

Feb. 9, 1960

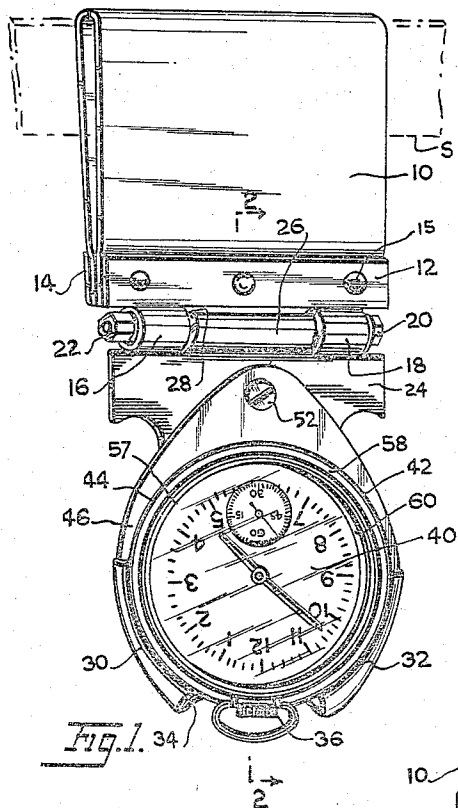
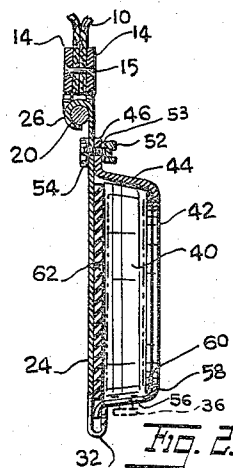
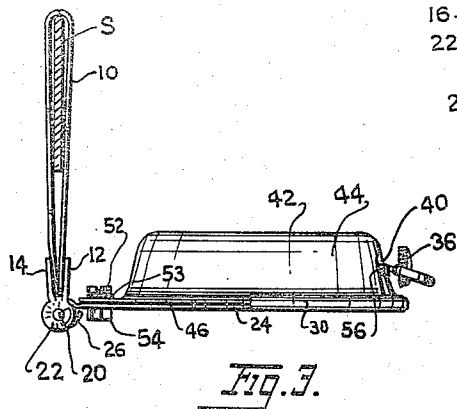
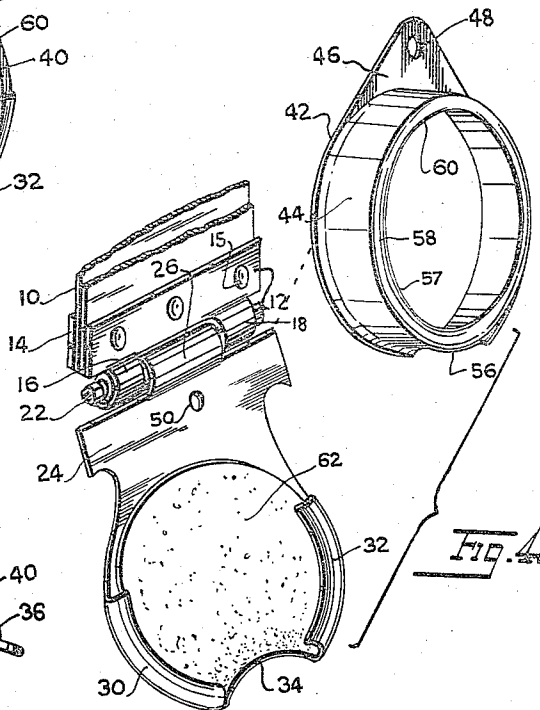
D. RAGUSE

2,924,364

WATCH HOLDING SWIVEL CASE

Filed June 10, 1958

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



INVENTOR.
DOMINICK RAGUSE
BY

John H. Holschuh
ATTORNEY

1

2,924,364

WATCH HOLDING SWIVEL CASE

Dominick Raguse, Forest Hills, N.Y.

Application June 10, 1958, Serial No. 741,051

9 Claims. (Cl. 224-4)

This invention relates to a watch-holding device and particularly concerns a device for supporting a watch on a trousers belt.

