April 22, 1930. W. C. HIERING 1,755,296

FASTENING FOR POUCHES, WALLETS, AND ALL KINDS OF LEATHER CONTAINERS

Filed May 31, 1928

Fig. 1.

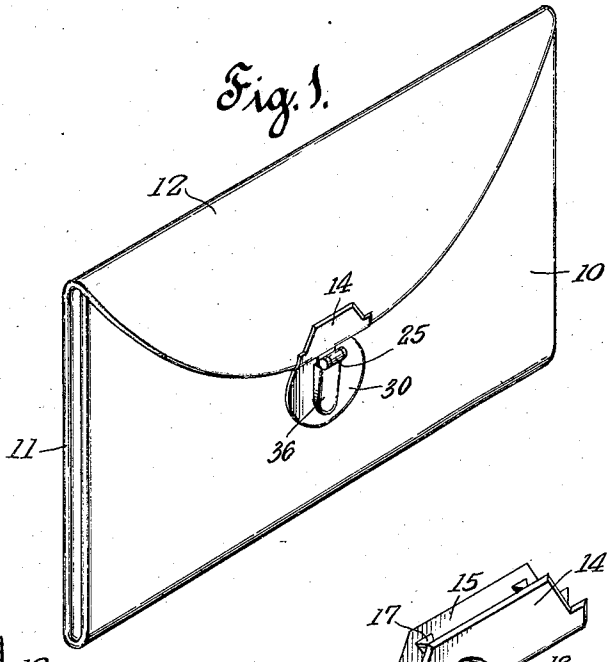


Fig. 2.

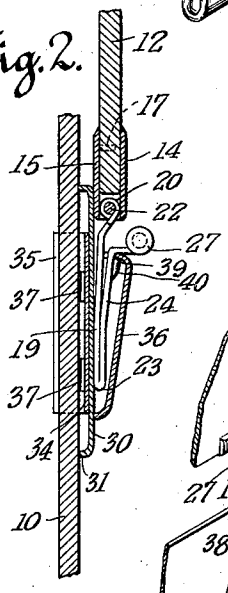


Fig. 3.

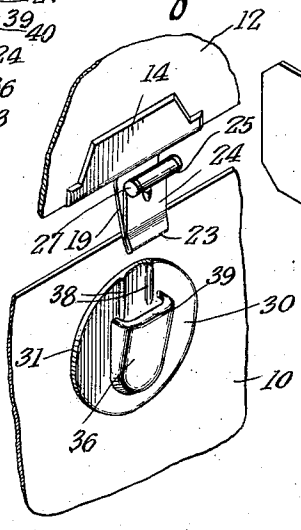


Fig. 4.

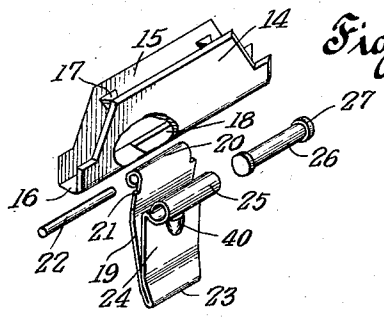
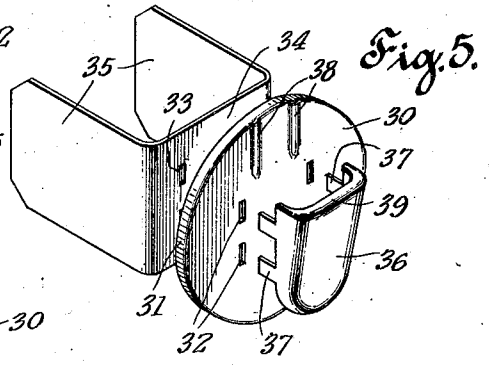


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FASTENING FOR POUCHES, WALLETS, AND ALL KINDS OF LEATHER CONTAINERS

Application filed May 31, 1928. Serial No. 281,666.

