Sept. 20, 1971 B. CHALSON 3,605,438

BAR PIN WITH CHANGEABLE NON-ROTATABLY SECURED ORNAMENT AND INTERMEDIATE MEMBER

Filed Sept. 10, 1968

FIG. 1

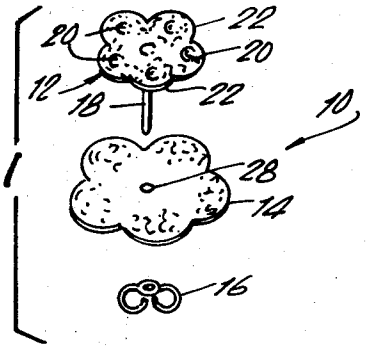
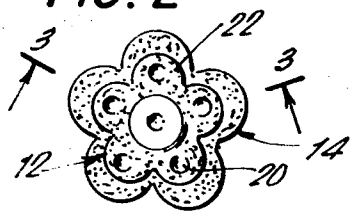


FIG. 2



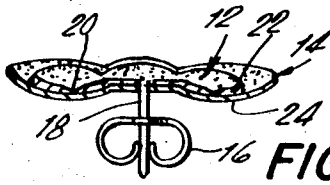
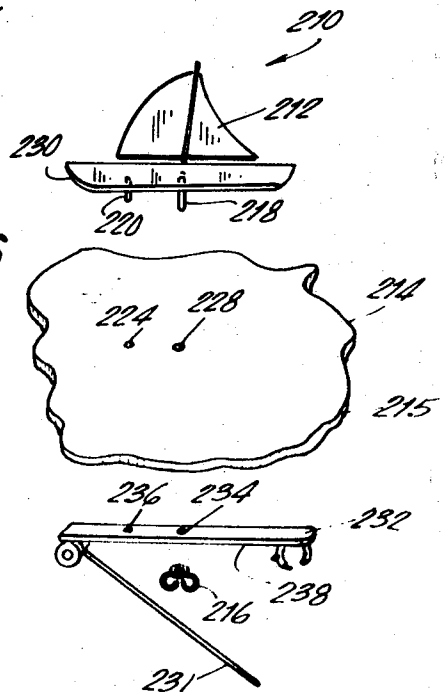


FIG. 3

FIG. 6



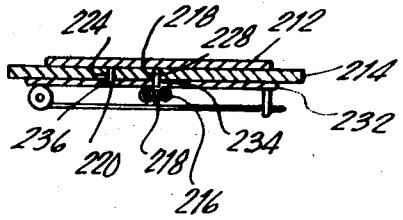
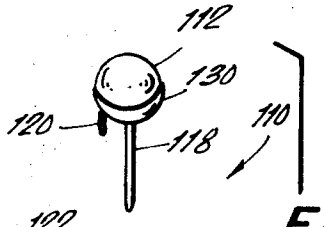


FIG. 7



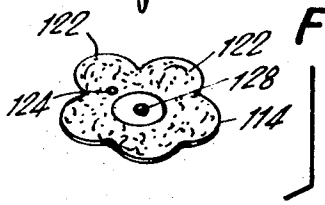


FIG. 4

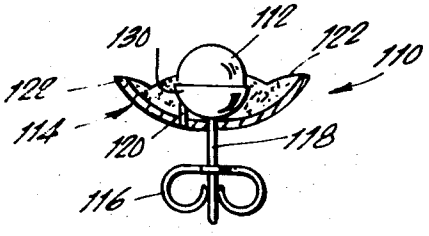


FIG. 5

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BAR PIN WITH CHANGEABLE NON-ROTATABLY SECURED ORNAMENT AND INTERMEDIATE MEMBER

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U.S. Cl. 63—20 2 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An article of jewelry having interchangeable ornamentation comprising interchangeable separate decorative elements and interchangeable separate bases with means depending from the decorative elements through the bases and locking means for holding the decorative elements and decorative bases in non-rotatable and superposed relation to each other. A bar pin is also provided and a respective element and base may both be non-rotatably secured thereto by the previously mentioned means.

