

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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POCKET CLIP FOR PENS, ETC.

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This invention relates to clips for use particularly in connection with fountain pens to grip and hold a pen to a pocket or other portion of a garment with which associated, but may be used in connection with pencils or other small articles.

The object of the invention is the provision of a clip of this character, which is simple, efficient, strong and durable in its construction, is adapted to have its parts easily and quickly assembled, and has its spring member so arranged as to reduce to a minimum the liability of breakage thereof.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following detailed description thereof.

While the invention in its broader aspect is capable of embodiment in numerous forms, a preferred embodiment thereof is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which,—

Figure 1 is a central longitudinal section of a fountain pen cap with a clip embodying the invention operatively associated therewith and with the inner member of the cap in full and a portion of the clip broken away. Fig. 2 is a top plan view thereof. Fig. 3 is an enlarged cross-section on the line 3—3 in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the clip with the body member of the clip in separated relation to the spring and fulcrum members thereof and with portions of the body and spring members broken away, and Fig. 5 is a plan view of a blank from which the body member of the clip is formed.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates a fountain pen cap and 2 the inner member thereof, which is customarily employed in such caps and which, in the present instance, has a cylindrical portion 2^a and the tapered end portion 2^b, the latter being disposed at the closed end of the cap and tapering or reducing in size outwardly from the cylindrical portion 2^a.

The clip embodying the invention comprises a body or lever member 3, preferably formed of sheet metal and from a blank shaped substantially as shown in Fig. 5. This blank has what may be termed the fulcrum ears 4 at opposite edges thereof near its rear end and at its forward end is provided with the opposite side edge ears 5. A tongue 6 projects forwardly from the forward end of the blank. When the body

blank is shaped to form the clip member, its side edges are turned down at a right angle thereto to form the side flanges 7, which strengthen and give the clip a finished appearance, and the ears 4 project downward from the flanges and have their end edges turned inward toward each other to form the ledges 8, which are inclined in opposite directions from the centers thereof so as to render them of shallow inverted V-form, as shown, with the apexes or central raised portions thereof projecting toward the body portion of the member 3. The front ears 5, 5 are turned down with flanges 7 so as to project a slight distance below the same, and these cooperate with the tongue 6, which is turned under the end of the member 3 and between said front ears, to form a substantially cylindrical housing or chamber 9 in which the coiled forward end 10 of the clip spring 11 is mounted. The housing 9, in addition to forming an enclosure and anchoring means for the forward end of the spring 11, also forms a projection on the inner side of the clip end for gripping engagement, in opposition to the cap, with a pocket wall or other portion of a garment with which associated.

The spring 11 is of the flat strap type with its forward end coiled or turned in cylindrical form to fit into the housing 9 of the lever member 3 and to adapt it to be anchored against longitudinal movements in either direction by the close encircling engagement of the tongue 6 of the clip member therewith.

The spring 11 extends through and is anchored intermediate its ends to a fulcrum post 12, which is mounted on the cap 1 and extends into the lever member 3 of the clip between the fulcrum ears 4 and flanges 7 thereof, the top portion of the fulcrum post having a bearing or fulcrum portion 13 on which the top or body portion of the member 3 rests. The portion of the fulcrum post which is disposed between the ears 4 is broadened relative to the leg portion of the post so as to substantially fit the space between the ears 4 and to form shoulders 14, which rest on the inturned lips 8 of the fulcrum ears.

The fulcrum post 12, in the present instance, is composed of a strip of sheet metal, which is centrally doubled upon itself and has its looped end fashioned to form the ful-

crum bearing 13 and the shoulders 14. The leg portions of the fulcrum post below the shoulders 14 are adapted to rest on the outer side of the cap 1 and have narrow leg portions 15 projecting therefrom through registering openings 16 in the cap. The leg portions 15 are intended to be spread outwardly or in separated relation within the cap member 1 and to be gripped to the inner wall of such member by the wedging coaction of the tapered end portion 2^b of the inner cap member 2 therewith. The inward drawing of the leg portions of the fulcrum post to form the shoulders 14 also effects a drawing of the leg portions under the adjacent edge portions of the spring 11 so as to adapt the spring to be firmly gripped by the portion of the post member through which it projects, as shown.

