Jan. 18, 1927. 1,614,607

J. A. EWEN

POCKET CLASP FOR PENS AND PENCILS

Filed Dec. 11, 1924

Fig. 1.

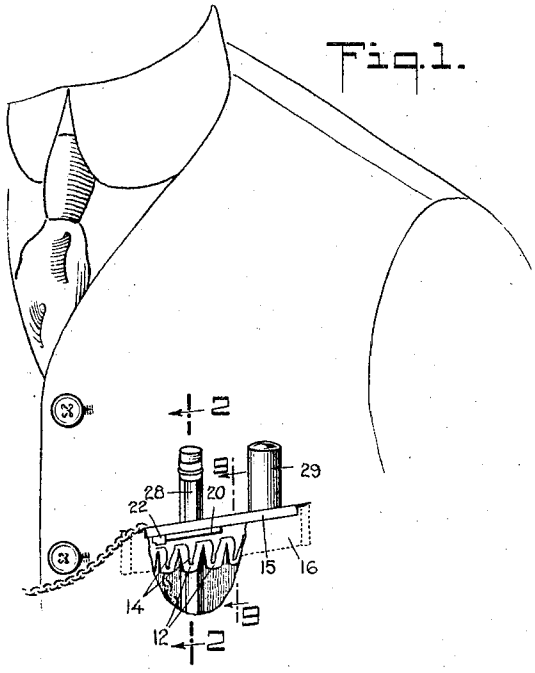


Fig. 2.

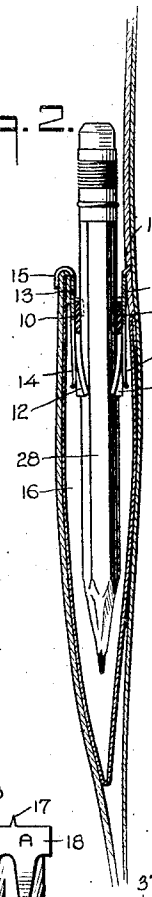


Fig. 9.

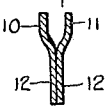


Fig. 3.

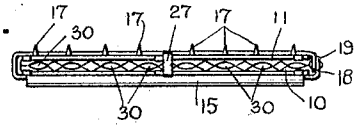


Fig. 4.

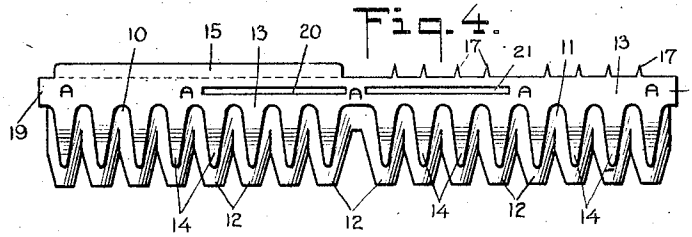


Fig. 8.

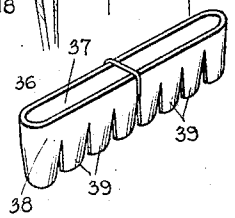


Fig. 5.

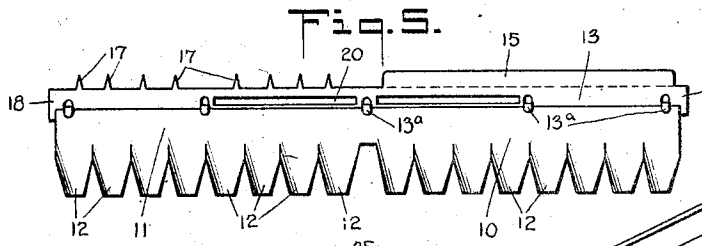


Fig. 7.