According to the invention there is provided a case having a pocket section hinged to a loop section adapted to be carried on a belt or strap. A pocket is provided for supporting a watch in such fashion that the watch is freely suspended with its face exposed. The watch is viewed to tell the time by pivoting the watch supporting pocket section angularly to the loop section. In one form of the invention a latch is provided for temporarily retaining the pocket section in the angular position.

It is therefore a principal object to provide a watch-supporting device having hinged loop and pocket sections.

It is a further object to provide a device for removably carrying a watch on a hinged support.

It is another object to provide a watch supporting device with hinged loop and pocket sections and with a latch for retaining the sections in an angular position with respect to each other.

In the present invention there is provided a device especially useful to bus, truck, and taxi drivers, dispatchers of trains, trucks, buses, etc. These individuals must consult a portable timepiece frequently. The timepiece must be of the "railroad watch" type, one which is extremely accurate. Such accuracy is not generally found in watches of the wrist watch type. Furthermore, drivers of buses, trucks, etc., have their hands and arms continually in motion. It is necessary that their wrists be free of any encumbrance such as would be imposed by a wrist watch. The present invention, therefore, meets their particular need in making it possible to retain a railroad type of pocket watch in a convenient suspended position on the clothing of a vehicle driver, with the watch support arranged to make convenient viewing of the watch face.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawings forming a material part of this disclosure:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a watch support embodying the invention, and supporting a watch therein.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken on line 2-2 of Fig. 1, with the watch omitted.

Fig. 3 is a side elevational view of the watch support with sections in angularly disposed position.

Fig. 4 is an exploded perspective view of portions of the watch support.

Fig. 5 is a side elevational view of a portion of another form of watch support.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a portion of the watch support of Fig. 5.

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a portion of a watch support embodying a further form of the invention.

2

Fig. 8 is a sectional view taken on line 8-8 of Fig. 7.

In Figs. 1-4 there is shown a loop 10 formed of a strip of leather, metal or fabric material. The ends of the loop are secured by rivets 15 between two metal strips 12 and 14 disposed transversely across the ends of the loop. Strips 12 and 14 serve as a hinge member and for this purpose they are integrally joined by two spaced axially aligned cylindrical loops 16 and 18. A hinge pin 20 extends through the loops and is secured by a nut 22 threaded thereon. A flat plate 24 forming part of the pocket section of the watch support has a centrally disposed loop 26 at its upper end. Loop 26 fits between loops 12 and 18 and is part of the hinged joint between the loop and pocket sections. Pin 20 extends through loop 26. Washers 28 may be provided between the several loops to facilitate free pivotal angular movement of the pocket section. A belt S is shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1 passing through loop 10 and this carries the watch support in a suspended open position.

Plate 24 is formed with a generally flat circular body. A pair of upturned arcuate channelled flanges 30, 32 are formed near the free end of the plate 24. The free end 34 is recessed to expose the crown 36 of a pocket watch 40 supported in the pocket section.

A frame 42 is removably secured to plate 24. This frame defines a pocket for the watch 40. Frame 42 has a generally cylindrical wall 44 with a lower radially and outwardly extending flange 46. A lengthened upper portion of flange 46 is provided with an aperture 48 which registers with an aperture 50 in plate 24 to receive the bolt 52. A lock washer 53 is provided on bolt 52. Nut 54 is threaded on bolt 52 and thus detachably secures the frame and plate together. The lower edge portions of flange 46 fit slidably into the arcuate flanges 32 and 34 on opposite margins of plate 24. The lower portion of the frame 42 is cut out at 56 so that crown 36 extends therethrough. The watch can be set and wound easily since plate 24 is also cut out at 34. Cut-out 56 includes the lower portion of flange 46 and a portion of wall 44. Frame 42 is thus held by flanges 30, 32 and nut and bolt 54, 52 respectively, on plate 24.

A radially extending annular rim 58 is provided at the end of wall 44 opposed to flange 46. This rim extends inwardly and provides a frame for watch 40. Rim 58 provides a circular opening 57 so that the face of the watch is exposed thereat. A rubber ring gasket 60 may be seated just behind rim 58 to provide a cushion between the rim and watch. A circular resilient pad 62 may be disposed inside frame 42 on plate 24 to underlay the watch and provide a protective cushion therefor between the plate and watch.