The spring 11 has its rear or free end portion projecting a distance below the post 12 and bearing outwardly against the rear end portion of the lever member 3, tending to hold the nose or forward end of the lever in gripping engagement with the cap. The anchoring of the spring 11 at its forward end in the nose portion of the clip lever, and in rearwardly spaced relation thereto in the fulcrum post 12, retains the lever 3 in proper relation to the fulcrum post and at the same time permits a rocking of the lever on the fulcrum bearing 13. While the central raised portion of the lips 8 coact with the shoulders 14 of the fulcrum post to hold the lever 3 to its fulcrum on the post, the inclining of the lips from such central bearing points permits a rocking of the lever with respect to the fulcrum post.

It is apparent that the several parts of the clip may be easily and quickly assembled and that when assembled they form a strong and durable clip.

I wish it understood that my invention is not limited to any specific construction, arrangement or form of the parts, as it is capable of numerous modifications and changes without departing from the spirit of the claims.

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

1. A clip of the class described, comprising a lever member, a fulcrum member for the lever and a spring member extending lengthwise of the lever and having longitudinally spaced portions anchored respectively to the lever and fulcrum members and serving to prevent longitudinal movements of the lever transversely of the fulcrum member.

2. A clip of the class described, comprising a lever member, a fulcrum member for the lever and a spring extending lengthwise of the lever member and having an

end anchored to the forward end portion of the lever and having a rearwardly spaced portion anchored to the fulcrum member said spring acting to prevent longitudinal movements of the lever transversely of the fulcrum member.

3. In a clip of the class described, a lever member having a hollow nose portion, a fulcrum member for the lever and a spring extending lengthwise of the lever at the underside thereof and having its forward end anchored in the hollow nose portion of the lever, and having another portion anchored to the fulcrum member, said spring acting to impart a yielding movement in one direction to the lever relative to the fulcrum member.

4. In a clip of the class described, a fulcrum post, a lever member mounted for free rocking movements relative to the post, a spring disposed at the underside of the lever lengthwise thereof and having its forward end fixed to the forward end portion of the lever, and having a part fixedly connected to the fulcrum post to prevent longitudinal movements of the lever relative to the post and to permit yielding rocking movements of the lever on the post.

5. A clip of the class described, comprising a fulcrum post, a lever member mounted on the post for free rocking movements relative thereto and having shouldered engagement with the post in opposition to the fulcrum bearing of the lever on the post, said lever having a rounded hollow nose portion forming a lateral projection, a spring disposed lengthwise of the lever at its underside and having its forward end rounded and fitting into the rounded end portion of the lever whereby it is anchored against lengthwise movement relative to the lever, the rear end portion of the spring being projected through and anchored to the post.

6. A clip of the class described, comprising a fulcrum post having a broadened head portion with an opening therethrough, a lever member mounted for free rocking movements on the head portion of the post and having portions engaging under the broadened head portion of the post, a spring extending lengthwise of the lever at the underside thereof and having its forward end anchored in the nose portion of the lever and its rear end projected through the opening of the fulcrum post and anchored thereto.

7. A clip of the class described, comprising a fulcrum post having a broadened head portion with an opening therethrough, a lever member mounted for free rocking movements on the head portion of the post and having portions engaging under the broadened head portion of the post, a spring extending lengthwise of the lever at the underside thereof and having its forward end anchored in the nose portion of the lever and

its rear end projected through the opening of the fulcrum post and anchored thereto, the free end of the spring projecting a distance rearwardly from the post and bearing outwardly against the rear end portion of the lever, both ends of the spring tending to exert a turning movement in one direction to the lever on its fulcrum.

8. A clip of the class described, comprising a fulcrum post composed of a strip of metal bent in U-shape with its looped end broadened to form oppositely projecting shoulders, the outer side of the loop having a fulcrum bearing and the legs of the post member being narrowed from a point adjacent to the broadened head of the member, a lever fulcrumed on the bearing of the post and having portions engaging under the shouldered side portions thereof to retain the lever in rocking engagement therewith, and a spring extending lengthwise of the lever at its underside and having its forward end anchored in the forward end portion of the lever and having its rear end portion pro-

jected through the loop formed by the fulcrum post and anchored thereto.

9. The combination with inner and outer cylindrical members, the outer having openings through a side thereof and the inner member having a tapered portion, of a clip comprising a fulcrum post having legs extending through said openings and flaring outward between the tapered portion of the inner cylindrical member and the wall of the outer member whereby they are gripped firmly between said members, a lever member fulcrumed on said post and a spring disposed lengthwise of the lever at the underside thereof and having its forward end anchored in the forward end portion of the lever and anchored rearwardly of its forward end in said post to prevent lengthwise movements of the lever and to tend to rock the lever in one direction relative to the post.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name to this specification.

FRANK H. MOONEY.