Jan. 11, 1938. C. L. HEDDEN ET AL 2,105,319

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Filed Nov. 18, 1933 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

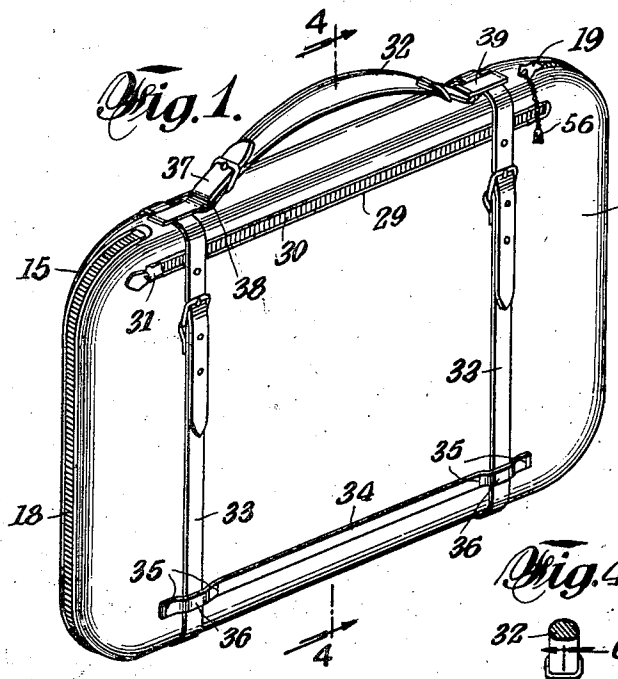


Fig. 2.

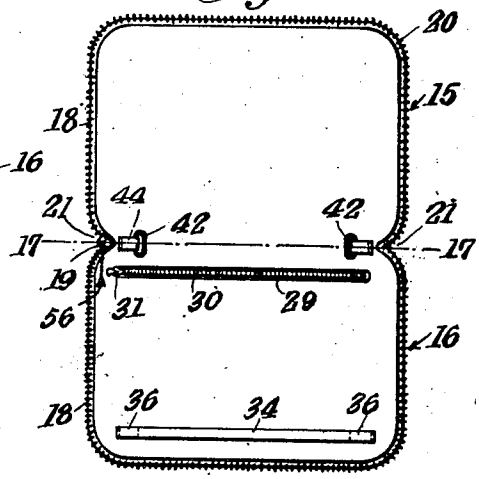


Fig. 3.

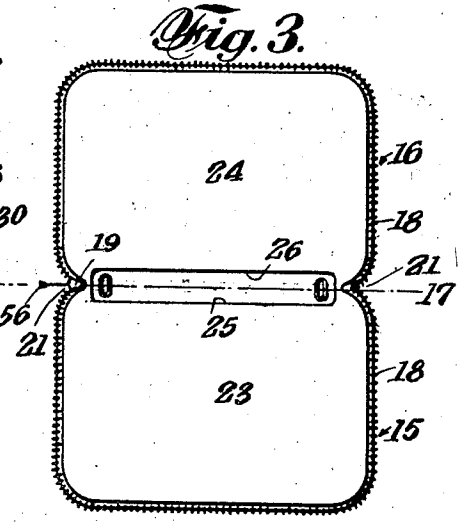


Fig. 4.

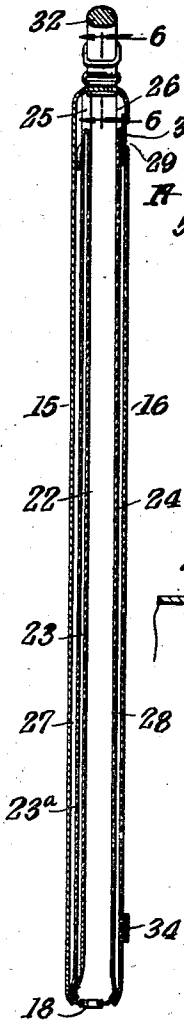


Fig. 5.

