Aug. 20, 1935. S. RITTER 2,012,054

CONNECTER FOR WRIST WATCH STRAPS

Filed June 22, 1934

Fig. 1.

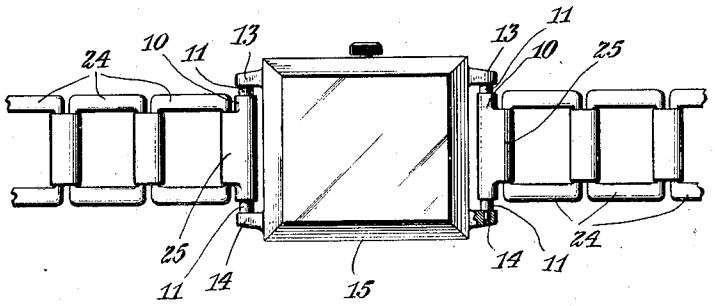


Fig. 3.

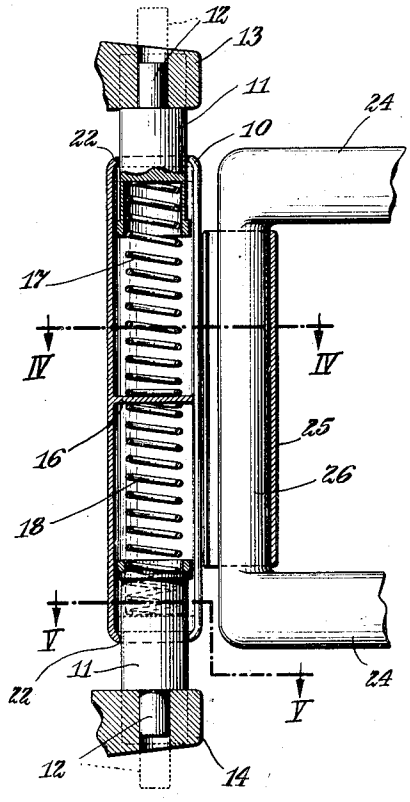


Fig. 2.

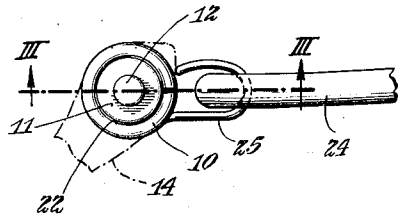


Fig. 4.

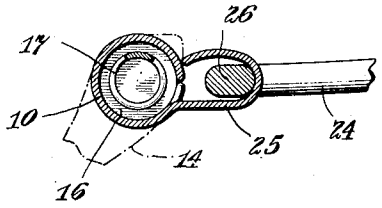
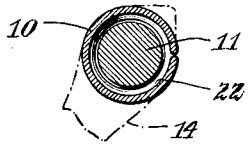


Fig. 5.



INVENTOR
S. RITTER

BY Greenbower & Reges
ATTORNEYS

Patented Aug. 20, 1935 2,012,054

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,012,054

CONNECTER FOR WRIST WATCH STRAPS

Saul Ritter, Far Rockaway, N. Y., assignor to Bruner-Ritter, Inc., a corporation of New York

Application June 22, 1934, Serial No. 731,927

5 Claims. (Cl. 24—265)

This invention relates to a wrist watch strap and relates more particularly to an improved hinge pin or connecter for attaching a strap to a wrist watch.

It is the practice to provide a wrist watch with a pair of lateral bearing lugs at each end of the watch case. These lugs are used for the purpose of connecting a chain or strap to the watch. The strap is usually provided with a tubular casing or member at the attaching ends, which member is of slightly less length than the distance between opposite surfaces of the lugs and is provided with spring actuated axially movable pins.

These pins normally project from the ends of the tubular casings and when the ends of the strap or chain are to be connected with the watch case, the pins are pressed inwardly and snapped into journal apertures in the bearing lugs.

