

July 9, 1929.

C. ROSENBLUM

1,719,903

BATHING BELT BUCKLE

Filed April 17, 1928

Fig. 1.

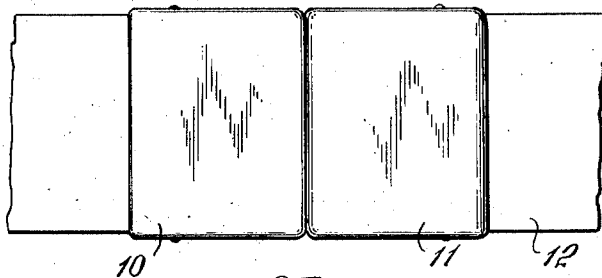


Fig. 2.

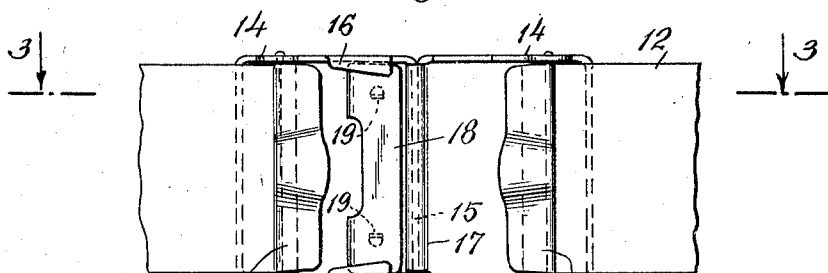


Fig. 4.

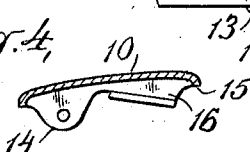


Fig. 3.

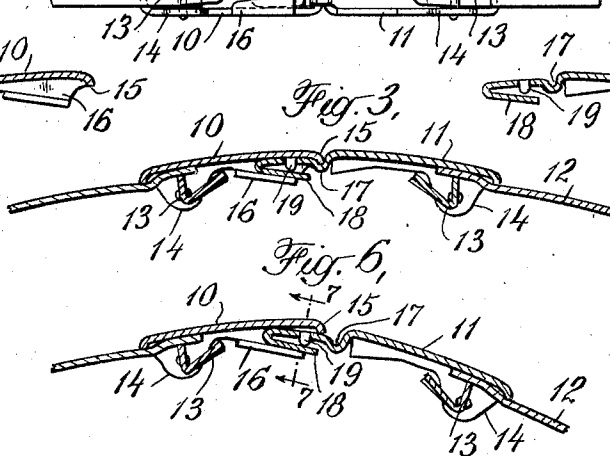


Fig. 5.

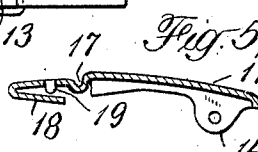


Fig. 6.

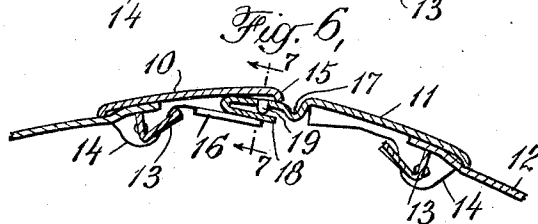
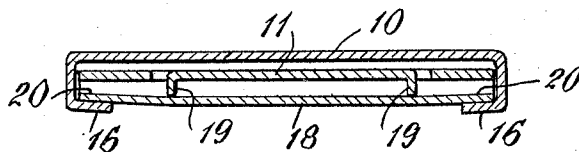


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES ROSENBLUM, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO KRISCHER'S MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

BATHING-BELT BUCKLE.

Application filed April 17, 1928. Serial No. 270,633.

This invention relates to improvements in bathing belt buckles of the type which include two similar buckle members, each to be attached to one end of the belt strap, and these members having interengaging parts by which they may be detachably connected together.

