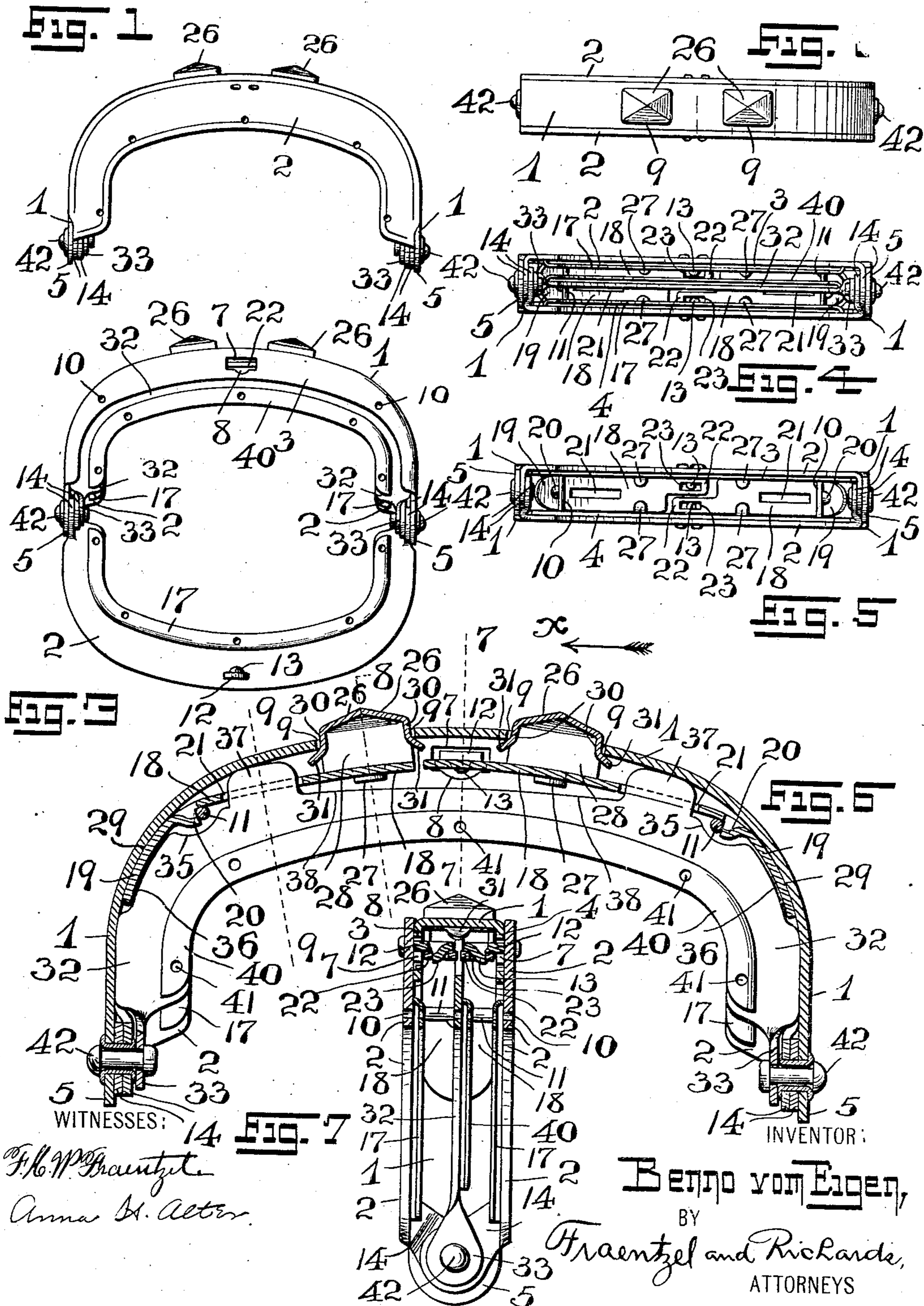


No. 894,374.

PATENTED JULY 28, 1908.

