

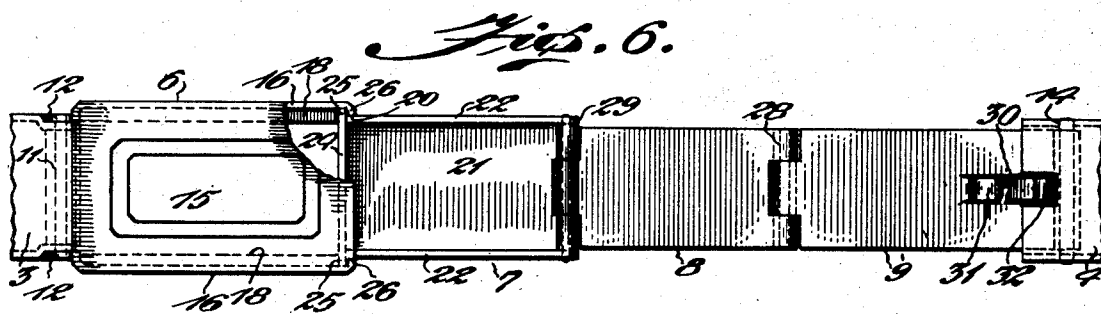
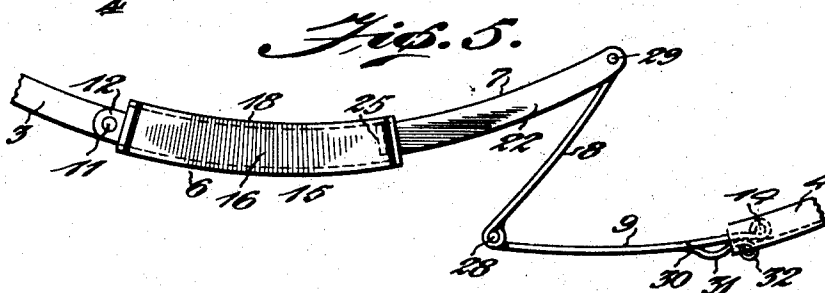
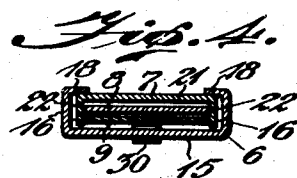
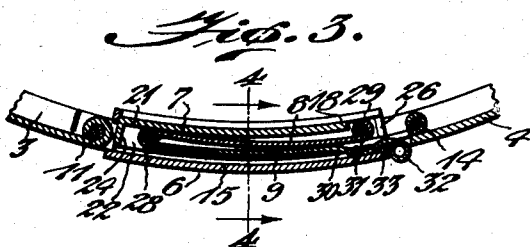
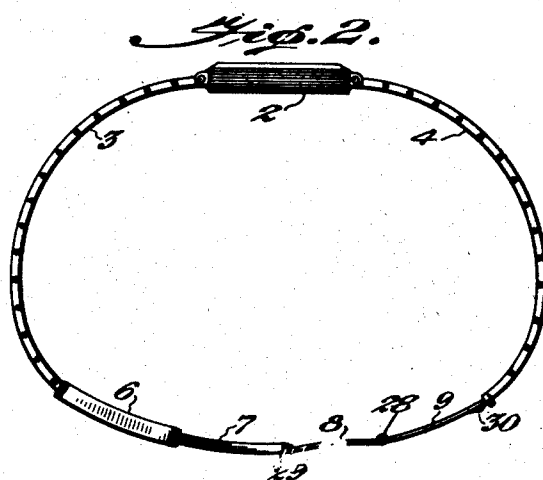
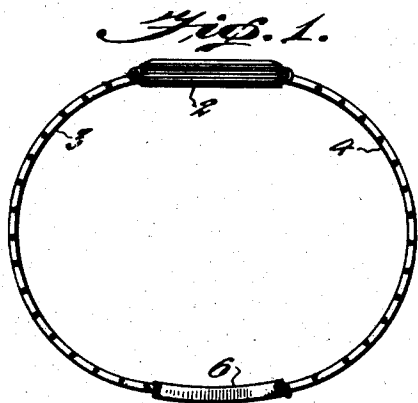
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J. WEISMAN

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CLASP OR FASTENING DEVICE FOR BRACELETS

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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CLASP OR FASTENING DEVICE FOR BRACELETS

Application filed February 8, 1929. Serial No. 338,526.

This invention relates to an improved clasp or fastening-device for wrist-watch bracelets, straps and bands which is adapted to provide for limited extension of the bracelet or the like to allow it to pass over the hand without disconnecting its ends.