In buckles of this type, it is desirable that the connecting parts be readily attachable and detachable and when the belt is closed, the parts should grip each other firmly to prevent accidental separation. Owing to the fact that bathing belts are not ordinarily drawn tight about the person of the wearer, buckles as heretofore construction and including connecting means in the form of a simple hook and aperture, are not satisfactory as the parts of the buckle easily separate and the belt is likely to be detached from the bathing suit and lost.

The new belt buckle comprises a pair of plate members, each of which is provided with a standard gripper bar by which it may be attached to one end of the strap. At the opposite end, one member has a transverse edge flange extending toward the back face of the plate, and from each edge of the plate, this member has an overhanging tongue which partially overlies the rear face of the plate. The other member terminates at its free end in a rearwardly folded spring extension between which and the main body of the plate is a transverse channel or groove.

In assembling the two parts of the buckle to close the belt, the folded extension is introduced into the space between the tongues on the other member, and the two members forced toward each other. In such movement, the flange slides over the top face of the extension and as the distance between the flange and the tongues is less than the normal thickness of the extension, the latter must be compressed until the flange rides into the channel. The extension then expands to normal and the flange and channel are held tightly engaged.

I have found that, in buckles of this construction, continued use involving repeated compression of the extension in the assembling and separating operation results in the extension receiving a set, due possibly to fatigue in the metal, which lessens the normal thickness of the extension. In some instances the extension may be flattened out by accident, but in either case, the result is that the ex-

tension does not act to hold the flange rigidly engaged in the channel when the buckle is assembled, and the buckle is then readily opened and loses its utility.

To overcome this difficulty and to increase the durability of the buckle, I provide that portion of buckle that carries the extension with an abutment which prevents collapse of the extension beyond the necessary extent in assembling. Preferably this abutment takes the form of a pair of posts or studs, one near each end of the extension, and of such height that the side edges of the extension are bent out of the plane of the remainder of the extension, as the extension is forced into the space between the tongues. With this arrangement the extension is subjected to a combined bending and collapsing action during assembly and the metal is better able to withstand repeated assembling and separation. Accidental injury to the extension destroying the usefulness of the buckle is also prevented.

For a better understanding of the invention reference may be had to the accompanying drawing in which

Figure 1 is a front face view of the buckle assembled;

Figure 2 is a rear face view similar to Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Figure 2;

Figures 4 and 5 are sectional views of the individual members of the buckle;

Figure 6 is a sectional view illustrating the manner of assembly, and

Figure 7 is a sectional view on the line 7—7 of Figure 6.

Referring to the drawings, the buckle is shown as comprising a pair of similar plate members 10 and 11, of substantially rectangular form, having a width dependent on the width of the belt strap 12, and having flat surfaces which may be suitably ornamented if desired. Each member is provided with a standard gripper bar 13 mounted in tongues 14 formed at the edge of the member in the usual way.

Although the plate members 10 and 11 are of the same outward appearance when assembled, they differ in construction. The member 10 terminates at its free end in a transverse rearward edge flange 15 and from each edge of the plate at one side of the flange extends a tongue 16 having a portion which

overlies the rear face of the plate and extends parallel to it. The overhanging portions of the tongues together with the rear face of the plate define a recess.

5 The member 11 is provided near its free end with a transverse groove or channel 17 and beyond this channel the member terminates in a reversely folded leaf extension 18, which extends across the plate from one side 10 edge to the other. The normal distance between the outer faces of the two folds of the extension is slightly greater than the space between the tongues 16 and the edge of the flange 15.

15 In assembling the parts as illustrated in Figure 6, the folded edge of the extension is passed beneath the flange 15 on the member 10 and the extension forced into the recess. By reason of the sizes of the parts, the extension 20 cannot be moved freely into the recess, but force is required to cause a partial collapse or compression of the two folds of the extension between the flange and the tongues. As the two plate members are moved toward each 25 other, the engagement of the extension with the flange against one face and the tongues against the other operates to resist the assembling movement, until the flange enters the recess 17 when the parts are locked together. 30 Separation of the parts is similarly resisted and cannot occur accidentally since the extension must be compressed before it can be moved clear of the recess.

