Feb. 24, 1948. I. HENNE 2,436,646

COMBINED BAG-LATCH AND COIN-HOLDER

Filed Dec. 29, 1944 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

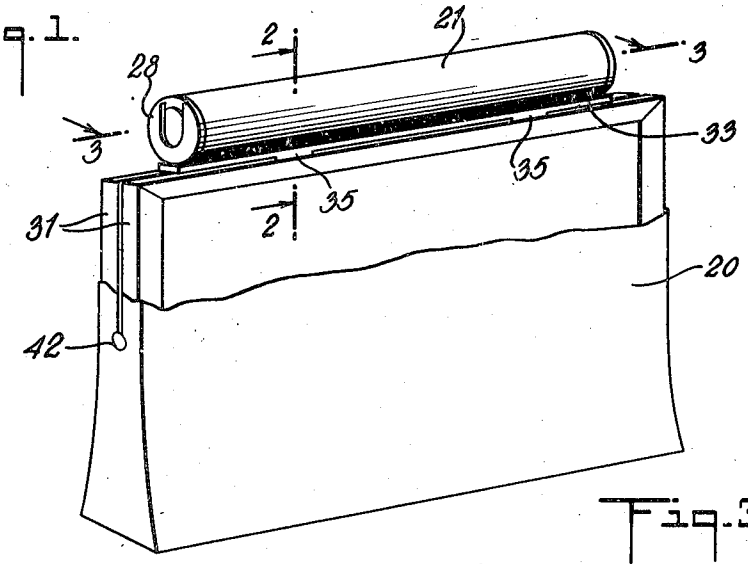


Fig. 3.

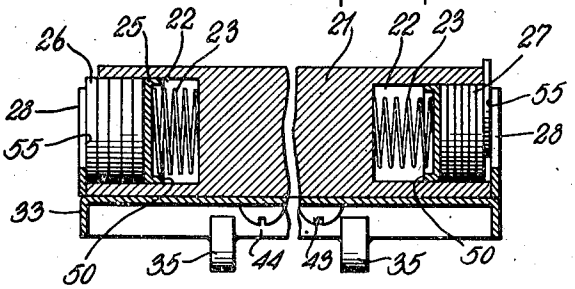


Fig. 3a

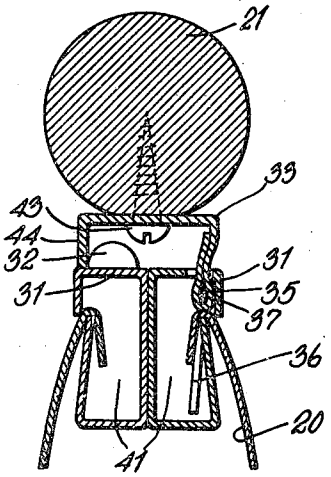


Fig. 2.

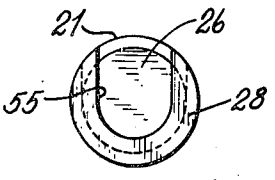


Fig. 4.

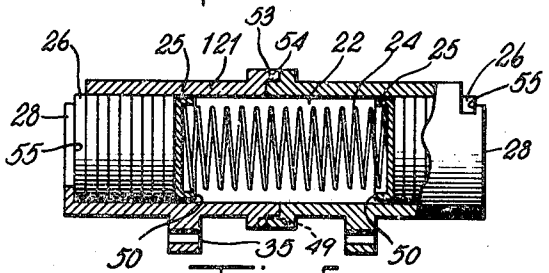


Fig. 5.

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Fig. 6.

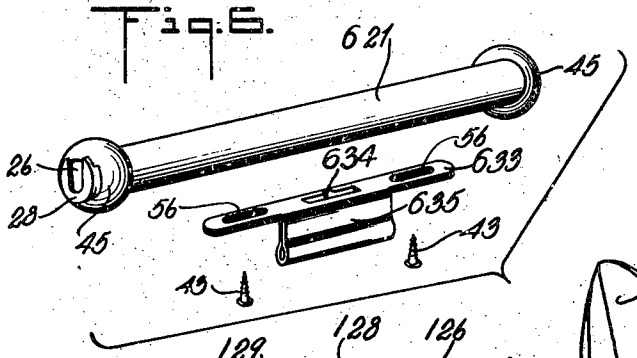


Fig. 2.