One object of the invention is the provision of an improved device of the type specified so constructed and arranged that the extendible means are concealed from view in the normal or closed relationship of the parts.

Another object of the invention is the provision of an improved device of the type specified wherein the extendible members are securely held against accidental extension when in their folded relation.

Another object of the invention is the provision of an improved arrangement of the extendible members whereby they are encased in a slidable receptor and inserted within an outer housing so that the folding members are protected from catching on the other parts in inserting them in or withdrawing them from the housing.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a device of the type specified which is particularly adapted for use with high class articles of jewelry as presenting a highly ornamental appearance with its mechanical structure entirely concealed from view.

Another object of the invention is the provision of an improved receptor or keeper for holding the extendible members in folded relation combined with means for locking the receptor in retracted position within a housing.

Further objects of the improvement are set forth in the following specification which describes a preferred form of construction of the device as illustrated by the accompanying drawings. In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a view illustrating a wrist-watch with a bracelet attached thereto and provided with the improved clasp-device which is shown with the extendible members in their normal or folded position within the housing member;

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 illustrating the foldable members as withdrawn from

the housing and opened into extended relation;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged longitudinal sectional view of the housing showing the extendible members in folded position therein;

Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view of the housing and extendible members taken on line 4-4 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a side elevational view of the housing and extendible members showing the latter in partially folded position; and

Fig. 6 is a plan view of the housing and extendible members showing the latter in fully extended position with a portion of the forward wall of the housing broken away to better illustrate its construction.

In the embodiment of the invention as herein illustrated 2 designates a conventional form of wrist-watch, to which is attached a flexible band or bracelet comprising opposite lengths or sections 3 and 4 secured to the sides of the watch in the usual manner. The ends of the band or bracelet sections 3 and 4 opposite to those attached to the sides of the watch are connected by the improved clasping-device of the present invention which comprises a housing 6, a receptor or keeper 7, and a pair of foldable connecting-members 8 and 9.

Referring more particularly to the construction and arrangement of the elements forming the extendible means and the manner of securing the same to the ends of the bracelet sections, 11 designates a pivot pin which may be mounted in oppositely positioned ears 12 carried by the housing-member 6. The end of the bracelet section 3 is secured to one end of the housing by the pivot pin 11 and the end of the other section 4 is similarly connected to one end of the folding connecting-member 9 by a pivot pin 14.

The housing-member 6 comprises a longitudinally curved or arcuately shaped casing which is substantially rectangular in cross-section. The housing 6 is preferably provided with a front wall 15 having its outer face embossed, engraved or otherwise embellished with a monogram or ornamental design to enhance the appearance of the finished article. The housing 6 is formed with parallel side walls 16 having rearward,

inturned guide-flanges 18 located in substantial parallelism with and uniformly spaced from the forward wall 15.

The housing 6 is provided with an open end 20 for receiving the receptor or keeper 7 which is in the form of a shallow tray adapted to slide into the housing. The receptor 7 has a longitudinally curved rearward wall 21 forming the bottom of the tray and side-walls 22 of sufficient depth to substantially fill the space between the guide-flanges 18 and the forward wall 15 of the housing, thus providing for free sliding movement of the receptor within the housing without such undue freedom of movement as will permit undesirable looseness of the parts.

The receptor 7 is also provided with an end-wall 24 which extends beyond its sides to form detent ears 25 adapted to engage the inturned edges 26 of the side-walls 16 of the housing 6 to prevent complete removal of the receptor from the housing, see Fig. 6 of the drawings.

The foldable connecting-members 8 and 9 may be formed of longitudinally curved sheet-metal strips or plates, and their adjacent ends are hingedly connected together by a pintle 28 to permit them to pivot freely relatively of each other and to be folded closely together. The connecting-member 8 is hinged to the free end of the receptor 7 by a pintle 29 in such manner as to permit it to pivot freely on the receptor and to be folded into close relation with the bottom-wall 21 thereof between the side-walls 22.

The connecting-member 9 is provided with a resilient detent-latch or catch 30 which is cut away from the stock and bent up to provide a curved abutment 31 and a rolled end-piece 32. The abutment 31 of the latch 30 is adapted to snap into position behind a lip 33 bent down from the front-wall 15 of the housing 6 when the parts are slid into telescoped relationship; the rolled end-piece 32 projecting outwardly from the open end of the housing in convenient position to be pressed down by the finger to release the latch.

