

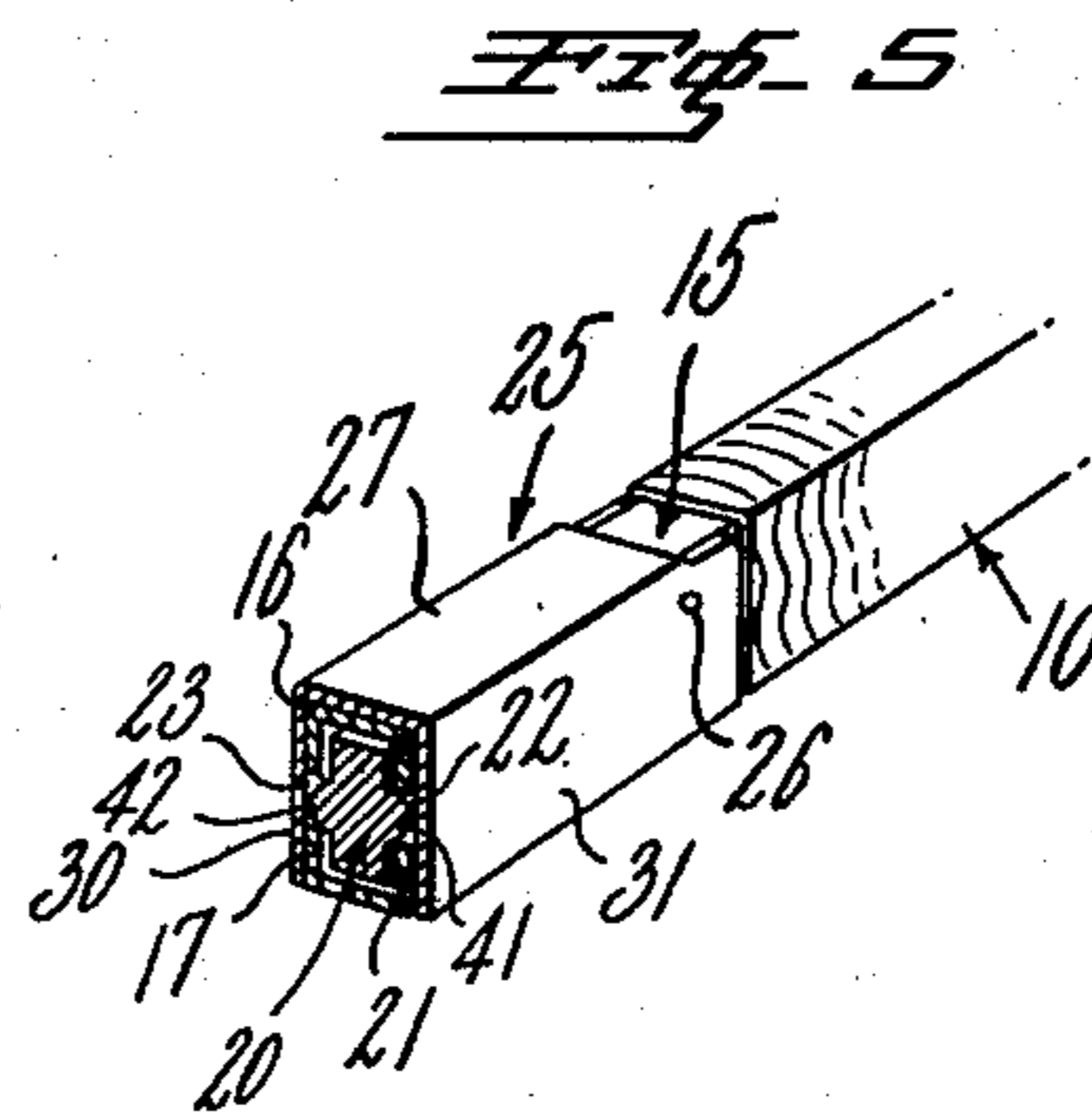