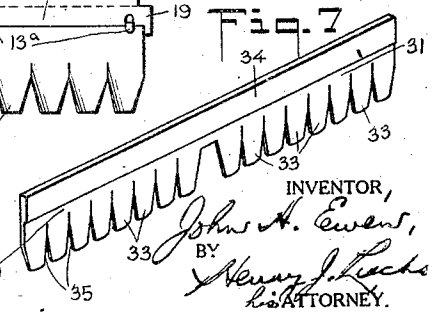
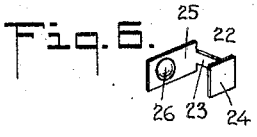


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN A. EWEN, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

POCKET CLASP FOR PENS AND PENCILS.

Application filed December 11, 1924. Serial No. 755,149.

This invention relates to pocket clasps for holding pens, pencils, watches and the like.

An object of the present invention is the provision of a clasp for attachment in a pocket of a garment, purse or the like for frictionally receiving a pen or pencil and for retaining the same against accidental dropping out. The invention is applicable also for protecting a watch or the like.

Pursuant to the more preferred forms of my invention, the pocket clasp comprises a member provided with resilient spaced corrugations and means for suitably positioning the clasp within the pocket. Such spaced and retaining corrugations are preferably formed of a rubber strip corrugated at spaced depending portions, which strip is folded upon itself in duplex relation whereby the oppositely positioned corrugations form shaped openings of a diameter less than the diameter of a pencil or pen. Such rubber strip may be thickened or reinforced by thin metal to thereby resiliently collapse the spacing and retaining corrugations when no pen or pencil is inserted in my clasp, and thus reduce the "thickness" of the pocket.

In the most preferred forms of my invention the duplex clasp is formed of an endless, flattened ring of rubber having spaced depending corrugations, and my clasp is secured by any suitable adhesive or strips of specially treated rubber interposed between the inner and outer materials of the garment pocket or the like and my duplex clasp, and accomplished by pressing with a moderately heated iron.

Further features and objects of the invention will be more fully understood from the following detail description and the accompanying drawings, in which—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of one form of my invention, shown as inserted in the upper pocket of a vest and illustrating a pen, pencil and a watch safeguarded thereby;

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional elevation on line 2—2 of Fig. 1, on a greatly enlarged scale;

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of my aforesaid form of duplex pocket clasp, removed from the pocket;

Fig. 4 is a top plan view of the aforesaid clasp, showing the same at a stage of manufacture prior to being folded in duplex relation;

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 4, but on the opposite side thereof;

Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view of a connecting member for interlocking the opposing duplex portions of my pocket clasp when folded;

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a modified embodiment of my invention, in the form of a reinforced rubber strip having depending portions, which strip when folded upon itself forms my duplex clasp;

Fig. 8 is a top perspective view of a further modification, showing my invention in the form of an endless, flattened ring, constructed to be positioned in a garment pocket or the like by means of a thin film of special rubber for cementing the clasp and accomplished by pressing with a flat iron, moderately heated, to thereby press both members of the clasp to the garment cloth or lining; and

Fig. 9 is a section on line 9—9 of Fig. 2.

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2, my pocket pen and pencil clasp comprises the outer strip portion 10 and inner strip portion 11, preferably formed as a single strip and folded upon itself.

Depending from the respective strip portions 10, 11, are a plurality of corrugated members 12, spaced from one another whereby upon folding the strip portions 10, 11, there is provided an opening 13 between each pair of the opposing corrugated members 12 of substantially elliptical contour and of a width of opening less than that of a pencil or of a pen.

In such form of my invention, the opposing strip portions 10, 11, are preferably reinforced by the strip 13 of metal or the like, having the spaced resilient tongues 14, see Fig. 4. The strip portions 10, 11, are secured at their upper edge to the reinforcing strip 13 as by the spaced retaining tongues 13^a.

Such metal strip 13 may be provided with an outer lip 15, arranged to overlap the top edge of the pocket 16. Such lip 15 may be covered with enamel or other covering to suit the color of the garment. The retention of the rear strip portion 11 may be had by

spaced teeth or staples 17, which are inserted in the inner material of the pocket 16 and pressed down.