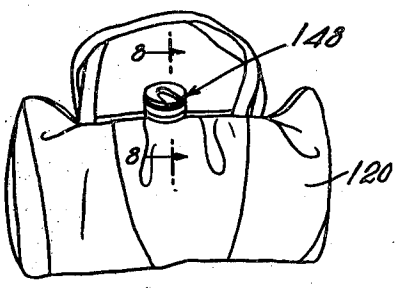


Fig. 8.

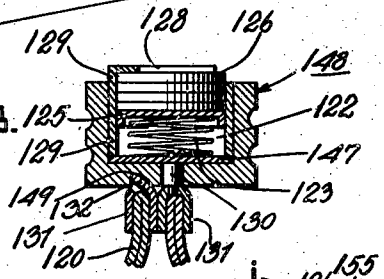
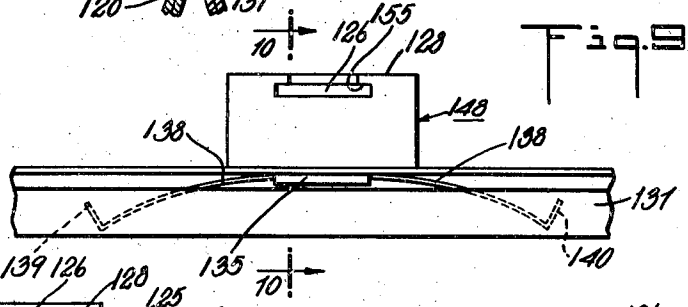


Fig. 9.



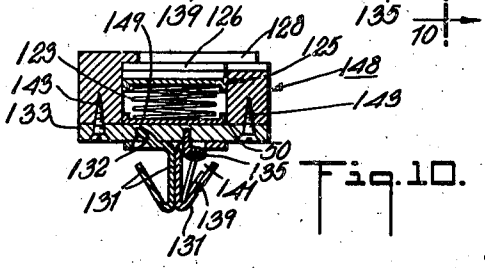


Fig. 10.

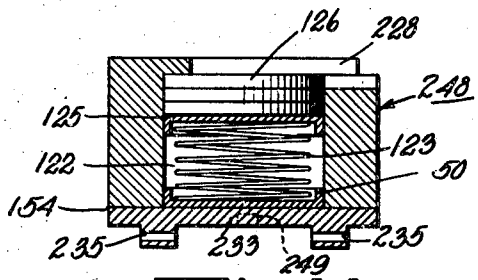


Fig. 11.

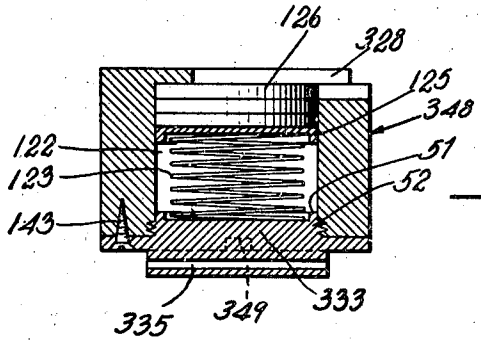


Fig. 12.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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COMBINED BAG LATCH AND COIN HOLDER

Isabelle Henne, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Application December 29, 1944, Serial No. 570,340

4 Claims. (Cl. 150—35)

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This invention relates to a combined bag-lock and coin-holder for a lady's handbag. This application is a continuation in part of my copending application Serial No. 519,974, filed January 26, 1944. The expression handbag as used herein includes any form of portable carrier or portable bag including among others, a handbag, pocketbook, purse, muff-purse, etc.

Women generally carry a small change purse inside a handbag. A change purse is usually a part of the equipment of a lady's handbag. It takes time and effort to open the handbag, locate and open the change purse and find and extract a coin or token of the desired denomination. When burdened with a number of packages or an umbrella this difficulty is greatly increased, and when it is necessary to produce a coin or token of a particular denomination or value in a hurry, as when boarding a public vehicle of the pay-as-you-enter type, or when entering a telephone booth which is frequently small and dimly lighted, the difficulty is multiplied and tends to cause delay and embarrassment.

One object is a handbag in which coins or tokens can be stored, quickly found and readily removed without opening the handbag.

Another object is a handbag from which a stored coin or token can be located and removed, by the use of only one hand.

Another object is a handbag having the coins or tokens stored and readily available for instant use without searching.

Another object is a handbag wherein coins or tokens of different values can be quickly located and removed under unfavorable conditions of light and operating space.

