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V. ALONGE

2,189,096

WATCH BRACELET

Filed July 7, 1938

Fig. 1.

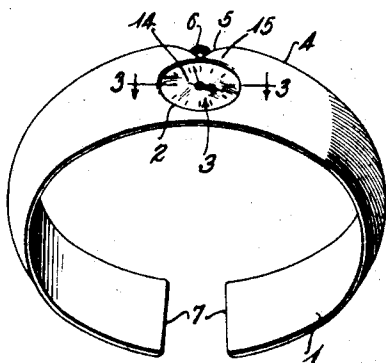


Fig. 2.

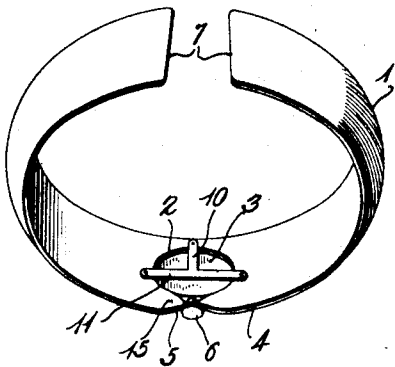


Fig. 3.

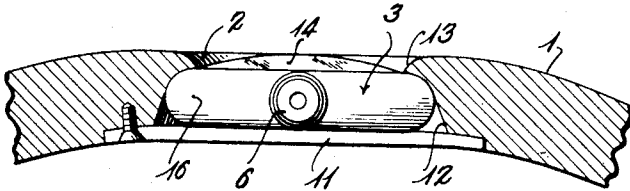


Fig. 4.

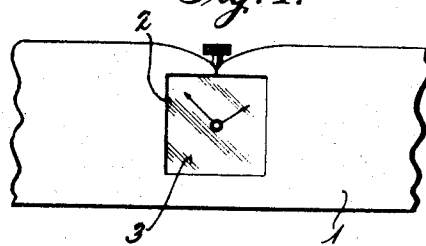


Fig. 5.

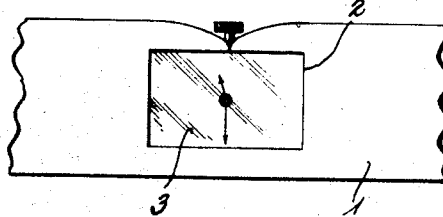


Fig. 6.

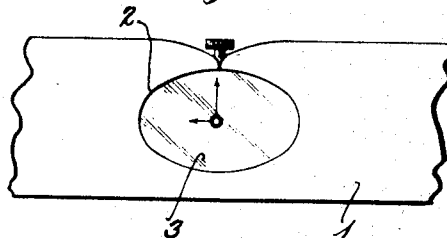
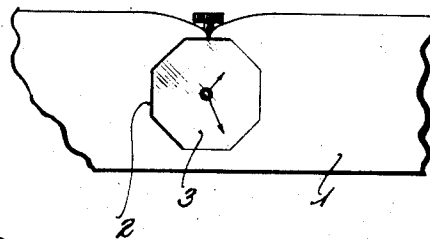


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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WATCH BRACELET

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4 Claims. (Cl. 224-4)

This invention relates generally to jewelry and more particularly to bracelets for removably supporting watches or the like.

Wrist watches are extensively used and are supported by bracelets of many types. These supporting bracelets comprise leather straps, fabric straps, or various formations in metal according to the taste of the wearer and the price it is desired to pay. In wrist watches for women it is customary to provide ornamental bracelets for supporting the watches that are made from precious metals and are considered to be attractive in design. These bracelets are usually of a flexible type and formed by a series of links so as to conform to the wrist of the wearer. Bracelets for this use must necessarily be of the same general type due to their comparatively high cost and long life. Consequently, it has not been practical to attempt to follow the current trends of style in jewelry. Furthermore, the watches have been secured to the bracelets by rather a complicated linkage that does not permit the watches to be readily interchanged from one bracelet to another so that the wearer could match the bracelet with the costume worn or with the current trends in style.

Accordingly, it is the object of the present invention to overcome the above difficulties and to provide a simple means for supporting a watch whereby the watch may be readily removed and interchanged from one supporting member to another. In addition, a bracelet is contemplated incorporating this supporting means, which may be produced at a relatively low cost and designed according to the current trends of style. Furthermore, a wearer may have several of these bracelets so as to match the color and/or style of the costume worn.

