Sept. 29, 1953 A. BONAGURA 2,653,402

RING

Filed April 9, 1952

Fig. 1.

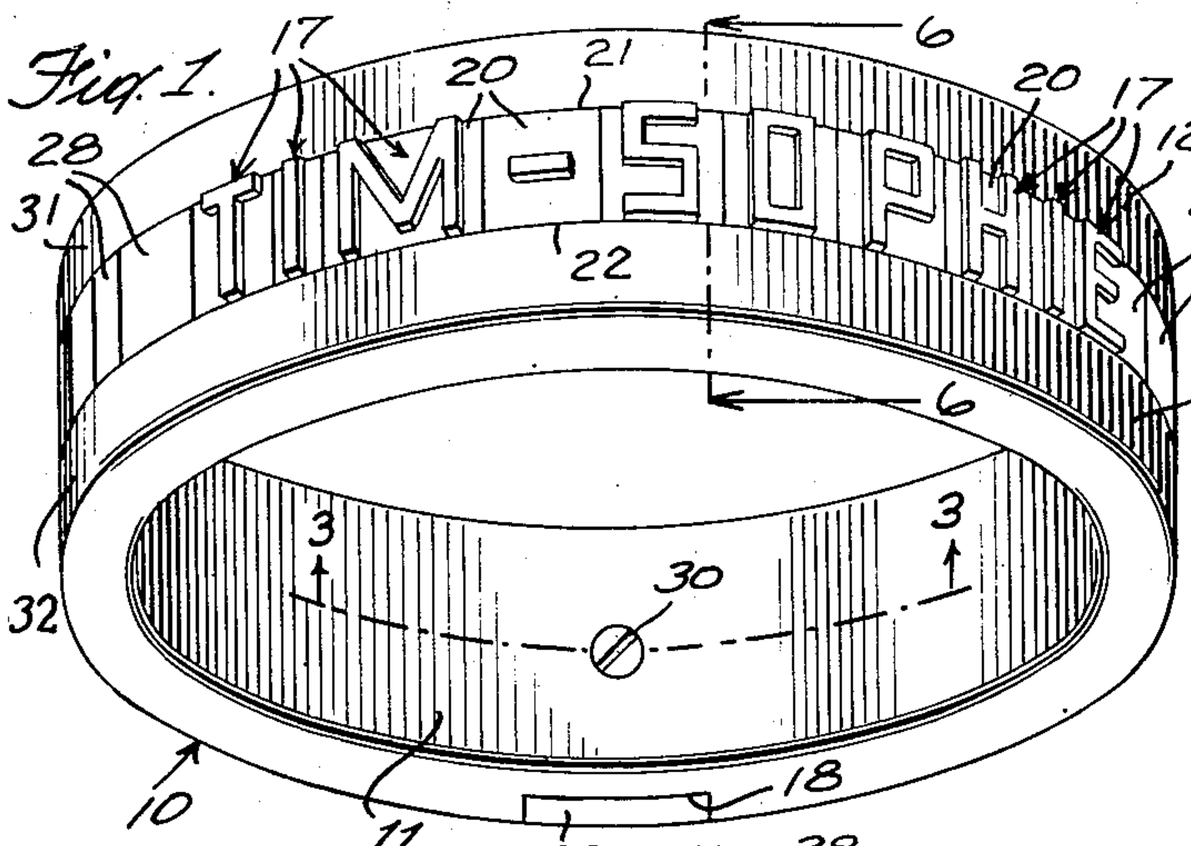


Fig. 4.

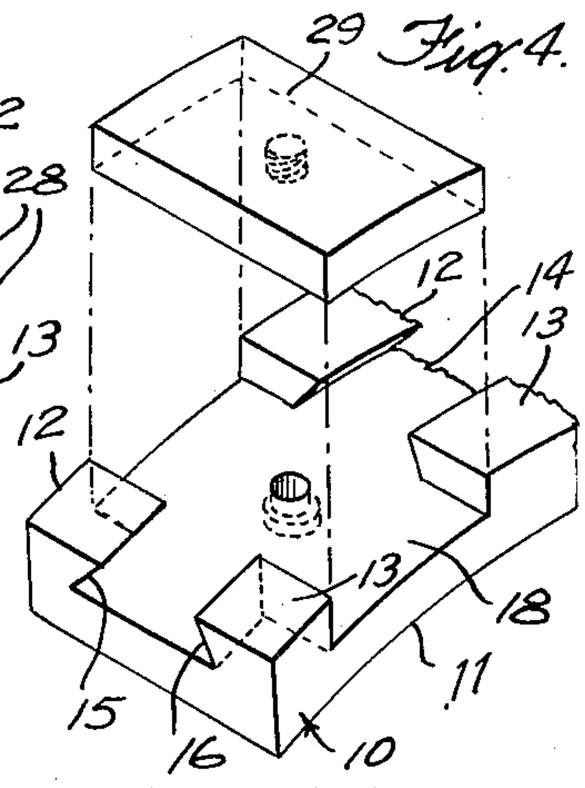


Fig. 2.

