

May 5, 1925

1,536,965

B. H. OCKER

MONEY BELT

Filed Nov. 9, 1923

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Fig. 1

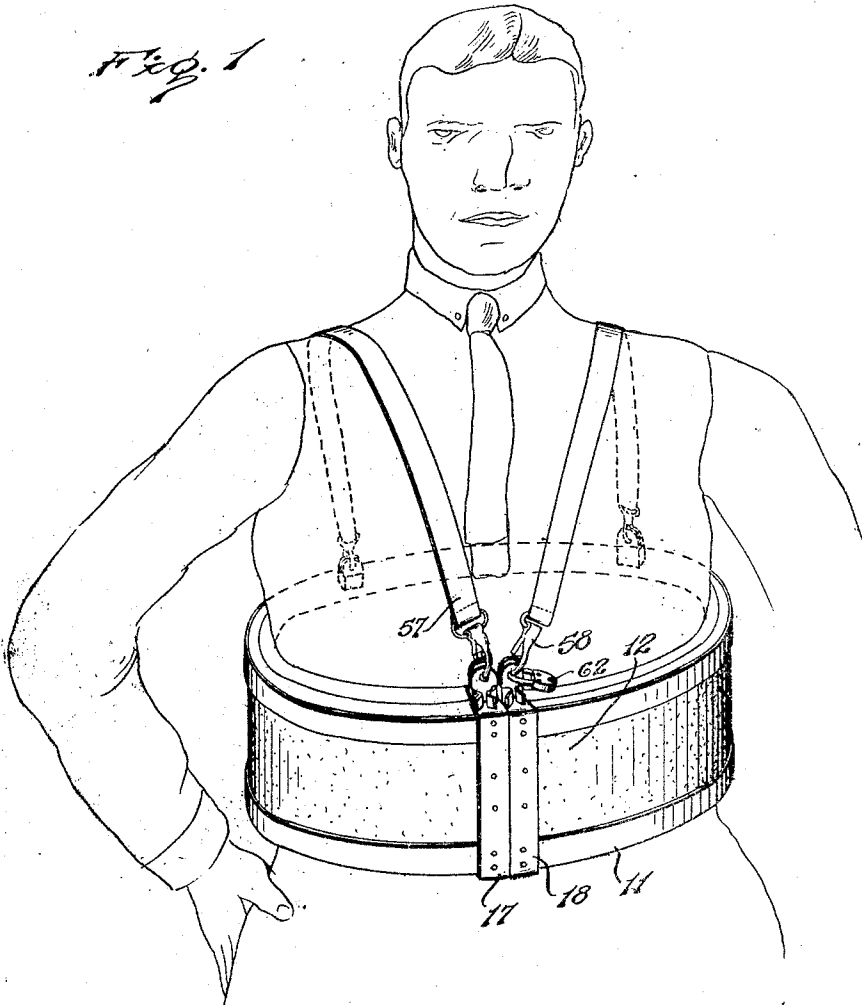


Fig. 3.

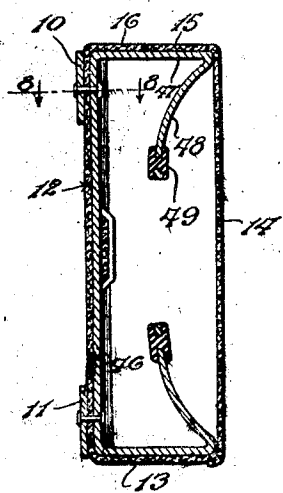
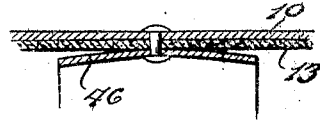


Fig. 8.



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By

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN H. OCKER, OF MARION, PENNSYLVANIA.

MONEY BELT.

Application filed November 9, 1923. Serial No. 673,333.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN H. OCKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Marion, in the county of Franklin and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Money Belts, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to a money belt intended to prevent not only the money carried therein from being stolen from a messenger or pay-roll clerk, but also to protect him from injury if attacked by robbers.