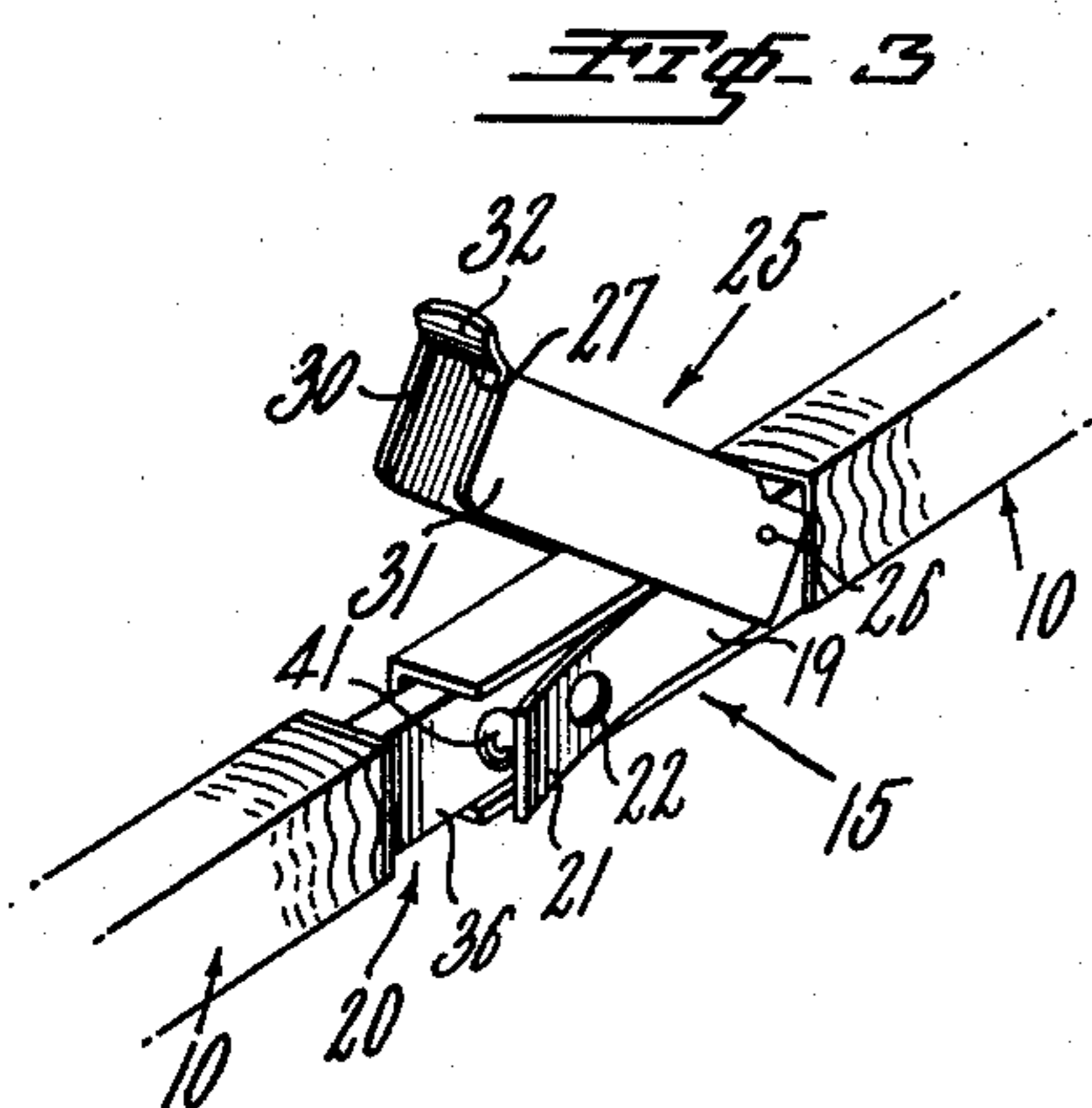
