This invention relates to a new and improved buckle or similar fastening device and has more particularly for its object the provision of an improved form of buckle for use with rhinestone belts. Another object of our invention is the provision of an improved buckle for use with rhinestone belts or the like in which the belt will be readily attachable and detachable and in which the belt may be readily adjustable without sewing to the various sizes determined by the waist length of the wearer.

A further object of this invention is the provision of a new form of buckle for rhinestone belts and similar ornamental belts in which the belt may be fastened to the buckle with or without sewing.

Further objects of our invention will be apparent from the specification and drawing in which Fig. 1 is a plan view partly in outline, showing a belt provided with my improved form of buckle.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the rear of the buckle with part of the belt attached.

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2 showing the method of securing the end of the belt in the channel of the bar-like member which forms a part of my improved buckle.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view along the line 4—4 of Fig. 3 and showing also the bar-like member attached to the buckle frame.

Fig. 5 is a section similar to Fig. 4 but showing an alternative form of bar-like member.

Fig. 6 is a plan view of the blank from which the bar-like member is made.

Fig. 7 is a side view of the bar-like member before it is attached to the frame of the buckle.

10 is the belt which is composed of parallel series of rhinestones 11 which are attached to each other by horizontal and vertical cords 12 and 13 respectively. The effect of this method of manufacture of the belt itself is to provide a structure which consists essentially of a series, few in number, of parallel horizontal strands and a series, many in number, of parallel vertical strands, all attached to each other by the cords or other fastening members 12 and 13, which is clearly illustrated in Fig. 3 of the drawing.

The buckle 14 has an outer frame 15 with various openings therein. Attached to the rear of the frame 15 is the bar-like member 16 which is bent into the hollow form shown in Figs. 5 and 7, so as to provide a tube-like structure.

The bar-like member 16 is soldered or otherwise attached to the frame 15 and has therein a slot or opening 17 which slot or opening 17 fits the interstices between the parallel rows of rhinestones as seen in Figs. 3 and 4. The bar-like member 16 also has integral therewith the ears 18 which may be bent over at right angles to close the openings in the bar-like member 16 at the top and bottom thereof as shown in Fig. 7.

The holes 19 are for the purpose of sewing the belt fabric to the buckle in cases where attachment by sewing is desirable. The opening 20 is used in conjunction with the holes 19 where sewing is desirable.

Before the bar-like member 16 is attached to the frame 14 the lower ear 18a is bent at right angles to cover the opening 21. When the belt is slipped into the top opening of the tube-like member, the belt can then be firmly attached to the buckle by turning down the ear 18 at right angles to the rear portion of the bar-like member 16 so as to prevent perpendicular movement of the belt.

To take out the belt for replacement or adjustment, the ear 18 can be again bent upwardly into a plane parallel position with the back bar-like member and the belt slipped out, and after another belt has been put in it can be rebent into position so as to close the top of the opening in the bar-like member 16.

Inasmuch as rhinestone belts of the type herein illustrated can be readily cut along the horizontal lines 12, it is apparent that the size of these belts can be adjusted and such belts can be affixed to the buckles shown without the necessity of sewing of any kind.

The holes 19 are provided in such cases where sewing is necessary but a principal object of this invention is to obviate the necessity of sewing rhinestone or similar belts to buckles and also to provide for the easy adjustment and attachment of various sizes of rhinestone belts to buckles of the type illustrated.

The buckles are attached to each other by a clip 22 illustrated in Fig. 2.

The metal backing of the separate rhinestones is indicated as 23 in Fig. 2.

It is obvious that various changes and modifications may be made in this form of buckle without departing from the spirit of our invention.

We claim:

1. A buckle for rhinestone belts and the like comprising a frame having an opening and a holding member permanently attached to said frame, said holding member comprising a tubular...
member having an opening therein and a foldable ear at the top of said bar which when folded over the body of said tubular member will hold the belt into engagement with said buckle.

2. A buckle for rhinestone belts and the like comprising a frame having an opening and a holding member permanently attached to said frame at the rear thereof, said holding member comprising a tube-like member having a slot therein and means at the top of said tube-like member for holding a belt fabric into engagement with said buckle, said belt fabric being thicker in the tubular portion than in the slot portion of said tube like member.

3. In a buckle for rhinestone belts and the like, a frame and a tube-like member mounted on said frame, said member having a slot therein and a foldable top for said tube-like member, said top preventing the vertical movement of the belt fabric when folded over the top of said tube like member.

4. In a buckle for rhinestone belts and the like, a frame and a bar-like member mounted on said frame, said bar-like member comprising a hollow bar having a slot therein to receive a belt fabric, and a foldable top for said bar to prevent the perpendicular movement of said belt fabric when said top is in the closed position, said belt fabric being thicker in the tubular portion than in the slot portion of said tube like member.

5. In a buckle for rhinestone belts and the like, a frame having an opening therein and a hollow bar mounted on said frame, said hollow bar having a slot therein, and adjustable means for closing the top of said bar.

6. In a buckle for rhinestone belts and the like, a frame, a hollow bar permanently attached to said frame, an opening in said bar adapted to receive a belt, and adjustable means at one end of said bar permitting the attachment or detachment of said belt, said belt being thicker in the tubular portion than in the opening of said hollow bar.

7. In a buckle for rhinestone belts and the like, a frame, a hollow bar attached to said frame at the rear thereof, an opening in said hollow bar to receive a belt fabric and an ear attached to said hollow bar to receive a belt fabric and an ear attached to said hollow bar and integral therewith by which said belt fabric can be locked to said buckle, said belt fabric being thicker in the tubular portion than in the opening of said hollow bar.

8. In a buckle for rhinestone belts and the like, a frame, a tube-like member attached to said frame, a slot in said tube-like member adapted to receive a belt fabric, an opening in said tube-like member at the top thereof and means for closing said opening, said belt fabric being thicker in the tubular portion than in the slot portion of said tube-like member.

9. In a buckle for rhinestone belts and the like, a frame, a tube like member attached to the said frame at the rear thereof, a slot in said tube like member adapted to receive a portion of a belt fabric, an opening in said tube like member at the top thereof, and adjustable means for closing said opening, said belt fabric being thicker in the tubular portion than in the slot portion of said tube like member.

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