Jan. 30, 1940. H. HOKANSON 2,188,714

ANTITHEFT DEVICE

Filed June 26, 1939

Fig. 1.

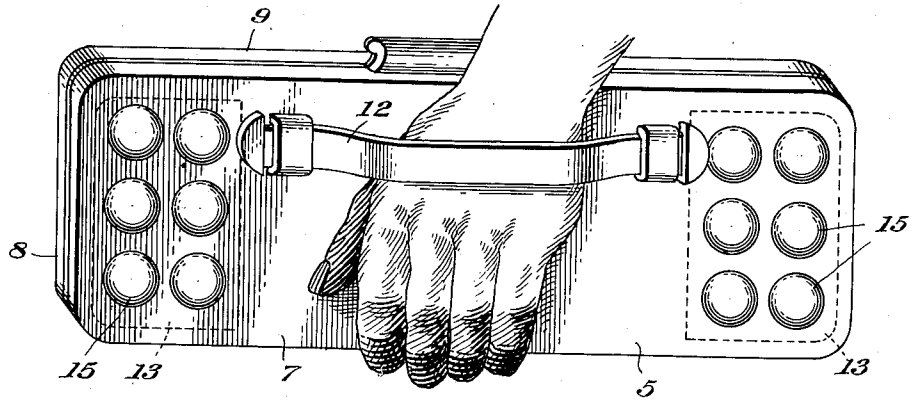


Fig. 2.

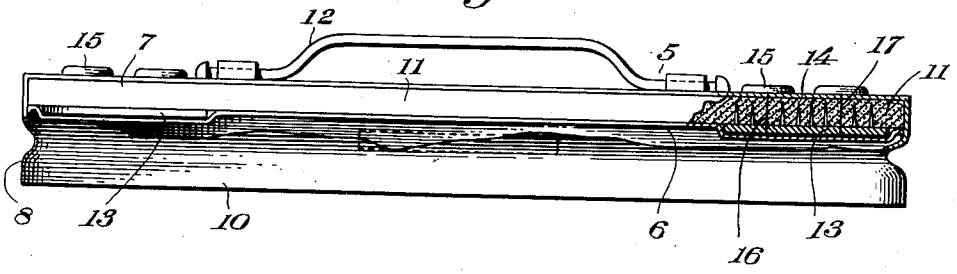


Fig. 3.

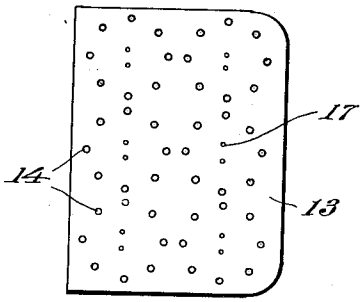
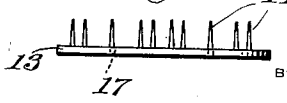


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ANTITHEFT DEVICE

Helge Hokanson, Gary, Ind.

Application June 26, 1939, Serial No. 281,277

2 Claims. (Cl. 150—47)

This invention relates to antitheft devices and has as one of the principal objects thereof the provision of a purse cover equipped with means for discouraging the snatching of a purse by rendering injury to the fingers of the thief and, at the same time, retaining thereon the finger prints of the thief when held or gripped by the latter.

Another object of my invention is to provide a device of the above described character which is simple in construction, durable in use, efficient in operation, and easy of attachment to purses already in use, and economical in manufacture.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description, appended claims and annexed drawing.

Referring to the drawing wherein like reference characters designate like parts throughout the several views:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention as applied to a purse.

Figure 2 is a bottom plan view thereof, partly in section.

Figure 3 is a plan view of the pin plate.

Figure 4 is an end elevation of the pin plate.

In practicing my invention, as illustrated in the drawing, I provide an envelope or purse cover 5 in which is enclosed a purse 6, the latter being of ordinary construction and per se forming no part of the present invention. The cover comprises side, end, top and bottom walls 7, 8, 9 and 10 respectively. The end and top walls 8 and 9 are lengthwise severed between their marginal edges to permit insertion and withdrawal of the purse within and form said cover and coact to permit opening and closing of the purse in the usual manner. The cover is constructed of elastic material, for instance, rubber, whereby to tightly embrace a purse and preclude accidental detachment therefrom.

One of the side walls 7 of the cover has attached to the inner face thereof a cushion 11 of soft and readily compressible material, for instance, sponge rubber, while the outer face of said wall is provided with a handle 12 to facilitate carrying of the purse in the usual manner. The cushion 11 appressingly engages the adjacent wall of the purse and interposed between said cushion and adjacent wall are a pair of pin-plates 13 arranged adjacent the ends of the cushion. The plates are provided with outwardly extending pins 14 which are disposed within the cushion and terminate in proximity to the wall 7. Obviously, when one of the corners of the cover is tightly grasped for the purpose of snatching the purse, the pressure exerted by the fingers will effect compression of the cushion 11 and cause the outer ends of the pins to be projected beyond the adjacent wall 7 and penetrate the fingers grasping the device. Thus, when a thief attempts to snatch the purse, the fingers are pierced by the pins causing pain and resultant release of the fingers.

Exteriorly arranged on the outer face of said wall 7 are a plurality of highly polished buttons 15 between which the pins 14 are adapted to extend. The buttons are secured by flexible elements or cords 16 to the plates 13 by extending through apertures 17 therein and being knotted on their ends adjacent the plates. The buttons serve to retain the prints of the fingers of the person grasping the ends of the purse and serve as a means of identification.

From the foregoing, it will be apparent that I have provided a simple and efficient device for attachment to a purse, handbag, and the like, and which is so constructed and arranged as to discourage snatching of purses and, at the same time, retain the finger prints for the purpose of identification of those snatching or attempting to snatch a purse.

It is also obvious that the invention is not confined to the herein described use therefor as it may be utilized for any purpose to which it is adaptable. It is therefore to be distinctly understood that the invention is not limited to the specific construction as illustrated and described, as the same is only illustrative of the principles of operation, which are capable of extended application in advance forms, and that the invention comprehends all construction within the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A purse attachment comprising a cover, an easily compressible body carried by said cover and adapted to engage the wall of a purse, and a plate carried by said body and equipped with pins for projecting through said body and beyond said cover upon compression of said body.

2. A purse attachment comprising a cover, an easily compressible body carried by said cover and adapted to engage the wall of a purse, a plate carried by said body and equipped with pins for projecting through said body and beyond said cover upon compression of said body, and finger print retaining members on said cover and connected to said plate.

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