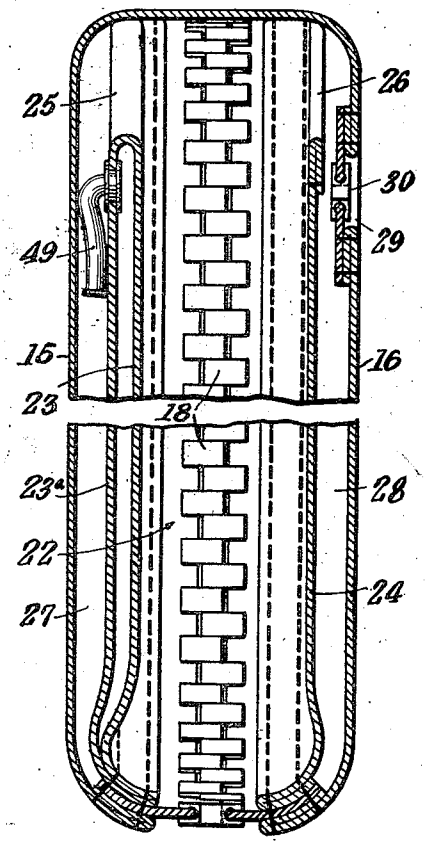


Fig. 6.

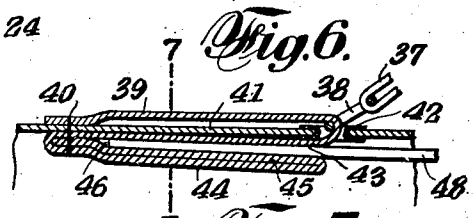
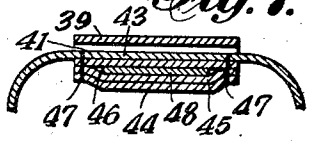


Fig. 7.



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Jan. 11, 1938. C. L. HEDDEN ET AL 2,105,319

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Filed Nov. 18, 1933 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 8.

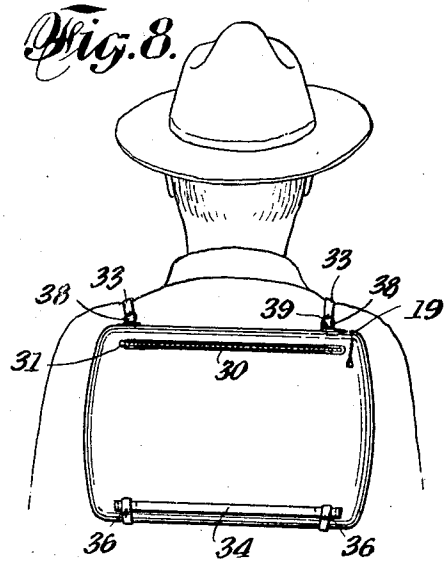


Fig. 9.

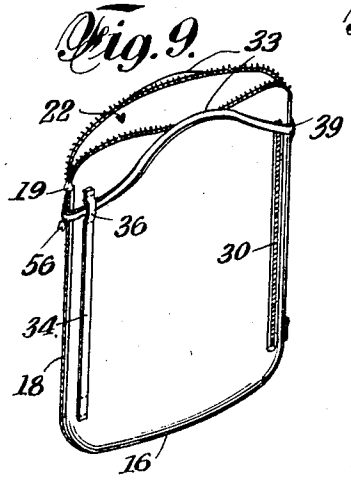


Fig. 10.

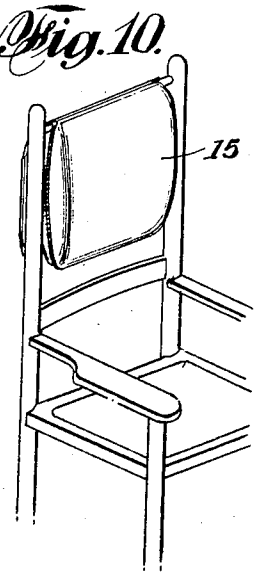


Fig. 11.