Another object is an ornamental bag-lock and coin-holder which combines ornamentation with utility.

Other objects will appear from the detailed description.

In accordance with this invention, a coin or token-holder conforming generally to the size and shape of the coin or token to be stored therein, is combined in ornamental fashion with the frame and lock-mechanism of the bag, so that coins or tokens of a certain value may be stacked in the coin-holder and released from the frame in succession by the use of only one hand. Specifically the coin-holder may be incorporated as part of the ornamental handbag-lock-mechanism, and attached to the bag frame in any conventional way.

In the drawing consisting of two sheets of thirteen figures, numbered Figs. 1 to 3, 3ª and 4 to 12 inclusive, certain structural embodiments of the invention are set forth.

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Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a handbag having the invention embodied in the bag-lock, which also serves as a hand grip.

Fig. 2 is a vertical cross sectional view of a bag-lock and frame, taken along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal cross sectional view of the bag-lock partially broken away, taken along the line 3—3 of Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 3ª is a side view of a spring pintle partially broken away.

Fig. 4 is an end view of the coin or token-holder.

Fig. 5 is a longitudinal cross sectional view of a modified form of combined bag-lock and coin-holder.

Fig. 6 is an exploded view showing the several parts of a modified form of the combined lock and coin-holder in perspective.

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a handbag having a different type of locking device with the coin or token-holder embodied in the lock.

Fig. 8 is a vertical cross sectional view of the coin-holder lock taken along the line 8—8 of Fig. 7.

Fig. 9 is a modified construction of the coin-holder shown generally in Fig. 7.

Fig. 10 is a vertical cross sectional view taken along the line 10—10 of Fig. 9 looking in the direction of the arrows; and

Figs. 11 and 12 are vertical cross sectional views of two other modified forms of the coin-holder lock of Fig. 10.

Like reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several figures of the drawings.

The portable carriers or handbags, variously indicated by the numerals 20 and 120 in the different figures of the drawings may be made of any preferred material or fabric, and attached in any conventional way to the jaw members 31—31 or 131—131 of a suitable bag frame. The frame may consist of two solid, or channelled jaw members 31—31 or 131—131 fabricated out of any desired material in any desired shape, and hinged together at 42.

The locking device 21 (Figs. 1 to 3) which may also constitute a handle may be of any suitable material such as metal, wood, bone, ivory, plastic, or precious or semi-precious stones, or any combination of them, fashioned in the form of a rod or tube containing an elongated cavity 22, of cir-

cular cross section, defining a well or chamber adapted to house a stack of coins or tokens 26, 27 of the same or different dimensions, dependent upon the denomination or value of the coin or token. Each well or chamber 22 is slightly larger than the coins or tokens to be stored therein, to enable said coins or tokens to slide freely in an out of the chamber 22. The coins or tokens 26 may be nickels, and those indicated at 27 may be nickels or dimes, although coins and tokens of other denominations or values may be used if preferred.

A coiled spring 23 is placed in each well 22 (Fig. 3). One end of the spring 23 seats itself upon the bottom wall of the well 22, and the opposite end of the spring is seated in a cavity formed by the peripheral flange 50 of the movable coin platform 25 which forms a coin carrier, axially movable in the well 22, under control of the spring 23.

The mouth of the well or chamber 22 is partially closed by an end piece 28 having the central section thereof cut away to form a finger slot (Figs. 1 and 4). The end piece 28 extends inwards to overhang the side wall of the well or chamber 22 thus forming laterally extending shoulders 55 which engage the peripheral edge of the uppermost or outermost coin or token 26 (Fig. 4), to constitute means for retaining the coins or tokens in stacked condition under the tension of coiled spring 23.

The wells or chambers 22, shown in Fig. 3 may extend for the full length of the locking handle 21, thus forming one continuous chamber or well 22 (Fig. 5), extending for a substantial portion of the length of the hand-grip and locking handle 21. The opposite ends of the common spring (Fig. 5), are seated in the cavities formed by the inwardly extending peripheral flanges 50 of the coin platform or carriers 25, so that the tension of the common spring 24 is sufficient to move the coin platforms or carriers 25 outwardly and force the outermost coin or token 26 in each stack into engagement with the laterally extending shoulder 55 of the abutting coin stop 28 to prevent premature or accidental release of the coin. Each end piece 28 has a U-shaped opening therein (Fig. 4), forming a finger slot of lesser width than the coin or token 26, 27 but large enough to permit the ball of the finger or thumb to slidably depress the outermost coin or token 26, 27 in the operation of removing it from the stack.