The watch is normally disposed in a suspended upside-down position when carried on a trousers belt S as shown in Fig. 1. When it is desired to view the watch face, the pocket section will be tilted up angularly to the position shown in Fig. 3. Normally the pocket section is disposed with plate 24 substantially coplanar with strap S. Plate 24 extends substantially perpendicular to the plane of the strap in the normal viewing position of the watch.

In the form of the invention shown in Figs. 5 and 6, a latch is provided to removably retain the pocket section in the raised position. To accomplish this function, a bolt 52 has an axially elongated head 64 with a knurled outer surface. This head is adapted to be engaged by a hook 66 on the end of a lever 68. Lever 68 has a handle 70 and is carried on a pintle 72 supported in spaced ears 74, 76. The ears are integrally formed on strip 12 and extend outwardly therefrom. A coil spring 78 is carried on the pintle 72 and has its ends anchored so that the lever tends to be biased downwardly. A finger 80 integrally formed with the lever serves as a stop element to

limit downward movement of the lever. The finger 80 normally contacts the outer side of strip 12.

Hook 66 is bent inwardly so that when the user raises the pocket section, head 64 momentarily raises the lever against spring tension and then engages on the hook so that the watch is held in a horizontal position with respect to the vertically disposed loop section. To release the pocket section, handle 70 is retracted and the pocket section then depends freely from pin 20 as the hook disengages head 64. This latch provides a convenience feature, since the user may desire to elevate the watch for viewing and may be distracted for a moment for another task. Nevertheless the watch is held in position for instant viewing, whereupon the user can release the pocket section and the watch will then be held freely suspended.

In the form of the invention shown in Figs. 7 and 8, the loop section includes a metal loop 10^a formed of aluminum, brass, copper or other deformable metal. A tongue 41 is formed by striking the body of the loop inwardly leaving a slot 43. The tongue is flexible to some extent so that belt S may be interposed between the tongue and the inner side of the rear wall of loop 10^a. A screw 47 is threaded in a hole 49 in the tongue. This screw may have a knurled head 45 so that it can be finger-tightened against the belt to hold it securely in a selected position in the loop 10^a. The tongue and screw make it possible to adjustably position the watch support with respect to the supporting belt S.

The watch support can be made entirely of metal, or portions can be made of plastic, leather or other suitable materials. The structure is rugged and will stand hard usage while protecting the watch. At all times the watch will be available for instant viewing. It is so securely held that accidental falling or dropping out of the support is not possible.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise constructions herein disclosed and that various changes and modifications may be made within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:

1. A watch support comprising a strap loop, a hinge member securing ends of the loop together, a plate pivotally secured to the hinge member, said plate having a generally circular body with arcuate channels formed on laterally opposed rim portions of said body, said body having a cut-out portion separating ends of said channels at the end thereof remote from the hinge member, and a frame having a generally cylindrical wall with a radially extending flange, said flange being slidably and removably held in said channels, said flange and plate having registering apertures disposed adjacent said hinge member for engaging a nut and bolt to removably secure the plate and frame together, said frame having a radially and inwardly extending rim at the outer edge of said wall defining a circular opening, said plate and flange providing a pocket for retaining said watch therein, said wall having a cut-out adjacent the cut-out portion of the body for exposing the crown of the watch thereat.

2. A watch support comprising a strap loop, a hinge member securing ends of the loop together, a plate pivotally secured to the hinge member, said plate having a generally circular body with arcuate channels formed on laterally opposed rim portions of said body, said body having a cut-out portion separating ends of said channels at the end thereof remote from the hinge member, and a frame having a generally cylindrical wall with a radially extending flange, said flange being slidably and removably held in said channels, said flange and plate having registering apertures disposed adjacent said hinge member for engaging a nut and bolt to removably secure the plate and frame together, said frame having a radially

and inwardly extending rim at the outer edge of said wall defining a circular opening, said plate and flange providing a pocket for retaining said watch therein, said wall having a cut-out adjacent the cut-out portion of the body for exposing the crown of the watch thereat, there being a ring gasket disposed adjacent said rim to cushion the watch against the rim, with a resilient pad disposed adjacent the plate within said frame for cushioning the watch in said pocket against the plate.

