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C. W. BUCHSBAUM

2,043,696

BELT BUCKLE

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Fig. 1

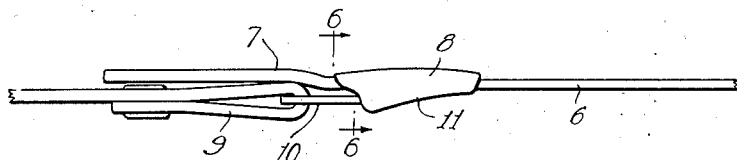


Fig. 2

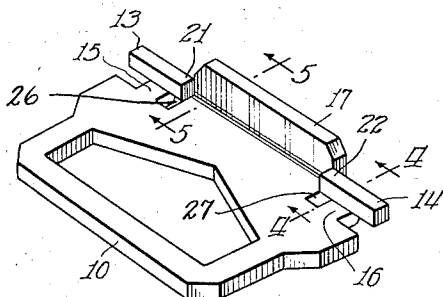


Fig. 3

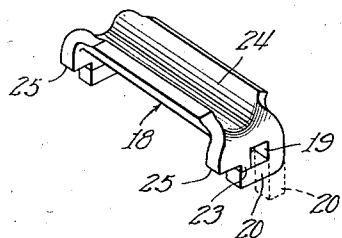


Fig. 4

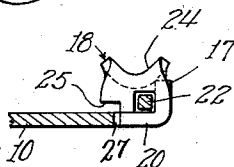


Fig. 5

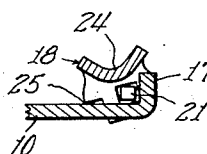
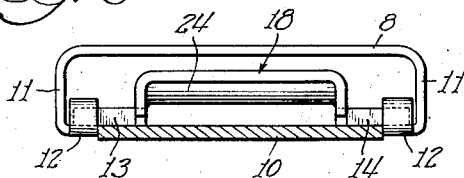


Fig. 6



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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BELT BUCKLE

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3 Claims. (Cl. 24—191)

My invention relates to belt buckles and more particularly to buckles of the type shown in Patent No. 1,399,745 to Samuel Buchsbaum.

Buckles of this character have a clamping mechanism for holding the free end of the belt at any desired point which clamping mechanism will grip the belt without being completely closed thus allowing the free end of the belt to be displaced from its position adjacent the other belt portion a considerable distance before releasing the trip of the clamping means.

The principal purpose of the present invention is to provide a simplified structure of clamping means which makes it unnecessary to use a separate pivot pin and which makes it possible to reduce materially the depth or thickness of the belt.

The invention also contemplates the provision of a belt buckle having the front or base plate, a holding link or member, and a locking or gripping member, each movable relative to the other, and the three parts being held together without the use of auxiliary pins or other mechanisms.

I will describe the preferred form of my invention by reference to the accompanying drawing wherein—

Fig. 1 is an edge view of a portion of a belt and my improved buckle;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the link or holding member;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the gripping member;

Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2 showing the link and gripping member connected;

Fig. 5 is a section like Fig. 4 on the line 5—5 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 6 is a section substantially on the line 6—6 of Fig. 1.

Referring now in detail to the drawing, the belt 6 has the free end 7 passing through the buckle 8, the other end 9 of the belt being passed through the link member 10 for securing it to the buckle 8.

The front or base plate of the buckle 8 has the down-turned side flanges such as 11, and these flanges are turned inwardly as indicated at 12 in Fig. 6, the flange being rolled over the outer extremities of lugs 13 and 14 formed on the link member 10 so as to form a pivot support for the link member on the base plate. The lugs 13 and 14, it will be noted, each have a central securing portion and oppositely directed end portions. They are cut out of the plate 10 when it is flat, and then are bent up to extend at right angles to the plate and are connected thereto by the web portions 15 and 16. This leaves the slots 26 and 27 between the webs 15 and 16 and the body of the

member 10 and beneath the lugs 13 and 14. These lugs 13 and 14 form a very simple and efficient means for pivoting the three pieces of the buckle together. It will be noted that the utilization of the lugs 13 and 14 in this fashion pivots the three pieces of the buckle together upon a single axis because the oppositely directed end portions of the lugs are all aligned with each other. The link or holding member 10 also has the down-turned portion 17 which cooperates with the gripping member 18 to release the gripping member (see Figs. 4 and 5).

In mounting the gripping member 18 upon the link member 10, the openings such as indicated at 19 must be fitted on the inwardly extending ends 21 and 22 of the lugs 13 and 14. These openings are, therefore, left with the piece 20 straightened out as indicated in the dotted lines in Fig. 3 at 20' prior to assembling, thus leaving open slots between the members 20 and shoulders 23. This makes it possible to slip the portions 21 and 22 into the slots provided between the members 20 and the shoulders such as 23, and then the portions 20 can be bent over to lie flat upon the shoulders 23 to form the openings 19 in the final assembly. In this fashion, the gripping member 18 can be assembled with the holding member 10 without the use of any pins or auxiliary parts.

The V-shaped portion 24 of the locking member is, of course, adapted to engage the belt to prevent its sliding in the manner shown in the patent mentioned herein. The upturned member 17 acts as a stop limiting the extent to which the member 18 can turn upon the pivots 21 and 22 in one direction, and the shoulders indicated at 25 cooperate with the holding link 10 to limit the movement of the gripping or locking member in the opposite direction.

The mounting of the outer ends of the lugs 13 and 14 in the front plate is accomplished in the simple manner set forth hereinbefore—namely, by merely turning up a portion of the metal plate around the ends to pivotally support them.

There being no necessity for any auxiliary pins around which the metal must be bent, it is possible to save considerable depth or thickness with this structure so that the belt buckle can be made thinner than has heretofore been possible with an efficient gripping mechanism of this character.

It is also believed to be clear that I have provided a simple three-piece buckle assembly in which the three-pieces are movable relative to each other and are capable of gripping the belt with the same efficiency or even greater efficiency than the prior structures which included these

elements and the pin upon which they were mounted.

While I have described one specific form of the invention, it is to be understood that the invention is not to be limited to the exact details shown and described, but may be variously modified in its parts without departing from the scope of the invention as set forth in the claims.

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

1. A belt buckle comprising a main body portion having a face plate portion and a pair of side flanges between which one end of the belt is received, a gripping member between which and said body portion the belt is gripped, and a holding member pivoted to said side flanges and having lugs formed thereon in alignment with the pivotal axis of said holding member on which the gripping member is pivoted, said holding member having slots beneath the lugs in which portions of the gripping member fit.

2. A belt buckle comprising a main body, a plate member for connecting one end of a belt

thereto, and a gripping element adapted to grip a belt between it and the main body, said plate member having adjacent to the opposite side edges thereof a pair of lugs, each lug having oppositely directed end projections, all of said end projections being aligned with each other, said main body and gripping element being mounted on the oppositely directed end projections of said lugs.

3. A belt buckle comprising a main body, a plate member for connecting one end of a belt thereto, and a gripping element adapted to grip a belt between it and the main body, said plate member having adjacent to the opposite side edges thereof a pair of lugs, each lug having oppositely directed end projections, said main body and gripping element being mounted on the oppositely directed end projections of said lugs, said lugs being offset from the plane of said plate member all of said projections being in alignment with each other whereby to mount the gripping element and main body on a common axis.

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