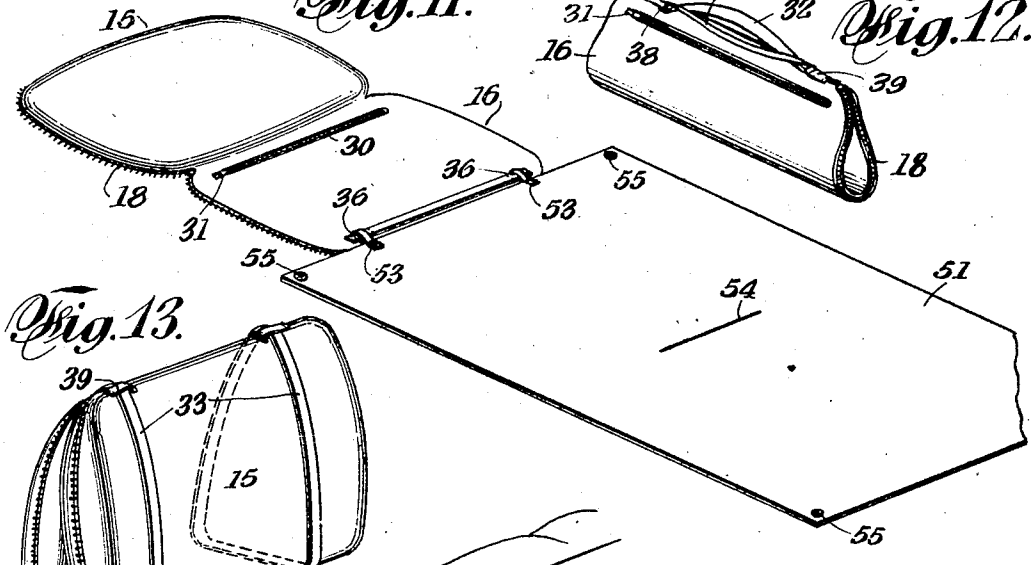
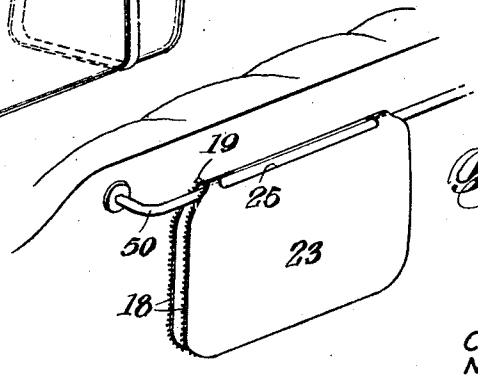


Fig. 12.

Fig. 13.

Fig. 14.



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2,105,319

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Application November 18, 1933, Serial No. 698,568

10 Claims. (Cl. 224—46)

Special objects of this invention are to provide a bag of general utility and adapted for a variety of uses, as for example, a brief case, a traveling case, a package carrier, knapsack, pillow structure and the like; which can be readily converted from one use to another, which will be accessible, convenient and practical and which will be light, strong and durable.

Other objects and the novel features of construction, combinations and relations of parts by which the same are attained will appear in the course of the following specification.

In the drawings accompanying and forming part of the specification, a practical embodiment of the invention is illustrated and a number of the various uses of the invention are indicated, but it is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the particular form illustrated and that various modifications and changes may be made all within the true intent and broad scope of the invention.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view illustrating an embodiment of the invention as in use as a brief case or traveling case.

Figs. 2 and 3 are plan views of opposite sides of the bag, fully opened up.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged vertical sectional view as on substantially the plane of line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a broken further enlargement as on substantially the same plane.

Fig. 6 is a broken sectional detail of the handle structure, substantially as on line 6—6, Fig. 4.

