Sept. 13, 1960 S. GELDWERTH 2,952,058

FLEXIBLE JEWELRY BAND AND SNAP CLASP THEREFOR

Filed July 21, 1958

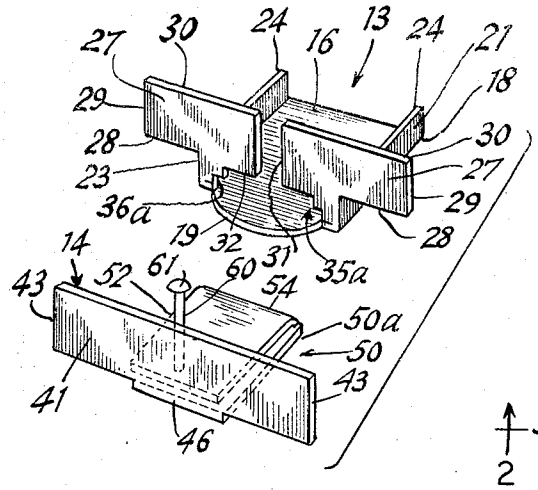


FIG. 3

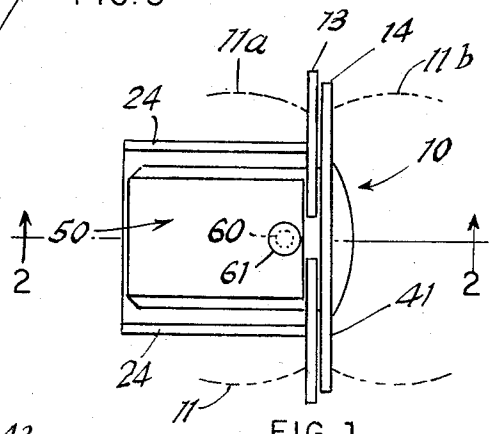


FIG. 1

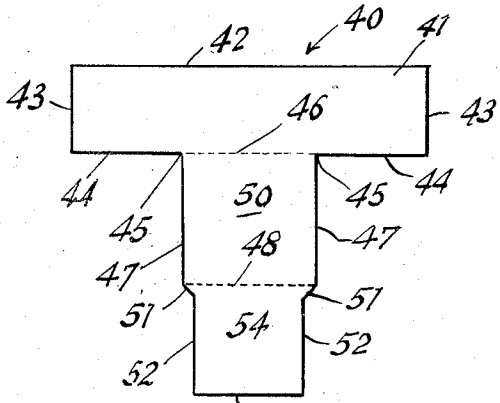


FIG. 5

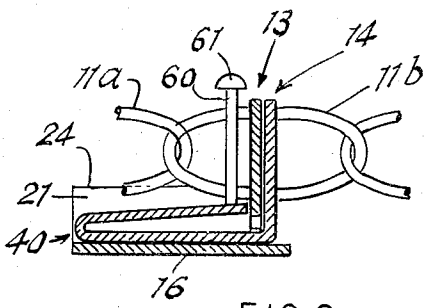


FIG. 2

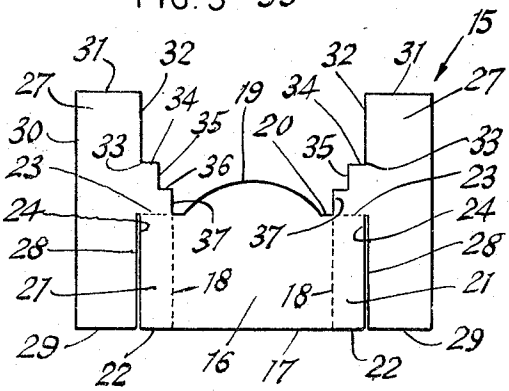


FIG. 4

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United States Patent Office 2,952,058 Patented Sept. 13, 1960

2,952,058

FLEXIBLE JEWELRY BAND AND SNAP CLASP THEREFOR

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Filed July 21, 1958, Ser. No. 749,893

9 Claims. (Cl. 24—230)

This invention relates to a flexible jewelry band and snap clasp therefor. An object of this invention is to provide a highly improved snap clasp for bracelets or necklaces which may accommodate bracelets or necklaces of various widths.