The foregoing objects, and others relating thereto, are accomplished in the preferred embodiment of the present invention which comprises a slip-on bracelet provided with an aperture in the form of a socket on one side thereof to receive a watch, and a resilient brace supported beneath this socket so as to removably retain the watch therein. To match the style of the day, a relatively wide and thick bracelet is shown, although, of course, other styles may be used. This bracelet may be formed from metal, wood, or any of the currently fashionable folding plastics which may be colored and consequently chosen according to the costume worn. The socket for receiving the watch may be of various sizes and shapes, according to the style of watch to be associated therewith, and

is provided with an opening therebetween and an edge of the bracelet to accommodate the stem of the watch.

The socket may taper slightly from the back of the bracelet toward the front thereof to retain the watch within the bracelet. In addition, the socket may be formed so that the edges thereof cover the casing of the watch so that only the watch face is visible from the front of the bracelet. The retaining member supported behind the socket is preferably in the form of a T-shaped metal member, the cross of the T-member lying toward the side of the socket having the communication with the edge of the bracelet, so that the watch may be readily inserted in the socket or withdrawn therefrom by sliding it across the cross-bar of the T-member. It is preferable that this T-member be formed from a resilient material which will tend to hold the watch snugly in place within the socket.

The novelty characteristic of the present invention is set forth in the appended claims but the invention itself may best be understood from the following detailed description thereof when read in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein like reference characters indicate like parts throughout, and in which

Fig. 1 is a view in perspective of the front of the bracelet supporting a watch according to the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a view in perspective of the under side of a bracelet supporting a watch according to the present invention;

Fig. 3 is a view in cross section taken on the line 3-3 of Fig. 1; and

Figs. 4, 5, 6 and 7 are plan views which show modifications of the bracelet to accommodate various types of watches.

Referring more specifically to the drawing, as illustrated in Fig. 1, the present invention comprises a bracelet 1 having an aperture extending through the front face thereof to form a socket 2 to receive a watch 3. One edge 4 of the bracelet 1 is curved inwardly to form an opening 5 in communication with the socket 2, which opening is adapted to receive the winding wheel 6 mounted on the stem of the watch 3. As will be noted in the drawing the arrangement may be such that the outer ends of the winding wheel 6 of the watch 3 may lie substantially flush with the edge 4 of the bracelet 1, but nevertheless is freely accessible for operation. The bracelet 1 may be of any preferred type, and as shown in the present in-

stance comprises a slip-on bracelet which is comparatively wide and thick as dictated by the present trends of fashion. This bracelet is split at 7 to permit a degree of resiliency, although, of course, this is not necessary to comply with the spirit of the invention.

A retaining member 10 is mounted behind the watch receiving socket 2 and may be secured to the inner surface of the bracelet in any desired manner as by rivets or screws 9, as best shown in Figs. 2 and 3. Though it is not necessary it may be desired to form the member 10 of resilient material so that the rivet or screw 9 may be omitted at one end of the cross-bar 11, as indicated in Fig. 3, to provide greater ease in removing and inserting the watch 3. The retaining member 10 may be of any desired shape and of any suitable material. It has been found, however, that a metal T-shaped member is the most desirable according to the present circumstances. A member of this type securely retains the watch in position, and yet through the resiliency of the metal, the watch may be readily inserted or removed by sliding it between the cross bar 11 of the T-member and the edge of the socket 2 adjacent the opening 5.

The socket 2 has inner walls 12 which are curved inwardly toward the front of the bracelet so as to conform approximately to the formation of the watch casing and to form a socket, in combination with the T-member 10 for snugly retaining the watch in position. The outer edge of the socket 2 may be beveled inwardly slightly, as at 13, so as to provide clear visibility of the face of the watch 3. This beveled edge 13 may fit snugly around the crystal 14 of the watch so that the watch will appear to be housed within the bracelet rather than merely supported thereby. This construction is particularly desirable when the bracelet is to be worn by women in view of the fact that it offers a neater and more dainty appearance. To conform with this construction, the prongs 15 which form continuations of the edge 4 of the bracelet adjacent the opening 5 may be formed so that they extend over the casing 16 of the watch 3 adjacent the stem winding wheel 6 and yet permit sufficient freedom to said winding wheel 6 for the watch to be readily wound.

