April 16, 1935. S. STEINBERG 1,997,836

EXPANSIBLE LINK OR ADJUSTMENT MEMBER FOR BRACELETS, WRISTBANDS, WRIST WATCHES, AND THE LIKE

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Fig. 1.

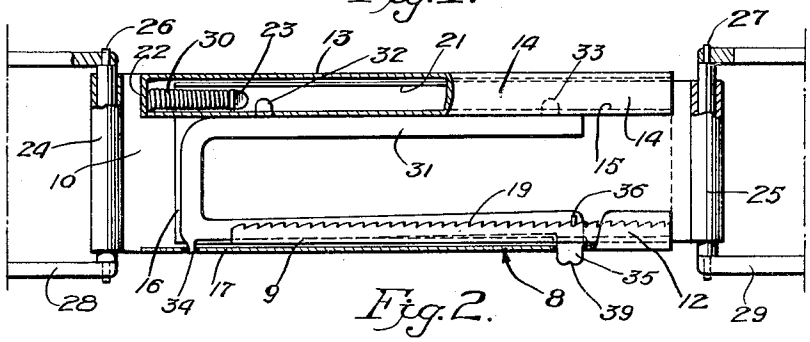


Fig. 2.

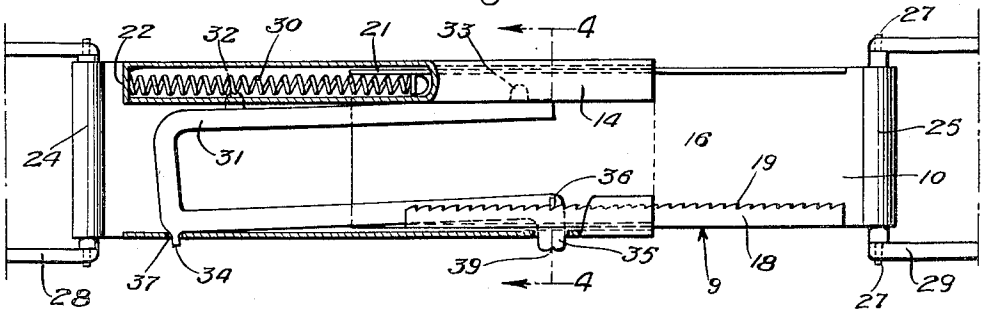


Fig. 3.

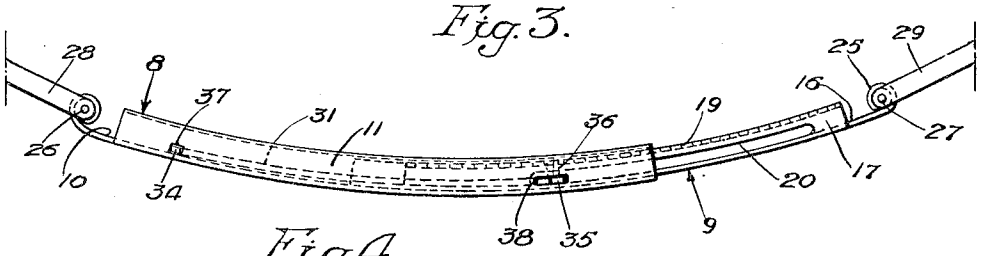
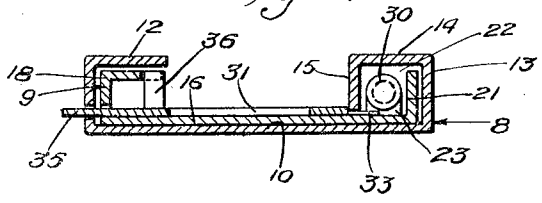


Fig. 4.



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Fig. 5.

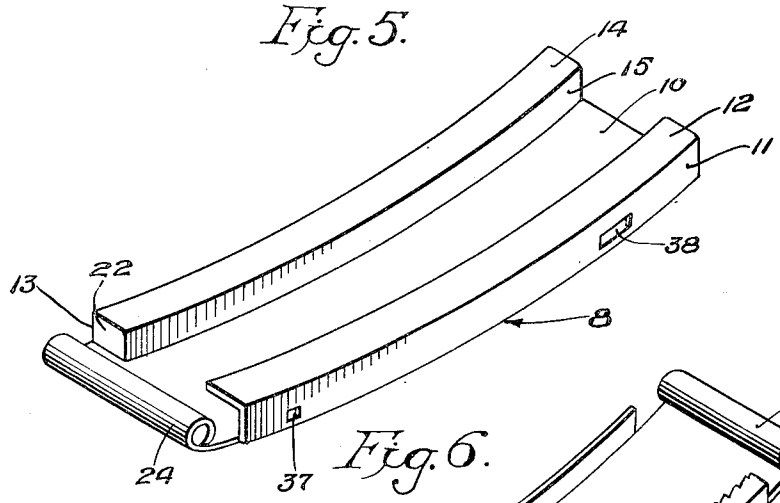


Fig. 6.