The present invention relates generally to jewelry, and more particularly to a convertible article of jewelry having interchangeable attachments such as earrings, wherein a number of ornamental and decorative effects can be obtained utilizing the same basic article of jewelry.

In the past, owners of fine articles of jewelry such as gold, silver, platinum and diamond earrings and the like were compelled to have a number of entirely different earrings or the like, each of which was most complimentary to a particular clothing ensemble or hair style.

Accordingly, if the woman had a single pair of diamond earrings set in white metal which were drop type earrings, and the woman desired to wear her earrings with yellow gold jewelry there would be no way which she could wear the white metal with the yellow gold without there being a clash.

Similarly, if a woman had a pair of particularly valuable earrings set with numerous diamonds and precious stones, she might be restricted from re-wearing the same earrings with the same people since it would appear that these were her only pair of good earrings, and accordingly, to retain her "status" in the community and with her social set, she would be compelled to have several entirely different pieces of jewelry.

It is therefore an object of the invention to provide an article of jewelry which may be converted or modified from time to time so as to make a more utilitarian article of jewelry which could be worn more frequently without any feeling of repetition and without her peers realizing that it was the same article.

Further, it is an object of the invention to provide an article of jewelry wherein the same article of jewelry may be converted from earrings to a brooch, pendant or a pin having a single basic decorative element.

Further, it is an object of the invention to provide a convertible article of jewelry wherein the central portion thereof, which may consist of diamonds, sapphires, opals or the like, can be utilized with a multiplicity of decorative bases so as to be usable with a greater variety of ensembles.

Still further, it is an object of the present invention to

provide a convertible article of jewelry which allows a woman to obtain greater utility from a particular single piece of jewelry.

In addition, it is an object of the present invention to provide an article of jewelry which may serve as a basic article of jewelry to which various additional articles of jewelry can be added at later or separate times which would be fully compatible with the basic article of jewelry.

Still further, it is an object of this invention to provide a convertible article of jewelry which will be simple to manufacture and easy to use and which will be relatively inexpensive to manufacture, the only limitations on manufacturing costs stemming from the cost of the metal and the precious and semi-precious stones such as diamonds, sapphires and the like.

These, together with the further objects, features and advantages of the invention will become more apparent as the specification continues by reference to the accompanying drawing wherein:

FIG. 1 is an exploded perspective view of an earring comprising the article of convertible jewelry of the invention;

FIG. 2 is a top plan view of an assembled earring comprising the convertible article of jewelry of the invention;

FIG. 3 is a vertical sectional view taken along the plane of line 3—3 in FIG. 2;

FIG. 4 is an exploded perspective view of another embodiment of the earring comprising the convertible article of jewelry of the invention;

FIG. 5 is a vertical sectional view of an assembled embodiment of the earring illustrated in FIG. 4;

FIG. 6 is an exploded perspective view of a further embodiment of a convertible article of jewelry; and,

FIG. 7 is a vertical sectional view of the assembled convertible article of jewelry as shown in FIG. 6.

Referring now to the drawing, and in particular to FIG. 1, there is shown a convertible article of jewelry, namely an earring which is generally designated by the numeral **10**. The earring is composed of three basic parts, namely a decorative element **12**, a decorative base **14** and securement or locking means **16**.

The decorative element **12** is provided with a shank portion **18** which depends outwardly from the rear of the decorative element and is further provided with means **20** for positioning the decorative element **12** in superposed fixed relation to the decorative base **14**. In the preferred embodiment of the invention illustrated in FIGS. 1, 2 and 3, the means **20** for positioning the decorative element **12** with respect to the decorative base **14** consist of a plurality of artistically curved extensions **22** radiating outwardly from the central portion of the decorative element **12**. The decorative base **14** is provided with corresponding extension receiving means or cups **24** into which the means **20** positioned on the extensions **22** fit. A through bore **28** is provided in the decorative base **14** through which the shank **18** of the decorative element **12** is passed.