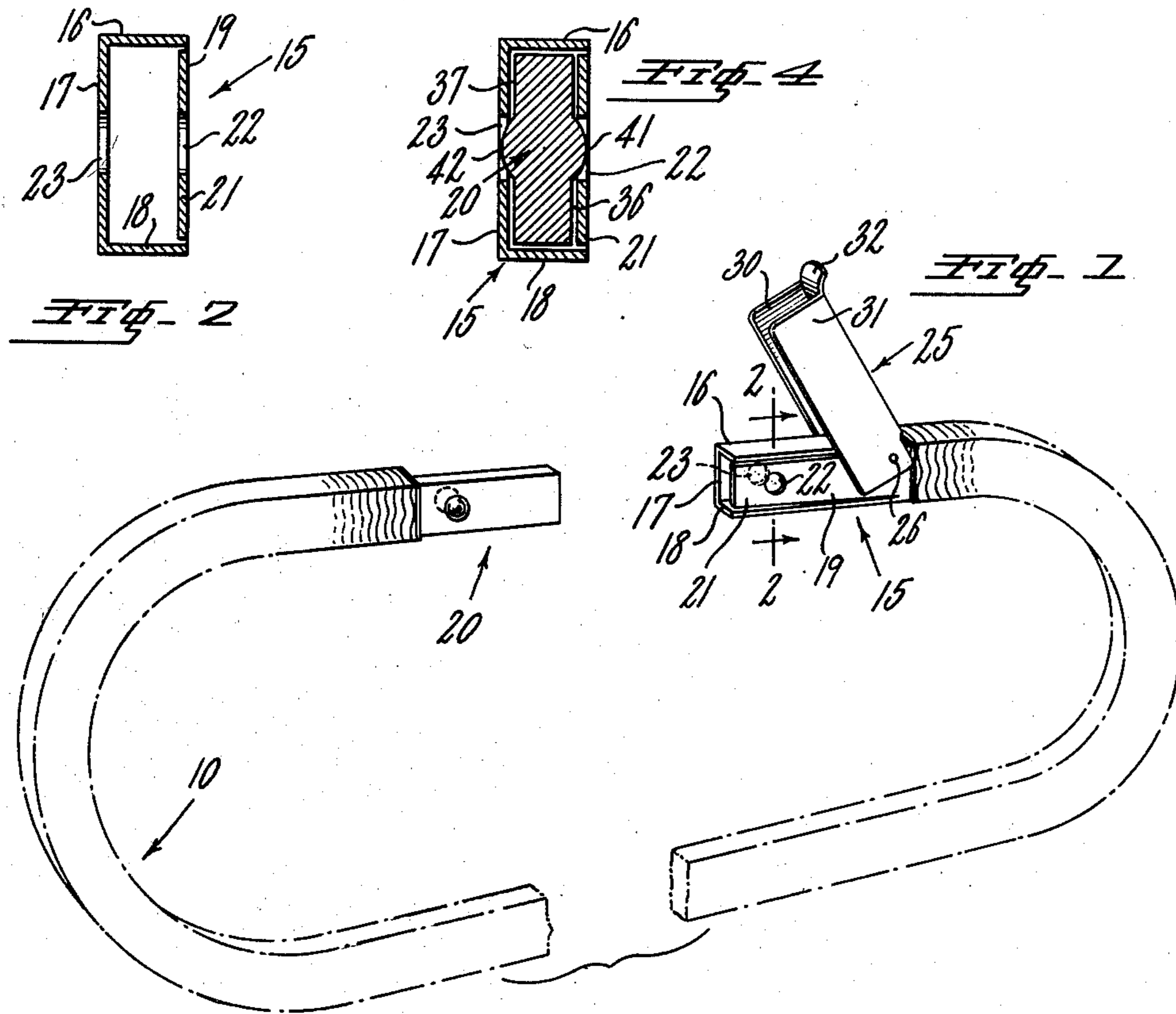
March 6, 1951

