

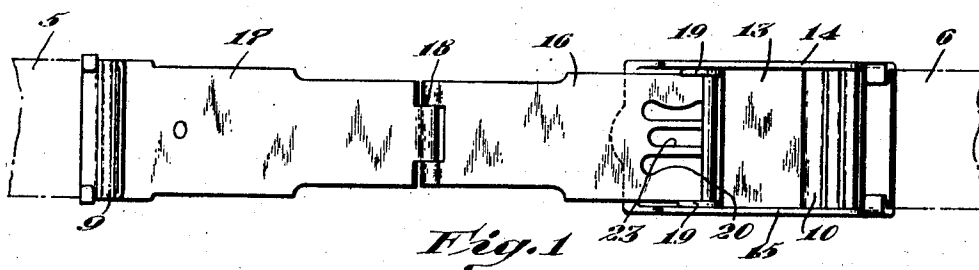
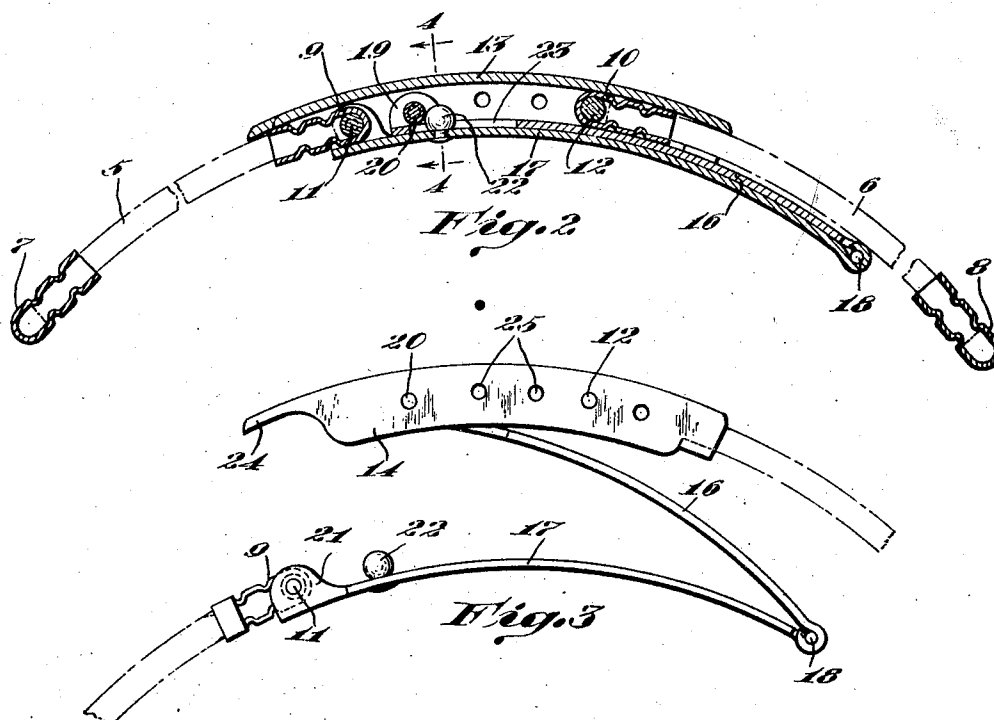
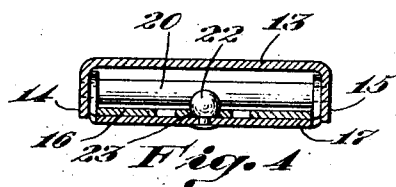
Dec. 18, 1928.

1,695,487

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WRIST WATCH STRAP

Filed April 18, 1927



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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WRIST-WATCH STRAP.

Application filed April 18, 1927. Serial No. 184,548.

This invention relates to improvements in wrist watch straps and has for its principal object the provision of extensible strap-connecting members, including a pair of hinged connector plates adapted to overlap when the strap is adjusted to position upon the wrist, and the further provision of self-engaging complementary locking means between the respective connector plates, so constructed and arranged that a slight lifting pressure will cause the connector plates to fly apart, thus lengthening the strap and permitting it to be removed from the wrist.

A recommended embodiment of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a bottom plan view of the improved device, showing the connecting members in opened position;

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section, showing the parts in closed position;

Fig. 3 is a side elevation, showing an intermediate position of the elements; and

Fig. 4 is a transverse section on the line 4-4 of Fig. 2.

The wrist watch strap with which my improved connecting means is associated preferably consists of two flexible strips 5 and 6 constructed of any suitable material, such as leather, fabric or chain links, having at their respective outer ends appropriate connecting means 7 and 8 for attachment to the watch. The inner ends of the respective strap section are provided with loops 9 and 10 which are fastened in spaced relation by means of pins 11 and 12, respectively, adjacent the free ends of the hinged connecting members which embody this invention.

These connecting members include a plate 13, having parallel side walls 14 and 15, and a pair of extensible, overlapping connector plates 16 and 17 pivotally connected by a hinge 18 at one end thereof. The opposite end of the plate 16 is provided with side ears 19 apertured to receive a pintle 20 which extends transversely through the side walls of the plate 13, and the corresponding end of the connector plate 17 has similar ears 21 receiving the pin 11 of the strap loop.

In the closed position illustrated by Fig. 2, the connector plates are folded beneath the cover plate 13 in overlapping relation, and are detachably secured to each other by cooperating frictional locking means including

a centrally disposed stud or button 22 affixed to plate 17 and a complementary slot 23 in plate 16. When the movable elements are thus fastened, the watch strap is secured upon the wrist against casual disengagement, yet the locking means may be readily released by lifting a projecting tongue 24 of the cover plate 13. The slight pressure of a finger tip beneath the tongue will cause the connecting members to spring apart until they assume the opened position of Fig. 1, and the length of the strap is extended sufficiently to permit the wrist watch and strap to be removed without disconnecting the watch from the strap.

It will be noted that both of the cooperating locking elements are so disposed that they are fully concealed beneath the cover plate when the device is in closed position and also that neither of said elements are subject to any external contacts which might accidentally separate them or bend either of them in such manner as to impair their interlocking efficiency. Furthermore the arrangement of this simple but effective locking means between the two connector plates permits the utilization of a cover plate of any practicable size and shape; for the cover plate preferably has no locking engagement with the connector plates and consequently need not be constructed with a nice regard for exact dimensions.

If desired, the effective length of the strap may be adjusted to a particular wrist size by varying the position of the fastening pin 12 with respect to the cover plate 13. For this purpose, additional pairs of openings 25 may be provided in the respective walls 14 and 15 of the cover plate to receive the ends of the pin 12 which may have depressible spring tensioned ends to permit easy attachment within the selected pair of apertures, whereby the end of the strap member 6 may be adjustably positioned to provide the desired length.

I claim:

In combination with a wrist watch strap, extensible strap-connecting means comprising a cover plate having side walls, means for securing a section of the strap between said side walls adjacent one end of the cover plate, an intermediate connector plate pivoted between said side walls adjacent the opposite ends of the cover plate, a second

substantially flat connector plate hinged at one end to said intermediate plate and connected at its opposite end to a second strap section, the intermediate connector plate having a centrally disposed aperture adjacent its cover plate pivot, and a centrally disposed stud fixed in the other connector plate adjacent its strap connection and adapted frictionally to engage said aperture when the parts are in overlapped relation, thereby to lock said connector plates together. 10

Signed by me at Providence, R. I., this 14th day of April, 1927.

ART HADLEY.