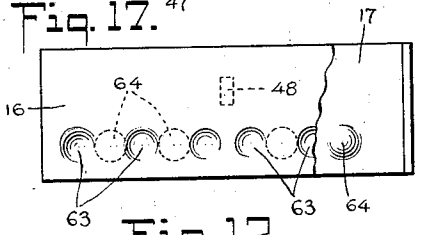


Fig. 11.

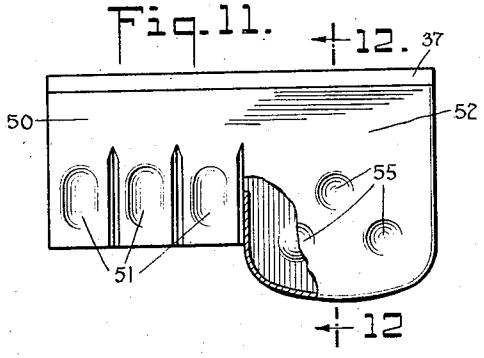


Fig. 12.

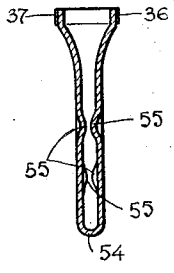


Fig. 13.

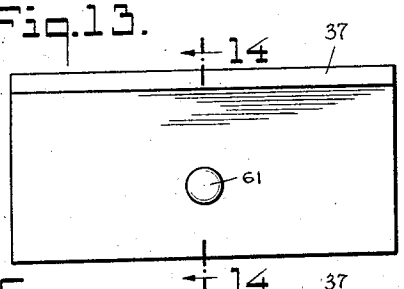


Fig. 14.

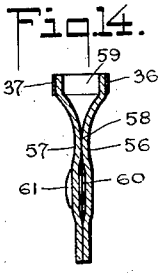


Fig. 15.

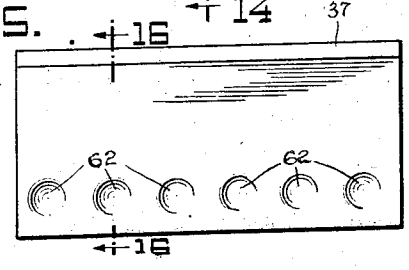
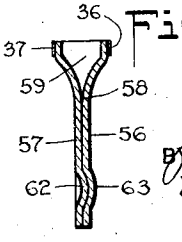


Fig. 16.



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Patented Aug. 23, 1927. 1,639,651

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN A. EWEN, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

POCKET AND PENCIL CLASP.

Application filed April 20, 1925. Serial No. 24,319.

This invention relates to pen and pencil clasps.

An object of this invention is to provide an improved form of clasp for receiving and retaining pens, pencils, cigars, watches, keys and the like.

My present invention is an improvement of that of my application Serial No. 755,149, filed by me in the U. S. Patent Office on December 11th, 1924 and entitled Pocket clasp for pens and pencils.

The more preferred forms of my present invention are constructed for use in a pocket and as well for use on a garment independently of a pocket, as for example, on ladies' waists and other ladies' outer wear, in purses, hand-bags and like containers.

In such preferred forms of my present invention, my clasp comprises oppositely disposed members preferably of molded rubber or like yieldable and adhering material providing for one or more receptacle-like spaces for receiving and retaining pens, pencils or the like as aforesaid. Such members are molded or otherwise formed with off-set portions extending within such receptacle-like spaces for enhancing the clasping engagement with the pen, pencil or the like. In coaction with said off-set portion or portions I provide one or more partition members, also preferably of the material of the aforesaid oppositely disposed members and molded unitarily therewith, said partition members serving to divide the receptacle-like spaces from one another and to provide individual action of the portions of the clasp members in engagement with respective pens, pencils or the like and irrespective of the thicknesses or diameters of the same.

