July 4, 1950 C. SILVERMAN 2,513,592

BRACELET CLASP

Filed June 29, 1946

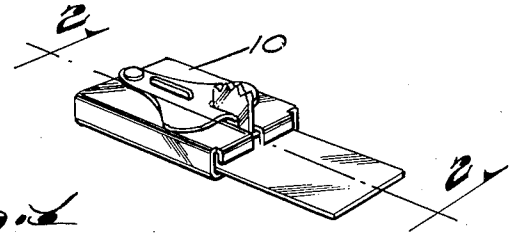


Fig. 1

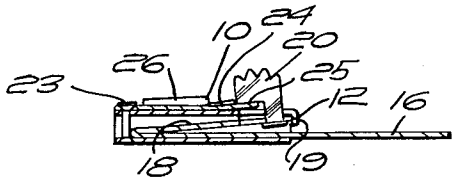


Fig. 2

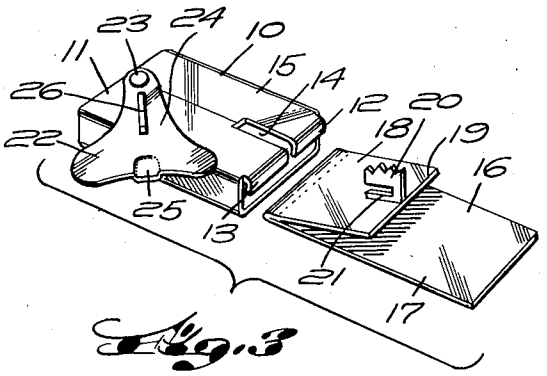


Fig. 3

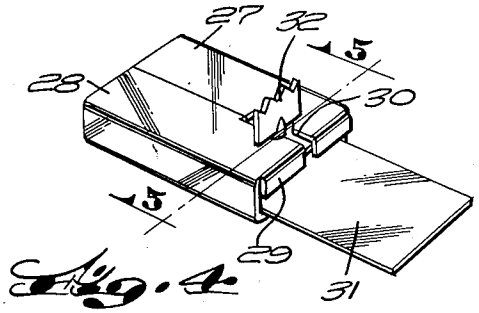


Fig. 4

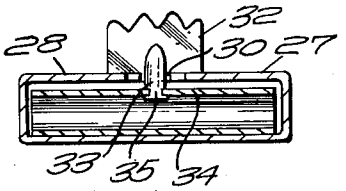


Fig. 5

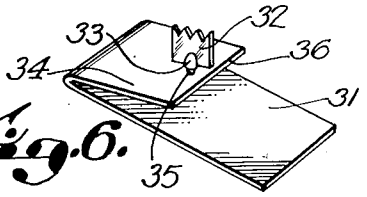


Fig. 6.

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BRACELET CLASP

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1 Claim. (Cl. 24—230)

1

The present invention relates to the jewelry art, and has particular reference to a novel finding for a bracelet clasp.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a positive lock against accidental separation of the clasp parts.

Another object of the invention is to provide a very simple construction for a bracelet snap clasp, which has a manually movable lock element.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a bracelet clasp construction which has a pivoted lock element movable to positively prevent separation of the clasp parts.

With the above and other objects and advantageous features in view, the invention consists of a novel arrangement of parts more fully disclosed in the detailed description following, in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, and more specifically defined in the claims appended thereto.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing a preferred construction for a bracelet snap clasp, the parts being in assembled locked relation;

Fig. 2 is a detail section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the clasp parts in separated relation;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view, similar to Fig. 1, illustrating a modified locking arrangement;

Fig. 5 is an enlarged section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4; and

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the resilient tongue of Fig. 4.

It has been found desirable to provide an additional safety lock for bracelet and necklace clasps of the snap engagement type, to positively ensure against accidental separation of the clasp parts.

To this end, I have provided a locking member which may be manually turned so as to turn to lock the connected clasp parts against accidental separation, the locking member being securely held in its locking position by spring tension.