Upon folding the front strip portion 10 and the rear strip portion 11 upon one another, the free ends of my duplex pocket clasp may be interconnected by overlapping the extensions 18, 19 of the strip 13 upon one another and riveting or soldering to one another.

Preferably, the front strip portion 10 and the rear strip portion 11 of my duplex clasp are provided with suitable means for contracting or collapsing my duplex clasp, as is desirable when no pencil or pen or other article is inserted therein, to thereby flatten down the pocket for appearance sake. As one form of such means, I provide the slot 20 in the front strip portion 10, and a corresponding slot 21 in the rear strip portion 11, see Figs. 4 and 5, within which slots 20, 21 is received a sliding lock 22, see Fig. 6. Such sliding lock 22 may comprise the stem portion 23, at one end of which is secured a retaining member 24 of reduced length, and at the opposite end of the stem portion 23 is secured the retaining member 25, preferably of enlarged length to support a head 26. The stem portion 23 extends through the slots 20, 21 to position the retaining member 24 on one side of the front strip portion 10 and the outer retaining member 25, on the opposite side of the rear strip portion 11, and the head 26 is located between the front strip portion 10 and the rear strip portion 11 and spaced from the stem portion 23 to enable a finger of the user to grasp the head 26 to slide the lock 22 as desired.

The rear strip portion 11 may be substantially coextensive with the front strip portion 10, and is preferably formed of rubber or the like, molded to the desired configuration. The strip 13 is preferably formed of metal by punching, to thereby provide the respective parts thereof.

In lieu of the front retaining lip 15, the body of the front portion of the metal strip 13 may be punched at spaced locations below its upper edge to form one or more teeth similar to the teeth 12 extending forwardly of the front strip portion 10, for insertion through the front lining of the pocket 16, which are then bent to locate such teeth between the front lining and the outer material of the pocket 16, and thus conceal such retaining teeth.

If desired, the front strip portion 10 may be secured to the front material of the pocket or the like by one or more clips punched from the metal, at the upper edge of the metal strip 13, which are bent down to impinge over the edge of the front material of the pocket.

If desired, the front and rear strip portions 10, 11, of my duplex clasp may be resiliently held under tension toward one another by the use of a rubber band 27, see Fig. 3, passed exteriorly about the front strip portion 10 and the rear strip portion 11 and inserted in the interstices between two corrugations 12. Such rubber band 35 may be multiplied for each pair of oppositely disposed interstices.

In Fig. 1, I have illustrated the use of my duplex pocket clasp for an upper vest pocket. The pencil 28 is shown positioned between two oppositely disposed corrugations 12, and similarly the pen 29. Fig. 1 also illustrates the use of my duplex clasp for safeguarding a watch, namely by sliding the sliding lock 22 to the center of my duplex holder, thereby insuring the safety of the watch from theft or other form of loss.

As is indicated in Figs. 3 and 9, when no pen or pencil is inserted, the opposing corrugations 12, 12 contact with one another at their inner faces over a large area and that each opening 30 for receiving a pen or pencil is of a flattened elliptical form and of dimensions materially less than the diameter of a pen or pencil. Upon inserting a pen 28 within any opening, see Fig. 2, the corrugations 12, 12 on the opposite sides of the pencil 28 engage the pencil 28 for the greater part of their lengths and as well encircle the pencil 28.

In Fig. 7, I have shown another modification of my invention, namely a molded strip of rubber, formed of a front portion 31 and a rear portion 32, having the depending members 33. The front and rear portions 31, 32 are reinforced by greater thickness, see 34, preferably at the upper edge as indicated. Upon folding the front and rear portions, 31, 32 upon one another, to locate the thickened portion 34 exteriorly, my duplex pocket clasp is then secured at the upper part of a pocket of a garment or the like by adhesive or by the use of double pronged staples pushed through the material of the front and rear portions 31, 32 respectively and into the front and rear materials of the pocket and bent over to be concealed. Such double pronged staples may be molded within the body of the front and rear portions 31, 32, if desired.