Further features and objects of the invention will be more fully understood from the following detail description and the accompanying drawings, in which—

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view, illustrating the use of one preferred form of my present invention applied to a pocket of a vest, a portion of the outer material of the vest pocket being broken away to bring to view otherwise hidden parts; Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the form of my pen and pencil clasp illustrated in Fig. 1, on a somewhat enlarged scale; Fig. 3 is a top plan view of Fig. 2; and Fig. 4 is a sectional elevation on line 4—4 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 5 is a front side elevation of another preferred form of my invention, particularly adapted for ladies' uses for pens, pencils and the like; the clasp is shown ornamented and concealed by a floral design or the like; Fig. 6 is a side elevation of Fig. 5 as viewed from the rear side; and showing a modified form of the projection for respectively engaging the pens or pencils or the like; and Fig. 7 is a top plan view of Figs. 5 and 6;

Fig. 8 is a side elevation of another preferred form of my invention; Fig. 9 is a sectional elevation on line 9—9 of Fig. 8; and Fig. 10 is a view on sectional line 10—10 of Fig. 8.

Fig. 11 is a side elevation of another modification of my invention, partly broken away; and Fig. 12 is a sectional elevation on line 12—12 of Fig. 11.

Fig. 13 is a side elevation of a further modification of my invention; and Fig. 14 is a sectional elevation on line 14—14 of Fig. 13.

Fig. 15 is a side elevation of an additional modification of my invention; and Fig. 16 is a sectional elevation on line 16—16 of Fig. 15; and Fig. 17 is a side elevation, partly broken away showing another form of my invention.

Referring to Figs 1 to 4, inclusive, my clasp 10 is illustrative of a form adapted to be inserted and automatically retained with a pocket 11 such as an upper pocket of a vest 12 or like garment. The clasp 10 is shown retaining in clasped position a mechanical pencil 13, a pen 14 and an ordinary lead pencil 15, each independently of the other in respect to insertion, retention and removal, and irrespective of the diameters or thicknesses of the articles, as appears more fully hereinafter.

Such form of my invention comprises generally the oppositely disposed members 16, 17 preferably of rubber composition and molded to have the formation providing for the flared upper opening 10^a, see Fig. 4 for facilitating the entry of the articles to be retained by my clasp.

The clasp 10, in the form illustrated in these figures, is retained automatically in position within the vest pocket 11 or the like by

a spring secured at its upper ends 18, 19 respectively adjacent the upper edge at the sides of the clasp 10, at or adjacent the intersection of the members 16, 17 thereat. The spring further comprises the laterally disposed portion 20, 21 normally outwardly bowed to thereby frictionally engage the oppositely disposed ends of the material 22, see Fig. 1, of the pocket 11. The extent of compression of the bowed portions 20, 21, is indicated in Fig. 1 by the compression of the spring portions 20, 21 as compared with their expanded positions 20^a, 21^a, as indicated in Fig. 2. The bottom or central portion 23 of the spring corresponds to the desired extent of insertion of the clasp 10 within the pocket 11, the bottom portion 23 attaining the bottom of the material 22 of the pocket 11. It will be understood that the outer faces of the front member 16 and rear member 17 of the clasp 10 coacts with the lateral, bowed portions 20, 21 of the spring to retain the clasp 10 within the pocket.

In the form of my invention shown in Figs. 1 to 4, inclusive, the oppositely disposed members 16, 17 may be substantially parallel to one another below their flared opening portion 10^a, and such parallel portions are spaced from one another to an extent as may be desired. Within the spacing between said members 16, 17 I provide the oppositely directed projections 24, 25, preferably molded of the material of the members 16, 17, which projections 24, 25 may be semi-spherical or of like curved contour, see Fig. 1, and also providing for the corresponding depressions 26 on the outer faces of the respective members 16, 17. In this form of my invention, the projections 24, 25 are disposed in substantial alignment with one another, as appears in Figs. 3 and 4.

Such form of my invention also embodies the partition members 27, spaced from one another in correspondence to the diameter or dimension of thickness of the articles to be inserted in my clasp. Such partition members 25 are preferably of the same material as that of the members 16, 17 and molded integrally therewith and of proper dimensions and shape.

