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CONNECTING MEANS FOR STRAPS

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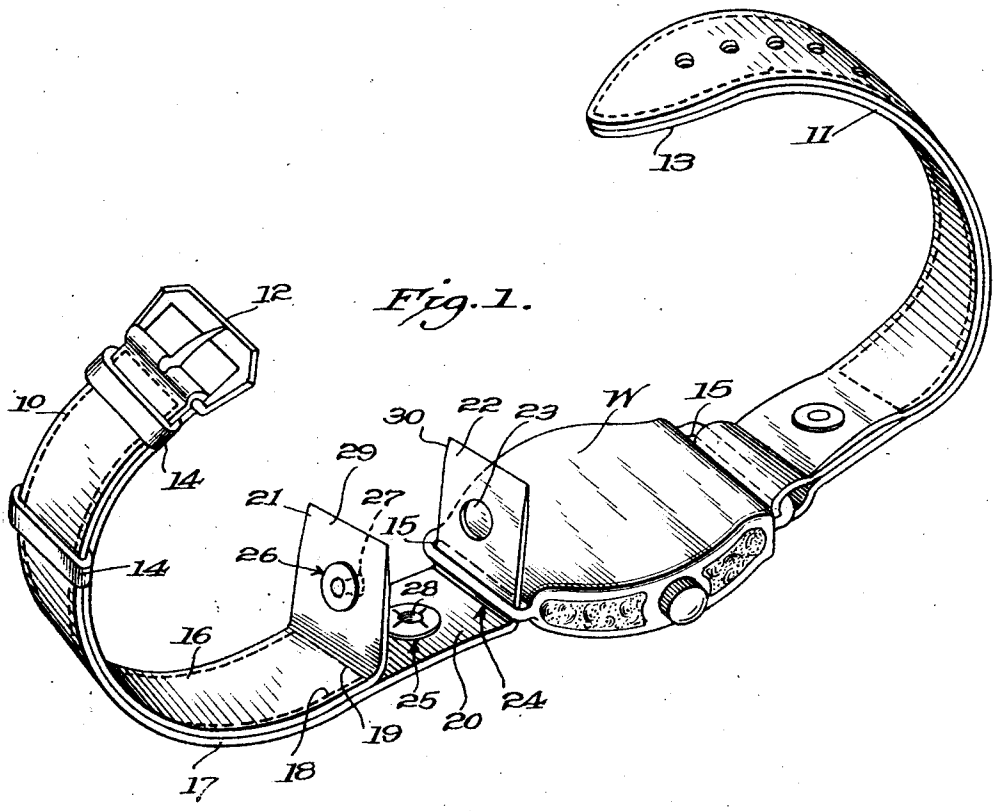
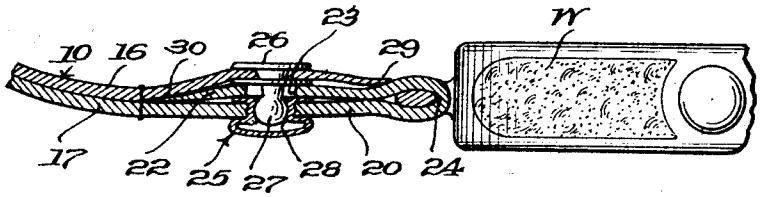


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.



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CONNECTING MEANS FOR STRAPS.

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My invention relates generally to straps and more particularly to connecting means therefor, by which a strap, such as for example of the character used in holding a wrist watch against loss and displacement from the wrist, is adapted to be connected to the watch.

Wrist watches as usually constructed have the cases thereof provided with slots through which the strap ends are adapted to be passed; and these slots are generally very narrow in width so as to be unobtrusive and thus not detract from the beauty of the watch. The width of these slots approximates the thickness of the strap to be passed therethrough, and thus prevents the use of any strap having projecting fastening means on that portion thereof which is passed through the slots. As a result it is customary in connecting the strap to the watch, to pass the strap ends through the slots and then fold the ends upon the remaining portions of the strap to form two plies which are subsequently permanently secured together by sewing or other suitable means. This method of attaching the strap to the watch is comparatively expensive and consumes considerable time as well as occasions much inconvenience and delay to a customer when a worn strap is to be replaced with a new one.

It is a purpose of my invention to provide a simple and substantial connecting means for straps by which the above disadvantages will be entirely overcome and the strap rendered capable of being instantly connected to and positively secured against disconnection from a wrist watch or other article, all without detracting from the appearance of the strap or rendering the strap bulky and uncomfortable to the wearer.

I will describe only one form of connecting means for straps embodying my invention and will then point out the novel features in claims.

In the accompanying drawing

Fig. 1 is a perspective view illustrating one form of connecting means for straps embodying my invention, and showing the manner in which the connecting means is associated with a strap and a wrist watch to connect the strap thereto; and

Fig. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view of an end of the strap and illustrating the manner in which the latter is connected to the wrist watch by my connecting means.

