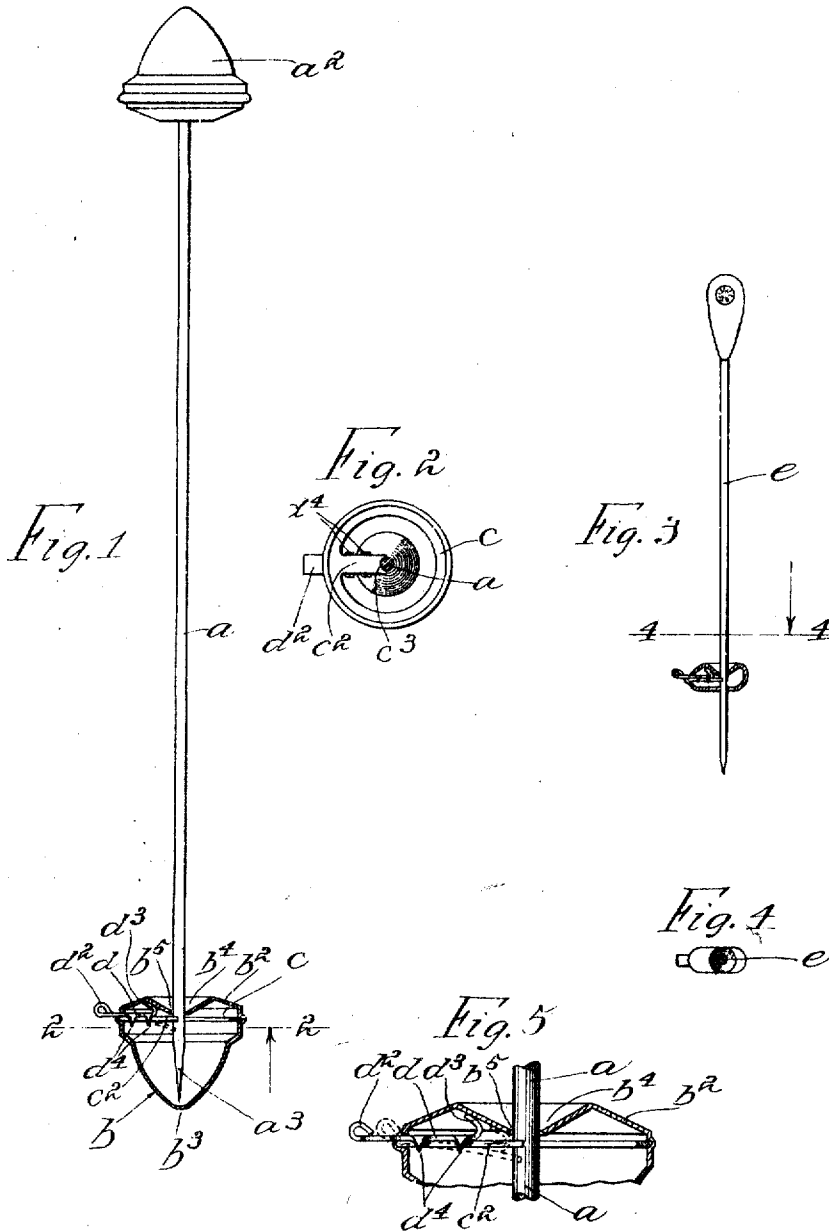


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SAFETY ATTACHMENT FOR HAT PINS, &c.
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Patented Apr. 5, 1910.



WITNESSES:

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SAFETY ATTACHMENT FOR HAT-PINS, &c.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE HOFMANN, a citizen of the United States, and residing at Valley Stream, in the county of Nassau and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Safety Attachments for Hat-Pins, Scarf-Pins, and the Like, of which the following is a specification, such as will enable those skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to hat pins, scarf pins and like devices; and the object thereof is to provide a pin of this class with an attachment which will prevent its accidental withdrawal or loss when in use and which, in the case of a hat pin, is connected with the pointed end of the pin so as to prevent injury to other in the use thereof.

The invention is fully disclosed in the following specification, of which the accompanying drawing forms a part, in which the separate parts of my improvement are designated by suitable reference characters in each of the views, and in which:—

Figure 1 is a side view of a hat pin provided with my improvement, the attachment being shown in section; Fig. 2 a transverse section of the attachment and pin on the line 2--2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 a view similar to Fig. 1 but showing my improvement applied to a scarf pin; Fig. 4 a section on the line 4--4 of Fig. 3; and, Fig. 5 a view of the attachment similar to that of Fig. 1 but on an enlarged scale.