Upon inserting an article such as a mechanical pencil 13 within the receptacle-like space, as for example, the second space from the left as indicated in Fig. 1, bounded on opposite sides by the first and second partition members 27, the oppositely disposed projections 24, 25 are compressed to a sufficient extent to firmly grasp the pencil 13. Accompanying such action, the first and second partition members 27 serve to resiliently limit the extent of compression of the projecting members 24, 25 and of the displacement of the members 16, 17 comprised within the second receptacle-like space into which the pencil 13 is inserted.

We will assume now that the pen 14 as indicated in Fig. 1 is of enlarged diameter as compared with the pencil 13; upon inserting the pen 14 within the third receptacle-like space bounded by the second and third retaining members 27, the compression of its projecting members 24, 25 is to a greater extent but any undue displacement of the members 16, 17 is restrained by the coaction of the second and third partition members 27. The ordinary lead pencil 15 of greatly reduced diameter or thickness as compared with the pen 14 may be inserted within the fourth receptacle-like space of my clasp 10, giving rise in a similar manner to the compression of its oppositely disposed projection portions 24, 25 but to less extent than that caused by the pen 14. The third partition member 27 dividing the third and fourth receptacle-like spaces similarly serves to limit the extent of displacement of the portions of the members 16, 17 comprised within the fourth receptacle-like space and to thereby firmly retain the pencil 15 therein.

In the form of my invention shown in Figs. 5, 6 and 7, the clasp 28 is especially adapted for ladies' uses, as on a waist, bodice or the like. The front member 29 of the clasp 28 corresponds to the front member 16 of the aforesaid clasp 10 and the rearward member 30 corresponds to the aforesaid member 17. For use on an outer garment, the clasp 28 is provided on its rear face with a pin 31 in the nature of a safety pin or equivalent. The body portion 32 of the pin 31 is preferably molded within the material of the rearward member 30. On the outer face of the front member 29 may be provided the spring or catch 33 for retaining a design 34 for concealing the clasp 28 such as an artificial flower or like bouquet, or badge or the like applicable for office use, department stores and the like. In the form of my clasp 28 as illustrated, there is provided three receptacle-like spaces, embodying oppositely disposed projecting members 24, 25 and partition members 27 corresponding generally to like parts of my embodiment shown in Figs. 1 to 4, which parts are designated by like reference numbers. In Fig. 5 the projecting members 24 are shown of circular contour and in Fig. 6 as of elongated contour. The depressions on the outer faces of the members 24, 25 may be provided if desired.

Figs. 8, 9 and 10 illustrate a modification of my invention and may accommodate a maximum of six articles, such as pens, pencils, cigars and the like. These figures also illustrate another form of removable attachment of my clasp within a garment pocket, or the pocket of a handbag, briefcase or suitcase, as by suitable means, such as the adhesive strips 36, 37 on the exterior

faces of the respective upper portions 38, 39 of the oppositely disposed members 40, 41 corresponding generally to the aforesaid members 16, 17 illustrated in Figs. 1 to 4, inclusive. Such strips 36, 37 are of rubber containing material which become plastic and adhesive under slightly elevated temperature as by the use of a moderately heated flat iron, serving also to exert the necessary pressure in applying my clasp to the inner faces of the pocket as well as to supply the heat.

For removing my clasp, a heated iron is similarly applied to render the strips 36, 37 plastic, whereupon the clasp may be pulled from engagement with the material of the pocket or the like.

In the form shown in Figs. 8, 9 and 10 the receptacle-like spaces are provided by the oppositely disposed depending portions 42, 43 of the respective members 40, 41, which are individual from one another by the provision of the slots 44 extending downwardly from a suitable location 45. The protuberances 46, 47, which may be of circular formation, project inwardly from the respective depending portions 42, 43 to provide the frictional clasping function for the articles inserted therein. The independence of yielding of the depending portions 42, 43 of the receptacle-like spaces is had by the provision of the slots 44.

