

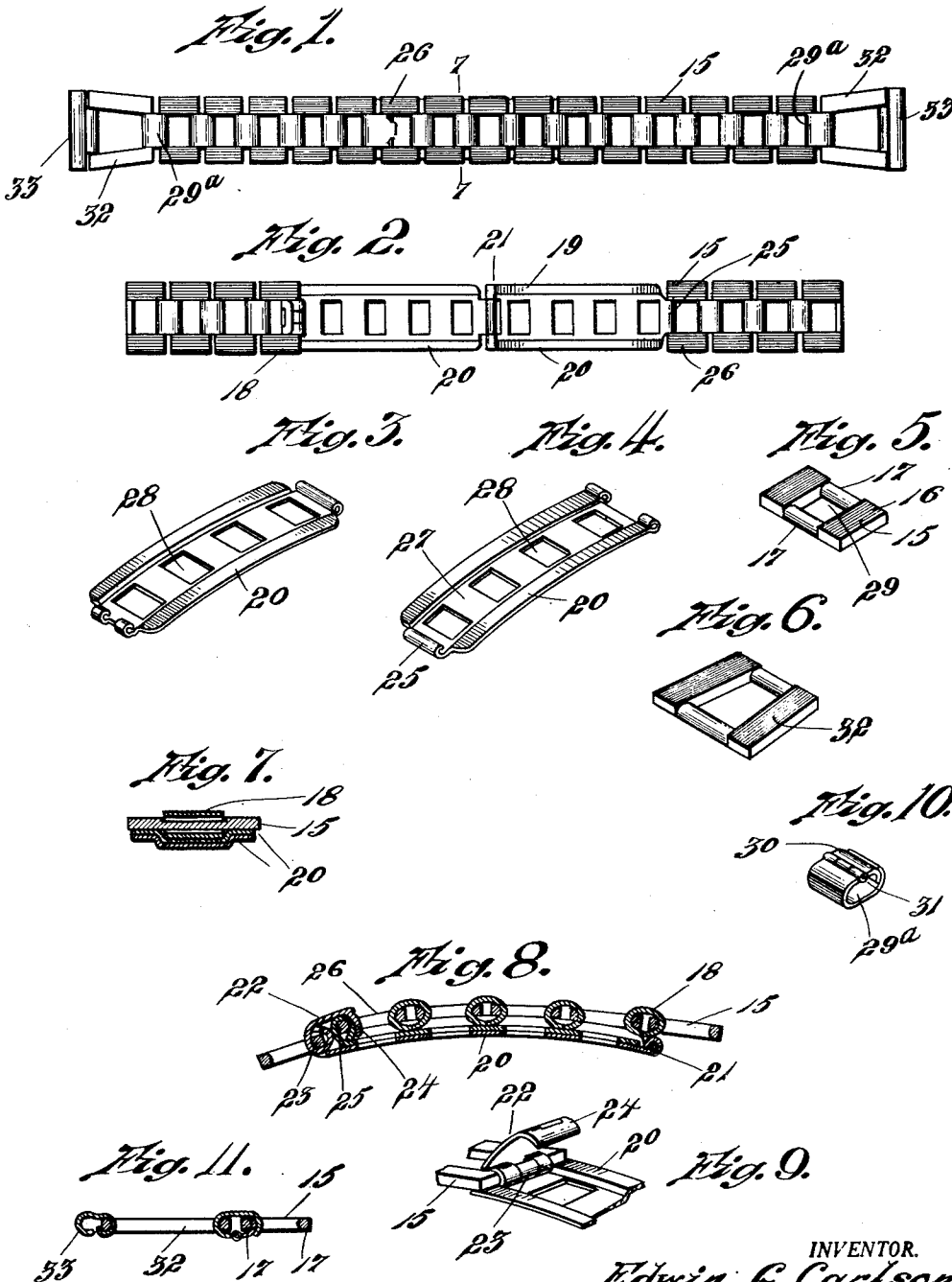
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E. G. CARLSON

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FLEXIBLE BRACELET

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INVENTOR.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

EDWIN G. CARLSON, OF RIVERSIDE, RHODE ISLAND, ASSIGNOR TO SPEIDEL CHAIN CO.,
OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND, A FIRM COMPOSED OF FREDERIC SPEIDEL AND
EUGEN SPEIDEL

FLEXIBLE BRACELET

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This invention relates to an improved construction of flexible bracelets; and has for its object to provide a bracelet formed of a plurality of links having openings there-
thru, the ends of the bracelet being connected
thru an extension member formed of plates
hinged together end to end to be folded one
upon the other, one of the bracelet end parts
being arranged to overlie said plates when
folded and the plates being provided with
openings to register with the openings in
the links so as to render the plates incon-
spicuous when in folded position.