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2,543,933

DETACHABLE FASTENER

Filed Sept. 20, 1945



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2,543,933

DETACHABLE FASTENER

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Application September 20, 1945, Serial No. 617,492

6 Claims. (Cl. 24—230)

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This invention relates to a detachable fastener, and more particularly to a novel clasp for bracelets, necklaces and the like.

It is among the objects of this invention to provide an easily engaged and disengaged clasp having an efficient and certain locking action; to provide such a clasp including a pair of male and female members and having cooperating interlocking means, and means effective to engage such interlocking means; to provide a clasp including a female member having a displaceable wall portion, a male member engageable in the female member, cooperating interlocking means on the wall portion of the male member, and means operable to displace the wall portion to engage the interlocking means; and to provide a novel, neat appearing, easily operated and efficient clasp.

These and other objects, advantages and novel features of the invention will be apparent from the following description and the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view, partly broken away, of a bracelet provided with a clasp according to the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, with the clasp in the open position.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the clasp in the partly engaged position.

Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view taken along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1 with the male member of the clasp fully inserted in the female member of the clasp.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view, partly in section, showing the clasp in the fully engaged position.

According to the present invention, a clasp is provided including a female member preferably rectangular in cross-section and having one wall formed with an outwardly sprung portion. A male member, likewise rectangular in cross-section, is insertable in the female member. Cooperating interlocking means are formed on the male member and the wall portion to interlock the clasp elements. A member, preferably a channel, is pivotally mounted on the female member so that it may be displaced into embracing relation with the sprung wall portion of the female member to engage such interlocking means to interlock the members of the clasp.

Referring to the drawing, the clasp is illustrated as having a pair of members secured to either end of a bracelet 10, which is illustrated as of the so-called "snake chain" variety. The clasp comprises female member 15 and a male

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member 20. Female member 15 is generally rectangular in cross-section and includes four walls 16, 17, 18 and 19. Wall 19 includes an outwardly sprung portion 21 provided with an aperture 22. Opposite wall 17 is provided with aperture 23 transversely aligned with aperture 22.

For a purpose to be described, channel-shaped member 25 is pivotally mounted on member 15 as by being pivoted to a pin 26 extending transversely of member 15 adjacent its attachment to bracelet 10. Member 25 is provided with an upper wall or base 27 and a pair of parallel side walls, flanges, or legs 30 and 31. Upper wall 27 is formed with an abutment or lip 32 which may be engaged by the finger to release the clasp. Male member 20 includes parallel opposite side walls 36, 37 each formed with a protuberance 41, 42. The protuberances 41, 42 are transversely aligned and so located that they will enter apertures 22 and 23, respectively, when the male member 20 is fully engaged in female member 15.

Fig. 3 illustrates the clasp in the partially engaged position in which male member 20 is partially inserted in female member 15 and element 25 is disposed in the upper position. Wall portion 21 is sprung outwardly a considerable amount so that even when member 20 is fully engaged in member 15, protuberance 41 will not be engaged in aperture 22. When member 20 has been fully inserted in member 15, member 25 is swung downwardly about pivot pin 26 and embraces opposite side walls 17 and 19 to move wall portion 21 inwardly so that protuberance 41 is engaged in aperture 22. This is the locked position of the latch. Such action likewise forces protuberance 42 into aperture 23, as shown in Fig. 4.

To release the latch, the wearer grasps lip 32 to swing channel 35 to its upper position shown in Figs. 1 and 3, and wall portion 21 thereupon springs outwardly releasing protuberance 41 from aperture 22. Protuberances 41 and 42 are gently rounded so that the clasp may be disengaged by pulling member 20 out of member 15.