Preferably, the oppositely disposed members 40, 41 are interconnected as at the center by the partition member 48 also of rubber or other resilient material and preferably cast integrally with the oppositely disposed members 40, 41.

In Figs. 11 and 12, I have illustrated another form of my invention, adapted for the reception of a watch or an article of jewelry or the like, and also embodying a suitable number of receptacle-like spaces for pens, pencils, cigars and the like. The left-hand portion 50 of this form of my invention corresponds generally to the left-hand portion of my invention shown in Figs. 8, 9 and 10 and like parts are designated by like reference numbers. It will be observed that the protuberances 51 of the receptacle-like spaces may be of elongated form, similar to the form shown in Fig. 6. The right-hand portion 52 as viewed in Fig. 11 is adapted to receive a watch or like article and the contour 53 of such portion 52 is shaped accordingly. Such pocket 52 may have a closed bottom 54 as indicated in Fig. 12 or the bottom may be open as preferred. The provision of a suitable number of protuberances 55 is provided within the pocket 52 for frictionally and resiliently engaging the outer face of the watch or like article to retain the same.

This form of my invention may also be supplied with oppositely disposed removable adhesive strips 36, 37 of adhesive material, similarly as hereinabove.

In Figs. 13 and 14 I have illustrated another form of my invention, which is particularly adapted for a hip pocket of a man's trousers or the like for the reception and retention of a bunch of keys, a wallet or like article. Such form of clasp comprises the oppositely disposed members 56, 57 which are molded to be brought into substantial contact at their inner faces at their portions below a suitable location 58. The upwardly disposed portions of the members 56, 57 are preferably outwardly flared as is indicated at 59, similarly as hereinabove, for facilitating the entry of the bunch of keys, or a wallet or the like. The lower portions of the members 56, 57 may be of less depth than the depth of the pocket to permit the bunch of keys to pass between and below the members 56, 57 and into the lower portion of the pocket. The removal of the bunch of keys or like article is had by passing the fingers between the members 56, 57 of my clasp, in which operation the members 56, 57 are displaced from one another to permit the fingers to extend therethrough to grasp the bunch of keys.

This form of my invention also illustrates the use of snap fasteners 60, 61, for releasably closing the members 56, 57. It will be noted that the curved formation of the members 56, 57 effects a definite tendency of the material of the members 56, 57 to approach one another to effectually seal the pocket against pilfering or other loss. The snap fasteners 60, 61 serve to lock the members 56, 57 whenever desired.

The form of my invention shown in Figs. 15 and 16, corresponds generally to that shown in Figs. 1 to 4, inclusive; however, the series of protuberances 62, 63 of circular or other suitable contour on the oppositely disposed members 56, 57 project in like directions and are arranged to substantially register with one another. It will also be noted that the members 56, 57, are molded curvedly above the location 58 to provide the flared opening at the top and also to effect the automatic approach to one another coacting with their lower portions which are molded in normally close proximity.

In Fig. 17, I have illustrated the clasp comprising the oppositely disposed members 16, 17, similar to the members 16, 17 of Figs. 1 to 4, inclusive; the protuberances 63 on the inner face of the member 16 being displaced relative to the protuberances 64 on the inner face of the member 17, to form a staggered relation therewith, thereby permitting a pen, pencil or the like to be inserted between any two protuberances 63, 64 and be engaged by such two protuberances 63, 64 in their clasping function.

A dividing or partition member 48 of

rubber molded integrally with the members 16, 17, similar to that of Figs. 8, 9 and 10, may be placed centrally within the receptacle-like spaces between the members 16, 17 of Fig. 17.

If desired, the respective forms of my clasp may be removably positioned in a garment pocket or other suitable location by means of one or more clips see Fig. 8, one end of which is anchored by molding or otherwise secured to the members 40, 41, at their upper portions, the outer end 66 of each clip 65 being preferably sharpened to be pushed into the cloth of the pocket as at the upper edge of the pocket and to be held thereby.