The main object of the invention is to so construct the belt that it cannot be opened until it has been detached from the wearer and the belt is so lashed and secured to the wearer's body that a hasty holdup will yield no immediate harvest for the robbers, the messenger having both hands free to defend himself, and in this manner defeat the attack against him in an attempt of robbery. In this manner great sums of money will be prevented from falling in the hands of thieves.

The construction of the belt is such that it practically makes the same bullet-proof and serves as a shield around the body of the wearer. The belt is for this reason provided with steel bands running around the same.

The belt is constructed so that it may contain paper money, pay envelopes or coin, and the advantage of the belt is that it possesses a great compactness and considerable durability in combination with a neat appearance.

In the accompanying drawings, one embodiment of the invention is illustrated, and Figure 1 is a perspective view of the belt attached to the body of a man;

Figure 2 is a front elevation with the belt open;

Figure 3 is a transverse section along line 3—3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is an end view of the belt nearly closed and seen from the left end of Figure 2;

Figure 5 is a transverse section along line 5—5 of Figure 2;

Figure 6 is an end view of the belt seen from the right hand end of Figure 2;

Figure 7 is a plan view of a detail;

Figure 8 is a section along line 8—8 of Figure 3; and

Figure 9 is an elevation of one of the details.

The belt consists of two steel bands 10 and 11 at the top and bottom thereof and to which is secured, as by rivets or the like, a canvas or leather covering 12. This covering is adapted to be folded so as to form a bottom 13, an inner side 14 and top flaps 15 and 16, in this manner providing a receptacle of rectangular cross section. At each end of the belt is provided a clasp, one of which, indicated by the numeral 17, is shown in Figure 4 and secured at the left end of the belt, as seen in Figure 2, and the other clasp, indicated by the numeral 18, shown in Figure 6, is intended for the other end of the belt. These clasps are preferably made of metal and constructed to conform to the cross section of the cover 12 and are riveted to the top and bottom bands 10 and 11 in such a manner that the ends of the bands are positioned on the inside of the clasps. The clasp 17 has a hinge member 26 pivoted, as at 19, to the horizontal bottom arm 20 of the clasp, this arm being substantially of the length of the bottom 13 of the covering. At the upper end of the hinge member 26 an inwardly directed arm 21 is provided and meeting a correspondingly bent arm 22 at the top of the body portion of the clasp. Both the arms 21 and 22 terminate with eyes 23 which are connected to the arms by narrow necks 24. The clasp has an end wall 25 made integral therewith and intended to close the end of the receptacle formed when the inner wall or flap 14 of the cover is folded up.

The clasp 18 is of similar construction and has a hinge member 27 similar to the hinge member 26 already described, and the clasp has a pair of eyes 28 at its upper end for securing the hinge member to the body of the clasp. In the end wall 29 of the clasp 18 are provided several slots 30 which are adapted to register with tongues 31 formed

on the end wall 25 of the clasp 17. The tongues 31 are preferably formed by cutting the end wall 25 and bending the metal out at right angles therefrom in order to enter the slots 30 in the end wall 29 when the belt surrounds the body of the wearer. Each tongue 31 has a small opening 32 intended for a pin 33 to lock the two ends of the belt together as will be more fully described later on.

Spaced some distance apart and also from the end clasps 17 and 18 are to be found another pair of clasps 60 each of which consists of a body 34 riveted, as at 35, to the cover 14 and the two steel bands 10 and 11, as best seen in Figure 5. The body portion has a bottom arm 36 to which is pivoted, as at 37, a hinge member 38 of the same character as the previously described hinge members 26 and 27 and terminating with an eye 39 mating with another eye 40 on the body portion.

About midway between the top and bottom of each clasp 60 is provided a staple or keeper 41 secured by rivets 42 to the cover and the body 34 of the clasps 60. Through the keepers 41 as well as other similar keepers 43 secured in a similar manner to the cover 12 alone as seen in Figure 2 and spaced apart along the belt, is inserted a strap 44 intended to bind the notes in the belt, the left end of the strap being secured in a keeper 59 on the left clasp 17. The end wall 29 of the clasp 18 has a longitudinal slot 45 through which the strap 44 may be drawn to tighten the notes; however, when the ends of the belt are locked together no part of the strap should be visible outside of the belt.

