

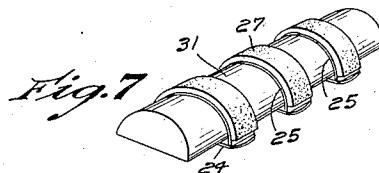
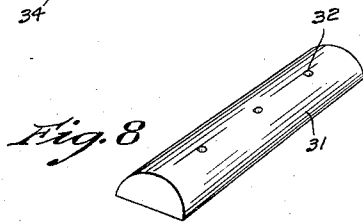
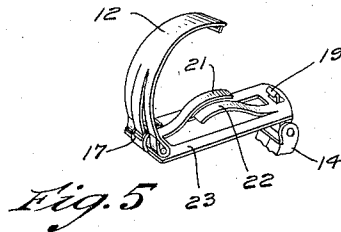
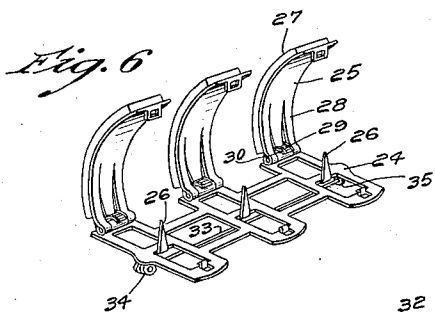
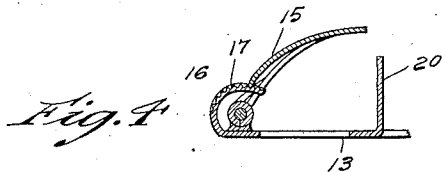
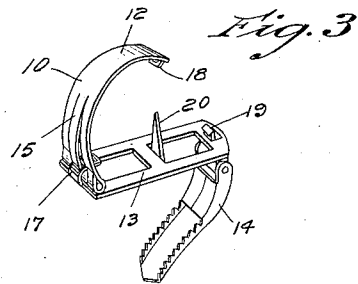
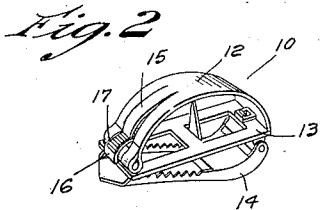
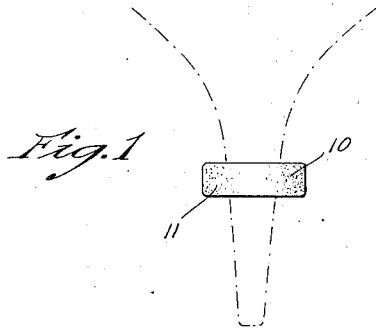
Nov. 19, 1935.

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2,021,200

ORNAMENTAL CLASP

Filed April 30, 1934



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,021,200

ORNAMENTAL CLASP

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Application April 30, 1934, Serial No. 723,192

21 Claims. (Cl. 24—6)

My present invention relates to ornamental jewelry clasps suitable for personal wear, and has particular reference to ornamental clasps suitable for use as containers or holders.

5 The ornamental clasps now in use are essentially decorative, and include parts suitable for releasable engagement with a dress, a hat, or the like, and an ornament thereto for imparting the desired decorative effect. Such clasps are not adapted for use as holders or containers
10 for other articles, such as for example flower bouquet, bars or other ornamental arrangements.

It is the principal object of my invention to provide a clasp or clip which is decorative per se,
15 and which is formed to receive and retain an additional decorative article, whereby a more attractive result is obtained.

A further object of my invention is to provide a structure for the ornamental clasp which will
20 releasably retain the additional decorative article, whereby articles of different contours or colors may be readily interchanged for use in the clasp.

Another object of my invention is to provide
25 a decorative clasp construction which can receive and retain articles of different diameter, this arrangement being particularly suitable for flower bouquets and the like.

With the above and other objects and advantageous features in view, my invention consists of a novel arrangement of parts which is more fully disclosed in the detailed description following, in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, and is more specifically defined in the claims appended
35 thereto.

In the drawing,

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the novel clasp, a flower bouquet being indicated in dotted lines;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the clasp mechanism, the parts being in closed position;

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2, the parts being in open position;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary central vertical section through the clasp mechanism;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary view similar to Fig. 3, but showing a modified retaining means;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a modified clasp arrangement, the clasp being in open position;

Fig. 7 is a perspective view showing the modified clasp in closed position, with replaceable ornament; and

Fig. 8 is a perspective view of the replaceable ornament.