Referring to the drawings, a preferred embodiment of my invention is illustrated in Figs. 1, 2 and 3. The clasp body, designated 10, is of the usual hollow box type, the rear end 11 being adapted to be secured to one end of a bracelet or necklace chain, and the forward end 12 comprising a downwardly extending lock flange 13, a longitudinal slot 14 extending across the flange 13 and rearwardly back in the top wall 15 of the

2

clasp body 10. Associated with the clasp body is a snap element 16 which has a body portion 17 in the form of a flat plate and adapted to be secured to the other end of a bracelet or chain, the snap element having an engaging tongue 18 at the forward end thereof integral with the body portion 17 and resiliently urged upwardly at a slight angle to the body portion, as illustrated, the rear edge 19 of the tongue 18 being adapted to snap seat against the inner surface of the depending flange 13 when the snap element 16 is inserted in the clasp body 10, as illustrated in Fig. 2. The tongue 18 is provided with an upstanding finger 20 having its upper surface knurled, and having a longitudinal slot 21 adapted to be positioned above the top wall 15 of the clasp body 10 when the parts are in assembled relation to provide a portion overhanging the top wall 15, the upstanding finger 20 being secured to the tongue 18 in any suitable manner, the preferred manner being illustrated in Fig. 2, and comprising an extension which passes through a suitable opening in the tongue 18, and is soldered or otherwise riveted at the lower portion thereof. When the finger 20 is manually depressed the edge 19 of the tongue 18 moves below the flange 13 and the snap element may then be withdrawn from the hollow clasp body 10.

A pivot plate 22 is swivelly mounted at its forward end 23 to the rear end of the clasp housing 10, and is bent or curved as illustrated in Fig. 2, to provide a central upstanding portion 24 which has a depressed area 25 positioned at the back of the pivot member 22. After the snap element 16 has been snapped into the clasp body 10, the pivot member 22 is moved, as by means of an upstanding finger engageable bar 26, to pass the rear end of the pivot member through the slot 21 until the upper overhanging portion of the upstanding finger 20 snaps into the depression 25, whereby the upstanding finger is releasably locked against downward movement.

The novel construction thus provides a double lock, namely, the usual lock obtained by the snapping engagement of the rear edge of the resilient tongue 18 with the downwardly extending flanges 13, and the snap seating of the upper portion of the upstanding finger 20 in the pivot member recess 25, the two locks thus providing positive assurance against accidental separation of the clasp parts.

The above described clasp construction utilizes a separate pivot member, but it has been found desirable for certain types of bracelets and

chains, to provide a simpler clasp arrangement, as illustrated in Figs. 4 and 5. In this construction the clasp body 27 is of similar construction to the clasp body 10 of Fig. 1, and includes a top wall 28 and two downwardly extending end flanges 29, separated by a slot 30 which extends rearwardly into the top wall 28, as illustrated. The snap element 31 is generally similar to the snap element 16 of Fig. 3, except that the upstanding finger 32 has a depending reduced portion 33 which is swivelly secured in the resilient tongue 34 of the snap element at a point intermediate the front and rear edges thereof, preferably by having a reduced portion 35 which extends through a suitable opening in the resilient tongue 34, and is then swaged over to provide a pivotal mounting. The upper edge of the upstanding finger 32 is knurled as illustrated. When the upstanding element 32 is turned so as to be in the plane of the slot 30, the snap element 31 may be readily snapped into the clasp body 27, with the edge 36 of the resilient tongue 34 seated against the rear surface of the downwardly extending flange fingers 29 and the element 32 slightly pulled down due to its location on the down slope of the resilient tongue 34. The upstanding element 32 is now turned transversely in the position shown in Figs. 4 and 5, whereupon the clasp parts become locked together against accidental separation, as the resilience of the spring tongue 34 maintains the upstanding finger 32 in its transverse position. The novel arrangement thus provides a double lock against accidental separation.

Although I have described specific constructional embodiments of my invention, it is obvious that changes in the size, shape and arrangement of the parts may be made to suit the requirements for different clasp designs, without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined in the appended claim.

I claim:

A snap clasp construction comprising a hollow body having top, side and bottom walls and an open end, the top wall having a downwardly depending flange at the open end, the top wall and the flange having a longitudinal slot, and a snap element having a base for removable insertion into the body open end and an inclined resilient tongue adapted to seat in said slot and manually depressable to unseat the tongue from the top wall flange, said finger including an upper portion adapted to overhang the top wall in spaced relation thereto, and a lock member swivelled to the top wall and movable to position its outer end beneath the overhanging upper tongue portion for locking the tongue against depression, said lock member outer end being curved upwardly and having a central depression, whereby the upper portion of the finger is adapted to snap seat in the depression.

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