May 10, 1932. L. L. SHERWOOD 1,857,336

KEY CONTAINER

Filed Feb. 17, 1930

Fig. 1.

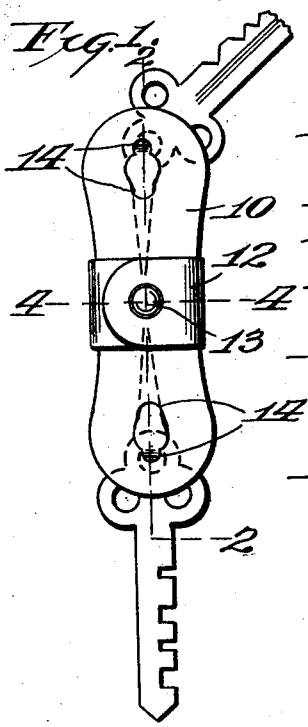


Fig. 2.

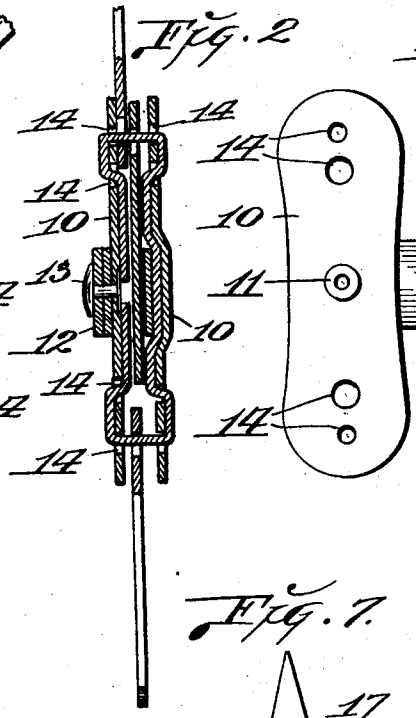


Fig. 3.

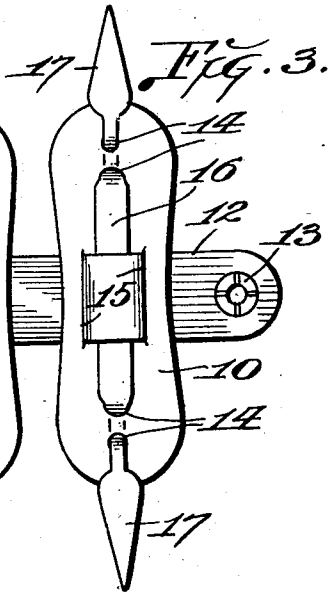


Fig. 7.

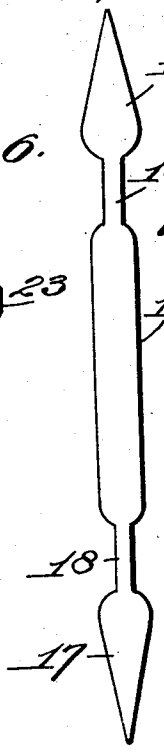


Fig. 4.

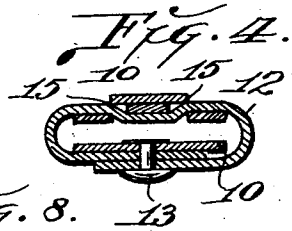


Fig. 8.

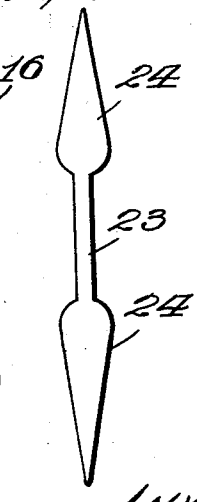


Fig. 5.

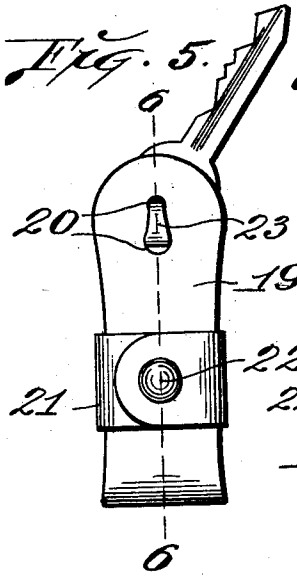
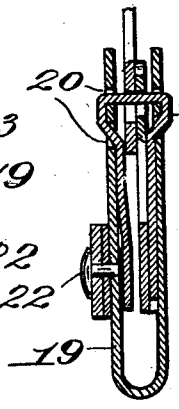


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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KEY CONTAINER

Application filed February 17, 1930. Serial No. 429,085.

My invention relates to a key container of the type that is carried in the pocket, purse or handbag and the principal objects of my invention are, to provide a relatively simple, practical and inexpensive key container that will receive and conveniently hold a number of keys, further, to provide a key holder or container that has a relatively high degree of flexibility so that it will readily flex and bend when pressure is applied thereto and further, to provide a key container that is constructed without stitching and without having any exposed metal parts.

Further objects of my invention are, to provide a key container that comprises three main parts, namely: an envelop that serves as a cover for the contained keys, a strap for holding said envelop in closed position and a thong that forms a connection between the two parts of the envelop for the keys that are contained within the holder.

A further object of my invention is, to provide a thong for holding the parts of the container in assembled relation and for securing the keys in said container and which thong is provided on its ends with arrowhead shaped members that are effective in retaining said thong in proper position in the holder.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, my invention consists in certain novel features of construction and arrangement of parts that will hereinafter be more fully described and claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of a key container constructed in accordance with my invention and showing keys projecting from the ends thereof.