The depending members 33 in one form of my invention of the type shown in Fig. 7, are preferably substantially flat for the full width of the pocket, with slits 35 and at intervals of approximately the width of a pen or pencil, the body portion of the front and rear strip portions 30, 31 slightly concave, as indicated similarly in Fig. 9, to readily receive a pen or pencil. Such flat form of my invention enables my pocket clasp to be manufactured in multiple lengths similar to the manufacture of rubber bands and cut and stamped to the proper shape,

thereby materially cheapening its production. My invention of the form of the type shown in Fig. 7 may also have its depending portion 33 corrugated similar to the aforesaid corrugations 12.

In Fig. 8, I have shown my duplex pocket clasp in the form of an endless ring 36, flattened out to provide opposing ring portions 37, 38, each of which include depending corrugated or flat tongues 39, arranged in opposing relation. The tongues 39 engage the pen or pencil as similarly indicated in Fig. 9. Such ring 36 may be cut from lengths of tubing corrugated or flat and cut to the configuration of the tongues 39.

The ring 36 when flat is secured within and adjacent to the upper edge of a garment pocket or the like by any suitable means. Preferably, the securement is attained by applying a film or thin strip of specially prepared rubber which becomes an adhesive at a slightly elevated temperature, and interposing such film between the outer and inner linings of the pocket and the outer and inner portions 37, 38 of the ring 36, by applying a moderately heated iron to compress the ring 36 and bind my pocket clasp within the pocket.

When desired, my pocket clasp 36 may be removed from a pocket by the use of a heated iron, thereby rendering the rubber adhesive fluid, and permitting the pocket clasp 36 to be pulled from engagement within the material of the pocket, and facilitating renewals.

In a similar manner, my pocket clasp in the various forms herein described, may be positioned within the pocket of a purse or of a coin holder or applied to the material of a garment or the like, for removably holding a pen or pencil or the like, which forms are particularly for ladies' use.

In a similar manner, my clasp may be employed to retain cigars of the same or varying sizes.

It will be noted that the respective articles retained in my pocket clasp may be of different diameters or different thicknesses, each article being retained by a set of depending members independently of the remaining sets of depending members, whereby all articles are individually retained by my pocket clasp.

My pocket clasp may be applied into a pocket or the like by the use of a thin, flat steel band encircling the upper edge of my clasp, particularly of the endless form, as shown in Fig. 8, such steel band having a small clip at either end for gripping the edge of the pocket at its corners. Such steel band may be enclosed in the mold while casting the rubber or like material of the clasp, to derive a unitary product. To position such form of pocket clasp in a pocket, the combined clasp and band spring is collapsed from end to end and the spring is allowed to spring back into the corners of the pocket, with the clips overlapping the edges at the corners of the pocket, and thus firmly holding my clasp in place.

Whereas, I have described my invention by reference to specific forms thereof, it will be understood that many changes and modifications may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.

I claim:

1. A pocket clasp for pens, pencils or like articles comprising oppositely disposed members of yieldable resilient material, the upper portions of said members being outwardly flared for facilitating the entry of the article therein, the lower portions of said members being slitted to provide depending spaced portions and means formed of stiff resilient material engaging with and for normally yieldingly holding the depending spaced portions of one of said members toward corresponding depending portions of the other of said members.

2. A pocket clasp for pens, pencils or like articles comprising oppositely disposed members of yieldable resilient material, the upper portions of said members being outwardly flared for facilitating the entry of the article therein, the lower portions of said members being slitted to provide depending spaced portions and means formed of stiff resilient material engaging with and for normally holding the depending portions of said oppositely disposed members yieldingly toward one another.

3. A pocket clasp for pen and pencils and the like, comprising oppositely disposed members having spaced depending corrugations, said corrugations extending curvedly toward one another to thereby engage a pen or pencil, said depending corrugations being arranged to form recesses for receiving a pen or pencil.