B. VOM EIGEN.  
PURSE OR BAG FRAME.  
APPLICATION FILED APR. 4, 1908.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES:

*F. H. W. Braentzel*  
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INVENTOR:

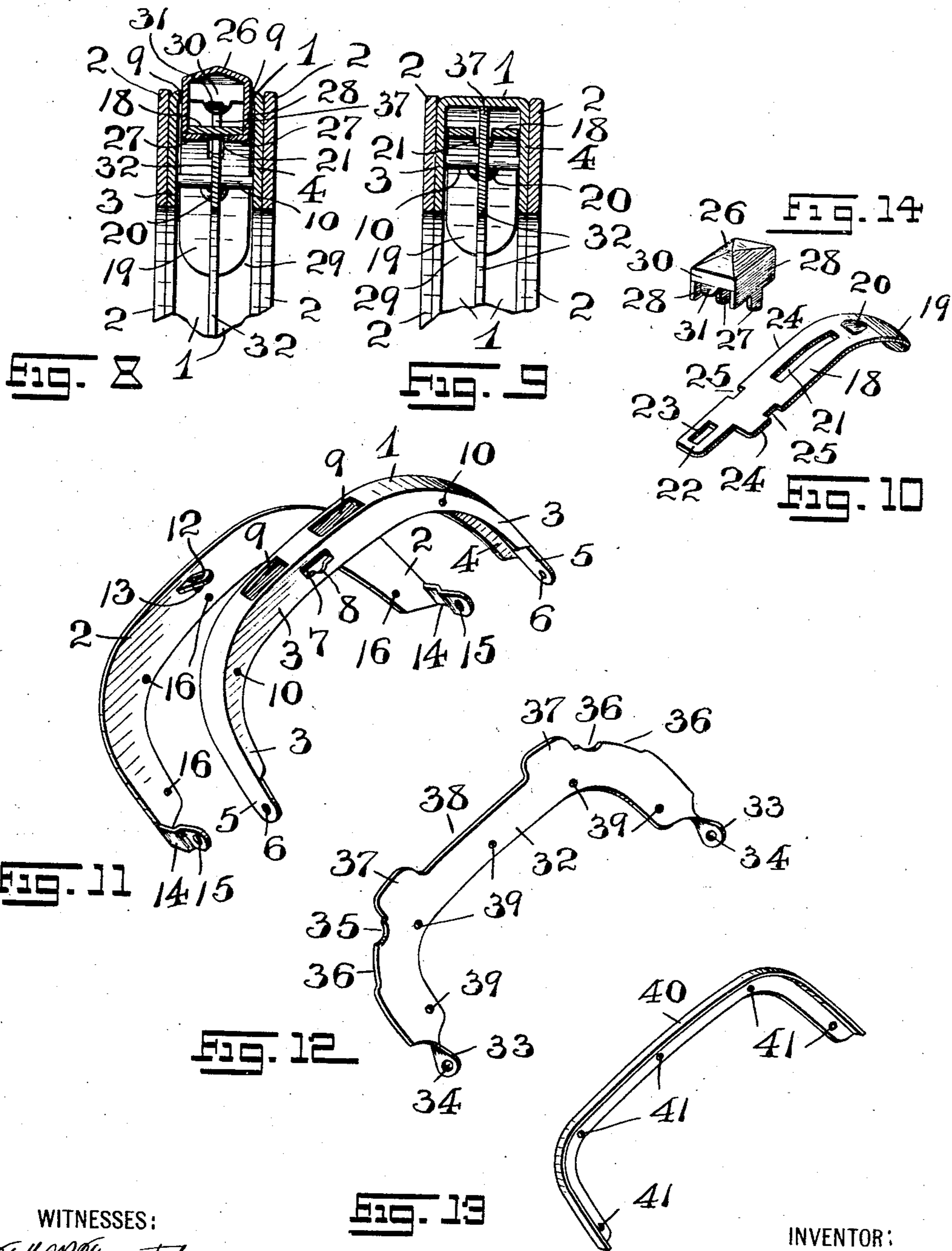
**Berppo vom Eigen,**  
BY  
*Fraentzel and Richards,*  
ATTORNEYS

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



WITNESSES:

*H. W. Fraentzel*  
*Anna H. Alter*

INVENTOR:

**Benno vom Eigen,**  
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ATTORNEYS

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENNO VOM EIGEN, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO AUG. GOERTZ & CO.,  
A CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY.

## PURSE OR BAG FRAME.

No. 894,374.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 28, 1908.

