Aug. 30, 1932. W. C. HIERING 1,874,998

BAG FASTENER

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Fig. 1

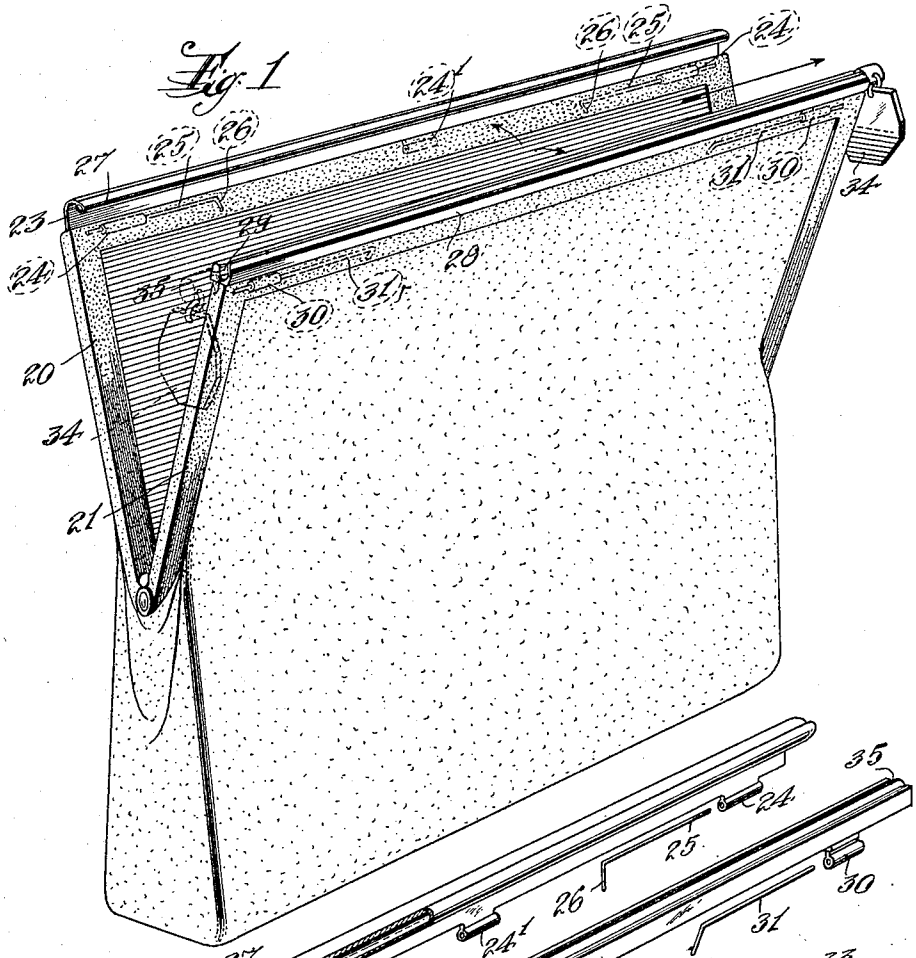


Fig. 2

Fig. 3

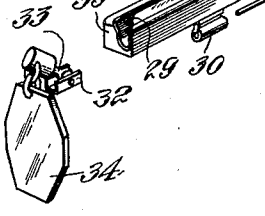


Fig. 4

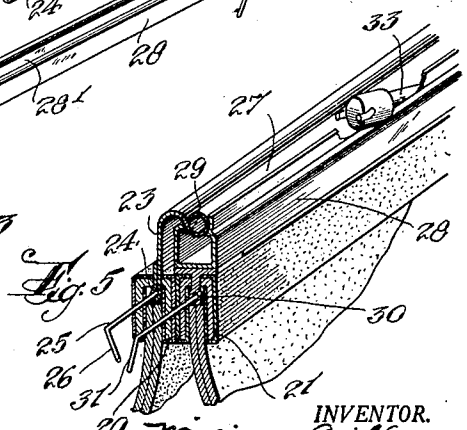


Fig. 5

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Fig. 6

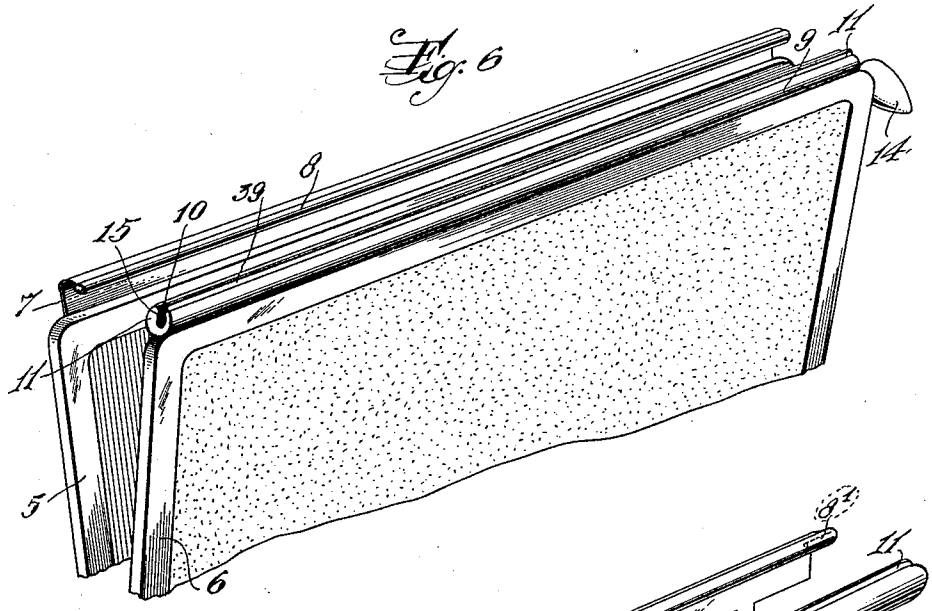


Fig. 7