Alternatively, apertures or recesses may be formed in side walls 36, 37 of member 20 and corresponding protuberances may be formed on the inner surfaces of wall 17 and wall portion 21. In such event, wall portion 21 will likewise be sprung outwardly so as to permit easy disengagement of member 20 from member 15 when channel 25 has been moved to the upper position.

The described clasp comprises an efficient fastener for bracelets, straps and the like. It is easily engaged and disengaged, and when com-

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pletely engaged is securely locked until such time as channel 25 is moved to the upper position.

While a specific embodiment of the invention has been described and shown in detail to illustrate the application of the principles of the invention, it will be understood that the invention may be otherwise embodied without departing from such principles.

What is claimed is:

1. A clasp comprising, in combination, a female member having a pair of opposite walls formed with interlocking means, one of said walls being outwardly sprung; a male member having a pair of opposite walls formed with interlocking elements and engageable in said female member; said sprung wall portion being laterally spaced from said male member in the engaged position of said members; and means movably mounted on one of said members for movement in a plane parallel to the inward position of said sprung wall portion and effective, in such movement, to frictionally engage said sprung wall portion to move the same inwardly to engage said male member and to displace said male member laterally to engage said interlocking means with said interlocking elements to lock said members together.

2. A clasp comprising, in combination, a female member having a pair of opposite walls, one having an aperture therein and the other having an outwardly sprung portion formed with an aperture; a male member engageable in said female member and having a pair of oppositely projecting protuberances receivable in such apertures; said sprung wall portion being laterally spaced from said male member in the engaged position of said members; and means hingedly mounted on said female member for movement in a plane parallel to the inward position of said sprung wall portion and effective, in such movement, to frictionally engage said sprung wall portion to move the same inwardly to engage said male member and to displace said male member laterally to retain said protuberances in such apertures to interlock said members.

3. A clasp comprising, in combination, a female member having a pair of opposite walls, one having an aperture therein and the other having an outwardly sprung portion formed with an aperture; a male member engageable in said female member and having a pair of oppositely projecting protuberances receivable in such apertures; said sprung wall portion being laterally spaced from said male member in the engaged position of said members; and a channel element hingedly mounted on said female member for movement in a plane parallel to said opposite walls and operable to slidably engage said one wall and said sprung portion of the other wall and displace the latter inwardly to retain said protuberances in such apertures to interlock said members.

4. A clasp comprising, in combination, a rectangular female member having a pair of opposite walls, one having an aperture therein and

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the other having an outwardly sprung portion formed with an aperture; such apertures being transversely aligned; a rectangular male member engageable in said female member and having a pair of transversely aligned oppositely projecting protuberances receivable in such apertures; said sprung wall portion being laterally spaced from said male member in the engaged position of said members; and a channel element hingedly mounted on said female member for movement in a plane parallel to said opposite walls and having its legs extending parallel to said one wall and said sprung portion of the other wall and operable to slidably engage said one wall and said sprung portion of the other wall and displace the latter inwardly to retain said protuberances in such apertures to interlock said members.

5. A clasp comprising, in combination, a female member having an outwardly sprung wall portion; a male member engageable in said female member; cooperable interlocking means on said wall portion and said male member; said sprung wall portion being laterally spaced from said male member in the engaged position of said members; and means hingedly mounted on said female member for movement in a plane parallel to the inward position of said wall portion and effective, in such movement, to frictionally engage said wall portion and move the same inwardly to engage said male member to interengage said interlocking means to interlock said members.

6. A clasp comprising, in combination, a female member having an outwardly sprung wall portion; a male member engageable in said female member; cooperable interlocking means on said wall portion and said male member; said sprung wall portion being laterally spaced from said male member in the engaged position of said members; and a channel element hingedly mounted on said female member for movement in a plane parallel to the inward position of said wall portion into embracing relation with said female member, a flange of said element being effective, in such movement, to frictionally engage said wall portion and move the same inwardly to engage said male member to interengage said interlocking means to interlock said members.

HENRY POMMIER.

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