When it is desired to place the bracelet upon the wrist the extendible members are opened out as shown in Fig. 2 to permit the insertion of the hand through the bracelet without disconnecting its ends. The connecting-members 8 and 9 are then turned about their pivots to fold them upon each other and to enter them into the receptor or keeper 7 in such manner that the uppermost connecting-member 9 lies below the side-walls 22 thereof with both members protected from catching as the keeper is slid into the housing 6.

After the connecting-members 8 and 9 have been folded into position within the receptor or keeper 7 the latter is slid into its retracted position within the housing 6. During this sliding movement the receptor is guided by the ears 25 engaging the side-walls 16 of the

housing and its own side-walls 22 engaging the inturned flanges 18 and the forward-wall 15 of the housing, respectively, to insure free movement of the receptor relative to the housing without such undue play of the telescoping parts as might lead to distortion or bending of the members through careless operation on the part of the wearer.

When the keeper 7 and the foldable connecting-members carried thereby are fully inserted within the housing 6 the resilient latch 30 carried by the connecting-member 9 engages with the detent lip 33 formed upon the inner surface of the forward-wall of the housing to retain the parts in retracted position within the housing and prevent their accidental separation therefrom. The parts then occupy the position shown in Figs. 3 and 4 of the drawings.

When it is desired to remove the bracelet from the wrist, pressure is exerted upon the exposed end-portion 32 of the latch 30 to release the latter from the detent lip 33, and the keeper may then be readily withdrawn from the housing and the connecting-members unfolded therefrom into fully extended position as shown in Fig. 5 of the drawings.

It will be observed from the foregoing that the invention provides a novel form of fastening or clasp means for use with wrist-watch bracelets, ornamental bands, straps and other articles of the type described. The bracelet or similar article may be extended for insertion of the hand of the wearer and then contracted to fit the wrist in such a manner as to conceal from view all mechanical structure and leave exposed only the ornamental housing, the aspect of which is in harmony with and enhances rather than detracts from the general appearance of the article.

The improved device not only provides a more compact and ornamental form of fastening-means for articles of this character than has been heretofore employed, but entirely obviates the danger of loss of the watch by the folding members becoming accidentally entangled in the clothing or striking against some object in such a manner as to cause them to open and release the bracelet.

While I have shown and described my improvement as applied to a conventional type of wrist-watch bracelet, it is to be understood that the extendible members and their enclosing means are adapted for use with various other types of straps, bands or bracelets. Therefore, without limiting myself to the precise form of construction herein shown and described, I claim:

1. In a fastening-device of the character described, a housing provided with an open end, a channel-shaped receptor in the form of a tray slidable within and held against separation from said housing, hinged connecting-members attached to said receptor

and foldable therewithin between the sides thereof to maintain them in alinement, and means for normally retaining the receptor and connecting-members telescoped within the housing.

receptor and foldable connecting-members telescoped within said housing.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

JULIUS WEISMAN. 70

2. In a fastening-device of the character described, a longitudinally curved housing-member provided with a front wall and side-walls having inturned rearward flanges extending in substantial parallelism with the front wall, a channel-shaped receptor slidable within the housing and held against separation therefrom, foldable connecting-members hingedly connected to each other and to said receptor to adapt them to be nested therein and held in alinement by the sides thereof to provide for their easy entrance into the housing, and means for locking said receptor and folding-members in retracted position within the housing.

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3. A fastening-device of the character described comprising a housing having an opening in its end, a channel-shaped tray-like receptor mounted for slidable movement within the housing, means on said housing for engaging the end of the receptor in the extended position of the parts to prevent separation thereof, foldable connecting-members hingedly jointed to said receptor and foldable therewithin between the sides thereof to maintain them in alinement whereby said receptor and connecting-members may be telescoped within the housing, and means for releasably securing said receptor and connecting-members in their retracted position within the housing.

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4. In a fastening-device of the character described, inner and outer telescoping members, said inner telescoping member being channel-shaped and provided with oppositely-positioned side-walls adapted to engage oppositely-positioned parts of said outer member to guide said inner member in its movement into and out of said outer member, and foldable connecting-members hingedly connected to said inner member and foldable thereinto between the side-walls thereof to maintain them in alinement for movement with said inner member into and out of said outer member.

5. In a fastening-device of the character described, the combination of telescoping members comprising a housing provided with a front-wall, side-walls and rearward flanges extending inwardly from the side-walls and uniformly spaced from the front-wall, a receptor provided upon one side with a channel-shaped recess, connecting-members hinged to the receptor to adapt them to be folded within its recess between the side-walls thereof to maintain them in alinement, said receptor and foldable connecting-members being adapted to slide within the housing-member, and means for releasably securing said