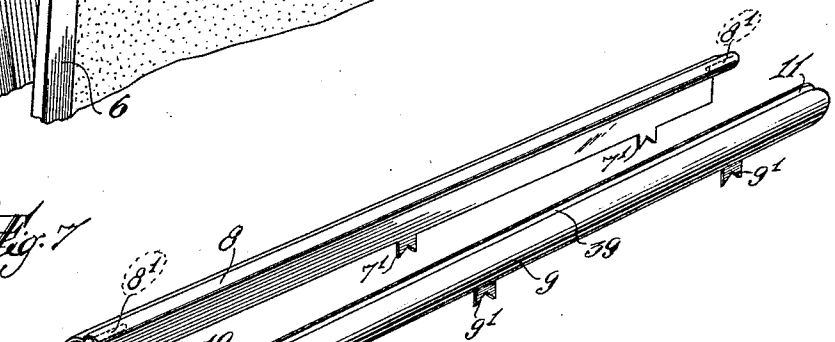


Fig. 8

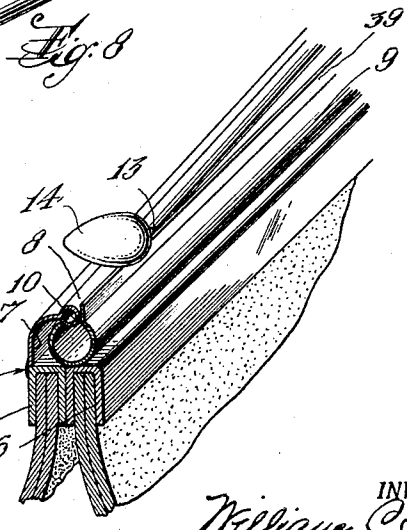


Fig. 9



Fig. 10



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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BAG FASTENER

Application filed September 17, 1931. Serial No. 563,303.

This invention relates to ladies' handbags and more particularly to fastening devices for such bags.