I have devised a novel clasp mechanism which
55 can releasably hold an ornament, and which is

ornamental in itself, whereby it may be used alone or in conjunction with a second ornament. The novel clasp may be releasably fastened or pinned to an article, such as a dress, a hat or any other suitable support, and has an ornamental top so that it may be used alone if desired,
5 or may be opened to permit insertion of a replaceable ornament of any shape or color which is rigidly held in the clasp. Moreover, since certain inserts such as flower bouquets or the like
10 have relatively bulky stems, I have provided an adjustable holding arrangement for the clasp top so that an insert of greater diameter than would be accommodated with the clasp in normal closed position can be used. The preferred
15 construction suitable for the desired purpose is more specifically described hereinbelow, in connection with the illustrative figures.

Referring to the drawing, the novel clasp 10 is illustrated in Fig. 1 as holding a bouquet of 20 flowers, and consists of an ornamental layer 11 which is permanently secured to a top plate 12, the top plate 12 being hingedly secured to a base plate 13, which in turn cooperates with a hingedly secured leaf 14 for releasable attachment to
25 a cloth, fabric or the like. The various parts are preferably stamped out of sheet metal, but may be formed of any desired material having the necessary physical characteristics. The top plate 12 is stamped or cut to provide a spring
30 tongue 15 which cooperates with an adjustable stop arm 16, the stop arm being preferably formed integral with the base plate 13 and being bent upwardly in an arcuate manner as disclosed in Fig. 4, the upper portion having a series
35 of serrations 17 which selectively cooperate with the spring tongue 15 to releasably lock the top plate 12 in any desired position relative to the base plate 13. The top plate has a latch member 18, see Fig. 3 at its free end adapted to
40 releasably engage a spring catch 19 fastened to the end of the base plate.

Means are provided for releasably holding a decorative device in the clasp, a preferred mechanism for this purpose consisting of an upstanding prong 20 which is preferably stamped from the metal of the base plate, whereby a bouquet or the like may be positioned with the prong extending through the stem, the top plate then being swung so as to engage the latch 18 with
50 the catch 19; if the stem of the bouquet is too large to permit closing of the top plate, it may remain open at any desired position so as to firmly contact the stem and retain it in position
55 on the prong 20, as the coaction of the spring

tongue 15 with the serrations 17 provides a selective lock.

The hinge leaf 14 coacts with the base plate so as to releasably secure the base plate to a garment or the like, and is provided with any well known spring lock mechanism suitable for this purpose.

If desired, the prong 20 may be replaced by two spring arms 21, 22, which may be stamped out of the base plate 23, whereby the clasp exercises a gentle grip on any article positioned between the spring arms and the top plate; this construction of the clasp may be used for purposes such as holding a handkerchief or the like, and may be secured to or form a part of a bracelet or a sleeve for this purpose.

The novel arrangement may be used for retaining ornamental elements of different shapes or colors to suit the requirements of different designers. Thus, the embodiment illustrated in Figs. 6 to 8 includes a base plate 24 which is formed to cooperate with a plurality of top plates 25 and to provide a plurality of spaced retaining prongs 26, each top plate having an ornamental layer or the like 27 and being provided with a spring tongue 28 which selectively engages serrations 29 on lock members 30 forming part of the base plate, in the manner previously disclosed for a single clasp. An ornament element of any desired form or color such as for example indicated as 31 in Fig. 8, is releasably retained in the clasp, the ornament element being provided with a series of openings or the like 32 adapted to releasably engage the retaining prongs 26, whereby different elements may be releasably inserted in the clasp so as to permit the purchaser to have a wide choice of ornaments. In this modification it is preferred to use a pin element 33 which is hingedly secured to the lower side of the base plate as at 34, the front end being releasably retained by engagement with any pin end catch 35 of standard form.

It is thus evident that the novel clasp is ornamental per se, and is adapted to releasably retain a selected ornament, thus affording the purchaser an ornament holder of wide application. The novel clasp may be used for other purposes such as will readily suggest themselves to a purchaser; for example, it may be used as a shoulder clasp to receive the shoulder strap and the slip strap, thereby preventing separation or movement of the slip strap from beneath the shoulder strap.

While I have described a specific constructional embodiment of my invention, it is obvious that desired changes in the size, the proportion, the material of the parts, and their relative arrangement and function, may be made to suit the requirements of different designers, without departing from the spirit and the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In combination, a base, a top hinged at one end thereto, and means positioned adjacent the hinged connection for releasably locking said top in selective position relative to said base.

2. In combination, a base, a top hinged at one end thereto, means positioned adjacent the hinged connection for releasably locking said top in selective position relative to said base, and additional means for releasably locking the other end of said top to said base.