Reference numeral 46 represents metallic holders, preferably made of spring steel, fitting snugly within the cover, each having a top and bottom arm 47 terminating with flexible fingers 48 bent slightly inwardly and with their ends opposing each other although slightly spaced apart. As seen in Figure 8, the body portion of the holder 46 is bent in transverse direction to fit the curvature of the belt. The ends are provided with rubber discs 49 which may have the shape of buttons inserted in suitable apertures provided at the ends of the fingers. The fingers are intended to press the ends of the notes, pay envelopes, or bags containing coin against the front wall of the belt and to hold these articles securely in position therein.

Near the end wall of the clasp 18 on the inside thereof is provided a set of guides for the locking pin 33, these comprising a short tubular top guide 50 terminating immediately above the top slot 30, a second tubular guide 51 reaching between the top and middle slots 30, and a third tubular guide 52 reaching between the middle and

bottom slots 30 in the clasps 18. The locking pin 33 has an eye 53 at its upper end and is adapted to be attached by means of a cord or wire 54 to an eyelet 55 secured in the top arm 47 of one of the metallic holders 46.

A small spring clip 56 for each pair of eyes provided at the top of the clasps is shown in Figure 7. These spring clips are intended to snap around the narrow necks 24 under the eyes to hold them together when the belt is closed. They may be permanently secured in place or made detachable.

In order to carry the belt comfortably, shoulder braces 57 are provided and these braces have at each end a snaffle 58 adapted to engage in the eyes. Beside these snaffles, padlocks 62 may be provided for some or all of the eyes for securely locking the belt and more particularly for the clasp 18.

When the belt is to be used, it is first spread out flat on a table with the cover flap 14 open, as best shown in Figure 2. The money bags or notes are then inserted under the fingers 48 of the spring holders 46, the rubber buttons 49 tending to hold the articles in place and prevent them from slipping out. As soon as the belt has been filled, the flap 14 of the cover 12 is turned up and the clasps 17, 18 and 60 closed and the clips 56 applied around the necks 24 of the eyes 23, 28, 29 and 40. The belt is now ready to be installed around the messenger's body. The two ends will then meet in front of the body and the tongues 31 inserted through the slots 30 in the clasp 18 and the pin 33 pushed down through the guides 50, 51 and 52 and the openings 32 in the tongues so as to securely hold the clasps 17 and 18 together. By means of the strap 44 the belt is now tightened to bind the middle of the notes and the braces 57 lastly attached with their snaffles engaging in the eyes of the clasps. If a padlock is to be used it is now inserted in the eyes of the clasp 18 and pin 33. As the belt is installed with the steel bands 10 and 11 outermost, the latter, together with the double leather portion of the covering and the spring holders 46, will form a good protection against bullets. It would take considerable time for any attacking bandits to get money away from the messenger, particularly as he may be armed and has his two hands to defend himself instead of having one or both hands occupied by carrying a satchel or the like containing money or other articles of value.

The following advantages are claimed for this belt, namely: It forms a very efficient device for safely carrying valuables by messengers and pay-roll clerks; it forms a reliable shield and protection to the wearer thereof, covering vital parts of his body