Referring specifically to the drawing in which similar reference characters designate similar parts in each of the several views, my invention in its present embodiment is shown associated with a strap formed of leather or other suitable material, which is preferably constructed in two separate sections 10 and 11 capable of being adjustably connected together at one of their ends by a conventional buckle 12 secured to an end of the section 10, and adapted to receive the pointed and perforated end 13 of the section 11 for connection to the buckle, after which the end 13 is passed through loops 14 on the section 10 as will be understood.

The other end of each of the sections 10 and 11 is provided with the connecting means embodying my invention and by which the sections are rendered capable of being secured to a wrist watch W having the usual relatively narrow strap receiving slots 15; and as the connecting means for one section is identical to that for the other, a description of one will suffice for both.

As an illustration of my connecting means, reference will be had to the section 10 which in the present instance is constructed of two plies of suitable material 16 and 17 permanently secured together by longitudinal rows of stitching 18 terminating at a point spaced from that end of the strap opposite the buckle 12 and connected by a row of transverse stitching 19 to provide unsecured portions in the form of flaps 20 and 21 respectively, capable of being spread apart as shown in Fig. 1.

The flap 20 is of greater length than the flap 21 to provide a portion in the form of a tab 22 having an opening 23 therethrough, the tab being of such length that when folded back upon the section along the transverse score line 24 to form a connecting loop, the tab can occupy a position between the flaps 20 and 21.

To the flaps 20 and 21 are permanently secured the members of a two part separable fastener, the female member 25 of the fastener being secured to the flap 20 while the male member 26 of the fastener, which is provided with a head 27 adapted to snap into a socket 28 of the female member, is

permanently secured to the flap 21. The separable fastener constitutes a means by which the flaps 20 and 21 can be detachably secured together with the tab 22 confined therebetween in looped formation, through the medium of the head 27 of the male member 26 with which the opening 23 of the tab registers when the tab is folded back upon the flap 20 as shown in Fig. 2 is that the head 27 will extend freely through the opening for co-action with the socket 28 of the female member 25 in securing the flaps together.

In applying the strap section 10 to a slot 15 of the wrist watch W, the flaps 20 and 21 are spread apart and the tab 22 passed through the slot 15 as shown in Fig. 1 and then folded back upon the flap 20, after which the members 25 and 26 of the fastener are snapped together as shown in Fig. 2, thus positively securing the strap section 10 to the watch against disconnection therefrom. This operation is repeated with the connecting means of the strap section 11, after which the strap is ready for application to the wrist for securing thereof in embracing relation to the wrist by the buckle 12.

It will be noted that the free ends of the flap 21 and tab 22 are skived off or tapered in thickness as shown at 29 and 30 respectively, so as to eliminate all abrupt shoulders and render the outside surfaces of the strap free of abrupt offsets. The connecting means will thus not detract from the appearance of the strap or render the latter bulky or uncomfortable to the wearer.

It will be appreciated that I have provided as well, a strap adapted to be sold as an article of manufacture, and capable of being instantly applied to a wrist watch or other article, by an unskilled person and without the use of any extraneous appliances.

Although I have herein shown and described only one form of connecting means for straps embodying my invention, it is to be understood that various changes and modifications may be made therein without departing from the spirit of the invention and the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A strap having an end thereof provided with a tab capable of being passed through a relatively narrow strap receiving slot of a wrist watch case and then folded back upon the strap to form a connecting loop, the tab having an opening therein, and a two part separable fastener having the parts thereof secured to portions of the strap other than the tab, the male member of the fastener having a head extensible through the tab opening for co-action with the female member of the fastener in securing the tab to the strap in looped formation, to thereby connect the strap to the wrist watch case.

2. A strap having portions at an end thereof capable of being spread apart, means on one of said portions capable of being passed through a relatively narrow strap receiving slot of a wrist watch case and then inserted between said portions to form a connecting loop, and fastening means on said portions for securing the first means between the portions in loop formation, to thereby connect the strap to the wrist watch case.

3. A strap having portions at an end thereof capable of being spread apart, a tab on one of said portions capable of being passed through a relatively narrow strap receiving slot of a wrist watch case and then folded back upon the strap to occupy a position between said portions to form a connecting loop, and means for locking the portions together and the tab between the portions in loop formation, to thereby connect the strap to the wrist watch case.

4. A strap having portions at an end thereof capable of being spread apart, a tab on one of said portions capable of being passed through a relatively narrow strap receiving slot of a wrist watch case and then folded back upon the strap to occupy a position between said portions to form a connecting loop, the tab having an opening therein, and a two part separable fastener having the members thereof secured to said portions and co-acting to detachably secure the portions together and co-acting with said opening of the tab to confine the tab between portions, whereby the strap will be connected to the wrist watch case.