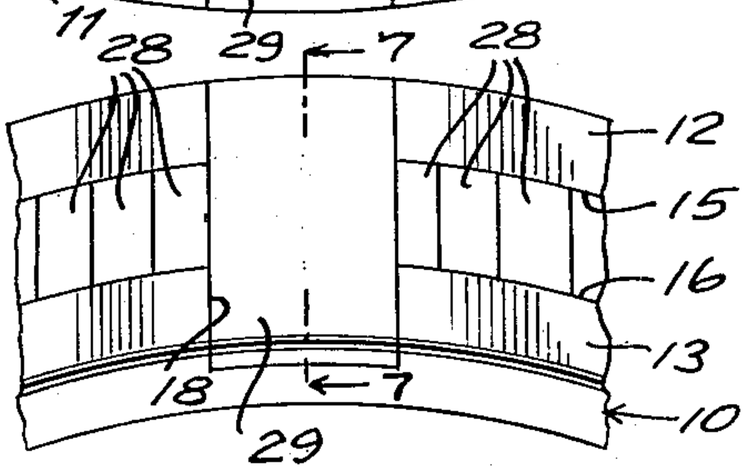


Fig. 5.

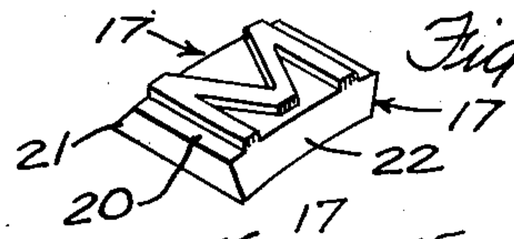


Fig. 6.

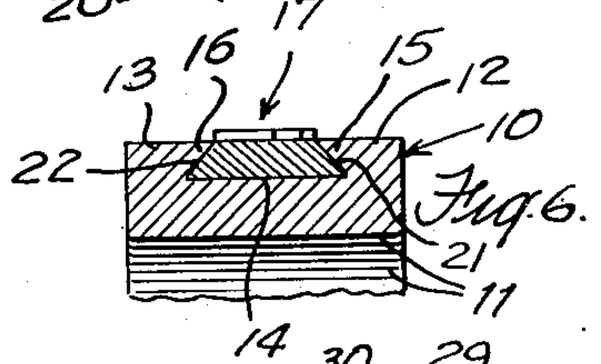


Fig. 3

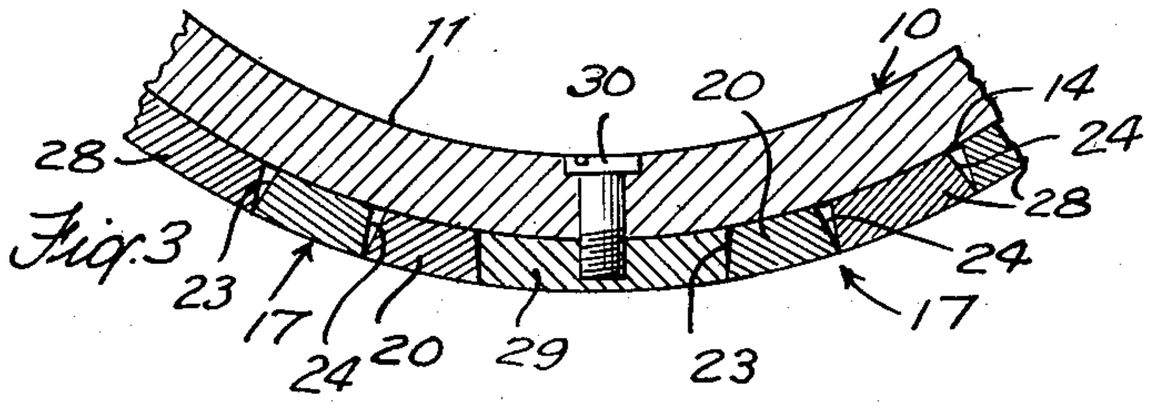


Fig. 7.

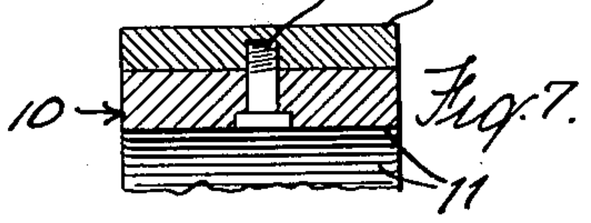


Fig. 8.