The well 22 of the locking handle 21, may be formed in any preferred manner. When the handle 21 is made of plastic material, the well or chamber may be molded therein during the manufacturing operation. The flanges 50 formed along the peripheral edges of the platforms or coin carriers 25, (Fig. 3) should be of sufficient depth and thickness to enclose the spring seat and prevent the end of the spring from being displaced and becoming wedged between the outer wall of the flange and the side wall of the well or chamber 22.

The coin-holder and locking handle 21 may be relatively plain as shown in Fig. 1 or it may include any preferred form of ornamental head such as the ornamental head 45 of the handle 621 illustrated in Fig. 6. Instead of providing a double ended cylinder as shown in Figs. 1 and 3 a single coin-holder accessible at one end of the locking handle 21 may be provided, and the other end may then be finished off in any preferred manner or as a dummy coin-holder.

The combined coin-holder and locking-handle 21 may be mounted upon a suitable base plate 33 having holed ears 35 formed thereon (Figs. 2 and 3), which may be fastened to one jaw member 31 of the bag frame in any suitable manner, as by means of a spring pintle 36 for hinging the base plate 33 upon one jaw member 31 of the bag frame. Base plate 33 may be secured to the housing of the handle lock 21 in any suitable manner as by means of the screws 43. If the handle lock were made of metal, machine screws or rivets might be substituted for screws 43, or the handle lock 21 and base plate 33 welded. The base plate 633 may be provided with elongated slots 56 (Fig. 6) for permitting longitudinal adjustment of the handle lock 621 relative to the base plate 633; it may also be slotted at 634 (Fig. 6) to receive the catch 32 (Fig. 2).

Each jaw 31 of the frame may be fabricated in channelled form (Fig. 2) so as to define a channel 41. The upper wall of one of the jaws 31 may be provided with spaced slots for receiving the holed ears 35, and the spring pintle 36 (Fig. 3a) is then inserted through the holed ears 35, with the flattened median section 37 of the spring pintle in registry with the flattened openings in the holed ears 35, thus anchoring the base plate 33 to one jaw member 31 of the frame (Fig. 2). The pintle 36 is made of spring steel or the like, and a part, for example one end section 36 thereof, is bent substantially at right angles to the longitudinal axis of the section 37 to define a substantially L-shaped pintle 36 (Fig. 3a).

The L-shaped end of the pintle 36 engages the wall of the channel 41 of one jaw member 31 of the bag frame (Fig. 2), so that when the handle lock 21 is operated, the base plate 33 and pintle 36 rock in unison relative to the jaw members 31 of the bag frame, and the L-shaped portion of the spring pintle 36 engages the wall of channel 41 (Fig. 2) to store sufficient energy in the spring pintle 36 to return the handle lock 21 to normal when pressure is removed therefrom. A catch 32 is stamped out of, or otherwise formed upon, the other jaw member 31 of the bag frame and a flange or tongue 44 (Fig. 2), or slot 634 (Fig. 6) is formed on or in the base plate 33 or 633 to engage the catch 32 (Fig. 2) and lock the hinged jaw members 31—31 of the bag frame in the closed position shown generally in Figs. 1 and 2.

Instead of securing a base plate 33 or 633 to the housing of the handle lock 21 as shown generally in Figs. 2, 3 and 6, the holed ears 35 and slot 49 may be molded as an integral part of the housing of the handle lock 121, substantially as shown in Fig. 5. The housing 121 may also be constructed by joining two sections together. One of said sections may be male threaded and the other provided with a collar which may be female threaded to receive the male threaded end of the complementary section, or the male and female threaded couplings may be omitted and the sections provided with the rabbetted joint 53, the sections being secured together by means of a suitable cement 54. The opposite end of each of the said sections would be partially enclosed by an end piece 28, having the central portion thereof cut away to form a finger slot. In the construction shown in Fig. 5, the tubular casing 121 may be molded out of plastic material and the holed ears 35 and slot 49 molded or otherwise fabricated as an integral part of the tubular casing 121. In this construction the housing 121 may be molded in one piece with one of the coin stops 28 molded as an integral part

of the housing 121, the opposite end of the housing being open. The coin platform 25—25 and the common spring 24 may be inserted through the open end of the housing which may then be closed by cementing a coin stop 28 in place.