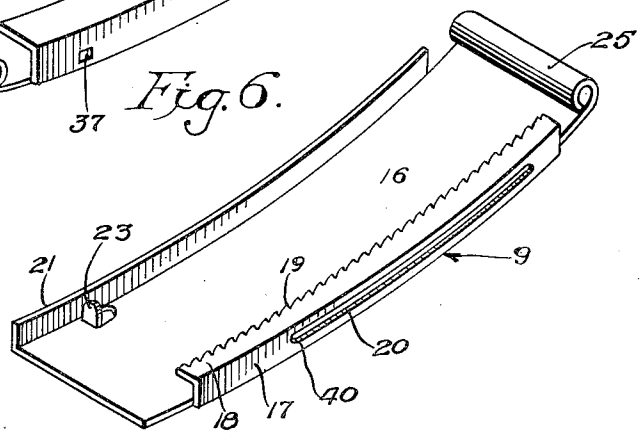
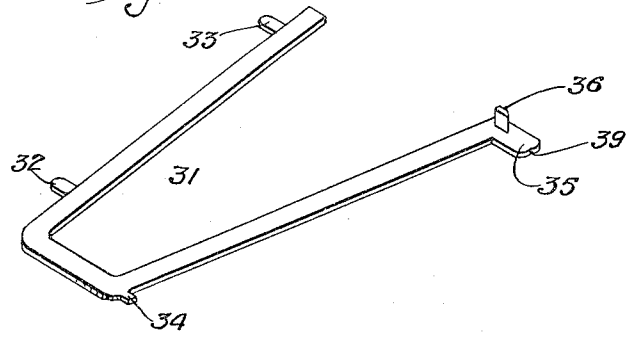


Fig. 7.



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EXPANSIBLE LINK OR ADJUSTMENT MEMBER FOR BRACELETS, WRISTBANDS, WRIST WATCHES, AND THE LIKE

Seymour Steinberg, Philadelphia, Pa.

Application February 1, 1935, Serial No. 4,453

2 Claims. (Cl. 24—68)

The present invention relates to an adjustment link for bracelets and more particularly wrist watch bracelets or wrist watch straps, whereby the circumferential dimension of the wrist watch, (the watch and bracelet, or the watch and wristband combined) may be increased and decreased at will, so as to permit the hand to be slipped through and then to permit the circumferential dimension to be decreased to the wrist dimension.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a device of this character which will be durable, effective and dependable in use.

With the above and other objects in view, which will appear from the following detailed description, the present invention consists of two telescopically arranged members adapted to be disposed in slidable relation to each other, a spring tending at all times to move the two telescopically related members with respect to each other, so as to extend their overall dimension in the direction of the circumference of the wrist band or bracelet (of which the device is intended to form a part or a link), and a toothed rack carried by one of said members, and a spring-pressed pawl or detent carried by the other of said members, arranged to coact with each other so as to retain the two telescopically related members in any desired position with respect to each other (within the limits of adjustment) against the force of the spring, and manually operable means whereby the pawl or detent member may be disengaged from the toothed rack at will.

The present invention further consists of other novel features and details of construction, all of which will appear more fully from the following description.

For the purpose of illustrating the invention, there is shown in the accompanying drawings a form thereof which is at present preferred, although it is to be understood that the various instrumentalities of which the invention consists can be variously arranged and organized and that the invention is not limited to the precise arrangement and organization of the instrumentalities as herein shown and described.

Referring to the drawings, in which like reference characters indicate like parts:

Figure 1 represents a rear view of the device embodying the present invention, shown partly broken away, and showing the collapsed or contracted position;

Figure 2 represents a similar view shown in an expanded or in an extended position;

Figure 3 represents a side elevational view of the device in the extended position;

Figure 4 represents a section on line 4—4 of Figure 2;

Figure 5 represents a perspective view of the outer telescopic member;

Figure 6 represents a perspective view of the inner telescopic member, and

Figure 7 represents a perspective view of the detent spring.

According to the present invention, outer and inner telescopic members 8 and 9 are provided, and formed preferably of sheet metal. The outer member 8 is composed of the main body panel 10, slightly curved in a longitudinal direction, so as more or less to conform to the general curvature of the wrist, and along one of the longitudinal edges thereof the right-angular flange 11 is formed, and the over-hanging flange 12 is formed in continuation thereof, and generally parallel to the body panel 10, so as to form a parallel channel-like space serving as one of the two guides for the inner telescopic member.