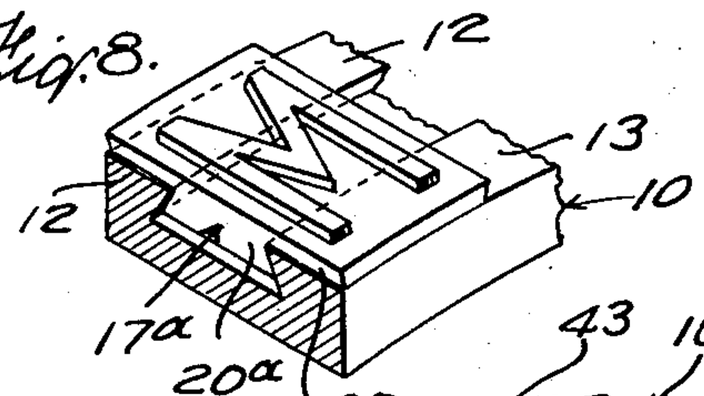


Fig. 10.

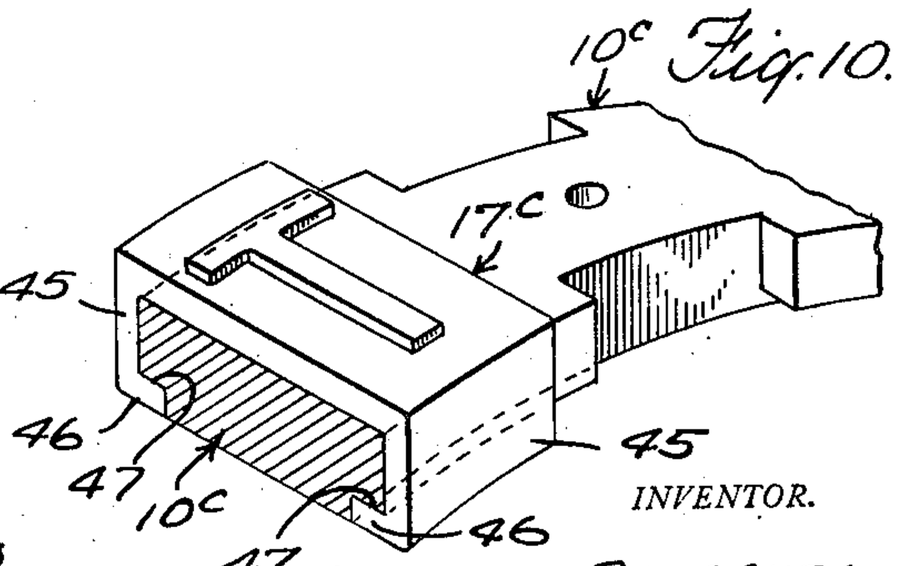
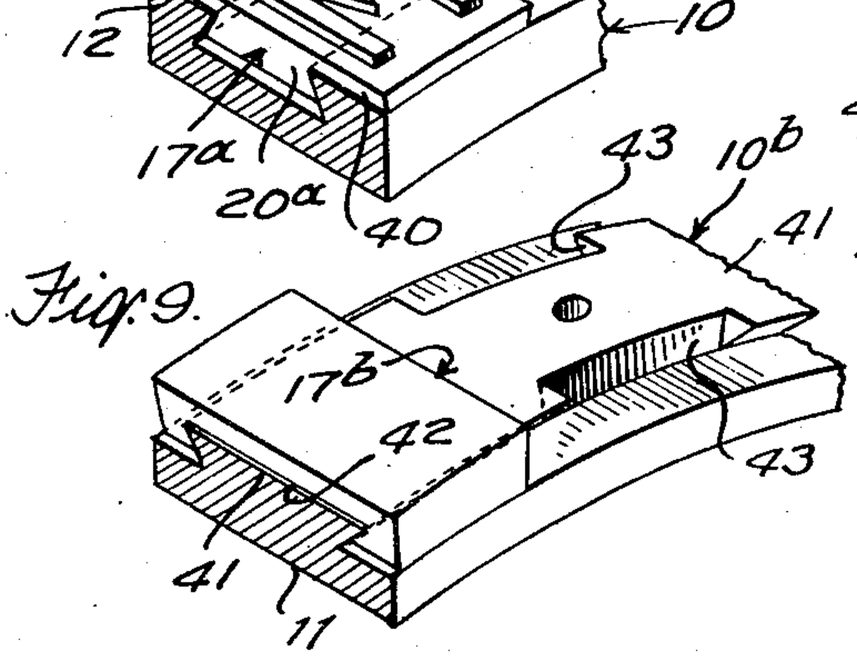


Fig. 9.



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2,653,402

RING

Anthony Bonagura, New Paltz, N. Y.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 40—140)

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This invention relates to rings or the like to be worn as articles of jewelry and has for an object to provide a ring which can be readily made up with individual insignia such as names, letters or designs to suit the desires of the purchaser.

