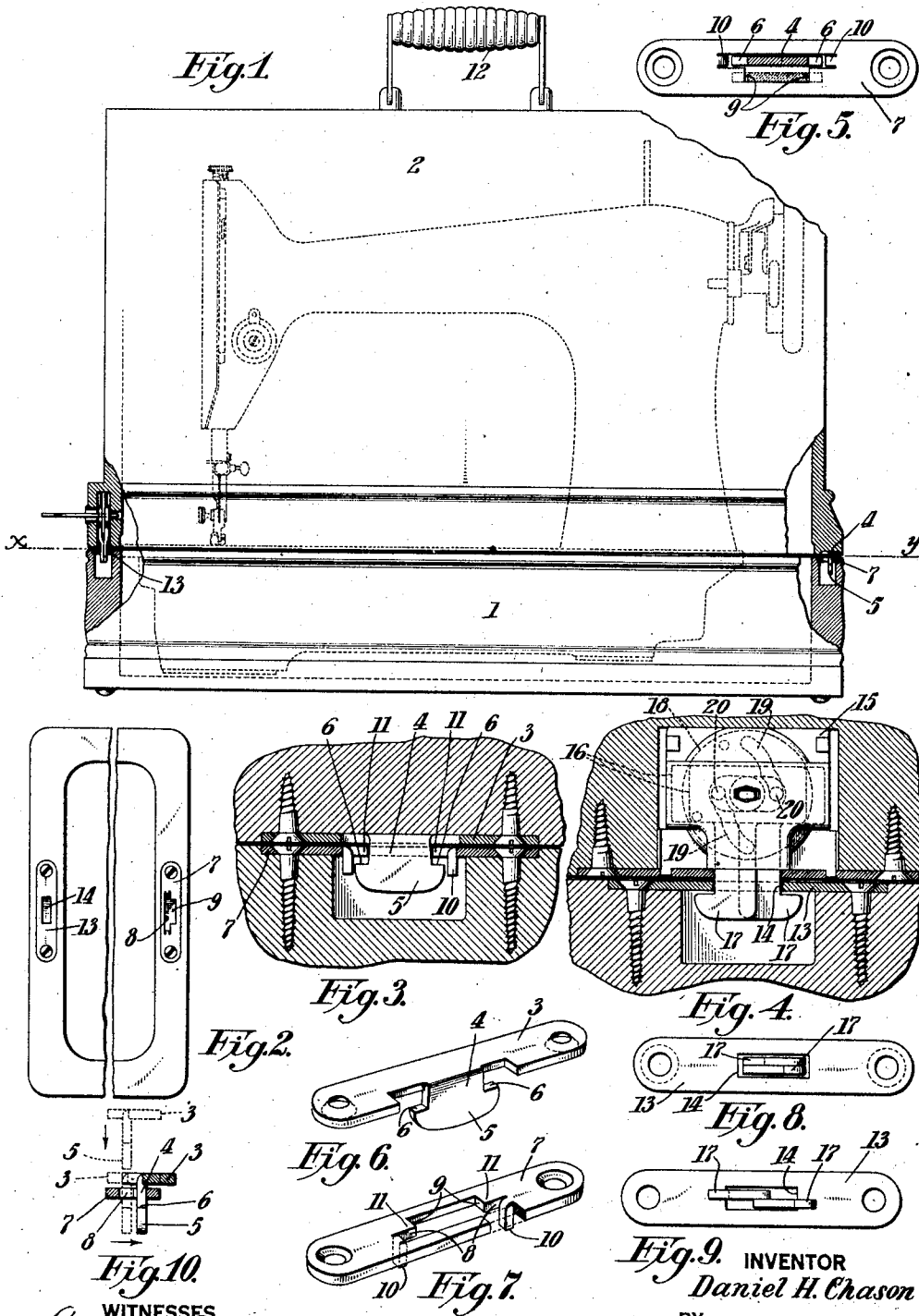


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D. H. CHASON
SEWING MACHINE CASE
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SEWING-MACHINE CASE

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This invention relates to portable sewing machine cases including separable cover- and base-sections and, more particularly, to the fastening means for securing the cover-section to the base-section.

An object of the invention is to provide a simplified form of fastening means which is concealed when the cover is applied to the base and which will permit the cover to be applied to the base without materially tilting the cover.

In cases where it is necessary to materially tilt the cover-section in applying it to the base-section, there is danger of interference between the cover-section and the sewing machine seated on the base-section. Obviously less clearance is required and there is less danger of interference between the sewing machine and the cover, where the cover may be applied and removed by a straight up-and-down motion, without tilting.