Fig. 7 is a cross-sectional detail as on line 7—7 of Fig. 6.

Figs. 8 to 14 inclusive are illustrations of various different uses of the bag.

As particularly shown in Figs. 1 to 4, the bag consists of two main parts 15, 16, of substantially the same size and shape foldable along an intermediate hinge line 17, to bring the edges of the two parts into juxtaposed relation, said parts carrying about their three exposed sides cooperating elements 18, of a fastener which can be secured or released by the slide 19.

The two side parts or members 15, 16, have their outer corners rounded at 20 and their meeting edges re-entrant as indicated at 21, in the nature of curved notches enabling the side parts to open up entirely flat as in Figs. 2 and 3 and producing in the closed bag, Fig. 1, neatly rounded corners about which the slide will operate freely.

The companion side members form between them when closed as in Fig. 4, a central pocket 22, the full dimensions of these members and the extending of the slide fastening about three sides of each member enables the bag to be entirely reversed, that is, when flattened out as in Figs. 2 and 3, to be folded in either direction on the hinging line 17, to bring either face of the combined structure to the inside or outside of the bag, held by the single continuous slide fastening about the edges of the parts. The article may be of different materials or colors, inside and out and such reversibility enables the articles to be readily faced whichever way it is desired to display or use the two different surfaces.

Fig. 1 may be considered as showing the bag made up with what is intended to be the outside, actually at the outside of the case. Opened up, these two parts will appear as in Fig. 2. The reverse or inside will then appear as in Fig. 3. This latter view, together with Fig. 4, shows how the members 15, 16 have at the inner face of the same, the walls or partitions 23, 24, attached thereto about the exposed edges but unattached on the hinging line 17, leaving entrances at what is normally the top of the bag at 25, 26, to open pockets 27, 28, of substantially the full dimensions of each side part.

Access is provided direct to the side pocket 28, in the illustration, by an opening 29, in member 16, adjacent and parallel to the hinge line, closed by snap fastener elements 30, under control of slide 31. If desired, a similar slide fastener opening may be provided for the other side pocket, but such is usually not considered necessary in view of the fact that the slide fastener opening 29, provides access as well both to the main intermediate compartment 22 and to the pocket 27 in the other side member.

When the article is used as a brief case or traveling bag, a handle and straps may be provided, such as indicated at 32, 33, Fig. 1. To retain the straps 33, in properly positioned encircling relation, a strap 34 is shown secured at points 35, to provide guide loops 36, for straps 33. The intermediate part of strap 34, between the guide loops 36, may be left free as indicated, so that this longer intermediate length may be looped over the handle 32, as in Fig. 12, when it is desired to carry the article in a doubled or partly rolled condition.

The handle 32 is shown as having buckles or readily releasable end loops 37, which can be readily held to or released from the loops or rings 38, fastened to the bag top.

Fastening of the handle loops is illustrated particularly in Figs. 6 and 7, where it will be seen that the anchorage consists of a strap 39, secured on the outside of the bag top by stitching or like fastening 40, and extending from this

point of attachment along the bag top a distance sufficient to form a guide loop 41, for carrying strap 33, and thence through ring 38 and through eyelet or opening 42, to the inside of the bag and back at 43 to the same fastening 40, thence toward the handle at 44, and doubled back at 45, to the original point of attachment, the last two layers forming with the first inside layer 43, a pocket 46, substantially longitudinal of the hinge line. This pocket material, as shown particularly in Fig. 7, may be stitched or otherwise secured along the longitudinal edges at 47, to close the sides of the pocket. The purpose of this pocket structure is to receive the end of a handle reinforcement strip 48, which will extend along the center of the bag at the inside, to hold the handle loops spread apart and give the bag the desired backbone for carrying purposes. This reinforcement may be a spring steel strip adapted to readily have its ends sprung into or out of engagement with the holding pockets.