Another object is to provide a ring base adapted to receive a series of elements carrying individual letters or the like which are assembled and attached to the base in a desired sequence.

Another object is to provide a ring of the above type having removable insignia.

Another object is to provide a ring of the above type which is neat and pleasing in appearance.

Another object is to provide a ring having novel and improved features of construction.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent as the nature of the invention is more fully disclosed.

In accordance with the present invention my ring comprises a band carrying a track, such as an annular channel, into which the individual elements are adapted to be inserted in any selected sequence. The elements slide around the track and suitable blanks are inserted, if necessary, to fill the track completely, the final blank being secured by suitable means, such as a screw. When so assembled and secured the ring has the appearance of a unitary, preformed structure carrying the selected insignia, for example "Tim-Sophie." However, since the ring is easily assembled it is inexpensive as compared to a ring which is cast or inscribed individually.

The track and insignia can take various forms as will be apparent from the following description, taken in connection with the drawings in which specific embodiments have been set forth for purposes of illustration.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a ring embodying the invention and made up with the design "Tim-Sophie";

Fig. 2 is a detail perspective of the back of the ring showing the locking element in place;

Fig. 3 is a partial section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is an exploded view showing the locking element and a portion of the ring channel;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one element adapted to be inserted in the ring channel;

Fig. 6 is a transverse section taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 7 is a transverse section taken on the line 7—7 of Fig. 2; and

Figs. 8, 9 and 10 are partial perspective views of a ring illustrating other forms of replaceable elements.

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Referring to the drawings more in detail, the invention is shown in Figs. 1 to 7 as applied to a ring comprising an annular base 10 having a smooth inner surface 11 and a pair of outer flanges 12, 13 forming an annular channel 14 therebetween. The sides 15, 16 of the flanges 12, 13 defining the channel 14 are undercut to receive and secure the individual elements 17, to be described. The ring is also formed with a transverse slot 18 extending across the flanges 12, 13 to provide clearance for the insertion of the various elements into the channel 14.

Each element 17 comprises a base 20 (Figs. 3, 5 and 6) having flared side walls 21, 22 to fit in the channel 14 between the undercut sides 15, 16 of the flanges 12, 13. The end walls 23, 24 of the base 20 are inclined as shown in Figs. 3 and 5 to provide clearance and to insure a tight joint at the outer surface between elements. The elements 17 are shown as carrying raised letters. The letters or other characters may, however, be recessed or inlaid as desired. The elements are of various widths depending upon the configuration of the letters or insignia carried thereby.

The proper elements are selected and inserted in the channel 14. The channel is then filled out by blanks 28 having the shape of the bases 20 above described, but carrying no insignia. When the entire channel is filled the elements and blanks are locked in place by a locking element 29 which fits in and fills the transverse slot 18 and is secured by a screw 30 which is inserted from the inside of the ring although the locking element 29 may be secured in any desired manner, as by soldering. The outer surfaces 31, 32 of the flanges 12, 13 are shown as flush with the outer surfaces of the bases 20 of the elements 17 to give a neat appearance to the completed ring. The surfaces 31, 32 may however be raised if desired or they may be ornamented as by scrolls. The flanges may also be of different widths so that the channel 14 becomes off center with respect to the ring base.

The embodiment of Fig. 8 is similar to that above described except that the element 17*a* of Fig. 8 is provided with a top flange 40 which extends beyond the base 20 over the flanges 12, 13 and about flush with the sides of the ring.

In Fig. 9 the channel 14 is replaced by a tongue 41 and the elements 17*b* are provided with channels 42 which receive the tongue 41. The tongue 41 is formed with slots 43 to permit assembly of the elements 17*b*.

In Fig. 10 the elements 17*c* are formed with side flanges 45 and inturned bottom flanges 46 which slide in annular grooves 47 in the ring base 10*c*. The ring base 10*c* is provided with slots 48 to permit assembly of the elements. The elements 17*b* and 17*c* of Figs. 9 and 10 are locked in place by locking elements not shown which are secured by screws to the ring base and fit in and fill the slots 43 and 48 respectively.

The ring is suitable for troth or wedding rings, also for novelty rings. The invention may also be applied to other bands, such as ear rings or bracelets.

What is claimed is:

An article of jewelry comprising a rigid annular base member carrying a pair of flanges in fixed spaced relation to form an annular channel therebetween, a set of insignia carrying elements having bases sliding in said channel, said channel and said bases being dovetailed to hold said elements to said base member, a slot in said flanges to receive said elements during assembly,

and a locking element fitting in said slot and secured to said base member to lock said elements in place, the bases of said elements being formed with tapered side walls to allow the outer edges of adjacent elements to come into close contact.

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