Application filed April 4, 1908. Serial No. 425,127.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BENNO VOM EIGEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Purse or Bag Frames; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to characters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention has reference, generally, to improvements in purse or bag-frames, and the like; and, the invention relates, more particularly, to a novel frame for purses and bags which are provided with two compartments or are made in the form of a double receptacle, the frame in this case comprising a main central frame-section provided with a vertically disposed central dividing section or member, and a pair of outer or side frame-sections, located upon the opposite side-faces of the main frame-section, and all of said parts, namely the main frame-section, the central dividing section, and the two outer or side frame-sections, all being formed at the ends with perforated portions and pivot-pins, by means of which the several sections are pivotally connected in the manner of purse or bag-frame constructions.

The invention has for its principal object to provide a novel and neat purse or bag-frame or the like which shall be of a very simple construction; furthermore, to provide a novel means for securing an inner central dividing section or member within the main frame-section located between a pair of outer or side frame-sections, also to provide a means whereby the said central dividing section or member, when secured within the main bag-frame section, being fastened at its ends to the pivotal pins of both the main and side-frame-sections, has a slight lateral motion, and lastly to provide a novel means for holding or locking the frame-sections in their closed relation.

Other objects of this invention not at this time more particularly enumerated will be clearly understood from the following detailed description of the invention.

With the various objects of the invention

in view, the same consists, primarily, in the novel purse or bag-frame, and its holding or locking catch and locking-mechanism therefor; and, the invention consists, furthermore, in the novel arrangements and combinations of the devices and parts, as well as in the details of the construction of the same, all of which will be hereinafter more fully described, and then finally embodied in the clauses of the claims which are appended to and which form an essential part of this specification.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a front view of a purse or bag-frame made according to and embodying the principles of the present invention; and Fig. 2 is the top edge-view of the same, said view representing the frame-sections in their closed relation. Fig. 3 is a plan view, showing the pivotal arrangement of the various frame-sections, and illustrating one of the said outer or side-frame sections in its open relation to the main central frame-section and the dividing section which is connected therewith. Fig. 4 is a bottom view of the closed frame-sections and the various parts connected therewith; and Fig. 5 is a similar view of the closed frame-sections, the central dividing section or member, however, being omitted from this view. Fig. 6 is a vertical section, on an enlarged scale, taken centrally and longitudinally through the closed frame-sections of the purse or bag-frames, said view showing in elevation the central dividing section or member, and an inlay upon the one side thereof, and the said view showing more particularly the means of pivotally connecting the various frame-sections and said dividing section or member in their operatively connected relation; and Fig. 7 is a transverse sectional representation taken on line 7—7 in said Fig. 6, looking in the direction of the arrow *x*. Fig. 8 is a transverse sectional representation, taken on line 8—8 in said Fig. 6; and Fig. 9 is a similar section taken on line 9—9 also in Fig. 6, and looking in both cases in the direction of arrow *x*. Fig. 10 is a perspective view of a flat spring, which is employed with the locking or holding mechanism of the purse or bag-frame; and Fig. 11 is a collective perspective view of the main central frame-section and one of the outer or side-frame-sections, said view

showing the said frame-sections in their disconnected relation; and Figs. 12, 13 and 14 are perspective views, respectively, of the centrally dividing section or member, an inlay, and a knob or fingerpiece for the locking or holding spring-plate illustrated in said Fig. 10.

Similar characters of reference are employed in all of the above described views, to indicate corresponding parts.

Referring now to the several figures of the drawings, the reference-character 1 indicates a main central frame-section and 2 a pair of outer or side-frame sections of a bag or purse-frame. The said main-frame-section 1 is preferably made box-shaped, being formed with the flanges or elements 3 and 4, and having the end-members 5, each of which is provided with a hole or perforation 6, substantially as shown in Fig. 11 of the drawings. The said main frame-section is provided in its flanges or elements 3 and 4 with centrally disposed and oppositely located openings 7, each opening being provided in its lower surrounding edge-portion with a depression, as 8. In its upper face, the said main central frame-section 1 is provided with rectangularly formed openings 9, and in its opposite sides or right-angled portions or elements 3 and 4, the said main frame-section is formed with holes or perforations 10, in which are secured the ends of suitable pins 11 which extend across the inner chambered portion of the said main frame-section 1, substantially in the manner illustrated in Figs. 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9, and for the purposes to be presently more fully described.