A further object of the invention is to
form the extension plates with a groove to
receive the under side of the loop links which
connect together the frame links of the brace-
let.

The invention further consists in the pro-
vision of a hook-shaped catch pivoted to one
end of one of the plates to engage the oppo-
site end of the other plate when folded one
upon the other, the hook of the catch being
arranged to extend thru the opening in the
adjacent frame link and this catch member
being shaped to simulate connecting loop
links of the bracelet.

The invention further consists in the pro-
vision of a connector link in the bracelet hav-
ing one of its arms hinged to the body por-
tion thereof, whereby this link may be read-
ily separated for the purpose of removing or
adding one or more links to adjust the work-
ing length of the bracelet.

With these and other objects in view, the
invention consists of certain novel features
of construction, as will be more fully de-
scribed, and particularly pointed out in the
appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a top view of my improved brace-
let.

Fig. 2 is a top view showing the extension
plates in extended position.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the under
extension plate.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the upper
extension plate, said plates being detached
from each other.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one of the
frame links.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of one of the
end frame links.

Fig. 7 is a section on line 7—7 of Fig. 1,
thru one of the frame links and loop links,
showing the under portion of the loop link as
set into the channel in the extension plates.

Fig. 8 is a central section showing the
under portions of the loop links as extending
into the channel of the extension plates and
showing the plates as folded one upon the
other and held by the catch member.

Fig. 9 is a perspective view showing the
catch member as lifted to release the exten-
sion plates to swing from folded position.

Fig. 10 is a perspective view of the re-
movable connector link.

Fig. 11 is a sectional view showing one of
the end connector links and also one of the
removable connector links.

It is found in the practical construction
of bracelets which are formed with open
links, that is where the links are made up
of so-called frame-shaped links having cen-
tral openings therethru, the same being con-
nected by loop links that are folded about
the cross bars of two adjacent ends of frame
links, of advantage to insert into the brace-
let a so-called extension member which per-
mits the bracelet to be passed over the hand
of the wearer without completely separating
the bracelet, and in providing this extension
member it is found of advantage to form the
plates of this extension member with open-
ings therethru, which openings register with
those of the frame links so as to render the
extension plates beneath the overlying brace-
let portion inconspicuous and prevent these
plates from being observed. Also, it is
found of advantage to provide a simple
catch or latch on the end of one of these
plates to engage the end of the other plate,
the hook portion being of a length to ex-
tend thru the opening in the adjacent frame
link when folded and to so shape this latch
that it will simulate the connecting loop
links of the bracelet; and the following is a
detailed description of the present embod-
iment of my invention and showing one con-

struction of bracelet by which these advantageous results may be accomplished:

With reference to the drawings, 15 designates one of the frame links which is preferably formed from flat or sheet stock having flat side bars 16 connected at their opposite ends by rounded cross bars 17. These frame links are connected together by folding a strip of metal about these cross bars 17 to form loop links 18, the ends of which abut below the plane of the under side of the frame links, as many of these frame links may be connected together as is desired to form the chain or bracelet of the required length.

It is found of advantage in bracelets, particularly of the watch type, to connect the ends of the bracelet thru a so-called extension member 19. This extension member comprises essentially a pair of elongated plates 20 hinged together at 21 to extend end to end, as illustrated in Fig. 2, and adapted to be folded one upon the other, as illustrated in Fig. 8. The lower plate is provided at one end with a latch or catch 22 which is hinged to the cross bar 23 of the end link connected thereto, the free end of this latch being of hook shape as at 24, to extend over the rolled-up end 25 of the upper plate to which rolled-up end I connect the cross bar of the upper frame link 26.

These two extension plates 20 are preferably grooved or channeled longitudinally as at 27, to receive the under portions of the loop links 18 and guide the overlying length of the bracelet laterally, also these extension plates are provided with spaced openings 28 corresponding to the openings 29 thru the frame links that overlie these plates so as to render these plates inconspicuous thru the overlying bracelet portion; also these extension plates are preferably of a width narrower than the width of these frame links which again serve to render these expansion plates inconspicuous. The edges of these plates are flat and do not have the usual side walls by which construction the links may be of any desired width relative to the width of these plates, the general desire being to cover these plates so that they will now show and to give the bracelet the appearance of being continuous throughout its length, while possessing the advantage of having the extension plates for the purpose of enlargement to permit it to be passed over the hand of the wearer.