To the attainment of the ends in view, the cover- and base-sections, having their parting surfaces in a horizontal plane, are provided at one end with inter-engaging hook- and slotted retainer-elements. The hook-element is formed with a reduced shank and an enlarged tip with shoulders at the juncture of the shank and tip. The retainer-element is formed with a stepped slot including an enlarged portion to receive the hook-tip on the down-motion of the cover upon the base and a reduced portion at the side of the enlarged portion to receive the hook-shank on a horizontal motion of the cover upon the base.

The cover- and base-members are provided at their ends opposite the hook- and retainer-elements with inter-engaging elements of a key-operated lock which are brought into register by the above-mentioned horizontal motion of the cover.

In the accompanying drawings, Fig. 1 is a side elevation, partly in section, of a sewing machine case embodying the invention. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the base-section. Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the inter-engaging hook- and retainer-elements at one end of the case. Fig. 4 is a sectional view of the inter-engaged key-operated locking-element at the

other end of the case. Fig. 5 is a plan view of the retainer-element with the hook-element in section. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the hook-element. Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the retainer-element. Fig. 8 is a bottom view of the key-operated lock with the bolts in unlocked position. Fig. 9 is a similar view with the bolts in locked position, and Fig. 10 is a transverse section through the hook- and retainer-elements.

In the preferred embodiment of the invention illustrated, 1 represents the hollow rectangular base-section and 2 the cover-section of a sewing machine carrying case; the cover-section being seated upon the base-section with their parting surfaces in juxtaposition in the plane $x-y$.

Let into the parting surface of the cover-section 2, at the right-hand end of the latter, is the plate 3 of a hook-member having a downwardly extending shank 4 formed with an enlarged tip 5 affording abrupt shoulders 6, 6; the shank 4, tip 5 and shoulders 6 lying in a common plane at right angles to the plane of the plate 3. Let into the adjoining parting surface of the base 1 is the retainer-element 7 formed with a stepped slot including an enlarged portion 8 adapted to receive the tip 5 of the hook-element on the down-motion of the cover upon the base, and an adjoining reduced portion 9 to receive the hook-shank 4 on a horizontal motion of the cover upon the base; these motions being indicated by arrows in Fig. 10.

At the ends of the enlarged portion 8 of the slot in the plate 7 there are provided downwardly bent tongues 10 serving as guides for the tip 5 of the hook-member and insuring passage of the shank 4 into the reduced portion 9 of the retainer-slot, on the horizontal motion of the cover to closed position.

When the hook-shank 4 is in position in the reduced portion 9 of the retainer-slot, the shoulders 6, 6 are directly below the corners 11, 11 of the retainer-plate; which corners cooperate with the shoulders 6, 6 to prevent separation of the cover from the base when the case is lifted by the handle 12.

The case is provided at the end opposite

the hook- and retainer-elements 3, 7 with a suitable lock, such as disclosed in the patent to Chason, No. 1,594,152 of July 27, 1926. Such a lock comprises a keeper-plate 13 which is secured to the base 1 and formed with a rectangular slot 14. The lock further includes a casing 15 in which are slidably mounted the shanks 16 of the bolts having their downwardly extending ends oppositely hooked at 17.

Also disposed within the lock casing 15 is a key-operated circular plate 18 formed with bolt-actuating cam-slots 19 in which are disposed follower pins 20 carried by the respective bolt-shanks 16, 16. Rotation of the cam-plate carries the bolts outwardly in opposite directions from the position shown in Fig. 8 to that shown in Fig. 9, thus engaging the hooked ends 17 of the bolts under the keeper-plate 13.

The distance between the hook-tip 5 and the hooked ends 17 of the lock-bolts is equal to the distance between the reduced portion 9 of the slot in the retainer plate 7 and the slot 14 in the keeper-plate 13. Hence, when the cover is lowered upon the base, the hook-tip 5 must be passed into the enlarged portion 8 of the slot in the retainer-plate, and the cover shifted horizontally to carry the hook-shank 4 into the reduced portion 9 of the slot, before the downwardly projecting ends 17 of the lock-bolts register with and can be inserted into the slot 14 in the keeper-plate 13. When the bolts 17 are spread, the cover is firmly secured to the base at both ends and the case can be safely carried without danger of separation of the base from the cover.

Having thus set forth the nature of the invention, what I claim herein is:—

A cover-fastener comprising hook- and retainer-elements, the hook-element being formed of sheet metal and having an attaching base and a flat tongue bent flatwise from the plane of the base to stand normal to the latter, said tongue having a reduced shank and an enlarged tip with shoulders at the juncture of the shank and tip, said retainer element being formed of sheet metal perforated to provide a stepped tongue-receiving slot with a long hook-tip-receiving portion and a shorter hook-shank-receiving portion, said retainer element having hook-tip-engaging means projecting downwardly at the ends of the longer portion of the slot to guide the hook-shank into the shorter portion of the slot.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

DANIEL H. CHASON.