The outer or side-frame-sections, of which there are two of them, are both alike, each frame-section being provided with a laterally extending and centrally disposed engaging lug or tongue 12, which is formed with a depressed portion 13, as shown. Each side frame-section 2 is made at its free ends with laterally extending pivot-ears or lugs 14, each lug or ear being provided with a pivot-receiving hole or perforation 15. Each outer or side-frame-section 2 is also provided with a series of holes or perforations 16 for the reception of fastening pins or rivets by means of which an inlay 17 can be suitably secured upon the inner face of each frame-section 2, as will be clearly evident from an inspection of Figs. 3 and 7 of the drawings.

Suitably disposed within the upper chambered or box-like portion of the main central frame-section 1 are a pair of spring-plates 18, each plate being suitably bent or curved at one end, as at 19, each curved or bent portion having a downwardly extending lug or protuberance 20, suitably forced or pressed out of the body of the plate, and each plate being formed with an elongated opening or slot 21, and having a longitudinally extending projection or finger 22 which is pro-

vided with a lug-receiving opening 23, preferably of a rectangular configuration, as illustrated, although it will be evident, that the openings 23 may be variously shaped. Each spring-plate is also formed in its opposite edges 24 with recessed or cut-away portions 25, into which are fitted suitable lugs or tongues 27 extending from the edges of the sides 28 of a box-like element 26, and turned down upon the under side of the spring-plate for securely fastening the element 26 upon the upper face of the spring-plate, and thereby providing each spring-plate with a suitable knob or finger-piece.

The manner of securing the two spring-plates 18 in their operative positions within the chambered part of the main frame-section 1 is clearly shown in Figs. 5 and 6 of the drawings, the curved or bent end-portion 19 of each spring-plate being forced through the space between a pin 11 and the inner face 29 of said frame-section 1, until the downwardly extending lug or protuberance 20 is forced behind the pin 11, which, with the engagement of the curved or bent portion 19 with the face 29 of the frame-section 1, will positively hold the spring-plate in its fixed and operative position. When the two spring-plates have thus been secured in place, the two narrower projections or extensions 22 of the two plates will lie movably adjacent to each other, as shown in Fig. 5, the lug-receiving openings 23 of the two spring-plates being laterally in alinement with each other and with the openings 7 in the sides or flanges 3 and 4 of the said frame-section 1. The knobs or fingerpieces, formed by the box-like elements 26, each extend into and are depressibly arranged in an opening 9 in the upper face of the frame-section 1. To limit the outward movement of the free end-portion of each spring-plate 18, the sides 30 of each element 26 may be bent in opposite outward directions to provide limiting tongues or stops 31 which engage with portions of the frame-section, as clearly illustrated in Fig. 6.

The reference-character 32 indicates the previously mentioned central dividing section or member, the same being made from a piece of flat sheet-metal, and being formed at its free end-portions with lugs or ears 33, each lug or ear having a hole or perforation 34.

The upper or outer marginal edge of said dividing section or member 32 is made with suitably cut-away portions 35 and 36, a pair of projections or extensions 37, and the cut-away part 38 located between the said projections or extensions 37, substantially in the manner shown in Figs. 6 and 12 of the drawings. The said dividing section or member 32 is also provided with suitably disposed holes or perforations 39, and a

suitable inlay 40, which is provided with corresponding holes or perforations 41 for the reception of suitable pins or rivets, being secured upon one side of the said section or member 32.

When the various frame-sections 1 and 2 and the said central section or member 32 are assembled, each projection or extension 37 extends into an elongated opening or slot 21 in a spring-plate 18; and, the several perforated ears or lugs at the oppositely located end-portions of the respective frame-sections 1 and 2 and the said central dividing section or member 32, having been brought into proper alinement, are pivotally connected by means of suitable pintles or pivot-pins 42, substantially in the manner illustrated in the several figures of the drawings.

As shown, the previously mentioned slots or openings 21 in the spring-plates 18 are preferably made slightly wider than the thickness of the projections or extensions 37, so that the said central dividing section or member 32 shall have a slight pivotal movement, to properly cause the said member or section 32 to accommodate itself to any inequalities, and to permit of the ready and positively locked relation of the outer or side-frame-sections against the side-faces of the sides or flanges 3 and 4 of the main frame-section 1.

Of course it will be understood that the frame-sections 1 and 2 may be of any other configuration from that shown in the accompanying drawings, and that the frame-sections may be of any ornamental design; and, the several parts may also be differently hinged together, if desired, without departing from the scope and novelty of the present invention.