Fig. 6 is an exploded view of the handle lock 621, base plate 633, with the holed ear 635, and suitable means such as the screws 43 for assembling the parts together. The handle locks 621 (Fig. 6), may be provided with one or more ornamental end pieces 45 for containing the coin-holder(s).

The invention may also be embodied in a barrel lock substantially as shown in Figs. 7 to 12 inclusive. The barrel lock 148 may be of any desired shape; circular, elliptical, hexagonal, square, etc. The barrel lock 148 (Fig. 8) may be mounted upon one element of the bag frame 131 in the manner shown generally in Figs. 1 to 6, or by means of a spring stud 130 (Fig. 8). In the construction shown in Fig. 8 the cavity in the barrel 148 is large enough to receive the housing or casing 129 of a separate and self-contained coin-holder unit. The coin-holder unit 129 may be of any suitable material, either metal or plastic. The chamber 122 of unit 129 is large enough to accommodate the coins or tokens 126 which are supported upon the customary coin platform or coin carrier 125 actuated by the coiled spring 123. The coin stop 128 may be cemented to the upper end of the housing 129 in any suitable way but is preferably molded as an integral part of the housing may either be made in the form of a disc 147, or it may be omitted altogether, in which case the spring 123 may be supported in the barrel 148. The lower face of barrel lock 148 is slotted at 149 to receive the catch 132 which may be formed by pressing up a tongue-shaped catch 132 out of the complementary element of the bag frame 131.

Barrel lock 148 may be constructed in a variety of ways; certain of said constructions being illustrated at 148, 248 and 348 respectively, in Figs. 9 to 12.

In Figs. 9 and 10 the barrel lock 148 is mounted upon one channelled element of the bag frame 131 by one (or more) holed ears 135 which may be press fitted into, or otherwise formed upon, a metal base plate 133. Base plate 133 may in turn be detachably attached to the barrel lock 148 by any suitable means such as the screws 143 (Fig. 10). The flattened portion of the spring pintle 138 (Fig. 9) registers in the holed ear(s) 135, and the opposite ends of spring pintle 138 may be bent substantially at right angles to the longitudinal axis of the spring pintle to form anchoring lugs 139 and 140 positioned in the channel 141 of one of the elements of bag frame 131, so as to engage the wall of the channel, so that when barrel lock 148 is rocked upon spring pintle 138 the torque imparted to the flattened portion of the spring pintle stores up sufficient energy in the spring to return barrel lock 148 to normal when released. The catch 132 forming a part of one element of the bag frame 131 engages a suitable slot or recess 149 formed in the base plate 133 to lock the elements of bag frame 131 in closed position (see Figs. 8 and 10). The coiled spring 123 which actuates the coin platform 125 may be supported by the base plate 133 directly, or indirectly by means of a disc having an upstanding peripheral flange 50 enclosing the spring seat (see also Fig. 11). If the barrel lock 148 is of molded or cast construction, coin stop 128 may be formed as an integral part of the casting.

Fig. 11 shows another modified construction of the barrel lock. As shown the coin stop 228 forms an integral part of the housing of the barrel locks 248, but coin stops 228 may be formed separately in which case it may be secured to the tubular housing of barrel lock 248 in any preferred manner. The holed ears 235 may be formed as an integral part of base plate 233 which may be secured to the base of the housing of the barrel lock 248 in any suitable manner as by the cement 154. The disc which supports the lower end of coiled spring 123 may be omitted if desired. If the coin stops 228 is formed separately, then the base plate 233 and holed ear(s) 235 may form an integral part of the housing of barrel lock 248.

The base plate 333 (Fig. 12) may be provided with a male threaded protuberance 52 adapted to engage the female thread formed at the entrance to the well or chamber 122, so that the base plate 333 may be screwed into the lower end of the chamber 122 to seal the bottom of the chamber and retain the coiled spring 123 in position. The base plate 333 may also be provided with one (or more) holed ears 335, and annular flange 51 enclosing the seat for coiled spring 123. The annular flange 51 tends to retain the coiled spring 123 in correct axial alignment relative to the coin platform 125. When it is desirable that the housing of barrel lock 348 be detachably attachable upon the base plate 333 without removing the pintle 138, the screw 143 may be omitted. In the construction shown in Fig. 12, the coin stop 328 is molded as an integral part of the casing 348.