It is very desirable that hand bags be easily opened and closed; but in order to prevent surreptitious opening of bags by pickpockets and others, it is necessary to provide fastening devices which may not be manipulated by unauthorized persons without attracting the attention of the person carrying the bag. However, such fastening devices were objectionable from a manufacturing standpoint in that they were somewhat complicated and expensive. Also, such fastening devices could not be universally applied to any type of hand bags, but generally were confined to bags having a specific structure.

It is therefore, an object of this invention to provide a fastening device which is simple in structure, effective in operation, and easily manipulated.

A further object is the provision of a fastening device which may be readily applied to many types of handbags without material alteration.

These and other advantageous objects, which will later appear, are accomplished by the simple and practical construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and exhibited in the accompanying drawings, forming part hereof, and in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a handbag embodying the invention,

Figure 2 is a perspective view of an element of the fastening device,

Figure 3 is a perspective view of another element of the fastening device,

Figure 4 is a perspective view of an element employed to cause disengagement of the elements shown in Figures 2, 3,

Figure 5 is a perspective view showing the elements in the process of being disengaged,

Figure 6 is a perspective view of a handbag embodying another form of the invention.

Figures 7, 8, 9 are perspective views of elements employed in the fastening device, and

Figure 10 is a perspective view showing the elements of the fastening device in the process of being disengaged.

Referring to the drawings, in Figures 1 to 5 is shown a form of the invention, including a pair of bag frame members 20, 21 of a well known type. A fastening element 23, arcuate in cross-section, extends longitudinally of the main body portion of member 20, and is attached thereto by means of a pair of projections 24 which pass through openings in the upper surface of the frame member, the projections 24 being attached to torsional springs 25, each of which has an upturned portion 26 abutting the inner walls of the frame member. The element 23 is properly positioned on the frame member by the projections 24 and 24'. The element 23 is provided at its free edge with a bead 27 extending the length of the element.

Mounted on member 21 is a rectangular casing 28 having upper wall partially removed to provide a slot 29 extending the length of the casing and arranged to receive the bead 27. The casing is attached to the frame member by means of projections 30 which pass through openings in the frame member 21. The projections 30 are attached to torsional springs 31 similar to the springs 25 above described.

Slidably mounted in the casing 28 is a small channel member 32 having pivotally connected thereto a stem 33, which is attached to a finger piece 34, by means of which the member 32 may be slid in the casing.

The sliding movement of the member 32 is limited by the end walls 35 each of which has a portion cut-away so that the stem 33 can take a position in line with the casing as shown in Figure 1.

In operation, the frame members are brought together to cause the bead 27 to enter slot 29, the bead snapping in the slot due to the action of the torsional springs 25 and 31 as the bead rides over the upper surface of the casing into the slot.

To disengage the fastening elements, the stem 33 is brought to an upright position and the member 32 is slid in the casing, the stem camming the bead out of the slot as the member 32 moves in the casing, as shown in Figure 5.

In Figures 6 to 10 is shown another form

of the device including a pair of hingedly connected bag frame members 5, 6, of a well known type. Attached to the main body portion of member 5 by solder or other suitable means, is an element 7 of the fastening device consisting of a strip of metal extending the length of the main body portion and substantially arcuate in cross-section, the free longitudinal edge of the element being bent back on itself to provide a bead or enlargement 8 extending the length of the element 7.

Attached to frame member 6 is a cooperating fastening element 9 consisting of a tube extending the length of the main body portion of member 6, the tube having a longitudinal slot 10, and end walls 11. Slidably mounted in the tube is a ball 12, having connected thereto a stem 13 which projects through the slot 10, the stem having attached thereto a finger piece 14, by means of which the stem may be manipulated to slide the ball in the tube, the longitudinal movements of the ball being limited by the end walls 11, which have cut-out portions 15 to enable the stem 13 to be swung beyond the end walls to a position as shown in Figure 6.