The operation of the hinged frame-sections 2 will be clearly understood from an inspection of the several figures of the drawings, and it will be evident that by depressing either one of the knobs or fingerpieces of the spring-plates 18, the respective extension, projection or finger 22, provided with the lug-receiving opening 23, is moved below and out of its holding engagement with the projection or retaining portion 13 of the lug or tongue 12 of the respective outer or side frame-section 2, and according to the downward pressure applied upon the top of either or both of said fingerpieces, either or both of the said frame-sections 2 can be brought into their opened relation with the central and main frame-section 1, as will be clearly understood. As soon as the pressure is removed, the depressed end-portion of the spring-plate or plates 18 will immediately return to their normal initial positions, so that the holding or locking members of the frame-sections 2 will be forced into holding or locked engagement with the open parts of the extensions, projections or fingers 22, as soon as the

frame-sections 2 are closed, all of which will be clearly understood from an inspection more particularly of Fig. 7 of the drawings.

I am fully aware that changes may be made in the arrangements and combinations of the various parts, as well as in the details of the construction of the same, without departing from the scope of my present invention as set forth in the appended claims. Hence, I do not limit my invention to the exact arrangements and combinations of the devices and parts as described in the foregoing specification, nor do I confine myself to the exact details of the construction of the parts, as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

I claim:

1. In a purse or bag-frame, a main central frame-section, an outer or side frame-section upon each side of said main frame-section, and a centrally disposed dividing section within said main frame-section, all of said frame-sections and said dividing section being pivotally connected, a retaining lug upon each outer or side frame-section, and a locking means within said main frame-section, for normally holding said outer or side frame-sections in their closed relation, consisting of a pair of spring-plates within said main frame-section, means for securing one end of each spring-plate within said main frame-section, and an extension at the free end of each spring-plate with which the retaining lugs of said outer or side frame-sections can be brought in holding engagement, and means for disengaging said holding lugs from said extensions of the spring-plates.

2. In a purse or bag-frame, a main central frame-section, an outer or side frame-section upon each side of said main frame-section, and a centrally disposed dividing section within said main frame-section, all of said frame-sections and said dividing section being pivotally connected, a retaining lug upon each outer or side frame-section, and a locking means within said main frame-section for normally holding said outer or side frame-sections in their closed relation, consisting of a pair of spring-plates within said main frame-section, means for securing one end of each spring-plate within said main frame-section, and an extension at the free end of each spring-plate with which the retaining lugs of said outer or side frame-sections can be brought in holding engagement, and means for disengaging said holding lugs from said extensions of the spring-plates, said main frame-section being formed with openings, and a finger-piece extending from each spring-plate and projecting through an opening in said main frame-section for releasing said outer or side-frame-sections from their locked relation with said main frame-section.

3. In a purse or bag-frame, a main central frame-section, an outer or side frame-section upon each side of said main frame-section,

and a centrally disposed dividing section within said main frame-section, all of said frame-sections and said dividing section being pivotally connected, a retaining lug upon  
 5 each outer or side frame-section, and a locking means within said main frame-section, for normally holding said outer or side frame-sections in their closed relation, consisting of  
 10 a pair of spring-plates within said main frame-section, means for securing one end of each spring-plate within said main frame-section, and an extension at the free end of each spring-plate with which the retaining  
 15 lugs of said outer or side frame-sections can be brought in holding engagement, said main frame-section being formed with rectangular openings, each spring-plate being made with cut-away portions in its opposite  
 20 edges, and a rectangularly shaped hollow finger-piece upon each spring-plate, fastening lugs extending from each fingerpiece into said cut-away portions and bent beneath the spring-plate to secure the finger-piece in  
 25 place, each finger-piece projecting through an opening in the main frame-section for releasing said outer or side frame-sections from their locked relation with said main frame-section.

4. In a purse or bag-frame, a main central  
 30 frame-section, an outer or side frame-section upon each side of said main frame-section, and a centrally disposed dividing section within said main frame-section, all of said frame-sections and said dividing section being  
 35 pivotally connected, a retaining lug upon each outer or side frame-section, and a locking means within said main frame-section, for normally holding said outer or side frame-sections in their closed relation, consisting of  
 40 a pair of spring-plates within said main frame-section, means for securing one end of each spring-plate within said main frame-section, and an extension at the free end of each spring-plate with which the retaining  
 45 lugs of said outer or side frame-sections can be brought in holding engagement, said main frame-section being formed with rectangular openings, each spring-plate being made with cut-away portions in its opposite edges, and  
 50 a rectangularly shaped hollow finger-piece upon each spring-plate, fastening lugs extending from each fingerpiece into said cut-away portions and bent beneath the spring-plate to secure the finger-piece in place, each  
 55 finger-piece projecting through an opening in the main frame-section for releasing said outer or side frame-sections from their locked relation with said main frame-section, and outwardly extending limiting lugs extending  
 60 from each fingerpiece for limiting the outward spring-movement of each spring-plate.