The bracelet 1 may be made in various sizes to accommodate various sized wrists, and the sockets 2 therein may be of various shapes and sizes to accommodate the different styles and types of watches. As shown in Figs. 4, 5, 6, and 7, for instance, the sockets 2 may be adapted to accommodate square, oblong, oval, and octagonal types of watches. In addition, these bracelets may be made from various materials such as metal, wood, or any of the currently popular molding plastics. Furthermore, these bracelets may be made in different colors, particularly when fabricated from the molding plastics, and a wearer may have several bracelets of different colors so that the watch may be quickly interchanged from one bracelet to another, and consequently a bracelet would be worn to match the costume of said wearer.

In view of the foregoing description, the operation of the present invention should be readily understandable. If, upon dressing, the wearer finds that the watch bracelet does not match the costume, the watch is quickly removed from the bracelet and inserted into another bracelet which matches the costume either in style or color, or both. To remove the watch 3, it is pressed down-

wardly and outwardly slightly, adjacent the stem thereof, so that it may be slipped past the cross bar 11 of the T-shaped retaining member 10 and removed from the socket 2. The curvature of the inner walls 12 of the socket 2 facilitate in the movement of the watch 3 as the portions of these walls adjacent the prongs 15 tend to cam the watch 3 downwardly as it is pressed outwardly, so as to slide it past the cross bar 11 of the retaining member 10. Upon the removal of the watch 3 from one bracelet, the action is reversed with the newly selected bracelet. The inner edge of the watch 3 is inserted between the inner edge of the socket 2 and the cross bar 11 of the retaining member 10. As the watch 3 is pressed inwardly, the curvature of the walls 12 of the socket 2 tend to cam the watch 3 upwardly into position. The bracelet is then ready to be slipped on to the wrist of the wearer.

By the above described arrangement, a snug, firm support is provided for the watch and at the same time a variety of bracelets may be used at various times according to the taste of the wearer. Consequently, relatively inexpensive bracelets may be supplied which are in keeping with the current styles and the fashionable colors of the day. As the styles change from time to time, new bracelets may be secured at relatively small cost so that the wrist watch appears to match the color and style of the costume at all times, even though the watch itself may be comparatively old fashioned.

Many different effects may be produced by the use of various types of bracelets incorporating the present invention, and although certain specific embodiments have been shown and described, many modifications thereof are possible, and the present disclosure should be construed only in an illustrative sense. The present invention, therefore, is not to be restricted except insofar as is necessitated by the prior art and by the spirit of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A bracelet watch-holder comprising a bracelet, an aperture through the front portion thereof to provide a socket adapted to removably receive a watch, and a yielding retaining member fixed to said bracelet and covering a portion of the under side of said socket whereby the passageway for the watch may be opened sufficiently for the transit of said watch therethrough.

2. A bracelet watch-holder comprising a bracelet, an aperture through the front portion thereof to provide a socket adapted to removably receive a watch, an opening adjacent said socket to receive the winding wheel on said watch, said winding wheel being positioned by said opening so that the outer end thereof lies substantially in line with the edge of said bracelet and a yielding retaining member fixed to said bracelet and covering a portion of the under side of said socket opposite said opening whereby the passageway for the watch may be opened sufficiently for the transit of said watch therethrough.

3. A bracelet watch-holder comprising a bracelet, an aperture through the front portion thereof, said aperture having an edge to substantially coincide with the shape of the rim of the face of said watch and inner walls which are progressively enlarged away from said edge to provide a socket to removably receive a watch, and a yielding retaining member fixed to said bracelet and covering a portion of the under side of said socket whereby the passageway for the

watch may be opened sufficiently for the transit of said watch therethrough.

4. A bracelet watch-holder comprising a bracelet, an aperture through the front portion thereof, said aperture having an edge to substantially coincide with the shape of the rim of the face of said watch and inner walls which are progressively enlarged away from said edge to provide a socket to removably receive a watch, an opening adjacent said socket to receive the winding wheel on said watch, said wheel being positioned within said opening so that it may be operated while the watch is within the holder, projections extending between said aperture and said opening to substantially complete the edge of said aperture, and a yielding retaining member fixed to said bracelet and covering a portion of the under side of said socket whereby the passageway for the watch may be opened sufficiently for the transit of said watch therethrough.

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