One or both of the side pockets may carry or have formed with it a cushion, adapting the article to be used as a pillow or the like. In Fig. 5, the cushion is shown as a built-in part of the side pocket inside member 15, formed by the extra wall or thickness 23a, sealed to the pocket wall 23 and equipped with an inflating tube 49, which may be valved to hold the air when blown up. If the other side pocket has a similarly inflatable cushion incorporated therein, or if a separate pillow is inserted in it, the two may then be encircled by the straps 33, to form a self-supporting back rest or the like, as shown in Fig. 13, the spreading of the two side parts by the contained pillows giving the article a wide base making it stable enough for a back rest. The surrounding straps may be adjusted to vary the extent of the spread and hence the width of the base of the structure. The adjustment of the straps to squeeze the cushions together along the hinging line reinforces and imparts a certain stiffness to the structure, which may at the time also have the handle reinforcing strip 48 in place.

The opening up of the device into flat form as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, enables miscellaneous articles, such as papers, books, clothing, etc., to be arranged in desired order on one side member, after which the other side member may be folded over the top of the articles and the bag closed by simply pulling the slide around the three exposed edges of the two members. Prior to such closure, articles such as papers or the like, may have been slipped into the two side pockets 27 and 28. If access is desired to these side pockets without entirely opening up the bag, this may be had by simply operating the slide 31, giving access to the three interior pockets or chambers along a line parallel and close to the hinge line or top of the bag. If desired, the bag may be carried in reverse relation with the two side pockets 27, 28, at the outside and fully accessible and with articles, or not contained within the intermediate pocket between the side members. This intermediate pocket can be reached at such time by simply operating the slide 19, and this may be operated only part way, providing access for instance, only through one end of the bag through such intermediate compartment.

Fig. 8 illustrates use of the bag as a knapsack showing the straps 33 each connected at the top with a handle loop 36 and brought around under one arm to a strap loop 36. This provides a convenient comfortable way to carry the bag and leaves the pull slide 19 accessible to open one end of the bag and the pull slide 31 accessible to open the bag at the top, all without removing it from the shoulders.

In Fig. 9, the bag is shown opened by slide 19, only along one end of the same and with one of the encircling straps 33, slackened sufficiently to serve as a double handle for employing the device as a market bag or the like.

Fig. 10 shows the two parts of the bag thrown over the back of a chair to serve as a head cushion, shoulder cushion or the like. With the parts reversed as in Fig. 14, the open pockets are exposed to receive packages and the like, the bag in this view being shown hung over a lap robe rail 50.

Fig. 11 illustrates the use of the bag for sleeping or resting purposes, it being indicated opened out as in Fig. 2 and having connected therewith a blanket, cape or like member 51, having a short straps 53, at the head of the same passed through the strap loops 36 and caught by snap fasteners 53, or the like. For camping and like purposes, this blanket cape or bed foundation may be of a size and character to be carried in the bag when unclipped therefrom and it may be slit in the center as shown at 54, for separate use as a poncho or the like. Cooperating snap fastener elements 55 are shown disposed in the corners of the same for fastening the edges together when used as a poncho, or possibly also when used as a blanket attached to the bag structure and suitable cords or fastenings may be provided on it for use as a cape or the like.