5. In a purse or bag-frame, a main central  
 65 frame-section, said frame-section being formed with flanges formed with receiving openings, an outer or side frame-section upon

the outer face of each flange, and a centrally disposed dividing section within the interior of said main frame-section, all of said frame-sections and said dividing section being pivotally connected, a retaining lug upon each  
 70 outer frame-section, each lug being adapted to enter a receiving opening in a flange of the main frame, pins having their ends connected with said flanges and extending across the space between said elements, spring-plates  
 75 having bent portions held by means of said pins within said main frame-section, an extension at the opposite end of each spring-plate with which the lugs of said outer or side frame-sections can be brought in holding en-  
 80 gagement, and means for disengaging said holding lugs from said extensions of the spring-plates.

6. In a purse or bag-frame, a main central  
 85 frame-section, said frame-section being formed with flanges formed with receiving openings, an outer or side frame-section upon the outer face of each flange, and a centrally disposed dividing section within the interior  
 90 of said main frame-section, all of said frame-sections and said dividing section being pivotally connected, a retaining lug upon each outer frame-section, each lug being adapted to enter a receiving opening in a  
 95 flange of the main frame, pins having their ends connected with said flanges and extending across the space between said elements, spring-plates having bent portions held by means of said pins within said main  
 100 frame-section, an extension at the opposite end of each spring-plate with which the lugs of said outer or side frame-sections can be brought in holding engagement, said main frame-section being formed with openings,  
 105 and a finger-piece extending from each spring-plate and projecting through an opening in said main frame-section for releasing said outer or side-frame-sections from their locked relation with said main frame-section.

7. In a purse or bag-frame, a main central  
 110 frame-section, said frame-section being formed with flanges formed with receiving openings, an outer or side frame-section upon the outer face of each flange, and a centrally disposed dividing section within the interior  
 115 of said main frame-section, all of said frame-sections and said dividing section being pivotally connected, a retaining lug upon each outer frame-section, each lug being adapted to enter a receiving opening in a  
 120 flange of the main frame, pins having their ends connected with said flanges and extending across the space between said elements, spring-plates having bent portions held by means of said pins within said main frame-  
 125 section, an extension at the opposite end of each spring-plate with which the lugs of said outer or side frame-sections can be brought in holding engagement, said main frame-section being formed with rectangular openings,  
 130

each spring-plate being made with cut-away portions in its opposite edges, and a rectangularly shaped hollow finger-piece upon each spring-plate, fastening lugs extending from each finger piece into said cut-away portions and bent beneath the spring-plate to secure the finger-pieces in place, each finger-piece projecting through an opening in the main frame-section for releasing said outer or side frame-sections from their locked relation with said main frame-section.

8. In a purse or bag-frame, a main central frame-section, said frame-section being formed with flanges formed with receiving openings, an outer or side frame-section upon the outer face of each flange, and a centrally disposed dividing section within the interior of said main frame-section, all of said frame-sections and said dividing section being pivotally connected, a retaining lug upon each outer frame-section, each lug being adapted to enter a receiving opening in a flange of the main frame, pins having their ends connected with said flanges and extending across the space between said elements, spring-plates having bent portions held by means of said pins within said main frame-section, an extension at the opposite end of each spring-plate with which the lugs of said outer or side frame-sections can be brought in holding engagement, said main frame-section being formed with rectangular openings, each spring-plate being made with cut-away portions in its opposite edges, and a rectangularly shaped hollow finger-piece upon each spring-plate, fastening lugs extending from each finger piece into said cut-away portions and bent beneath the spring-plate to secure the finger-piece in place, each finger-piece projecting through an opening in the main frame-section for releasing said outer or side frame-sections from their locked relation with said main frame-section, and outwardly extending limiting lugs extending from each fingerpiece for limiting the outward spring-movement of each spring-plate.