35 In order to prevent accidental flattening of the extension which would render the fastening means useless, and also to increase the life of the buckle, I provide the extension with an abutment which may conveniently take the form of a pair of posts 19, struck from one 40 fold and extending toward the other in such manner as to limit the extent to which the two folds may be compressed or moved toward each other. Preferably these posts are placed one near each end of the extension as shown in 45 Figure 2, and the posts have a height such that they prevent the main body of the extension from being compressed as much as is necessary to permit it to enter the tongues. As a result in the assembling operation, each edge of the 50 free portion of the extension as indicated at 20, is bent slightly out of the plane of the main body thereof by the co-operation of the tongues 16 and the posts 19 which act as the abutment. The extension is therefore sub- 55 jected both to a flattening and bending action during assembling and separation of the two parts of the buckle and the bending occurs near each edge of the free portion of the extension and about an axis at an angle to the 60 line of folding. Continued flattening and expansion in the absence of the abutment would take place along the line of folding of the two parts of the extension and as the metal has been subjected to strain along the line during 65 the folding operation it is not able to with-

stand the repeated flattening and expansion of the extension, and the life of the buckle may therefore be relatively short, depending on the amount of use. With the new buckle, the life is greatly prolonged and the two 70 parts of the buckle when assembled are firmly engaged and can only be separated by positive and intentional action on the part of the wearer.

I claim:

1. A belt buckle comprising a pair of plate 75 members each of which is adapted to be attached to one end of the belt, a flange on the first plate adapted to be introduced into a channel in the second for locking the plates 80 together, an extension from the channelled plate folded upon itself to provide two opposed separated portions, a pair of tongues formed on the first plate adjacent the flange 85 adapted to receive the extension between them and the body of said plate, said tongues and plate cooperating to force the portions of the extension together as the extension enters between said tongues and 90 body, and a pair of posts on one portion of said extension projecting toward and engageable with the other portion when the extension is compressed, said posts preventing the two portions from being compressed in the vicinity of the posts to the extent necessary 95 to permit the extension being introduced between the tongues and the body of said plate, whereby the free end portion of the extension is flexed about each post as an axis in the assembling operation. 100

2. A belt buckle comprising a pair of plate 105 members each of which is adapted to be attached to one end of the belt, a flange on the first plate adapted to be introduced into a channel in the second for locking the plates 110 together, an extension from the channelled plate folded upon itself to provide two opposed separated portions, a pair of tongues formed on the first plate adjacent the flange 115 adapted to receive the extension between them and the body of said plate, said tongues and plate cooperating to force the portions of the extension together as the extension enters between said tongues and body, and a pair of 120 posts extending from one portion of the extension toward the other and engageable therewith, each post lying outside the area of the extension engaged by a tongue and preventing the two portions of the extension from being compressed in the vicinity of the posts 125 to the extent necessary to permit the extension being introduced between the tongues and the body of the plate, whereby one portion of the extension is flexed about each post as an axis in the assembling operation. 130

3. A belt buckle comprising a pair of plate members each of which is adapted to be attached to one end of the belt, a flange on the first plate, a channel on the second plate adapted to receive the flange, an extension from the

second plate over which the flange moves to enter the channel, this extension being folded back upon itself to provide two opposed divergent portions, a pair of overhanging
5 tongues on the first plate between which and the body of said plate the extension is received as the flange approaches the channel, the said tongues and body causing a flattening of the extension during which the two
10 portions thereof approach each other, and a post extending from one face of one portion of the extension near each edge thereof toward the other portion and engageable therewith,
each post engaging said other portion outside the areas thereof engaged by said tongues in
15 the assembling operation and preventing the two portions of the extension from being compressed in the vicinity of the posts to the extent necessary to permit the extension being introduced between the tongues and the body
20 of the plate, whereby one portion of the extension is flexed about each post as an axis in the assembling operation.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

CHARLES ROSENBLUM.