This invention relates to improvements in fasteners as applied to containers, particularly to types adapted to be carried in the hand, such as purses, pouches, bags, portfolios and the like provided with a flap to engage over the side of the container.

Such receptacles are usually made of leather or like flexible material and are composed of one or more expansible pockets, covered by an overhanging flap, usually extending in normal condition downward alongside the outer wall of the container, to afford protection from inadvertent loss of the contents and also the entrance of foreign matter therein.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a simple, cheap and effective device to positively secure such flap in operative position, with respect to the body of the container, until it is desired to obtain access to the interior.

A further feature is in the provision of an ornamental spring fastening having self-adjusting means conformable to angular positions assumed by the flap relative to the wall of the container.

Another purpose is to produce an easily and rapidly operable snap catch which can be maneuvered by one hand, either to fasten or release the flap, and which, when in an engaged position, acts effectually as a locking means.

These several important objects are attained by the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts as hereinafter described and shown in the accompanying drawing, forming a material part of this disclosure, and in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a conventional type of purse showing an embodiment of the invention as applied thereto.

Figure 2 is an enlarged sectional view taken through the longitudinal center line of the fastener.

Figure 3 is a perspective view showing the main parts of the device as assembled and in position for engagement.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the details constituting the flap carried member.

Figure 5 is a similar detail view of the wall carried member.

The pouch or purse shown in Figure 1 will be seen to consist of a single piece of material, shaped to present a front wall 10 folded at the bottom upwardly to produce a rear wall 11 having an overhanging front flap 12 normally extending over the front wall 10 in intimate contact therewith.

The flap may be straight across or curved as indicated and confined to the wall 10 by a fastener composed of a channel shaped, sheet metal casing bent to present a plain front plate 14 and rear plate 15 connected by an integral member 16 receptive of the edge of the flap 12.

A pair of prongs 17, sheared from the plate 15, are bent to extend inwardly to engage a leather or like wall entered between the plates, so that when the plates are forcibly pressed towards each other they will be permanently and securely anchored.

The profile of the plates is a matter of fancy and one may differ from the other, both being preferably bevelled along their edges as shown, and centrally in the channel element 16 is an elongated opening 18.

A strip 19 of spring material is cut and curled at one end to produce a tubular bead 20 freely enterable through the opening 18, being limited by distinct shoulders 21 making contact with the outer surface of the element 16, and a pin 22, passed through the bead to extend outwardly at its ends, acts in the manner of a hinge, retaining the parts in operative relation.

The continuing, wider portion of the strip is folded closely upon itself, as at 23, the reversely extending portion 24 being outturned and curled to produce a hollow elongated knob or handle element 25 disposed approximately in front of the shoulders 21, and fitted to the opening in the handle is a pin 26 having upset heads 27 forming a desirably finished appearance.

A circular disc 30, having a flanged peripheral edge 31, is provided with perforation 32, the same registering with similar perforations 33 in a plate 34 having end members 35 bent at right angles to pass through ap-

propriate slits in the wall 10, thereafter being turned outwardly to engage the material and hold the plate rigidly thereagainst.

A socket 36 of sheet metal is shaped to incline inwardly towards its lower edge and its side members are provided with prongs 37 adapted to pass through the openings 32—33 to be upset on the inner side of the plate 34, holding the three elements rigidly in fixed relation. Obviously the socket may be formed integral with the disc by suitable dies, if preferred, rather than be made as a separator member.

On the face of the disc 30 are two slightly raised tracks or guides 38 disposed to receive the elements 23 and 19 when pressed into engaging position in the socket 36, the tracks 38 preventing scratching, wearing and marring the surface of the disc.

At the open end of the socket 36 is an inreaching integral ledge 39 at a right angle adjacently below the tracks, this ledge being engageable with a projection 40 formed on the spring element 24 contiguous to the knob 25, and acting as a catch to engage within the socket.

In operation, the respective parts having been assembled, fastening is effected by directing the member 23 into the socket 36, continuing entry until the catch 40 has snapped past the catch ledge element 39 of the socket, at which time the knob 25 will extend slightly outward at the front.