As the shank **18** of the decorative element **12** is inserted in the through bore **28** of the decorative base **14** the rearward portions of the curved extensions **22** fit into the corresponding receiving cups **24** in the decorative base **14** thereby preventing rotation or dislodgement of the decorative element **12** with respect to the decorative base **14**.

After the convertible article of jewelry **10** has been assembled by placing the shank **18** of the decorative element **12** through the through bore **28** of the decorative base **14** the earring or article of jewelry is ready for insertion through the object upon which the article of jewelry is to be worn. To place the article of jewelry on the object upon which it is to be worn the shank **18** is passed through the object and after the shank **18** has been passed through the object the locking means **16** are placed on the shank **18**. The locking means **16** are then advanced up the shank **18** until the decorative base **14** is drawn against the decorative element **12** and the locking means **16** are in abutment with the object upon which the convertible article of jewelry **10** is worn, thereby maintaining the article of jewelry in the proper assembled condition. The locking means **16** are removable at will from the shank **18** thereby permitting repeated assembly and disassembly of the convertible article of jewelry.

It is to be understood that the decorative element **12** may be formed in any shape desired and that the same may be ornamented with precious and semi-precious stones which have not been shown in any ornamental configuration as may be desired.

Further, it is to be understood that the decorative base **14** need not be formed of a solid material, but that the same may also be provided with decorative cut-outs or with precious and semi-precious stones as may the decorative element **12**.

Additionally, the decorative element **12** may be worn without utilizing the decorative base **14** by merely inserting the shank **18** through the object upon which the convertible article of jewelry **10** is being worn and inserting the locking means **16** upon the shank **18** and sliding the locking means **16** up the shank **18** until the base of the decorative element **12** is positioned against the decorative base **14** and the base **14** is against the object upon which it is being worn.

The locking means **16** abuts the object upon which the article of jewelry is being worn and are removably securable to the shank **18**.

Referring now specifically to the embodiment disclosed and illustrated in FIGS. 4 and 5, there is shown a convertible article of jewelry namely an earring **110** which is comprised of three basic parts, namely a decorative element **12**, a decorative base portion **114** and locking means **116**.

The decorative element **112** is provided with a shank **118** which depends outwardly from the rear **130** of the decorative element **112**. The decorative element **112** is further provided with positioning means **120** for positioning the decorative element **112** in superposed relation to the decorative base **114**. In this embodiment the decorative base **114** may be formed having a plurality of artistically curved extensions **122** radiating outwardly from the central portion of the decorative base **114** or in the alternative, the decorative base may be formed in any desired shape. The base **114** is formed having a through bore **128** which is adapted to receive the shank **118** of the decorative element **112** which shank **118** is passed through said bore **128**.

The decorative base **114** is further provided with a second bore **124** which is positioned at a fixed distance from the through bore **128**, said second bore **146** being adapted to receive therein the positioning means **120**. Once the decorative element **112** with the shank **118** has been inserted into the decorative base **114** through the bore **128** with the positioning means **120** seated in the bore **124**, the convertible article of jewelry is ready to be placed on the object upon which it is to be worn. To accomplish this end, the shank **118** is then passed through the object upon which the article of jewelry is to be worn and the locking means **116** are advanced up the shank **118** until the decorative base **114** is drawn against the decorative element **112** and the locking means **116** are in abutment with the object upon which the convertible article of jewelry is worn, thereby maintaining the convertible article of jewelry in a proper assembled condition. The locking means **116**, here again, are removably secured to the shank **118**.

In this embodiment it is to be understood that the shape of the decorative element **112** is not limited to the form which has been illustrated in the drawings, and that the decorative element may be formed in any shape and design and that the same may be ornamented with an unlimited variety of precious and semi-precious stones and the like.