Another object of this invention is to provide a highly improved snap clasp for bracelets or necklaces, having means to prevent looseness or side movement of the clasp members during the clasping operation, and to guide one of the clasp members within the other during the closure of the snap clasps.

Still another object of this invention is to provide a strong, rugged, and durable bracelet or necklace, and clasp therefor, which shall be relatively inexpensive to manufacture, and which shall yet be practical and efficient to a high degree and use.

Other objects of this invention will in part be obvious and in part hereinafter pointed out.

The invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combinations of elements, and arrangement of parts which will be exemplified in the construction hereinafter described, and of which the scope of invention will be indicated in the following claims.

In the accompanying drawing in which is shown various illustrative embodiments of this invention,

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of a portion of a bracelet or necklace provided with a snap clasp member embodying the invention,

Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view taken along line 2—2 of Fig. 1,

Fig. 3 is a top perspective view of the clasp members separated from one another,

Fig. 4 is a top plan view of a blank for making the female snap clasp member, and

Fig. 5 is a top plan view of a blank for making the male snap clasp member.

Referring now in detail to the drawing, **10** designates a bracelet or necklace embodying the invention. The same comprises a bracelet or necklace chain or band **11** of any suitable construction. Said chain may comprise links or any other articulated elements. One end **11***a*, of the chain **11**, is attached to a female snap clasp member **13**. The other end **11***b*, of the chain **11**, is attached to a male snap clasp member **14**.

Member **13** is made from the blank **15** shown in Fig. 4 of the drawing. The blank **15** may be made of sheet metal, if desired. The blank **15** comprises a central section **16** having a straight end edge **17**, and is bounded at the sides by bend lines **18**, indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 4. Opposite to the edge **17**, is a convex edge **19**, connected by short aligned edge portions **20** to the ends of the bend lines **18**. The bend lines **18** are parallel to one another and extend to the edge **17**. Extending from the bend lines **18** are similar symmetrical sections **21**, rectangular in shape and having edges **22** coextensive with the edge **17**. Opposite the edges **22** are aligned bend lines **23**, which are coextensive with the short edges **20**. Sections **21** have outer end edges **24**, parallel to the bend lines **18**.

Extending from the bend lines **23** are similar symmetrically disposed sections **27**. Said sections **27** have inner edges **28**, parallel and spaced close to the edges **24**. It will be noted that the metal is slitted to form the coextensive edges **24**, **28**. Sections **27** have edges **29** which are in alignment with the edges **22** and **17**. Said sections have parallel edges **30** at right angles to the edges **29**. Said sections also have edges **31** in alignment with one another and parallel to the edges **29**. Said sections **27** are also formed with inner edges **32**, parallel to the edges **30**, and extending from the edges **31**, terminating short of the bend lines **23** at points **33**.

Extending from the points **33** are aligned short edges **34** perpendicular to the edges **32**. Extending downwardly from the edges **34** are inner edges **35** parallel to one another and terminating at points opposite from the bend lines **23**. Extending inwardly from the lower ends of edges **35** are aligned edges **36** parallel to the bend lines **23**. Extending from the inner ends of edges **36** are parallel edges **37** which terminate substantially at the junctions of the bend lines **18** and **23**.

To form the clasp member **13** from the blank **15**, section **16** forms a bottom wall for said clasp member. Sections **21** are bent upwardly about the bend lines **18** to form side walls for the clasp member. Said side walls have upper edges **24**. The sections **27** are bent about the bend lines **23** inwardly into alignment until said sections are at right angles to the side walls **21**, as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawing. Said sections **27** will now form wings extending outwardly beyond the side walls **21**. The edges **31** will now be parallel to and spaced from one another. The edges **30** will now be in alignment. The edges **31** will be parallel to one another. The edges **32** will be in alignment. The edges **32** will be spaced above the top surface of section **16** and the edges **35** will also be spaced above the upper surface of section **16** forming slot **35***a*, but will be closer thereto forming slots **36***a*. It will now be understood that the bracelet or necklace at **11***a* is attached to the clasp member **13** by welding or soldering the said bracelet end to the upper edges **24** of the side walls **21** and to the rear surfaces of sections **27**. The bracelet end **11** will have a recess at the space between the edges **31** for the purpose hereinafter appearing.