Upon depressing the knob sufficiently to release the catch from the element 39 separation is accomplished.

Should the container become bulged by its contents and the flap consequently assume a position other than parallel to the container wall, the fastening operation is not interfered with, due to the adjustability of the spring catch carrying member.

Although I have described my improvements with considerable detail and with respect to certain particular forms of my invention, I do desire to be limited to such details since many changes and modifications may well be made without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention in its broadest aspect.

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

1. A fastener for flexible containers having a flap closure, comprising a disc anchored on the front wall of the container, a socket carried by said disc, said socket having an inreaching upper edge partially closing the opening, raised guards on said disc above the socket, a channeled clasp fixed on the container flap, a spring tongue hingedly engaged in said clasp to project downwardly therefrom, said tongue being guided by said guards to enter the socket, a knob on said tongue, and a lug engageable with the inreaching edge of said socket, said lug being released by depressing said knob.

2. A fastener for flexible containers having a flap closure, comprising a disc anchored on the front wall of the container, a socket carried by said disc, said socket having an inreaching upper edge, a channeled clasp on the container flap, said clasp having an opening in its lower portion, a flat spring strip having a tubular bead at one end to pass through the opening, a pin set in said bead to retain the spring in the manner of a hinge in said clasp, said strip having limiting shoulders and being bent upon itself to enter said socket, a lug integral with the bent portion of said strip to engage the upper edge of said socket, an elongated knob at the outer end of the bent strip by which the lug may be released from the socket, and means to prevent abrasion of said disc by said strip.

3. A fastener for flexible containers having a flap closure, comprising a disc anchored on the front wall of the container, a socket carried by said disc, said socket having an inreaching upper edge, a channeled clasp on the container flap, said clasp having an opening in its lower portion, a flat spring strip bent midway its length to present front and rear portions, said rear portion being curled and passed through the opening in said clasp, a hinge pin to retain the curled end in said clasp, an integral lug on the front portion of said strip to engage the edge of said socket, means to guide the bent strip into the socket, and an elongated knob on the free end of the forward portion of said strip to disengage said lug.

4. A fastener for flexible containers having a flap comprising a socket rigidly fixed to the wall of the container, a support frame fixed on the edge of the flap, a spring clip hinged at one of its ends to said frame and provided with a lug at its outer end, said socket being inclined to facilitate entry and confinement of the clip therein and having an inreaching marginal ledge with which the clip lug is adapted to engage after the clip has entered into and expanded within the socket, whereby the flap may be latched to the wall of the container by inserting the clip within the socket, the clip lug engaging the socket ledge on the expansion of the clip in the socket and whereby the flap will be unlatched from the wall of the container by depressing the clip, disengaging its lug from the socket ledge.

5. A fastener for flexible containers having a flap, comprising a socket provided with prongs in engagement with the wall of the container to rigidly secure the socket thereto, a channeled casing on said flap, said casing being provided with an apertured portion, a spring clip enterable, at one end, within the apertured portion of the casing, a pin on said end of the spring clip in engagement with the

casing to hold the clip end therein, said clip being further provided with shouldered portions adapted to engage with the casing to limit the movement of the spring clip therein, and a projection on the other end of the spring clip in engagement with the socket to hold the wall and flap of the container in fastened position.

6. A fastener for flexible containers having a flap, comprising a socket provided with an open end and with a closed end rigidly fixed on the wall of a container, said socket having a detent member at its open end, a doubled spring clip having front and rear members adapted to enter said socket, said socket being inclined towards its closed end to guide the clip in its entry into the socket, said rear member being hingedly engaged to the edge of the flap, and means on the front member to engage said detent to latch the wall and flap of the container, the closed end of said socket limiting the downward movement of the clip therein to prevent accidental disengagement of the clip and detent member.

This specification signed this 29th day of May, 1928.

WILLIAM C. HIERING.