5. A strap having portions at an end thereof capable of being spread apart, a tab on one of said portions capable of being passed through a relatively narrow strap receiving slot of a wrist watch case and then folded back upon the strap to occupy a position between said portions to form a connecting loop, the tab having an opening therein, and a two part separable fastener having the members thereof secured to said portions, the male member of the fastener having a head extensible through said opening of the tab for co-action with the female member of the fastener in securing the portions together and locking the tab between the portions, to thereby connect the strap to the wrist watch case.

6. A two ply strap having the plies thereof unsecured at an end of the strap to provide a pair of flaps, one of the flaps being extended to form a tab capable of being passed through a relatively narrow slot of a wrist watch case and folded back upon the strap to occupy a position between the flaps and thereby form a connecting loop, and means for securing the flaps together and locking the tab between the flaps, to

thereby connect the strap to the wrist watch case.

7. A two ply strap having the plies thereof unsecured at an end of the strap to provide a pair of flaps, one of the flaps being extended to form a tab capable of being passed through a relatively narrow slot of a wrist watch case and folded back upon the strap to occupy a position between the flaps and thereby form a connecting loop, the tab having an opening therethrough, and a two part separable fastener having the members thereof secured to the flaps, the male member of the fastener having a head extensible through said opening of the tab for co-action with the female member of the fastener in securing the flaps together and locking the tab between the flaps, to thereby detachably connect the strap to the wrist watch case.

8. A strap end having a pair of flaps, one of which is extended to provide a tab capable of being passed through a relatively narrow strap receiving slot of a wrist watch case and then folded back upon one of the flaps to form a connecting loop, the tab having an opening therein, and a two part fastener having the members thereof secured to said flaps and co-acting to secure the flaps together and with the wall of said opening to lock the tab in loop formation against displacement from between the flaps.

9. A strap having a pair of portions and a third portion capable of being passed through a strap receiving slot of a wrist watch case and then inserted between said pair of portions to form a connecting loop, and means for securing the third portion in loop formation, to thereby connect the strap to the wrist watch case, said pair of portions capable of being spread apart sufficiently to receive the third portion.

10. A strap having a pair of portions and a third portion capable of being passed through a strap receiving slot of a wrist watch case and then inserted between said pair of portions to form a connecting loop, the third portion having an opening therethrough, and a two part fastener having the parts thereof fixedly secured to said pair of portions and co-acting with the wall of said opening to maintain the third portion in loop formation, to thereby connect the strap to the wrist watch case.

11. A strap having a portion thereof provided with an opening and capable of being passed through a strap receiving slot of a wrist watch case and then folded back upon the strap to form a connecting loop, and a two-part fastener having the parts thereof fixedly secured to portions of the strap other than said portion and co-acting with the wall of said opening in the latter to maintain said portion in loop formation, to thereby connect the strap to the wrist watch case.

12. A strap having a pair of portions one of which is extended to provide a third portion capable of being passed through a strap receiving slot of a wrist watch case and then inserted between said pair of portions to form a connecting loop, and means for securing the third portion in loop formation, to thereby connect the strap to the wrist watch case, said pair of portions capable of being spread apart sufficiently to receive the third portion.

13. A strap having a pair of portions one of which is extended to provide a third portion capable of being passed through a strap receiving slot of a wrist watch case and then inserted between said pair of portions to form a connecting loop, and means on the pair of portions co-acting with the third portion to secure the latter in loop formation, to thereby connect the strap to the wrist watch case, said pair of portions capable of being spread apart sufficiently to receive the third portion.

14. A strap having a pair of portions one of which is extended to provide a third portion capable of being passed through a strap receiving slot of a wrist watch case and then inserted between said pair of portions to form a connecting loop, and a two-part fastener having the parts thereof fixedly secured to said pair of portions and co-acting to maintain the third portion in loop formation, to thereby connect the strap to the wrist watch case, said pair of portions capable of being spread apart sufficiently to receive the third portion.

15. A strap having a pair of portions one of which is extended to provide a third portion capable of being passed through a strap receiving slot of a wrist watch case and then inserted between said pair of portions to form a connecting loop, and means for securing all the portions together with said third portion in loop formation, to thereby connect the strap to the wrist watch case, said pair of portions capable of being spread apart sufficiently to receive the third portion.

16. A strap having a pair of portions one of which is extended to provide a third portion capable of being passed through a strap receiving slot of a wrist watch case and then inserted between said pair of portions to form a connecting loop, the third portion having an opening therethrough, and fastening means on the pair of portions co-acting with the wall of said opening in said third portion to secure all the portions together with the third portion in loop formation, to thereby connect the strap to the wrist watch case.

Signed at Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, this 24th day of February, A. D. 1928.

ARTHUR W. SWANSON.