Watch cases are made in various sizes and the lugs therefor of different cases made by different manufacturers are often spaced different distances apart. This makes it necessary for the dealer, who sells wrist watch straps separately for connection to the watch of a purchaser, to have straps with end pieces of different lengths to fit the spaces between the bearing lugs of different watches.

Obviously this requires a large stock of merchandise and it is not always possible for the purchaser to obtain a strap of a particular or desirable design.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a wrist watch chain with a connecting member adjustable for various size casings.

Another object of the invention is to provide a simple adjustable hinge pintle for use as a connection between a watch casing and a chain or strap.

Another object of the invention is to provide a connecter or hinge element consisting of a pair of oppositely movable connecter pins in which the movements of the pins are equalized.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be more fully understood by reference to the following description together with the accompanying drawing, in which

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a watch case having a chain connected thereto by a connecter constructed in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged end view of the connecter element shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail view partly in section showing the present construction of hinge connecter as applied to the end of a chain taken on line III—III in Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a view taken on line IV—IV in Fig. 3, and

Fig. 5 is a view taken on line V—V in Fig. 3.

A connecter-member constructed in accordance with the present invention may comprise a tubular casing or sleeve 10 (see Fig. 3) having open ends through which extension members or slide bars 11 project. Each extension is provided with a pin 12 to enter journal apertures on bearing lugs 13 and 14 of the character usually provided on a watch casing 15.

The casing is divided by a stop or partition 16 to oppose the action of springs 17 and 18. An end of each spring is disposed in a socket 19 in an extension 11 and the spring acts to urge the extension outwardly. A collar 21 on the shoulder and a shoulder 22 on the casing serve to limit the outward movement of the extensions.

Each spring may have the same degree of expansive force so that the actions of the extensions are equalized. Thus when an extension is depressed for insertion into a bearing aperture no force is applied to the opposite extension and the operation of applying the connective hinge to a watch casing is facilitated. Moreover, this equalizing action keeps the tubular casing 10 central between the bearing lugs when the device is in use.

The connecters or hinges may be used as terminals for any suitable type of chain having links 24 as shown and the tubular casing 10 may be provided with portion 25 bendable about an arm 26 of a link to hold the hinge element but leaving it free to rock in the manner of a link of the chain.

It will be evident that the extensions may be made of a suitable minimum length to accommodate casings having differently spaced lugs. If the distance between the lugs 13 and 14 of different casings vary, the difference is taken up or allowed for by the extensions. The extensions are of relatively large diameter and when the connection is applied to a casing, give an ornamental effect of a stepped design.

The casing is of relatively thin material and it is only necessary to have the very small shoulder 22 thus the effect is smooth and symmetrical.

Although a preferred embodiment of the invention is shown and described herein it is to be understood that modifications may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. An adjustable hinge connecter for a watch casing having bearing lugs, comprising a tubular member, an extension member projecting from each end of said tubular member, a pin at the end of said each extension member to be journaled in a bearing lug and separate resilient means operable independently for pressing said extension member endwise of said tubular member.

2. A hinge element for a watch strap comprising a tubular casing, slide-bars extending from and movable axially of said casing, a pin at the exposed end of each slide-bar and a stop intermediate the ends of said casing, spring members disposed on opposite sides of said stop for moving said bars in opposite directions.

3. A hinge element for a watch strap comprising a tubular casing, slide-bars extending from and movable axially of said casing, a pin at the exposed end of each slide-bar and individually acting resilient means for each of said slide bars for equalizing the movements of said bars.

4. A hinge element for a watch strap comprising a tubular casing, slide-bars extending from and movable axially of said casing, a pin at the exposed end of each slide-bar, and separate resilient means for moving each bar.

5. A hinge element for a watch strap comprising a tubular casing, slide-bars extending from and movable axially of said casing, a pin at the exposed end of each slide-bar, a seat disposed intermediate the ends of said casing and a coiled spring at opposite sides of said seat to urge said slide-bars in opposite directions.

SAUL RITTER.