P. H. WELCKER.

POCKET CASE.

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1,414,798.

Patented May 2, 1922.

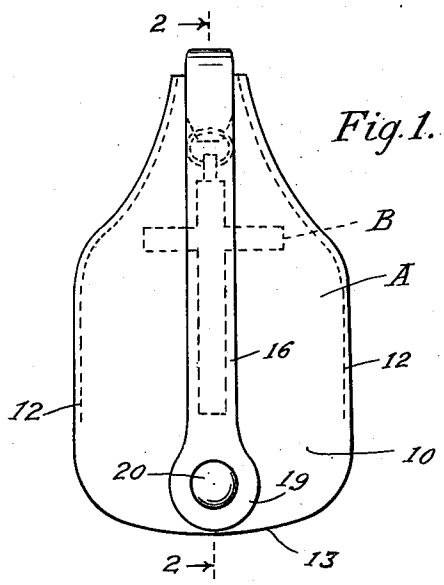


Fig. 1.

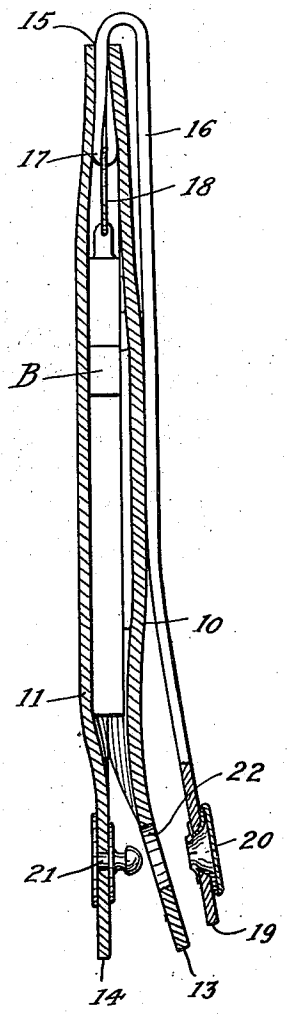


Fig. 2

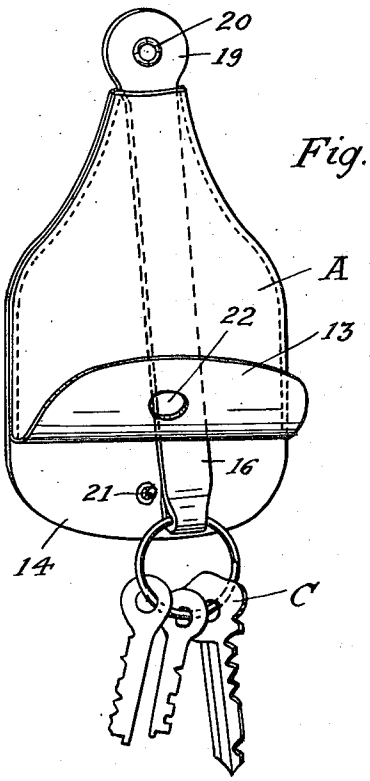


Fig. 3

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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POCKET CASE.

1,414,798. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 2, 1922.

Application filed June 24, 1921. Serial No. 480,079.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PAUL H. WELCKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Paul, in the county of Ramsey and State of Minnesota, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Pocket Cases, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a pocket case, which is made of leather or other flexible material, being designed to enclose and protect keys or other articles within the case in a convenient manner. The primary object of the invention resides in means for connecting the articles which are adapted to be held to the case so that they can be drawn into or between the sides of the same and held enclosed in the case by the connecting means which also forms a lock or closure for the case.

Key enclosures or cases have been made heretofore of a somewhat similar nature, to that illustrated in my invention, but have not employed the locking means, closing the open end of the case as I have illustrated. This locking means, which is formed as a part of the connecting means, holds the sides of the case together, so that, in use, the free edges of the side will not curl up and allow the articles contained within the case to be exposed. This is an important feature of my invention which will be readily apparent when considering the use of my case for holding a series of keys in a person's pocket. Without the locking or closure means for the case, though the keys might be practically entirely encased, the ends of the same could project through the open end of the case and have a tendency to wear the pocket in which the case is carried, if the closing or locking means was not in the case. In a pocket case of this nature it is desirable to have a large opening for the reception of the articles to be contained therein and unless a lock is provided for the opening, the continued use of the case causes the sides of the opening to spread or gap open, exposing the contents of the case.

In the drawings forming part of this specification:

Figure 1 is a front view of my pocket case in closed position.

Figure 2 is an enlarged partial cross-sectional view on the line 2—2 Figure 1, illustrating the closing clasp in open position.

Figure 3 illustrates my case holding a series of keys as the same would appear in open position.

In the drawings, my pocket case A is composed of the sides 10 and 11 which are of similar shape and are held together by the stitching 12 which extends along either side of the same.

It is desirable to use leather or other flexible material for the sides 10 and 11 of the pocket case A. The sides 10 and 11 can be of any suitable shape and, as illustrated in the drawing, are provided with free ends 13 and 14 which constitute the open end of the case.

The sides 10 and 11 taper at the end opposite the free ends 13 and 14 forming a small opening 13 through which a flexible connecting strap 16 extends. The inner end 17 of this strap carries ring 18 to which can be attached either removably or permanently articles, such as the cross B, or key ring C illustrated in Figures 1 and 3. The connecting strap 15 has an outer free, enlarged end 19 to which is secured the button 20 of a snap lock.

The free end 14 carries the engaging stud 21 of the snap lock which is adapted to project through the opening 22 formed in the free end 13 of the side 10. When the connecting strap 16 is drawn through the opening 15 to draw the connecting ring 18 with the articles B or C within and between the side walls 10 and 11, the free end 19 with the button 20 is in position so as to engage the locking or engaging stud 21 of the snap lock through the opening 22. In this manner the snap lock closes and securely holds the free ends 13 and 14 of the sides 10 and 11 together so as to close the compartment formed by the sides of the pocket case. The snap lock holds the sides from separating when the case is closed, preventing curling of the free edges 13 and 14, and completely enclosing any articles held within the sides of the case.

It is important that the sides of the case be held close, primarily for the reason so as not to allow any article held within the case to project out of the open end of the same which necessarily must be made large to allow the free reception of the articles connected to the member 16.

In use, the pocket case A is a very convenient means for enclosing keys or other

metal articles which one wishes to carry in their pocket. The articles held by the connecting member 16 are readily accessible for use through the opening provided by the free ends 13 and 14 and when it is desired to enclose the articles within the case it is only necessary to engage the enlarged end 19 to the member 16 and pull on the same. This will draw the articles into the case which can be locked with the snap at the free ends thereof.

In accordance with the patent statutes, I have described the principles of operation of my invention together with the particular design illustrating the same and I desire to have it understood that I do not wish to confine same to the exact illustration shown, but wish to protect my invention within the scope of the following claims:

1. A pocket case comprising, side walls, a connecting member slidably secured between said side walls, an opening for admitting articles secured to one end of said connecting member to be drawn between the sides of said case and means secured to the other end of said connecting member adapted to lock the receiving opening of said case closed.

2. An article of manufacture including, side walls secured together in a manner to form an enlarged opening, a smaller opening opposite said enlarged opening, a connecting member adapted to be slidably held between said side members and extending through said smaller opening and snap lock means on one end of said connecting member for closing said enlarged opening for the purposes specified.

PAUL H. WELCKER.