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POUCH OR BAG LOCK

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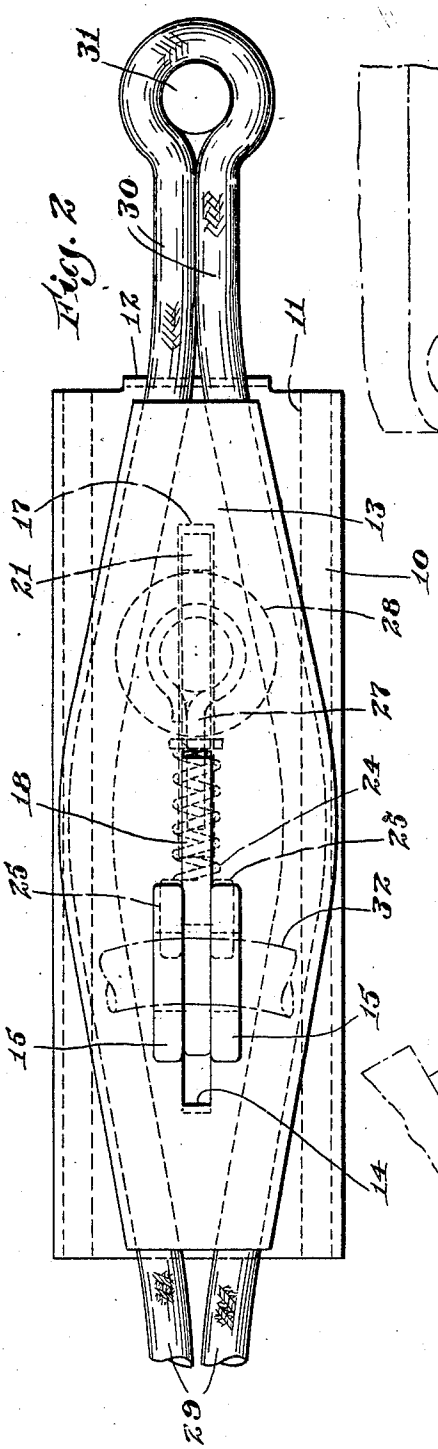


Fig. 2.

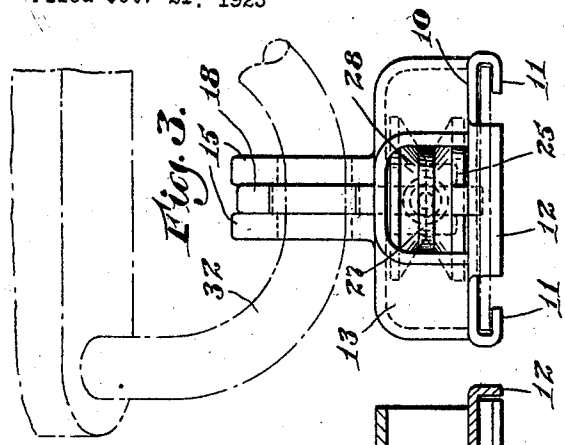


Fig. 3.

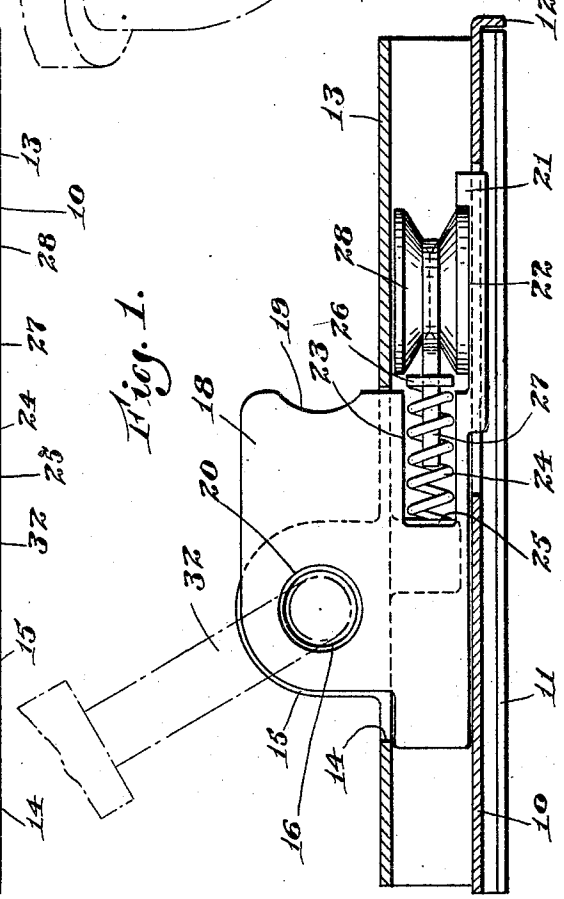


Fig. 1.

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POUCH OR BAG LOCK.

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My present invention relates to cord or rope fastenings, and more particularly to a cord or rope fastener for securing the cord about the top of a mail sack or pouch.

In the endeavor to improve upon this type of apparatus and to lower the initial as well as the upkeep cost and with increased efficiency in operation, I have devised the subject matter of the present invention and have invented a device for passing and securing the cords about a mail bag, with a fastener so simple and strong in construction, that it will withstand years of service and materially cut down the need and cost of the present annual replacement. In addition, the saving of wear and tear on the cords used will greatly reduce the need and cost of their replacement.

