March 2, 1948. H. E. CHAPIN 2,437,074

BOOKMARK

Filed Oct. 24, 1946

Fig. 1.

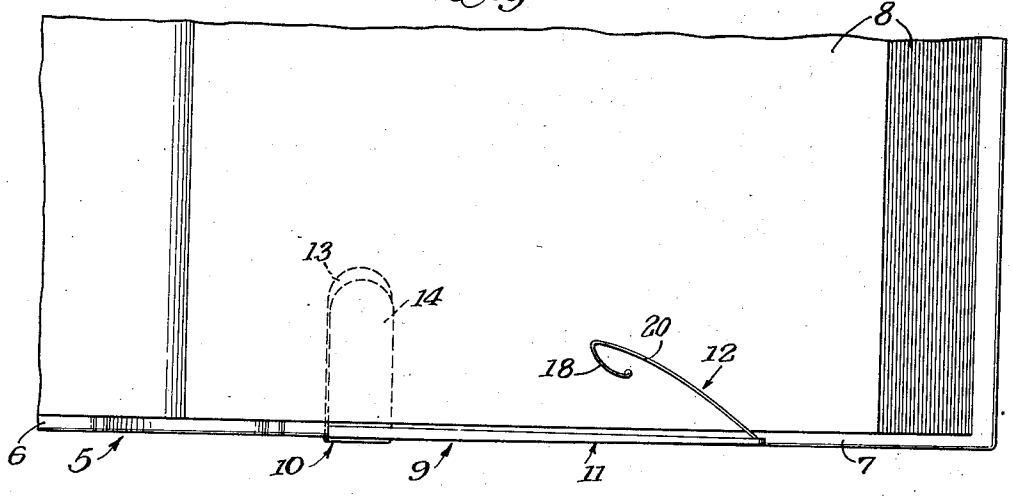


Fig. 2.

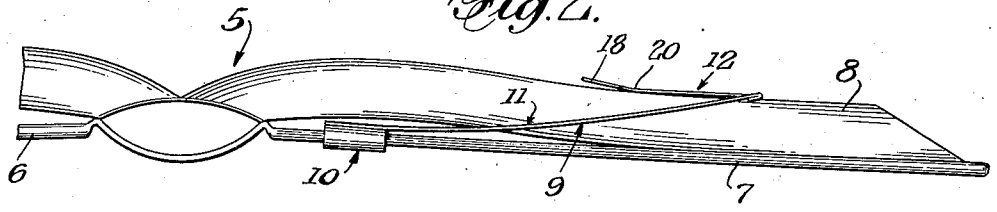
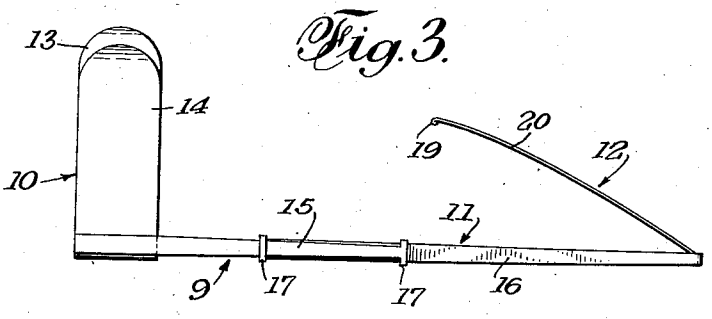


Fig. 3.



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Patented Mar. 2, 1948

2,437,074

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,437,074

BOOKMARK

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Application October 24, 1946, Serial No. 705,426

7 Claims. (Cl. 116—119)

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This invention relates to bookmarks and deals more particularly with a bookmark removably attachable to one cover of a book.

An object of the present invention is to provide a bookmark that continuously marks the page being read as the pages of the book are successively turned.

Another object of the invention is to provide a bookmark as indicated which obviates bending page corners or other mutilating page-marking operations.

Another object of the invention is to provide a bookmark which is automatic in that the page of a book is marked for future reading and the book automatically opens to the marked page.

A further object of the invention is to provide a bookmark as indicated, which is adjustable to obtain desired tension of the page-marking portion of the device, the adjustability also being effective to provide desired page-holding tension for books varying in size.

My invention also has for its objects to provide such means that are positive in operation, convenient in use, easily installed in a working position and easily disconnected therefrom, economical of manufacture, relatively simple, and of general superiority and serviceability.

The invention also comprises novel details of construction and novel combinations and arrangements of parts, which will more fully appear in the course of the following description. However, the drawings merely show and the following description merely describes embodiments of the present invention, which are given by way of illustration or example only.

In the drawings, like reference characters designate similar parts in the several views.

Fig. 1 is a fragmentary plan view of an open book, showing a bookmark according to the invention in operative position.

Fig. 2 is an end view thereof.

Fig. 3 is a plan view of an alternate form of bookmark.

The drawing shows a conventional book having front and back covers 6 and 7, respectively, the latter enclosing the book pages 8.

As contemplated, the bookmark 9 is removably, yet fixedly, mounted on the back cover 7. In this instance, it is shown as mounted on the lower edge of said cover 7 to engage the lower portion of the right page of an open book although said bookmark, with equal efficacy, may be mounted on the upper edge of the cover 6 to engage the upper portion of the left page.