In some instances, it is found of advantage to provide means whereby one or more links in the chain or bracelet may be added or removed to regulate its operating length and to accomplish this in a simple and effective way, I have provided a removable or master link 29a, see Fig. 10, in which one of the arms 30 of this link is hinged, as at 31, whereby this arm 30 may be swung back to permit this master link to be removed from the bracelet

and by opening up one of the other connecting links 18 a frame link 15 may be removed and the end link 32 connected again to the next adjacent frame link by the use of this master link, or the end link 32 may be disconnected and another frame link 18 inserted by the use of the master link, to lengthen the bracelet when desired. This end link 32 is herein shown as being provided with a bendable connector link 33 which may be permanently attached to the bail of a watch when desired.

My improved form of bracelet is very simple and practical in construction, is handsome and attractive in appearance, may be readily extended to be passed over the hand of the wearer and at the same time by piercing the extension plates in the extension member, this extension is inconspicuous, and by its special construction this bracelet chain presents the appearance of being one continuous chain throughout its length when the extension member is folded.

The foregoing description is directed solely towards the construction illustrated, but I desire it to be understood that I reserve the privilege of resorting to all the mechanical changes to which the device is susceptible, the invention being defined and limited only by the terms of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a flexible bracelet, a plurality of connected links having openings therethru, a pair of extension plates hinged together end to end, means connecting opposite end portions of said bracelet to the free ends of said plates to cause one end portion of the bracelet to overlie said plates when these are folded one upon the other, and said plates being provided with openings arranged to register with those in the links overlying the same.

2. In a flexible bracelet, a plurality of connected links having openings therethru, a pair of extension plates hinged together end to end, means connecting opposite end portions of said bracelet to the free ends of said plates to cause one end portion of the bracelet to overlie said plates when these are folded one upon the other, said plates being provided with openings arranged to register with those in the links overlying the same, and means for locking the parts in folded position.

3. In a flexible bracelet, a plurality of frame-shaped links, each having an opening thru its center portion, extension plates hinged together with their free ends connected to the ends of the bracelet to cause one end portion of the bracelet to overlie said plates when folded one upon the other, said plates being also provided with openings arranged to register with the openings in the overlying frame links.

4. In a flexible bracelet, a plurality of frame-shaped links, extension plates hinged end to end to be extended and folded to lie one

upon the other, means connecting the free ends of said plates to the ends of said bracelet so that one of said bracelet end portions will overlie said plates when folded, said plates being provided with openings arranged to register with the openings in the overlying frame links, and a hook shaped clasp member pivoted to one end of one plate to engage the opposite end of the other plate when folded and shaped to extend thru the opening in the adjacent frame link lying on said other plate when folded to releasably retain them in folded position.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
EDWIN G. CARLSON.

5. In a flexible bracelet, a plurality of frame-shaped links connected by loop links, extension plates hinged end to end to be extended and folded to lie one upon the other, means connecting the free ends of said plates to the ends of said bracelet so that one of said bracelet end portions will overlie said plates when folded, said plates being provided with openings arranged to register with the openings in the overlying frame links, and a hook-shaped clasp member pivoted to one end of one plate to engage the opposite end of the other plate when folded and extend thru the opening in the adjacent frame link lying on said other plate when folded to releasably retain them in folded position, the top portion of said clasp being shaped to simulate said connecting loop links.

6. In a flexible bracelet, a plurality of frame-shaped links, loop links connecting said frame links and having under portions extending below the plane of said frame links, an extension member to which the ends of the bracelet are connected comprising a pair of plates hinged end to end to be folded one upon the other and cause one part of the bracelet chain to overlie said plates, one of said plates being grooved to receive the under portions of said loop links when said links overlie said plates.

7. In a flexible bracelet, a plurality of frame-shaped links each having a central opening therethru, loop links connecting said frame links, an extension member comprising two plates hinged end to end to be folded one upon the other, means connecting the ends of the plates to the ends of the bracelet links so that one of the bracelet end portions will overlie said plates when folded, said plates being of a width less than that of said frame links, and being provided with spaced openings to register with those of said frame links to render the plate inconspicuous when in operating position, and means for releasably locking said plates in folded position.

8. In a flexible bracelet, a plurality of frame-shaped links connected by loop links, extension plates hinged end to end to be extended and folded to lie one upon the other, means connecting the free ends of said plates to the ends of said bracelet so that one of said bracelet end portions will overlie said

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