4. A pocket clasp for pen and pencils and the like, comprising oppositely disposed members of resilient material having depending corrugations, said corrugations extending curvedly toward one another to thereby engage a pen or pencil, said depending corrugations being arranged to form recesses for receiving a pen or pencil.

5. A pocket clasp for pen and pencils comprising a member having depending spaced corrugations and arranged to be folded upon itself and positioned in a garment pocket or the like to locate the depending corrugations in successive substantial alignment and to position said corrugations to extend curvedly toward one another and thereby engage a pen or pencil.

6. A pocket clasp for pen and pencils comprising a member of resilient material having depending spaced depending corrugations curved in a certain uniform direction and arranged to be folded upon itself

and positioned in a garment pocket or the like to locate the depending corrugations in successive substantial alignment and to extend curvedly toward one another.

7. A pocket clasp for pen and pencils and the like, comprising oppositely disposed members having depending portions, said depending portions being arranged to form individual recesses for receiving a pen or pencil and means for holding said oppositely disposed members at a location intermediate of their ends.

8. A pocket clasp for pen and pencils and the like, comprising oppositely disposed members having depending portions, said depending portions being arranged to form individual recesses for receiving a pen or pencil and resilient means for holding said oppositely disposed members at a location intermediate of their ends.

9. A pocket clasp for pen and pencils and the like, comprising oppositely disposed members having depending portions, said depending portions being arranged to form individual recesses for receiving a pen or pencil and sliding means for holding said oppositely disposed members at a location intermediate of their ends.

10. A pocket clasp for pen and pencils and the like, comprising oppositely disposed members having depending corrugations, said depending corrugations being arranged to form individual recesses for receiving a pen or pencil and means for holding said oppositely disposed members at a location intermediate of their ends.

11. A pocket clasp for pen and pencils and the like, comprising oppositely disposed members having depending corrugations, said depending corrugations being arranged to form individual recesses for receiving a pen or pencil and resilient means for holding said oppositely disposed members at a location intermediate of their ends.

12. A pocket clasp for pen and pencils and the like, comprising oppositely disposed members having depending corrugations, said depending corrugations being arranged to form individual recesses for receiving a pen or pencil and sliding means for holding said oppositely disposed members at a location intermediate of their ends.

13. A pocket clasp for pen and pencils and the like, comprising oppositely disposed members having depending flat portions, said depending portions being arranged to form individual recesses for receiving a pen or pencil and means for holding said oppositely disposed members at a location intermediate of their ends.

14. A pocket clasp for pen and pencils and the like, comprising oppositely disposed members having depending flat portions, said depending portions being arranged to form individual recesses for receiving a pen or pencil and resilient means for holding said oppositely disposed members at a location intermediate of their ends.

15. A pocket clasp for pen and pencils and the like, comprising oppositely disposed members having depending flat portions, said depending portions being arranged to form individual recesses for receiving a pen or pencil and sliding means for holding said oppositely disposed members at a location intermediate of their ends.

16. A pocket clasp for pen and pencils and the like, comprising an endless member having laterally spaced, depending portions and a band of stiff, resilient material encircling its upper edge to be compressed and allowed to spring into the corners of a pocket or the like.

17. A pocket clasp for pen and pencils and the like, comprising an endless member having laterally spaced, depending portions and a band of stiff, resilient material encircling its upper edge to be compressed and allowed to spring into the corners of a pocket or the like, said band being provided with spaced clips for impinging on the edge of the pocket.

18. A pocket clasp for pen and pencils and the like, comprising an endless member having laterally spaced, depending portions and a band of stiff, resilient material encircling its upper edge to be compressed and allowed to spring into the corners of a pocket or the like, said band being provided with spaced clips for impinging on the edge of the pocket adjacent to the corners of the pocket.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification this 29th day of November, 1924.

JOHN A. EWEN.