Fig. 2 is a vertical section taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a view looking against the inside of a container and the same being in open position.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged horizontal section taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is an elevational view of a modified form of the container.

Fig. 6 is a vertical section taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5.

Figs. 7 and 8 are elevational views of the thongs that are utilized in my improved key containers.

Referring by numerals to the accompanying drawings and particularly to the construction illustrated in Figs. 1 to 4, inclusive, 10, 10 designate identical side wall members that are cut from leather or other suitable flexible material and which members are approximately three or three and one-half inches in length and one inch in width and both ends of said members are rounded.

Secured to the outer face of the central portion of one of these members by means of the stud member 11 of a conventional snap fastener is one end of a short strap 12 of leather or analogous flexible material and the free end of this strap carries the socket member 13 of an ordinary snap fastener.

Formed through both ends of each side member 10 are pairs of apertures 14, the same being arranged on the longitudinal center lines of said members and the outer member of each pair of apertures is slightly smaller than the inner member of each pair.

One of the side members 10 is provided at an intermediate point with a pair of spaced parallel longitudinally disposed slits 15 through which passes the strap 12.

The goods utilized for holding the case in the end portions of the container comprises a thong 16 of leather or like flexible material and the end portions 17 thereof are shaped after the manner of elongated arrowheads. Portions of the thong immediately adjacent to the arrowheads are narrowed in width and these narrow portions are designated by the numeral 18.

The relatively wide intermediate portion

of the thong lies against the central portion of the inner face of the side member 10 that is provided with the slits 15 and said intermediate portion lies between said side member and that portion of strap 12 that is positioned against the inner face of member 10 between said slits 15.

The keys to be carried in the container are arranged between the side members 10 with the perforated heads of said keys positioned between the perforated end portions of said side members and to securely retain the keys in the holder the arrowhead shaped portions 17 on the ends of the thong and the narrow portions 18 are threaded through the openings in the heads of the keys and then through the apertures 14 in the side member 10, to which the strap 12 is secured with the end portions 17 lying against the inner face of said last mentioned side member 10.

Thus the keys are flexibly connected to the ends of the holder while not in use and while being carried in the pocket or purse or handbag, said keys occupy positions between the side members 10 of the container and the latter is retained in compact form by engagement of the socket 13 with the head or stud of snap fastener member 11.

Inasmuch as all parts of the container excepting the relatively small snap fastener members are formed of leather or analogous soft yielding material the container is flexible and will readily yield to externally applied pressures so that it may be conveniently carried in the pocket, purse or handbag.

To position one of the keys for use it is only necessary to unfasten the snap fastener and then swing the desired key outwardly so that its shank portion projects beyond the end of the container, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2.

In the modified form of the container illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6 the body is formed from an elongated section 19 of leather or analogous material that is bent double to form the side walls of the device and both ends of this section of material are provided with a pair of perforations 20.

Secured to one of the side walls of this form of devise is one end of a strap 21 that passes around the two walls and the free end of said strap carries the socket portion of a snap fastener 22 by means of which the free end of said strap is secured to the fixed end.

In this form of device a comparatively short thong comprising a relatively narrow intermediate portion 23 and arrowhead shaped end portions 24 is utilized for securing the keys to the container and when this thong is applied to the holder the end portions 24 are inserted through the pairs of apertures 20 so that said end portions lie against the inner faces of the side walls 19 and the narrow intermediate portion 23 passes through the openings in the heads of the keys. (See Fig. 6.)

When the arrowhead shaped end portions of the thong are inserted through the apertures 14 and 20 the sides of said end portions are pinched together so that they will pass through the apertures and after being properly inserted the end portions are smoothed out so as to lie flat and thus prevent accidental release.

The thongs, in addition to serving as attaching means for the keys serve to temporarily tie the end portions of the holder together, thus providing a relatively simple, flexible connection.

Keys mounted on the thong in the ends of the container are free to swing in either direction when the container is opened for use.

The keys contained within the holder are self-adjusting, the entire container is constructed without stitching and there are no metal ends or parts that might tend to wear the pockets of clothing or the linings of purses, handbags and the like.

Thus it will be seen that I have provided a key container that is relatively simple in construction, inexpensive of manufacture and which is very effective in performing the functions for which it is intended.

It will be understood that minor changes in the size, form and construction of the various parts of my improved key container may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without departing from the spirit of my invention, the scope of which is set forth in the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. A key container, comprising a pair of side walls of flexible material, a strap having one end secured to the central portion of one of said side walls, the other side wall being provided with slits for the accommodation of said strap, said side walls being provided in their end portions with coinciding apertures and a thong threaded through said apertures.

2. A key container, comprising a pair of side walls of flexible material, a strap having one end secured to the central portion of one of said side walls, the other side wall being provided with slits for the accommodation of said strap, a snap fastener for securing the ends of said strap to each other, said side walls being provided in their end portions with coinciding apertures and a thong threaded through said apertures.

3. In a key container, a flexible side wall, a strap secured to the intermediate portion of said side wall, a second side wall mounted for sliding movement upon said strap, the end portions of both side walls being perforated and a thong arranged upon the sliding side wall, the end portions of which thong are adapted to be threaded through the openings in the ends of said side walls.

4. A key container comprising a pair of side walls of flexible material, readily detachable means for connecting the intermediate portions of said side walls, the ends of said side walls being provided with pairs of apertures, one member of each pair of apertures being smaller than the other, a thong threaded through said apertures and the ends of which thong are provided with lateral shoulders that engage the surfaces of the side walls adjacent to the small openings therein to prevent the ready withdrawal of said thong.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

LESTER L. SHERWOOD.