The clasp member **14** may be made from the blank **40** shown in Fig. 5 of the drawing. Said blank **40** may likewise be made of sheet metal. The blank **40** comprises a rectangular section **41**, having a long edge **42**, and parallel shorter side edges **43**, at right angles to said long edge. Extending inwardly from edges **43**, are aligned edges **44**, parallel to the edge **42**, and terminating at points **45**. The points **45** are interconnected by a bend line **46**, shown in dotted lines in the drawing. Extending from the points **45** are parallel edges **47**, the lower ends of which are interconnected by a bend line **48** parallel to the bend line **46**. The part of the blank bounded by bend lines **46**, **48**, and side edges **47**, constitutes a section **50**. Extending from the ends of the bend line **48** are inwardly inclined edges **51** from which extend parallel edges **52**, interconnected by an edge **53** perpendicular to said edges **52**, and parallel to the bend line **48**. The part of the blank bound by bend line **48** and edges **51**, **52** and **53**, constitutes a section **54**.

To make the clasp member **14** from the blank **40**, section **54** is bent about bend line **48** over section **50**. The length of section **54** is somewhat less than the length of section **50**. Section **54**, when it is bent over section **50**, normally remains in upwardly and rearwardly inclined position relative to section **50**. Thus section **54**

becomes a spring plate or tongue, and said section may be depressed until it lies flat on the upper surface of section **50**. Section **50** is bent about bend line **46** until it is at right angles to section **41**. It will be noted that section **50**, at the two sides thereof, extends beyond section **54** thereby forming guide flanges **50***a*. Soldered to the bent-over section **54** is a pin **60** having a head **61**. The pin **60** is located close to edge **53** and is centrally disposed between the side edges **52**.

The opposite end **11***b* of the bracelet or necklace is welded or soldered to the outer surface of section **41**. It will be noted that the outer ends of the sections **27** and **41**, may be clipped to accommodate the width of the bracelet or necklace to the combined widths of sections **27** and to the width of section **41**. For a wider bracelet, sections **27** and **41** of greater length, are used. To accommodate a narrower bracelet, the outer end of wings are cut down to suit.

In order to join together the ends of the bracelet, sections **54** and **50** are passed between the wall **16** and the edges **32** and **35**. It will be noted that the side flanges **50***a*, of member **14**, engage between the edges **35** and the upper surface of section **16** in slots **36***a*, whereas the top surface of the spring bent-over section **54** engages the edges **32**, passing through slot **35***a*. The pin **60** passes through the space between sections **27**. When the edge **53** of bent-over section **54** passses beyond sections **27**, spring tongue section **54** will snap up so that the edge **53** thereof will engage the inner surfaces of sections **27**, to keep the clasp closed. The pin **60** will enter the recess in the middle of end **11***a* of the bracelet or necklace in back of the space between sections **27**. Thus the flanges **50***a* serve to guide the clasp members **14** and **13** during clasping engagement and to prevent sidesway of the parts. Thus if members **13** and **14** are made of .025" stock, edges **34** and **36** would be .030" in length each. Thus there would be only .005" play between the flanges **50***a* and the edges **35**. Yet the sections **50, 52** may be readily pressed together since section **54** is only .025" thickness and passes through a space of .030". If, for example, the flanges **50***a* were omitted, and the shoulders formed by edges **34, 35** were omitted, then after the spring section **54** were fully through the slot beneath the wings **27**, and said spring section were to spring up, then the .025" thickness of the bottom wall **50** would have loose movement in a space of .060" between the bottom wall **16** and the edges **32**. Such construction would result from making the sections **50** and **54** of the same width and elminating the shoulders formed by edges **34** and **35**.