If desired, the spring shown in the form illustrated in Figs. 1 to 4, may be attached at its upper free ends to the members 16, 17 at their intersections similarly as illustrated in these figures, but the body of the portions 20, 21 may be exterior of the members 16, 17 below the aforesaid points of attachment. The clip ends 66 may also be provided, as in Fig. 8.

Whereas, I have described my invention by reference to specific forms thereof, it will be understood that many changes and modifications may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.

I claim:

1. A clasp for pens, pencils and the like comprising oppositely arranged members disposed relative to one another to provide receptacle-like spaces therebetween, the upper portions of said members being flared outwardly from one another and a plurality of projecting members extending within said receptacle-like spaces for engagement with the articles inserted therein.

2. A clasp for pens, pencils and the like comprising oppositely arranged members disposed relative to one another to provide receptacle-like spaces therebetween, the upper portions of said members being flared outwardly from one another, partition members extending between said oppositely disposed members for dividing the receptacle-like spaces and a plurality of projecting members extending within said receptacle-like spaces for engagement with the articles inserted therein.

3. A clasp for pens, pencils and the like comprising oppositely arranged members of resilient material and disposed relative to one another to provide receptacle-like spaces therebetween, the upper portions of said members being flared outwardly from one another and a plurality of projecting members extending within said receptacle-like spaces for engagement with the articles inserted therein.

4. A clasp for pens, pencils and the like comprising oppositely disposed members of resilient material and arranged relative to one another to provide receptacle-like spaces therebetween, the upper portions of said members being flared outwardly from one another, partition members extending between said oppositely disposed members for dividing the receptacle-like spaces and a plurality of projecting members extending within said receptacle-like spaces for engagement with the articles inserted therein.

5. A clasp for pens, pencils or like articles comprising oppositely arranged members disposed relative to one another to provide receptacle-like spaces therebetween, means secured to and projecting from the inner faces of said members for engaging the respective articles inserted within such receptacle-like spaces and a spring having its end secured to said members, said spring extending laterally of said members to frictionally engage the garment pocket in which the clasp is inserted.

6. A clasp for pens, pencils or like articles comprising oppositely arranged members disposed relative to one another to provide receptacle-like spaces therebetween, means secured to and projecting from the inner faces of said members for engaging the respective articles inserted within such receptacle-like spaces and a spring having its end secured to said members, said spring extending laterally of said members to frictionally engage the garment pocket in which the clasp is inserted, said spring further having a portion arranged to engage the bottom of the garment pocket.

7. A clasp for pens, pencils or like articles comprising oppositely arranged members disposed relative to one another to provide receptacle-like spaces therebetween, means secured to and projecting from the inner faces of said members for engaging the respective articles inserted within such receptacle-like spaces and a spring having its opposite ends secured to said members, said spring extending laterally of said members to frictionally engage the garment pocket in which the clasp is inserted.

8. A clasp for pens, pencils and the like comprising oppositely disposed members arranged relative to one another to provide receptacle-like spaces therebetween, a plurality of spaced members of resilient material extending between said oppositely disposed members for dividing the receptacle-like spaces, said oppositely disposed members for other portions thereof disposed below said partition members being provided with slots and resilient means integral with and projecting from said oppositely disposed members respectively toward one another for engagement with the articles inserted in said receptacle-like spaces.

9. A clasp for pens, pencils and the like comprising oppositely disposed members arranged relative to one another to provide re-

ceptacle-like spaces therebetween, the upper portions of said members being flared outwardly from one another, a plurality of spaced members of resilient material extending between said oppositely disposed members for dividing the receptacle-like spaces, said oppositely disposed members for other portions thereof disposed below said partition members being provided with slots and resilient means integral with and projecting from said oppositely disposed members respectively toward one another for engagement with the articles inserted in said receptacle-like spaces.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification this 16th day of April 1925.

JOHN A. EWEN.