In the accompanying drawing and in Figs. 1, 2 and 5 thereof, I have shown a hat pin *a* having, at one end, a head *a*² of the usual or any preferred form, and the other end *a*³ of which is pointed in the usual manner, and in the practice of my invention as shown in these figures, I provide an attachment consisting of a supplemental detachable head *b* adapted to be connected with the pointed end of the pin and which is designed not only to prevent the accidental removal of the pin from the hat, after it has been passed therethrough, but also to prevent the point of the pin from injuring others. The attachment or head *b* is preferably made conical in form and comprises a base portion *b*² and an apex or pointed portion *b*³, and the base portion *b*² is provided with a conical recess *b*⁴, having a central opening *b*⁵ through which, in practice,

the pointed end of the pin is passed. Within the body of the attachment or head *b* and adjacent to the base portion thereof is an annular flange *c*, at one side of which is an inwardly directed or radially arranged spring tongue *c*², one end of which is preferably provided with a segmental recess *c*³ in which the pin *a*, when inserted, fits and the length of the spring tongue *c*², between the flange *c* and the pin *a*, when the latter is inserted, is slightly greater than the distance between said flange and said pin, and when the point of the pin is inserted into the head or attachment *b* the spring tongue *c*² is forced inwardly slightly, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1, and if an attempt be made to withdraw the pin or pull the head or attachment *b* off of the pin the spring tongue *c*² operates as a clutch lock and prevents the removal of the pin from the attachment or the removal of the attachment from the pin and neither of these operations can be performed without moving the said spring tongue *c*² in the direction of the point of the pin so as to release the said clutch action of said spring tongue. In order to accomplish this last operation I place in the base portion of the attachment, or in said attachment and adjacent to the base thereof, a radially movable slide plate *d* which is provided with a handle or thumb and finger piece *d*² which passes radially out through one side of the base portion of the attachment and the inner end of which is curved backwardly, or in the direction of the base of the attachment, to form a curved finger or hook member *d*³ which normally bears on the inner surface of the wall of the conical recess *b*⁴ and the slide plate *d* normally rests against or in contact with the spring tongue *c*², as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 5. The slide plate *d* is also provided at its side edges with projecting prongs *d*⁴ which inclose the spring tongue *c*² or the side edges thereof, and the relative shape and formation of these parts is such that when the slide plate *d* is forced inwardly by pressure applied to the handle piece *d*² the spring tongue *c*² will be moved in the direction of the point of the pin and the said pin may be withdrawn from the attachment, or the attachment removed from the end of the pin, and when the pressure is removed from the handle piece *d*² of the slide *d* the spring action of the tongue *c*²

will force the slide plate *d* back in the position shown in full lines in Fig. 5, and if the pin is again passed into or through the attachment or the said attachment is passed on over the point of the pin the operation will again be as hereinbefore described and the attachment will be locked on the pin and cannot be removed without pressing inwardly on the handle piece *d*² of the slide or slide plate *d*.

My invention, as hereinbefore described, is not limited to the exact shape of the supplemental head or attachment *b* though I prefer the conical form thereof shown and described.

In Figs. 3 and 4 I have shown a modification in which my improved attachment is applied to an ordinary scarf pin *e*, the modification consisting in the shape of the attachment and the size thereof and the fact that the pin is, in practice, passed entirely through the attachment as clearly shown in Fig. 3. In this form of device the attachment is much smaller than when used as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 5, but the structural features and the operation are exactly the same as clearly shown in Fig. 3.

My invention is not limited to any particular means for or method of forming the spring tongue *c*² or attaching it to the body of the attachment, and various changes in and modification of the construction herein shown and described may be made, within the scope of the appended claim, without departing from the spirit of my invention or sacrificing its advantages.

With the construction shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 5 the attachment or supplemental head *b*, is circular in cross section, or in a plane at right angles to the pin when the latter is passed therinto, but in the construction shown in Figs. 3 and 4 the attachment is oblong in cross section and is also oblong in section in the plane of the pin, but as hereinbefore stated with reference to the construction shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 5, the at-

tachment shown in Figs. 3 and 4 may be of any desired shape.

The device when used as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, is intended to prevent the accidental withdrawal or loss of the pin after it has been passed through a scarf, but other uses of the device will be apparent. The conical recess *b*⁴ is intended to facilitate the operation of passing the pointed end of the pin through the attachment, and in the form of construction shown the walls of this conical recess also facilitate the operation of the slide or slide plate *d*.

Having fully described my invention what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

A safety attachment for pins comprising a hollow casing provided with a conical recess at one end having an aperture at its apex into which the pointed end of the pin is adapted to be passed, the interior of the casing being provided with a spring tongue having one end secured thereto, the free end of which tongue bears on the pin when the latter is inserted into the device, the length of said spring tongue being slightly greater than the distance from the point of its attachment to the pin when the latter is inserted into the device, and a laterally movable plunger slidably connected with said tongue within the casing and having a handle portion which passes outwardly through the side of the casing and the inner end having a portion which bears on the inner inclined surface formed by said conical recess to move said tongue longitudinally of the pin and in the direction of the point thereof, when said plunger is moved inwardly.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name in presence of the subscribing witnesses this 27th day of August 1909.

GEORGE HOFMANN.

Witnesses:

H. R. CANFIELD,
C. E. MULREANT.