9. In a purse or bag-frame, a main central frame-section, an outer or side frame-section upon each side of said main frame-section, a centrally disposed dividing section within said main frame-section, all of said frame-sections and said dividing section being pivotally connected, and the said dividing section being formed with marginal cut-away portions and upwardly projecting extensions, a retaining-lug upon each outer or side frame-section, and a locking means within said main frame-section, for normally holding said outer or side frame-sections in their closed relation, consisting of a pair of spring-plates within said main frame-section, means for securing one end of each spring-plate within said main frame-section, an extension at the free end of each spring-plate with which the retaining lugs of said outer or

side frame-sections can be brought in holding engagement, and means for disengaging said holding lugs from said extensions of the spring-plates, and each spring-plate being provided with an elongated opening into which an extension of the said dividing section is fitted, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

10. In a purse or bag-frame, a main central frame-section, an outer or side frame-section upon each side of said main frame-section, a centrally disposed dividing section within said main frame-section, all of said frame-sections and said dividing section being pivotally connected, and the said dividing section being formed with marginal cut-away portions and upwardly projecting extensions, a retaining lug upon each outer or side frame-section, and a locking means within said main frame-section for normally holding said outer or side frame-sections in their closed relation, consisting of a pair of spring-plates within said main-frame-section, means for securing one end of each spring-plate within said main frame-section, an extension at the free end of each spring-plate with which the retaining lugs of said outer or side frame-sections can be brought in holding engagement, said main frame-section being formed with openings, and a finger-piece extending from each spring-plate and projecting through an opening in said main frame-section for releasing said outer or side-frame-sections from their locked relation with said main frame-section, and each spring-plate being provided with an elongated opening into which an extension of the said dividing section is fitted, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

11. In a purse or bag-frame, a main central frame-section, an outer or side frame-section upon each side of said main frame-section, a centrally disposed dividing section within said main frame-section, all of said frame-sections and said dividing section being pivotally connected, and the said dividing section being formed with marginal cut-away portions and upwardly projecting extensions, a retaining lug upon each outer or side frame-section, and a locking means within said main frame-section for normally holding said outer or side frame-sections in their closed relation, consisting of a pair of spring-plates within said main-frame-section, means for securing one end of each spring-plate within said main frame-section, an extension at the free end of each spring-plate with which the retaining lugs of said outer or side frame-sections can be brought in holding engagement, said main frame-section being formed with rectangular openings, each spring-plate being made with cut-away portions in its opposite edges, and a rectangularly shaped hollow finger piece upon each spring-plate, fastening lugs extending from each finger piece

into said cut-away portions and bent beneath the spring-plate to secure the finger-piece in place, each finger-piece projecting through an opening in the main frame-section for releasing said outer or side frame-sections from their locked relation with said main frame-section, and each spring-plate being provided with an elongated opening into which an extension of the said dividing section is fitted, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

12. In a purse or bag-frame, a main central frame-section, an outer or side frame-section upon each side of said main frame-section, a centrally disposed dividing section within said main frame-section, all of said frame-sections and said dividing section being pivotally connected, and the said dividing section being formed with marginal cut-away portions and upwardly projecting extensions, a retaining lug upon each outer or side frame-section, and a locking means within said main frame-section for normally holding said outer or side frame-sections in their closed relation, consisting of a pair of spring-plates within said main frame-section, means for securing one end of each spring-plate within said main frame-section, an extension at the free end of each spring-

plate with which the retaining lugs of said outer or side frame-sections can be brought in holding engagement, said main frame-section being formed with rectangular openings, each spring-plate being made with cut-away portions in its opposite edges, and a rectangularly shaped hollow finger-piece upon each spring-plate, fastening lugs extending from each finger piece into said cut-away portions and bent beneath the spring-plate to secure the finger-piece in place, each finger-piece projecting through an opening in the main frame-section for releasing said outer or side frame-sections from their locked relation with said main frame-section, and outwardly extending limiting lugs extending from each finger piece for limiting the outward spring-movement of each spring-plate, and each spring-plate being provided with an elongated opening into which an extension of the said dividing section is fitted, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony, that I claim the invention set forth above I have hereunto set my hand this 2nd day of April, 1908.

BENNO VOM EIGEN.

Witnesses:

FREDK. C. FRAENTZEL,  
ANNA H. ALTER.