The bag may be made of leather, fabric or other suitable materials and such materials may be water-proof and wear resisting to suit particular intended uses. The two main parts of the bag are in the nature of substantially rectangular panels, Figs. 2 and 3, joined together along a hinging line, which becomes in effect the top of the bag. This hinging portion as shown in Fig. 2, may be a continuous section of material extending across from one side panel to the other, so that the upper edge of the bag is smooth and unbroken beneath the carrying strap, Fig. 1. The re-entrant notches 21, at the joined together portions of the side panels, adjacent the opposite ends of the hinging line, facilitate the hinging movements in both opening and closing directions. This is particularly true of the closing movement, for when the slider is pulled outward or longitudinally of the hinging line as indicated by the pull chain 56, of the slide in Fig. 3, the slide, in drawing the divergent edges together, will exert a folding tendency on the panels, depending in its effect on which way the panels have been started to fold, that is, with the open pockets outward as in Fig. 3, or with these pockets inward as in Fig. 2. The slide fastener opening 29, Fig. 1, is preferably long enough to give free access to all three compartments within the bag and for that reason, may extend the greater part or substantially the full length of the bag, as illustrated. The intermediate handle portion 34 of the attached strap may be passed either over or beneath the carrying handle 32, to hold the structure in the roll formation, Fig. 12, either as a matter of carrying the bag in its rolled up relation or using it for example, to carry a roll of material within the same. The complete reversibility of the bag enables it to be turned fully inside out and to be readily thoroughly cleaned and kept in sanitary condition by sunning and airing and

such reversibility also provides desirable variety in the appearance of the bag and lengthened usefulness, because as the bag becomes worn on one side it may be reversed and used with the other side outermost.

What is claimed is:

1. A bag of the character disclosed, comprising side panels of substantially the same outline and foldable along an intermediate hinging line to bring them into juxtaposed relation, slide fastener elements extending about said panels from opposite ends of said hinging line and a slider cooperating therewith and shiftable from a position at one end of said hinging line entirely about the rims of said panels to the opposite end of said hinging line to entirely connect the edges of said panels when folded together along the hinging line or to entirely disconnect said edges leaving said panels free to be spread out in flattened relation, said panels being reversibly foldable on said intermediate hinging axis and the slider being operable to secure the panels together in either of the relatively reversed relations of the panels, pockets on the opposing faces of said panels and of substantially the full areas of said panels, said pockets having entrance openings thereto substantially the full length of the panels and one of the panels having a slide fastener opening substantially the full length of the same adjacent the hinging line for access to said pockets.

2. A bag of the character disclosed, comprising side panels of substantially the same outline and foldable along an intermediate hinging line to bring them into juxtaposed relation, slide fastener elements extending about said panels from opposite ends of said hinging line and a slider cooperating therewith and shiftable from a position at one end of said hinging line entirely about the rims of said panels to the opposite end of said hinging line to entirely connect the edges of said panels when folded together along the hinging line or to entirely disconnect said edges leaving said panels free to be spread out in flattened relation, said panels having pockets therein at opposite sides of the hinging line and the panels being reversibly foldable to bring said pockets either inside or to the outside of the bag structure formed by the edges of the panels being secured together and the slide being operable to secure or release the fastener elements in either of said relatively reversed relations of the panels.

3. A bag of the character disclosed, comprising side panels of substantially the same outline and foldable along an intermediate hinging line to bring them into juxtaposed relation, slide fastener elements extending about said panels from opposite ends of said hinging line and a slider cooperating therewith and shiftable from a position at one end of said hinging line entirely about the rims of said panels to the opposite end of said hinging line to entirely connect the edges of said panels when folded together along the hinging line or to entirely disconnect said edges leaving said panels free to be spread out in flattened relation, a pocket in one of the panels and one of the panels having a slide fastener closed opening adjacent said hinge line and substantially the full length of said panel, said slide fastener closed opening including a slider operating from either side of the panel and disposed to enable the pocket being reached from the outside no matter which way the bag is turned.

4. A bag of the character disclosed, comprising side panels of substantially the same outline and foldable along an intermediate hinging line to bring them into juxtaposed relation, slide fastener elements extending about said panels from opposite ends of said hinging line and a slider cooperating therewith and shiftable from a position at one end of said hinging line entirely about the rims of said panels to the opposite end of said hinging line to entirely connect the edges of said panels when folded together along the hinging line or to entirely disconnect said edges leaving said panels free to be spread out in flattened relation, said panels being reversely foldable in opposite directions and the slide being operable to secure the panels together in either of the reversed relations of the panels, a detachable carrying handle and means enabling attachment of the same to the bag structure along the hinging line aforesaid in one of the relatively reversed conditions of the bag.