The bookmark 9 comprises, generally, means 10

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having removable connection with the back cover 7, a flexible arm 11 extending laterally from the means 10, and a page marker 12 carried by the free end of the arm 11 and directed toward the means 10.

In the drawing, the means 10 is shown as a clip comprising spring arms 13 and 14 for ready yet firm mounting on the book cover, as shown. The clip may be slipped into place in an endwise manner over the edge of the book cover, or may be otherwise removably secured as by a set screw, lock device, etc.

The arm 11 is preferably made of flat spring stock and may be reducingly tapered toward its outer free end, as shown. The arm is fixedly secured to the clip 10 by soldering, brazing or the like, and is made of such length as to readily extend from the clip in a curved diagonal direction to the first pages of a closed book.

As shown in Fig. 3, the arm 11 may be made telescopically adjustable by forming said arm of a fixed portion 15 and a relatively slidable portion 16, the related ends of said arm portions being provided with slide loops 17 each frictionally engaged with a respective arm portion. By means of this adjustability, the arm 11 can be variably tensioned and also accommodate extremely thick books or those having relatively large pages.

The page marker 12 comprises a length of small gauge wire fixedly connected to the end of the arm 11 and angularly directed toward the clip 10. Said length of wire may be doubled back at 18, as in Fig. 1, or terminate in a loop 19, as in Fig. 3. The tension of the page marker 12 is relatively light yet sufficient to hold a page in place by overstanding engagement therewith. The tension of the arm 11 operates to hold the pages on the right side of the book, while the lighter tension of the book marker 12 yieldingly holds the topmost of said pages so that the latter can be readily turned. The bottom edge of said topmost page engages the angularly disposed portion of the page marker 12 and as a page is turned, said marker is flexed toward the bottom edge of the book until the page is freed and the marker snaps back to hold the next topmost page.

The marker 12 is provided with a bend 20 which readily straightens under normal pressure on the sides of a closed book but bends to separate a book at the page marked.

By merely closing the book, the page is marked and said page is again readily found because the

marker effects separation of a closed book, automatically.

It will be evident that the present device can be used on books in any horizontal, vertical or oblique position, and is effective for music books or the like.

While I have illustrated and described what I now regard as the preferred embodiments of my invention, the constructions are, of course, subject to modifications without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention. I, therefore, do not wish to restrict myself to the particular forms of construction illustrated and described, but desire to avail myself of all modifications that may fall within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A bookmark comprising mounting means for separable connection to a book cover, a flat spring arm extending laterally from said means to span diagonally across the thickness of a number of pages of said book, the flat of said spring arm being arranged in the plane of the book whereby the same is flexible only relative to the thickness of the book, and a spring page marker carried by the free end of said arm and angularly directed toward the mounting means, whereby said marker, upon turning the page with which it is engaged, is flexed toward the spring arm and snaps back into engagement with the next topmost page.

2. A bookmark comprising mounting means for separable connection to a book cover, a flat spring arm extending laterally from said means to span diagonally across the thickness of a number of pages of said book, and a spring page marker carried by the free end of said arm and angularly directed toward the mounting means, said marker comprising a spring wire having less spring tension than the spring arm, whereby said marker, upon turning the page with which it is engaged, is flexed toward the spring arm and snaps back into engagement with the next topmost page.

3. A bookmark comprising mounting means for separable connection to a book cover, a flat spring arm extending laterally from said means to span diagonally across the thickness of a number of pages of said book, and a spring page marker carried by the free end of said arm and angularly directed toward the mounting means, said marker comprising a spring wire having less spring tension than the spring arm and formed with a bend which separates the pages between which the marker is disposed and which straightens under normal pressure on the sides of the book when closed.

4. A bookmark comprising mounting means for separable connection to a book cover, a flat spring arm adjustable for length and for variable tension and extending laterally from said means to span diagonally across the thickness of a number of pages of said book, the flat of said spring arm being arranged in the plane of the book whereby the same is flexible only relative to the thickness of the book, and a spring page marker carried by the free end of said arm and angularly directed toward the mounting means, whereby said marker, upon turning the page with which it is engaged, is flexed toward the spring arm and snaps back into engagement with the next topmost page.

5. A bookmark comprising mounting means for separable connection to a book cover, a flat spring arm adjustable for length and for variable tension and extending laterally from said means to span diagonally across the thickness of a number of pages of said book, and a spring page marker carried by the free end of said arm and angularly directed toward the mounting means, said marker comprising a spring wire having less spring tension than the spring arm.

6. A bookmark comprising mounting means for separable connection to a book cover, a flat spring arm adjustable for length and for variable tension and extending laterally from said means to span diagonally across the thickness of a number of pages of said book, and a spring page marker carried by the free end of said arm and angularly directed toward the mounting means, said marker comprising a spring wire having less spring tension than the spring arm and formed with a bend which separates the pages between which the marker is disposed and which straightens under normal pressure on the sides of the book when closed.

7. In a bookmark a spring arm extending to diagonally span across the thickness of a number of pages of a book, said arm being formed to flex only relative to the thickness of the book, and a wire member carried by the free end of the arm and angularly directed toward the other end whereby the related edge of a page engaged with the wire member, when being turned, displaces the latter in a direction toward the arm.

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