3. A watch support comprising a strap loop, a hinge member securing ends of the loop together, a plate pivotally secured to the hinge member, said plate having a generally circular body with arcuate channels formed on laterally opposed rim portions of said body, said body having a cut-out portion separating ends of said channels at the end thereof remote from the hinge member, and a frame having a generally cylindrical wall with a radially extending flange, said flange being slidably and removably held in said channels, said flange and plate having registering apertures disposed adjacent said hinge member for engaging a nut and bolt to removably secure the plate and frame together, said frame having a radially and inwardly extending rim at the outer edge of said wall defining a circular opening, said plate and flange providing a pocket for retaining said watch therein, said wall having a cut-out adjacent the cut-out portion of the body for exposing the crown of the watch thereat, and latch means for retaining said plate and flange at an angular position with respect to said loop.

4. A watch support comprising loop and pocket sections, said loop section including a strap loop and a looped hinge member, said pocket section including a plate hinged to said hinge member and normally coplanar with and depending from the hinge member and supporting the watch in an inoperative position, said pocket section having a means for retaining said watch in an exposed position, and latch means on the hinge member for retaining said pocket section in a raised operative position with the plate angularly disposed to the hinge member.

5. A watch support comprising loop and pocket sections, said loop section including a strap loop and a looped hinge member, said pocket section including a plate hinged to said hinge member and normally coplanar with and depending from the hinge member and supporting the watch in an inoperative position, said pocket section having a means for retaining said watch in an exposed position, and latch means for retaining said pocket section in a raised operative position with the plate angularly disposed to the hinge member, said latch means including a lever pivotally mounted on the hinge member and spring biased to engage a portion of the pocket section when the pocket section is in the raised operative position.

6. A watch support comprising loop and pocket sections, said loop section including a strap loop and a looped hinge member, said pocket section including a plate hinged to said hinge member and normally coplanar with and depending from the hinge member and supporting the watch in an inoperative position, said pocket section having a means for retaining said watch in an exposed position, and latch means for retaining said pocket section in a raised operative position with the plate angularly disposed to the hinge member, said pocket section further including a frame slidably and removably secured to the plate, nut and bolt means securing the frame to the plate, said bolt having an elongated axially extending cylindrical head, said latch means including a lever pivotally mounted on the hinge member and spring biased to engage the elongated head when the pocket section is in the raised operative position.

7. A watch support comprising loop and pocket sections, said loop section including a strap loop and a looped hinge member, said pocket section including a plate hinged to said hinge member and normally coplanar

5

with and depending from the hinge member and supporting the watch in an inoperative position, said pocket section having a means for retaining said watch in an exposed position, and latch means for retaining said pocket section in a raised operative position with the plate angularly disposed to the hinge member, said latch means including a lever pivotally mounted on the hinge member, said lever having a hook disposed to engage a portion of the pocket section when the pocket section is in a raised operative position.

8. A watch support comprising loop and pocket sections, said loop section including a strap loop and a looped hinge member, said pocket section including a plate hinged to said hinge member and normally coplanar with and depending from the hinge member and supporting the watch in an inoperative position, said pocket section having a means for retaining said watch in an exposed position, and latch means for retaining said pocket section in a raised operative position with the plate angularly disposed to the hinge member, said latch means including a lever pivotally mounted on the hinge member, said lever having a hook disposed to engage a portion of the pocket section when the pocket section is in a raised operative position, said lever being pivotable against spring tension in said latch means, said pocket section

6

depending freely from said hinge member when released by said latch means.

9. A watch support comprising a loop section and a pocket section, said loop section including a strap and hinge member secured thereto, said pocket section including a plate pivotally attached to the hinge member and normally coplanar with and depending from the hinge member, and a frame removably attached to said plate, said frame and plate defining a pocket for retaining said watch therein with the face and crown of the watch exposed, means for retaining said frame and plate in raised operative position, said strap being in the form of a metal loop having a tongue struck inwardly of the loop for adjustably positioning the support on a belt, said tongue having a threaded hole, with a screw threaded in said hole for engaging the belt in the loop.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

1,202,561	Milne	Oct. 24, 1916
1,315,326	Palis	Sept. 9, 1919
1,720,309	Wakefield	July 8, 1929
2,509,428	Greene	May 30, 1950