5. A bag of the character disclosed, comprising side panels of substantially the same outline and foldable along an intermediate hinging line to bring them into juxtaposed relation, slide fastener elements extending about said panels from opposite ends of said hinging line and a slider cooperating therewith and shiftable from a position at one end of said hinging line entirely about the rims of said panels to the opposite end of said hinging line to entirely connect the edges of said panels when folded together along the hinging line or to entirely disconnect said edges leaving said panels free to be spread out in flattened relation, strap loops substantially on the hinging line, straps extending therethrough and encircling the panels and a carrying handle attachable to said strap loops, pockets adjoining said strap loops and a detachable reinforcement insertable in said pockets.

6. A bag suitable for carrying as a knapsack and provided with a slide fastener closure at one end and a slide fastener closure across the back of the same, said bag having loops at the upper edge and at the lower portion of the same and carrying straps engaged at opposite ends with said upper and said lower loops and thereby adapted to be passed over the shoulders and beneath the arms for carrying purposes, leaving both the end slide fastening and the back slide fastening accessible for use without removing the bag from said supported position on the shoulders.

7. A bag for various uses and comprising generally rectangular side panels foldable together along an intermediate hinging line to bring the three exposed edges of the generally rectangular panels together, said exposed edges of the panels being entirely surrounded by cooperating slide fastener elements, a slide operable entirely about the three exposed edges of the two panels to secure them together in the folded relation or to release them and leave the panels in flat outspread relation, such that they may be folded in either direction on the hinging line, said slide being operable with the panels folded in either direction on said hinging line, a pocket in one of said panels and one of said panels having an opening with a slide fastener therefor, positioned to enable access to said pocket when the panels are folded together with said pocket at the inside of the bag, independently of the slide fastener holding the panels together.

8. A bag of the character disclosed, comprising side panels foldable along an intermediate hinging line to bring them into juxtaposed relation, pockets on the faces of said panels substantially the full area of the same and having entrances adjacent the hinging line and substantially the full length of the panels, said panels being reversible along the hinging line aforesaid to place said full length pockets either at the inside or at the outside of the bag structure and a slide fastener closed opening in one of said panels and of substantially the full length of the same adjoining said hinging line for providing access to a pocket when the structure is folded with the pocket at the inside of the bag.

9. A bag of the character disclosed, comprising side panels foldable along an intermediate hinging line to bring them into juxtaposed relation, pockets on the faces of said panels substantially the full area of the same and having entrances adjacent the hinging line and substantially the full length of the panels, said panels being reversible along the hinging line aforesaid to place said full length pockets either at the inside or at the outside of the bag structure and a slide fastener closed opening in one of said panels and of substantially the full length of the same adjoining said hinging line for providing access to a pocket when the structure is folded with the pocket at the inside of the bag, a reinforcement pocket on the hinging line aforesaid, a carrying handle and means providing detachable connection between said carrying handle and reinforcement pocket.

10. A bag of the character disclosed, comprising side panels of substantially the same outline and foldable along an intermediate connecting portion to bring them into juxtaposed relation, slide fastener elements extending about said panels from opposite ends of said intermediate connecting portion and a slider cooperating therewith and shiftable from a position at one end of said intermediate connecting portion entirely about the rims of said panels to the opposite end of said intermediate connecting portion to entirely connect the edges of said panels when folded together or to entirely disconnect said edges leaving said panels free to be spread out in relatively flattened relation, one of said panels having a pocket therein at one side of the intermediate connecting portion and the panels being reversibly foldable to bring said pocket either inside or to the outside of the bag structure formed by the edges of the panels being secured together and the slide being operable to secure or release the fastener elements in either of said relatively reversed relations of the panels and a carrying handle attachable to said intermediate connecting portion of the two side panels.

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