Along the opposite longitudinal edge a similar upright flange 13 is formed from which the overhanging flange 14 extends in direct continuation thereof, and from which the flange 15 extends downwardly towards the body panel 10, thereby forming a more or less closed channel or tube, serving as the other guide for the inner telescopic member 9. The flange portion 15 does not extend quite to the body panel 10, but extends to within a short distance of it and more particularly a distance approximately the same as the thickness of the body panel 16 of the inner telescopic member 9.

The inner telescope member 9 is similarly curved, as indicated particularly in Figures 3, 5 and 6, and is provided along one of its longitudinal edges with the upright flange 17 and the overhanging flange or rack portion 18, having teeth 19 formed in its edge, inclined in saw-fashion in one direction. A longitudinal slot 20 is formed in the flange portion 17 for a substantial part of its length. Along the opposite longitudinal edge of the body panel 16 another flange 21 is formed.

The tubular portion along one of the longitudinal edges of the outer member 8 is closed by an end wall 22 which serves as a spring abutment and which may be formed of the flange 13 and bent over, while a corresponding spring abutment 23 is formed on the member 9 by pressing up a small part of the body panel 16, as shown at 23.

The opposite ends of the members 8 and 9 may be provided with suitable linking or connecting means, such as tubular formations 24 and 25, rolled up out of the body panels, which may serve

to receive pivot pins or pintles, or hinges of any suitable bracelet, wrist strap, or other devices, as for instance the pivots or pintles **26** and **27** of the bracelet links **28** and **29**.

The member **9** is telescoped within the member **8**, as indicated in Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4, with a compression spring **30** interposed between the spring abutment **22** and the spring abutment **23**, thereby tending to extend or expand the two members with respect to each other, as indicated particularly in Figure 2.

A generally U-shaped retainer spring member **31** is formed of generally flat metal, and is interposed between the two telescopic members in a manner shown particularly in Figures 1, 2, and 4. The thickness of the sheet metal of which the spring **31** is formed is slightly greater than the gap between the flange **15** and the body panel **10**, and a pair of somewhat thinner anchorage members **32** and **33** are provided, projecting therefrom, which are thin enough to extend between the portions **15** and **10** of the outer telescopic member **8**, as indicated particularly in Figures 1 and 4.

The other side of the U-shaped spring is provided with an anchorage toe **34**, and a finger piece or knob **35**, and a detent or pawl **36**. The anchorage toe **34** projects through a suitable opening **37** in the side flange **11**, while the finger piece or knob **35** extends through the slot **20** and then through another opening **38** in the side flange **11**, whereby it may be depressed from without with the finger or with the nail of a finger, there being a slight recess or depression **39** provided in the end of the knob for nail engagement. The pawl or detent **36** coacts with the teeth **19** of the rack portion **18**, and serves to interlock therewith in such a manner as to oppose the action of the spring **30**.

Thus, to collapse or to contract the device, (and thus to contract the circumference of the wrist band or strap or bracelet) it is merely necessary to telescope the inner member further into the outer member and the pawl will lock the two members in their contracted position. When it is desired to open the unit, it is merely necessary to press in slightly on the knob **35**, thereby to disengage the pawl or detent **36** from the toothed rack **18** and the spring **30** then automatically opens up the device to its outer limit of movement, which is determined by the end **40** of the slot **20**, which engages the knob **35** at its outermost position.

The invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential attributes thereof, and it is therefore desired that the present embodiment be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, reference being had to the appended claims rather than to the foregoing description to indicate the scope of the invention.

Having thus described the invention, what is hereby claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is:—

1. An expansible link or adjustment member for bracelets, wrist bands, wrist watches, and the like, comprising a pair of telescopically related members, slidable with respect to each other, a spring operatively interposed between said two members tending to distend the same relative to each other, and a manually operable spring-pressed pawl operatively related to said two members, tending automatically to lock the same in any desired position against the force of the first-mentioned spring, and capable of being rendered inoperative by manual pressure from without.

2. An expansible link or adjustment member for bracelets, wrist bands, wrist watches, and the like, comprising a pair of telescopically related members, slidable with respect to each other, a compression spring operatively interposed between said two members tending to distend the same relative to each other, a toothed rack carried by one of said members, and a manually operable spring-pressed pawl carried by the other of said members in operative alignment with said rack, tending automatically to lock the same in any desired position against the force of the first-mentioned spring, and capable of being rendered inoperative by manual pressure from without.

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