3. In combination, a base, a top hinged at one end thereto, and means positioned adjacent the hinged connection for releasably locking said top in selective position relative to said base,

said means comprising a member on said base having spaced stops and a spring member on said top engageable with said spaced stops.

4. In combination, a base, a top hinged at one end thereto, means positioned adjacent the hinged connection for releasably locking said top in selective position relative to said base, and additional means for releasably locking the other end of said top to said base, said first means comprising a member on said base having spaced stops and a spring member on said top engageable with said spaced stops.

5. In combination, a base, a top hinged at one end thereto, and means positioned adjacent the hinged connection for releasably locking said top in selective position relative to said base, said base having ornament engaging means.

6. In combination, a base, a top hinged at one end thereto, means positioned adjacent the hinged connection for releasably locking said top in selective position relative to said base, and additional means for releasably locking the other end of said top to said base, said base having ornament engaging means.

7. In combination, a base, a top hinged at one end thereto, and means positioned adjacent the hinged connection for releasably locking said top in selective position relative to said base, said means comprising a member on said base having spaced stops and a spring member on said top engageable with said spaced stops, said base having ornament engaging means.

8. In combination, a base, a top hinged at one end thereto, means positioned adjacent the hinged connection for releasably locking said top in selective position relative to said base, and additional means for releasably locking the other end of said top to said base, said first means comprising a member on said base having spaced stops and a spring member on said top engageable with said spaced stops, said base having ornament engaging means.

9. In combination, a base, a top hinged at one end thereto, means positioned adjacent the hinged connection for releasably locking said top in selective position relative to said base, and a clamp member associated with said base for locking said base to a garment part.

10. In combination, a base, a top hinged at one end thereto, means for releasably locking said top in selective position relative to said base, additional means for releasably locking the other end of said top to said base, and a clamp member associated with said base for locking said base to a garment part.

11. In combination, a base, a top hinged at one end thereto, means for releasably locking said top in selective position relative to said base, said means comprising a member on said base having spaced stops and a spring member on said top engageable with said spaced stops, and a clamp member associated with said base for locking said base to a garment part.

12. In combination, a base, a top hinged at one end thereto, means for releasably locking said top in selective position relative to said base, additional means for releasably locking the other end of said top to said base, said first means comprising a member on said base having spaced stops and a spring member on said top engageable with said spaced stops, and a clamp member associated with said base for locking said base to a garment part.

13. In combination, a base, a plurality of spaced tops each hingedly connected thereto, and

means for releasably locking said tops individually in selective position relative to said base.

14. In combination, a base, a plurality of spaced tops each hingedly connected thereto, means for releasably locking said tops individually in selective position relative to said base, and additional means for releasably locking the other ends of said tops to said base.

15. In combination, a base, a plurality of spaced tops each hingedly connected thereto, and means for releasably locking said tops individually in selective position relative to said base, said base having ornament engaging means associated with each top.

16. In combination, a base, a plurality of spaced tops each hingedly connected thereto, means for releasably locking said tops individually in selective position relative to said base, said base having ornament engaging means associated with each top, and means associated with said base for locking said base to a garment part.

17. In combination, a base member, a top member hinged at one end thereof, means for releasably locking said top member in selective position relative to said base member, comprising an element forming part of one member and having a plurality of detents, and a second element forming part of the other member and selectively engageable with said detents, said elements being positioned adjacent the hinge connection, and means on said base member for releasably securing said base member to a garment part.

18. In combination, a base member, a top member hinged at one end thereto, and means for releasably locking said top member in selective position relative to said base member, comprising an element forming part of the base member and having a plurality of detents, and a

second element forming part of the top member and selectively engageable with said detents, said elements being positioned adjacent the hinge connection.

19. In combination, a base member, a top member hinged at one end thereof, means for releasably locking said top member in selective position relative to said base member, comprising an element forming part of the base member and having a plurality of detents, and a second element forming part of the top member and selectively engageable with said detents, said elements being positioned adjacent the hinge connection, and means on said base member for releasably securing said base member to a garment part.

20. In combination, a base member, a top member hinged at one end thereof by means of spaced hinges, means for releasably locking said top member in selective position relative to said base member, comprising an element forming part of one member and positioned between the spaced hinges and having a plurality of detents, and a spring finger forming part of the other member and selectively engageable with said detents.

21. In combination, a base member, a top member hinged at one end thereof by means of spaced hinges, means for releasably locking said top member in selective position relative to said base member, comprising an element forming part of one member and positioned between the spaced hinges and having a plurality of detents, and a spring finger forming part of the other member and selectively engageable with said detents, and means on said base member for releasably securing said base member to a garment part.

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