The modified constructions illustrated in Figs. 11 and 12 are mounted upon one jaw member 31 or 131 of the bag frame by means of a spring pintle 36 (Fig. 3a) or 138 (Fig. 9) in the manner previously described. The coin stop 228 or 328, and the base plate 233 or 333 with its holed ears 235 or 335 and slot 249 or 349, may be formed separately and attached to the housing element of the barrel 248 or 348 shown in Figs. 11 and 12, or when the housing is cast or molded, either the coin stop 228 or 328, or the holed ear (s) 235, 335 and the slot 249, 349, may form an integral part of the housing structure of the barrel or casing 248 or 348.

Any of the base plates 33, 133, 233, 333, 633 may be constructed as shown in any of the figures of the drawings. For example any of the base plates might be punched from a two-ply metal blank 633 substantially as shown in Fig. 6; or provided with a catch fastener like the flange 44 (Fig. 2); or with a groove 149 instead of the slot 634 (compare Figs. 8, 10 and 6).

Lucite or other plastic may be used when the handles 21, 621, the barrel locks 148, 248, 348, or the jaw members 31, 131 of the bag frame, are molded out of plastic material.

Other modifications of applicant's handle lock 21 and barrel lock 148 within the scope of the invention will be obvious to those skilled in the art.

What is claimed is:

1. A handbag latch comprising a handle, said handle also forming one element of the latch-mechanism, a chamber formed in said handle for housing a stack of coins, an exit for said chamber, a carrier for the stacked coins positioned within the chamber, means for moving said carrier to advance said coins axially in said chamber, a coin stop partially enclosing the chamber

exit, said coin stop having an overhanging shoulder for engaging the marginal edge of the topmost coin in the stack, said shoulder being provided with a slot through which the fingertip may be inserted to release the coin and displace it laterally through said exit, said handle being adapted to be hingedly mounted upon a bag frame in co-operative registry with the complementary element of the latch-mechanism, said hinge including a spring pintle operable to retain both elements of the latch-mechanism in co-operative registry.

2. A handbag latch comprising a coin-holder housing, said housing consisting of two sub-housings arranged in axial alignment to form a handle, said handle also including one element of a latch-mechanism, each sub-housing including a carrier for supporting a stack of coins and a coin stop partially enclosing the sub-housing exit, each coin stop having an overhanging shoulder for engaging the marginal edge of the topmost coin of its particular stack and a slot through which the fingertip may be inserted to release said coin and displace it laterally through said exit, means for moving said carrier to advance the coins towards their respective sub-housing exits, said handle being adapted to be hingedly mounted upon a bag frame in co-operative registry with the complementary element of the latch-mechanism, and said hinge including a spring pintle resiliently operable to normally retain both elements of the latch-mechanism in co-operative registry.

3. A handbag latch comprising a handle, said handle also forming one element of the latch-mechanism, a chamber formed in said handle for housing a stack of coins, an exit for said chamber, a carrier for the stacked coins positioned within the chamber, means for moving said carrier to advance said coins axially in said chamber, a coin stop partially inclosing the chamber exit, said coin stop having an overhanging shoulder for engaging the marginal edge of the topmost coin in the stack, said shoulder being provided with a slot through which the fingertip may be inserted to release the coin and displace it laterally through said exit, an ear depending from said handle, said ear having an elongated hole formed therein for hingedly mounting said handle upon a bag frame in co-operative registry with the complementary element of the latch-mechanism, and said hinge-mounting including a spring pintle which when keyed in said elongated hole is resiliently operable to normally retain both elements of the latch-mechanism in co-operative registry.

4. A handbag latch comprising a handle, the base of said handle being slotted to form one element of the latch-mechanism, a chamber formed in said handle for housing a stack of coins, an exit for said chamber, a carrier for the stacked coins positioned within the chamber, means for moving said carrier to advance said coins axially in said chamber, a coin stop partially enclosing the chamber exit, said coin stop having an overhanging shoulder for engaging the marginal edge of the topmost coin in the stack, said shoulder being provided with a slot through which the fingertip may be inserted to release the coin and displace it laterally through said exit, a holed ear press-fitted into the base of said handle for hingedly mounting said handle upon a bag frame in co-operative registry with the complementary element of the latch-mechanism, the hole in said ear being elongated, and said hinge-mounting including a spring pintle seatable in said elongated hole and when so seated being resiliently operable to normally retain both elements of the latch-mechanism in co-operative registry.

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