by means of a flexible steel structure, and it gives the wearer free use of both his hands in self-defense and does not hamper him in the least in defending himself against attacks. Even if the attacking bandits should succeed in overcoming the messenger it will take a considerable time to obtain the valuables as the belt is lashed to the wearer and in this manner assistance may have time to arrive to drive off the offenders.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A belt of the class described comprising a receptacle adapted to be carried around a person's body, metallic reinforcing bands along the entire length of the receptacle, clasps for the receptacle, and means adapted to secure valuables in the receptacle.
2. A belt of the class described comprising a receptacle adapted to be carried around a person's body, metallic reinforcing bands along the entire length of the receptacle, clasps for the receptacle, and means adapted to secure valuables in the receptacle; said means including flexible arms terminating with opposing fingers.
3. A belt of the class described comprising a receptacle adapted to be carried around a person's body, metallic reinforcing bands along the entire length of the receptacle, clasps for the receptacle, means adapted to secure valuables in the receptacle, said means including flexible arms terminating with opposing fingers, and rubber buttons at the ends of said fingers.
4. A belt of the class described comprising a receptacle adapted to be carried around a person's body, metallic reinforcing bands along the entire length of the receptacle, clasps for the receptacle, means adapted to secure valuables in the receptacle, said clasps being spaced apart along the belt, the clasps at the ends of the belt having end walls, and inter-engaging locking elements furnished on said end walls.
5. A belt of the class described comprising a receptacle adapted to be carried around a person's body, metallic reinforcing bands along the entire length of the receptacle, clasps for the receptacle, means adapted to secure valuables in the receptacle, said clasps being spaced apart along the belt, the clasps at the ends of the belt having end walls, inter-engaging locking elements furnished on said end walls; said locking elements including tongues on one of said end clasps, said tongues being provided with transverse openings, corresponding slots for said tongues being provided on the other of said end clasps, a locking pin adapted to engage in the openings of said tongues, and guides for said locking pin on the other of said end clasps.
6. A belt of the class described comprising a receptacle adapted to be carried around a person's body, metallic reinforcing bands along the entire length of the receptacle, clasps for the receptacle, means adapted to secure valuables in the receptacle, said clasps being spaced apart along the belt, the clasps at the ends of the belt having end walls, inter-engaging locking elements furnished on said end walls, eyes at the free ends of said clasps, and elements for securing said eyes together when the receptacle is closed.
7. A belt of the class described comprising a receptacle adapted to be carried around a person's body, metallic reinforcing bands along the entire length of the receptacle, clasps for the receptacle, means adapted to secure valuables in the receptacle, said clasps being spaced apart along the belt, the clasps at the ends of the belt having end walls, inter-engaging locking elements furnished on said end walls, eyes at the free ends of said clasps, and elements for securing said eyes together when the receptacle is closed; said means including a strap and keepers for the belt within the receptacle.
8. A belt of the class described comprising a receptacle adapted to be carried around a person's body, metallic reinforcing bands along the entire length of the receptacle, clasps for the receptacle, means adapted to secure valuables in the receptacle, said clasps being spaced apart along the belt, the clasps at the ends of the belt having end walls, inter-engaging locking elements furnished on said end walls, eyes at the free ends of said clasps, elements for securing said eyes together when the receptacle is closed; said means including a strap and keepers for the belt within the receptacle, and braces for suspending the belt from the wearer's shoulders, said braces having snaffles adapted to engage in said eyes.
9. A belt of the class described comprising a receptacle adapted to be carried around a person's body, metallic reinforcing bands along the entire length of the receptacle, clasps for the receptacle, means adapted to secure valuables in the receptacle; said means including flat metallic body members, and flexible arms extending from said body members and terminating with opposing fingers and gripping buttons at the ends of said fingers; said body members being secured within said receptacle side by side to form a substantially continuous shield.
10. A belt of the class described comprising a receptacle adapted to be carried around a person's body, metallic reinforcing bands along the entire length of the receptacle, clasps for the receptacle, means adapted to secure valuables in the receptacle; said means including a strap, flat metallic body members and flexible arms extending from said body members and terminating with opposing fingers and gripping buttons at the ends of said fingers; said body members

being secured within said receptacle side by side to form a substantially continuous shield; said clasps being spaced apart along the belt, the clasps at the ends of the belt
5 having end walls, inter-engaging locking elements furnished on said end walls, eyes at the free ends of said clasps, elements for securing said eyes together when the re-

ceptacle is closed, keepers for the belt within the receptacle, and braces for suspending 10 the belt from the wearer's shoulders, said braces having snaffles adapted to engage in said eyes.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

BENJAMIN H. OCKER. [L. s.]