In operation, to close the device, the frame members 5, 6 are moved together to cause the bead 8 to snap into the slot 10 of element 9, the snapping action resulting from resiliency due to the distorting of the frame member as the bead passes over the element 9 into the slot 10, and the longitudinal extremities of the bead 27 may be rounded as shown in Fig. 2, or may be provided with short pins 8′, centrally positioned in and protruding slightly from the ends thereof, as shown in Fig. 7, to facilitate the movement of the stem 13 to an upright position and into camming engagement with the bead. The casing 28 may be provided with a short upstanding wall 28′ at the outer edge of the slot 29, (see Fig. 3) with which the bead 27 may abut when the bead is received in the slot 29 and the tube 9 may have a similar wall 39, to prevent the lifting of the bead from the slot and disengagement of the frame members except by the use of the camming stem 33 or 13 of the fastening element and to further facilitate the movement of the stem into camming engagement with the bead.

The fastener elements 7 and 9 may be attached to the frame members 5 and 6 by soldering or by means of lugs 7′ and 9′ preferably integral with the fastener elements 7 and 9, respectively, the lugs being upset against the inside of the frame members, or any other suitable means may be used for this purpose.

One of the elements 7 or 9 may be rigidly secured to one of the frame members, as previously described, while the other element may be resiliently secured to the other frame member by resilient means such as that shown for the element 23 and casing 28 in Figs. 1, 2 and 3.

From the above description it will be seen that I have provided a simple and effective fastening device which may be used in a number of situations. While the device has been described specifically in connection with a lady's handbag, it is obvious that it may be effectively used on traveling bags, brief cases, and the like, in fact, in practically any similar situation where it is necessary to fasten two members together in more than one point in the same straight line.

The foregoing disclosure is to be regarded as descriptive and illustrative only, and not as restrictive or limitative of the invention, of which obviously an embodiment may be constructed including many modifications without departing from the general scope herein indicated and denoted in the appended claims.

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

1. A fastening device, comprising a tubular member having a longitudinal slot, a second member having a longitudinal bead arranged to enter the slot to hold the members together, and a ball slidably mounted in the tubular member, said ball having a stem projecting through the slot, said stem forcing the bead out of the slot to disengage the members when the ball is slid in the tubular member.

2. A fastening device, comprising a member having a longitudinal slot, a second member having a longitudinal bead arranged to enter the slot to hold the members together, a slidable element mounted on the first member, said element having a stem projecting through the slot, said stem forcing the bead out of the slot to disengage the first and second members when the element is slid along the first member, and means to prevent disengagement of the first member and the slidable element.

3. A fastening device, comprising a tubular member having a slot, a second member having a bead arranged to enter the slot to hold the members together, and means slidably mounted in the tubular member including a stem projecting through the slot, to force the bead out of the slot to disengage the members.

4. A fastening device, comprising a member having a slot, a spring pressed second member having a bead arranged to enter the slot to hold the members together, and an element slidably mounted on the first member to force the bead out of the slot to disengage the members.

5. In combination with a pair of hingedly connected bag frame members, a member, having a slot, resiliently mounted on one of the frame members, a second member resil-

iently mounted on the other frame member, said second member having a bead arranged to enter the slot, and an element slidably mounted on the first member, said element having a stem projecting through the slot to force bead out of the slot as the element is slid along the first member.

6. A fastening device, comprising a member having a slot, a second member having a bead arranged to enter the slot, resilient means to cause the bead to snap into and remain in the slot, and means associated with the first member to force the bead out of the slot to disengage the members.

7. A fastening device comprising a tubular member having a longitudinal slot, a second member having a longitudinal bead arranged to enter the slot to hold the members together, resilient means to cause the bead to snap into and remain in the slot, and means for camming the bead out of the slot to disengage said members.

8. A fastening device comprising a member having a slot and having an upstanding wall, a second member having a bead arranged to enter the slot to hold the members together and adapted to abut said wall when the bead is in the slot, and means slidably mounted in the first member to force the bead out of the slot to disengage the members.

9. A fastening device comprising a member having a longitudinal slot, a second member having a bead arranged to enter the slot to hold the members together and a slidable element mounted in the first member and having a stem projecting through the slot to force the bead out of the slot to disengage the members, the longitudinal ends of said bead and of said slotted member being designed to facilitate the movement of the stem.

This specification signed this 15th day of September, 1931.

WILLIAM C. HIERING.