The object of my invention, therefore, is an improved rope or cord fastener applicable to mail bags and the like.

In the accompanying drawings illustrating a preferred embodiment of my invention,

Fig. 1 is a side elevation, partly in section;

Fig. 2 is a plan view, also partly in section, and

Fig. 3 is an end elevation.

Referring to the drawings, 10 designates a base plate of stamp metal having opposite edges 11 folded over parallel to the main portion 10 and defining a substantially rectangular open space in which may be slid a cord 12 or other device carrying the name of the place to which it is desired to send the device. Secured to the base 10 on the side remote from the elements 11 is a casing member 13, this member being substantially U-shaped in cross section and being tapered from the middle outward to each end, as clearly shown in Fig. 3. The casing 13 and the base 10 form an open ended chamber in which is located the working elements of the device. The casing 13 is provided with an elongated slot 14 on each side of which is placed upwardly or outwardly extending lugs 15, these lugs being secured to the casing 13 in any suitable manner. Each of the lugs 15 is provided with perforations 16, the perforations being in alignment with each other and are designed for a purpose to be hereinafter described. The base 10 is provided with a slot 17 in alignment with the slot 14 above described as being in the casing 13. The slots 14 and 17 act as bearing members for an operating and locking lug 18. The lug 18 is provided on its upper end with a finger plate 19 and with a perforation 20 adapted to register with the perforations 16 in the lugs 15. Also, the lower end of the lug is provided with an element or extension 21 that slides in the slot 17, the upper edge of this portion 20 extending outward beyond the limits of the hand hold 19 and the top edge of this portion 21 is cut away, as indicated at 22 in Fig. 1. Also, the element 18 is cut away, as indicated at 23, to provide a space in which works a compression spring 24. One end of the compression spring 24 engages with a pair of stops 25 secured to the under face of the casing 13 and on either side of the member 18 when such member is in operative position. Normally in engagement with the other end of the spring 24 is a washer 26 to which is secured a member 27. Numeral 28 designates a grooved wheel or pulley loosely mounted in the cut away portion 22 of the member 21 and the outer end of the member 27 is formed to engage with the bottom of the groove in the pulley 28, as clearly shown in Fig. 2. Referring to such Figure 2, therefore, it will be obvious that the spring 24, being limited in its movement to the left by the lugs 25, will press on the washer 26 and thus force the grooved pulley 28 to the right, as shown in such figure, or tending to force the pulley 28 into the apex of the angle formed by the tapering sides of the casing 13.

The ends 29 of the bight of the cord 30 that encircles the open mouth 31 of a mail bag or other device pass through the right hand end of the casing 13 and occupy a position relative to the pulley 28 shown in Fig. 2. It is obvious, therefore, that, if the two ends 29 are pulled to the left, only the tension of the spring 24 is opposed to such movement and that it may readily be performed. If, however, it is attempted to pull the ends 29 to the right, as shown in such Fig. 2, the pulley 28, cooperating with the tapered portion of the casing 13, will lock positive such ends against movement.

If the parts of the device are in the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the perforations 16 and 20 are in alignment with each other and the padlock 32, it may be the usual service padlock of the Post Office Department,

may be inserted therebetween and prevent relative movement of the lug 18 with respect to the lugs 15. If it is desired to pull the ends 20 of the bight of the rope 30 to the right so as to open the mail bag 31 to which they are attached, the operator will pull on the lug 18 by means of the finger plate 19, moving such lug 18 to the right, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, when the outer end of the cut away portion 22 in the member 21 will engage with the periphery of the wheel 28 and will allow such wheel 28 to be moved to the left against the tension of the spring 24. By maintaining the parts in this position just described it is now possible to grasp the ends 29 and pull the same to the right of the structure shown in Figs. 1 and 2, thus increasing the diameter of the bight of the rope 30 and allow the bag 31 to which it is attached to be opened.

My device is simple in character, is made of few parts, and these parts are of such a character as not to require accurate machine work. Further, being simple in character and few in number, there are no parts to get out of order and, further, the device may be manufactured at a minimum of cost.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is:

1. A cord fastener comprising a casing, a slide movable in said casing, and a locking wheel in said casing and movable independently of the slide, said casing having its side walls tapered and said tapered ends cooperating with the locking wheel to lock a cord against movement.

2. A cord fastener comprising a base plate, a casing having its side walls tapered at each end and mounted thereon, a locking wheel mounted within the casing, means for forcing said locking wheel into operative association with the tapered ends of the casing and cooperating with said casing to lock a cord in fixed position, a slide movably mounted in the casing and base plate, and means for locking said slide in fixed position with relation to the casing.

3. A cord fastener comprising a base plate, a casing having its side walls tapered at each end and mounted thereon, a locking wheel mounted within the casing, means for forcing said locking wheel into operative association with the tapered ends of the casing and cooperating with said casing to lock a cord in fixed position, a slide movably mounted in the casing and base plate, and means on said slide for engaging the locking wheel to move said wheel out of association with the tapered side walls.

4. A cord fastener comprising a base plate, a casing having its side walls tapered at each end and mounted thereon, a locking wheel mounted within the casing, means for forcing said locking wheel into operative association with the tapered ends of the casing and cooperating with said casing to lock a cord in fixed position, a slide movably mounted in the casing and base plate, means for locking said slide in fixed position with relation to the casing, and means on said slide for engaging the locking wheel to move said wheel out of association with the tapered side walls.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

ARTHUR L. CURRIER.