Likewise, it is to be understood that the decorative base **114** can be formed of any material and that the same may also be provided with a distinctive shape and/or formed with cut-outs and ornamented with precious and semi-precious stones.

Referring now specifically to the embodiment disclosed and illustrated in FIGS. 6 and 7, there is shown a convertible article of jewelry, namely a pin brooch or pendant **210**, which is comprised of four basic parts; namely a decorative element **212**, a decorative base portion **214**, a locking means **216** and a pin assembly **232**.

It is to be specifically understood that the pin assembly **232** may be utilized as a separate piece as illustrated in FIG. 6 or that in the alternative, the pin assembly **232** may be permanently affixed by known means such as soldering to the rear **215** of the decorative base **214**.

The decorative element **212**, which in this embodiment, is illustrated as a sail boat is not limited to the form shown, but to the contrary the decorative embodiment may be formed in any design. The decorative element **212** is provided with a shank **218** which depends outwardly from the rear **230** of the decorative element **212**. The decorative element **212** is further provided with means **220** for positioning the decorative element **212** in superposed fixed relation to the decorative base **214**.

It is to be understood that the decorative element **212** and the decorative base **214** may be formed with corresponding grooves or cups such as utilized in the embodiment of FIGS. 1, 2 and 3 which will serve as the positioning means **220**, rather than the pin **220** and the bore **236** as illustrated in FIGS. 6 and 7.

In the drawing of FIG. 6 the decorative base **214** is provided with a through bore **128** which bore is adapted to receive the shank **218** of the decorative element **212**. A second through bore **224** is also provided in the decorative base **214** which bore **224** receives the positioning means **220**. Once the decorative element **212** with the shank **218** extending from the rear **230** is inserted into the bore **228** with the positioning means **220** seated in the bore **224** the convertible article of jewlery **210** is ready to be placed on the object upon which it is to be worn. To accomplish this end, the shank **218** and the positioning means **220** are placed into coresponding bores **234** and **236** of a bar pin **232** thereby providing for means for attaching the article of jewelry to the object upon which it is to be worn.

At this time the locking means **216** are fitted over the shank **218** and are advanced up the shank **218** until the locking means **216** abut the rear portion **238** of the bar pin **232**. At this time the decorative element **212**, the base **214** and the bar pin are all in abutting condition secured in place by locking means **216** and the convertible article of jewelry **210** is ready to be affixed by means of the pin **231** to the object upon which it is to be worn.

By means of the present invention it is possible for the decorative element **12** of FIG. 1 or the decorative element **112** to be utilized with the bases **14**, **114** or **214** to vary the appearance and use of the article of jewelry. Likewise, it is contemplated that any decorative element can be utilized with any base to form a limitless number of combinations for use on any occasion in a variety of ways, such as for use as an earring, a pin, a brooch, a pendant or the like.

A latitude of modification, substitution and change is intended in the foregoing disclosure, and in some instances, some features of the invention will be employed without a corresponding use of other features. Accordingly, it is appropriate that the appended claims be construed broadly and in a manner consistent with the spirit and scope of the invention herein.

I claim:

1. A convertible article of jewelry comprising, in combination, a decorative element having a shank depending therefrom, said decorative element having positioning means including a pin extending downwardly in the direction of said shank, a decorative base having a plurality of through bores therein, said pin and said shank extending through said bores with said pin preventing rotation between said ornament and said base, a bar pin having a shank receiving bore and a pin receiving bore therein spaced to register with said base bores, said pin and said shank depending from said decorative element and said base being adapted to pass through said bores in said bar pin and locking means releasably securable

on a portion of said shank extending beyond said bar pin.

2. A convertible article of jewelry according to claim 1, wherein said shank is at least twice the thickness of said positioning pin.

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F. BARRY SHAY, Primary Examiner

U.S. Cl. X.R.

63—12, 19