

Aug. 9, 1949.

T. B. STUE

2,478,338

LOCK

Filed Sept. 23, 1946

Fig. 1.

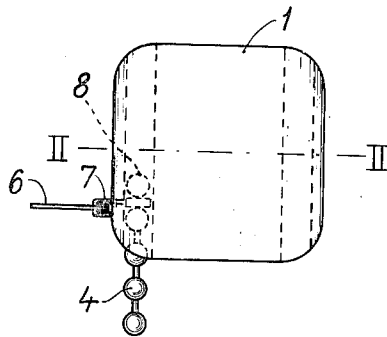
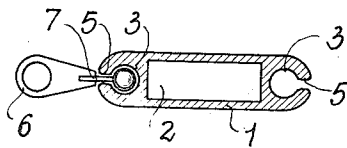


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,478,338

LOCK

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Application September 23, 1946, Serial No. 698,774

2 Claims. (Cl. 70-49)

1

Locks, particularly padlocks, are known, which comprise a lock casing formed with a through-going bore and equipped with a flexible locking element, adapted to be passed through the bore. Usually the locking element is linked and may for instance consist of a ball chain or a link chain, but it may also consist of a chain or cable of another shape or of a core of wire or the like, to which annular links are attached. The said locking element has the form of a linked structure, in order to facilitate the fixing of the same in a definite position by means of a mechanism located in the lock casing.

In locks of this kind certain difficulties exist in passing an end of the locking element through the said bore or guide in the lock casing, on account of the said locking element being flexible. The present invention aims particularly at removing this drawback and relates to an arrangement in locks of the above named kind, which renders it possible to easily pass an end of a flexible locking element through a longitudinal guide in a lock casing. Even if the invention is particularly designed for locks of the above named type, it is, as will be understood, not restricted to a locking element in the form of a linked structure. The invention is applicable also in connection with locks, which are not equipped with any special mechanism for securing the said locking element in a definite position.

The invention mainly consists in this that the said longitudinal bore in the lock casing is formed with an outwardly opening slot, which extends over the entire length of the bore and the width of which is less than the thickness of the locking element. Adjacent one of its ends the locking element is equipped with an operating member, which is so dimensioned that it projects through the slot and may be held between two fingers on the outside of the latter, when the locking element is situated in the bore or guide. In this arrangement the locking element may by a single manipulation be introduced into and moved through the guide by catching the said operating member, pushing the end of the locking element into one end of the guide, with the operating member projecting through the slot, and thereupon moving the operating member along the slot.

In order to attain the best control possible of the end of the locking elements during the passage, the operating member may be fastened at some distance from the end. This distance may

2

suitably be of a length comparable to the thickness of the locking element.

The operating member may eventually consist of a thread-shaped body, the free end of which for instance is bent into the form of a loop. The said member may however also consist of a plate-shaped part, which is connected to the locking element by means of a connection piece, said connection piece being so dimensioned that it can be taken up by the slot in the bore or guide.

A constructional form of a device according to the invention is illustrated schematically by way of example in the accompanying drawing.

Fig. 1 shows schematically and in front view a lock, which is equipped with an arrangement according to the invention.

Fig. 2 is a section along the line II-II in Fig. 1.

1 denotes a lock casing, the interior space 2 of which is designed for housing a lock mechanism, which is not shown in the drawing, since it is without interest for the understanding of the invention. The lock casing is formed with two parallel bores, guides, or channels 3 for a flexible locking element 4, which in the embodiment of the invention shown in the drawing consists of a ball chain. Now, the invention mainly consists in this, that the bores or guides 3 are formed with outwardly opening slots 5, which extend over the entire length of the bores 3 and the width of which is less than the thickness of the ball-chain 4. Adjacent one of its ends the ball-chain is connected to an operating member 6, which in this embodiment consists of a plate-shaped body, connected to the locking element 4 by means of an intermediate part 7.

When the arrangement according to the invention is to be used, the lock casing is caught with one hand (in case it is not immovably fixed), and the operating member 6 is gripped between two fingers of the other hand. The end of the chain 4, in this case the ball 8, is now introduced into one of the guides 3, at one end of the same, so that the intermediate connecting part 7 projects through the slot 5. The chain 4 may now easily be pulled through the bore or guide 3 by moving the operating member 6 along the slot.

I claim:

1. Threading arrangement for a flexible shackle of a lock, comprising a lock casing, a flexible locking element, a continuous guide channel in the said casing adapted to receive the said locking element and to allow passage of the same, the outer wall of the said guide channel having a longitudinal slot extending along the entire

3

length of the channel, the width of the said slot being less than the thickness of the said flexible locking element, and means operable from the outside of the casing and including a part passing through the slot and connected to the said locking element for engaging and disengaging the locking element with the channel.

2. A threading arrangement for a flexible shackle of a lock casing, comprising a lock casing, a flexible locking element, a continuous guide channel in the said casing adapted to receive the said locking element and to allow passage of the same, the outer wall of the said guide channel having a longitudinal slot extending along the entire length of the channel, the width of the said slot being less than the thickness of the said flexible locking element, and means operable

4

from the outside of the casing and including a part passing through the slot and connected to the said locking element at a distance from one of its ends, which is of a length comparable to the thickness of the locking element.

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