It will thus be seen that there is provided an apparatus in which the several objects of this invention are achieved and which is well adapted to meet the condition of practical use.

As possible embodiments might be made of the above invention, and as various changes might be made in the embodiment above set forth, it is to be understood that all matter herein set forth or shown in the accompanying drawing is to be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

I claim:

1. A clasp for a bracelet or necklace comprising a clasp member comprised of a single sheet of metal of uniform thickness bent to form a bottom wall, parallel side walls extending upwardly from the bottom wall, a pair of aligned spaced wings extending transversely from the forward ends of the side walls and extending outwardly beyond said walls and inwardly, said wings being spaced at their inner ends to form a central vertical space, the lower edges of said wings between said side walls being cut away to form a horizontal slot intersecting said vertical space, and a second clasp member comprised of a single sheet of metal of uniform thickness bent to form a bottom wall, a spring section bent over the bottom section about the rear end of the bottom section, an upstanding wall extending upwardly about the front end of the bottom section, and extending outwardly beyond the sides of said bottom section, and being coextensive lengthwise with the combined aligned sections of the first clasp member, and parallel thereto, said bottom wall and spring section engaging in said horizontal slot, with said spring section bearing against the under sides of the portions of said wings between said side walls.

2. A clasp for a bracelet or necklace comprising a clasp member having a flat sheet forming a continuous bottom wall, integral parallel side walls extending upwardly from the sides of the bottom wall, and a pair of integral aligned spaced wings extending from the forward ends of the side walls, said wings having portions extending inwardly of said side walls and terminating short of each other to form a space between the wings, and said wings extending outwardly beyond said side walls, the inwardly extending portions of said wings forming a slot with the flat bottom wall, a second clasp member having a bottom wall, a spring tongue extending from one end of the bottom wall and inclined upwardly toward the other end of said bottom wall, an upstanding wall extending upwardly from the other end of said bottom wall, said upstanding wall extending to opposite sides of said bottom wall, a pin fixed to the tongue and extending upwardly therefrom and formed with a head, said bottom wall and tongue being insertable in the slot between the inwardly extending wings of the first clasp member and the bottom wall of the first clasp member and said pin passing through said space between said wings.

3. The combination of claim 2, in combination with a flexible band having one end attached to the upper edges of the upwardly extending side walls of the first clasp member, and also being attached to said aligned wings, and the other end of the band being attached to the outer face of the upstanding wall of said second clasp member.

4. The combination of claim 2, said aligned wings of said first clasp member being formed with a pair of narrow slots extending outwardly of the first slot, and the bottom wall of the second clasp member having side flanges extending outwardly beyond the sides of said spring tongue and received within said pair of slots.

5. The combination of claim 2, each of said clasp members being formed from a single blank of sheet material of uniform thickness.

6. In combination, a clasp member comprised of a single sheet of metal of uniform thickness bent to form a flat bottom wall, side walls extending upwardly from the bottom wall, and wings connected to the side walls and having portions extending inwardly of the side walls and portions extending outwardly of the side walls, the inwardly extending portions of the wings forming a space therebetween and also forming a slot with said bottom wall, a second clasp member having a bottom wall, a spring tongue extending from one end of the bottom wall and overlying said bottom wall, and an upstanding wall extending upwardly from the other end of said bottom wall, said bottom wall and tongue being movable through the slot formed between the inwardly extending portions of the wings and the bottom wall of the first clasp member, said space between the inwardly extending portions of said wings being adapted for the reception of a pin secured to said tongue.

7. The combination of claim 6, in combination with a band having one end attached to the upper edges of the side walls and to the rear surfaces of the wings, and the other end of the band being attached to the outer surface of the upstanding wall of the second clasp member.

8. The structure of claim 6 wherein an upstanding pin is secured to the upper side of said tongue and passes

through said space between the inwardly extending portions of said wings.

9. The combination of claim 7, the bottom wall of the second clasp member having flanges extending outwardly beyond the sides of the spring tongue, and said first clasp member being formed with narrow ends of the slot between said wings and said bottom wall extending from the first slot to slidably receive said flanges.

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