Aug. 30, 1932. H. B. FERGUSON 1,874,945

UTILITY BAG

Filed Aug. 16, 1928

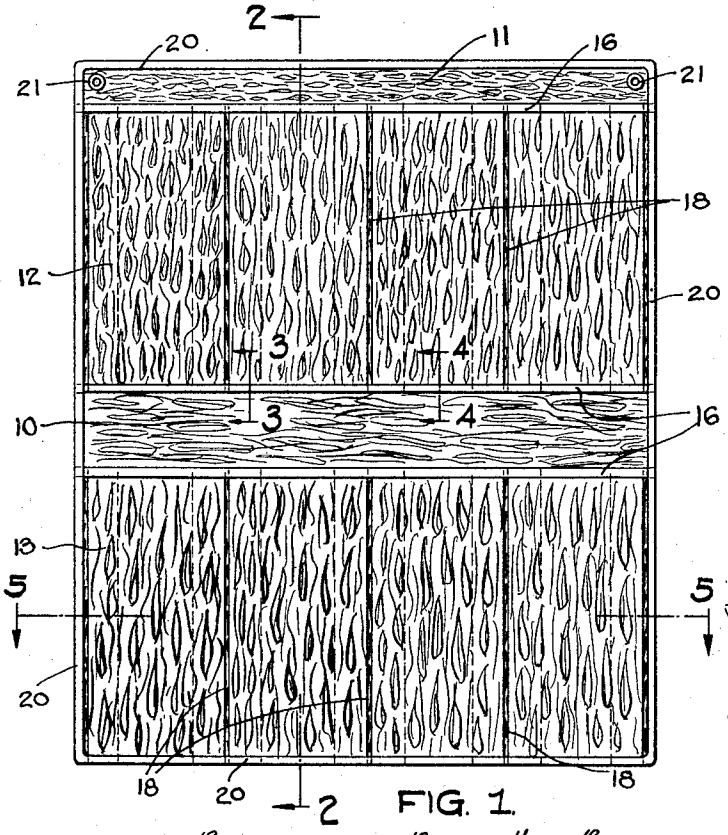


FIG. 1.

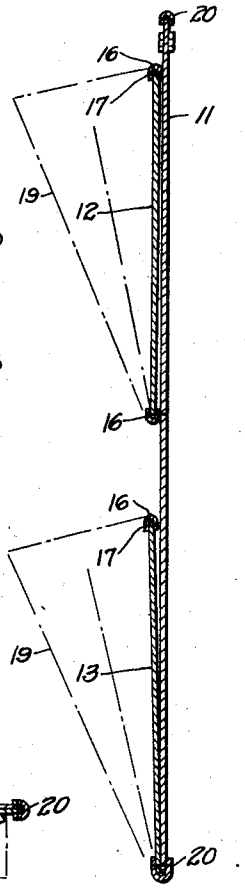


FIG. 2.

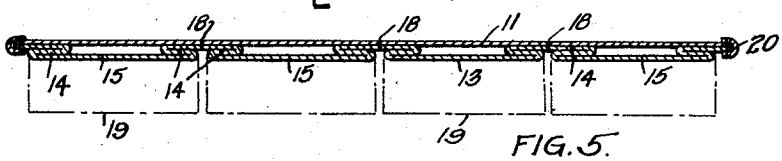


FIG. 5.

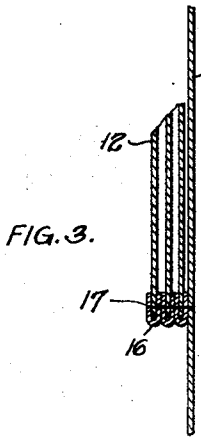


FIG. 3.

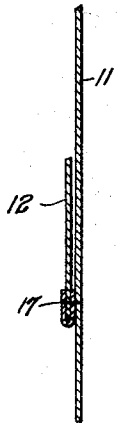


FIG. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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UTILITY BAG

Application filed August 16, 1928. Serial No. 299,912.

This invention relates to improvements in the construction of utility bags having a plurality of pockets therein for receiving various articles.

It is among the primary objects of this invention to provide a utility bag of the character and for the purposes hereinafter described which is constructed of relatively heavy crepe paper or the like all of the free edges of which are reinforced by binding the same with cloth.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a utility bag which is inexpensive to manufacture, strong and durable in use, and of generally neat and pleasing appearance.

A still further object of the invention is the idea of using relatively heavy crepe or similar inexpensive material as compared to cloth to form the body of a utility bag for receiving various articles, in combination with cloth for binding and so reinforcing all of the exposed edges of said body material, the result being the provision of a utility bag which is not only much cheaper but which is as strong, if not stronger, than those fabricated entirely of cloth.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear more fully hereinafter.

The invention consists substantially in the combination, construction, location, and relative arrangement of parts, all as will be described more fully hereinafter, as shown in the accompanying drawing and as finally pointed out in the appended claims. In the said accompanying drawing the invention has been illustrated as applied to a utility bag of the compartmental type, but it is to be understood that this drawing is illustrative solely and that the invention is equally applicable to types of utility bags other than that shown therein.

In said drawing:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a utility bag constructed in accordance with and embodying the features of this invention;

Figure 2 is a vertical section taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figures 3 and 4 are similar sections taken respectively on the lines 3—3 and 4—4 of Figure 1; and

Figure 5 is a horizontal section taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 1.

Referring to the drawing, it will be observed that the bag 10, which may be of any desired shape, style or size comprises, in this instance, a back member 11 upon the front surface of which is suitably secured the two front members 12 and 13. These members are of relatively heavy but pliable paper, such as crepe paper or the like, having a generally crinkled surface. Not only is such material relatively inexpensive but it is also strong and durable and has the necessary "give" to it which renders it admirably suited for fabricating bags constructed in accordance with the present invention.

In constructing the bag 10 the front members 12 and 13 are each formed of greater width than that of the back member 11, the front members being provided with vertical pleats or folds 14 therein to form a plurality of separated sections 15 spaced from the back member 11, the total width of the sections of each front member being approximately equal to that of the back member. As appears most clearly in Figure 1, the member 12 is adapted to be secured to the upper portion of the backing and the member 13 to the lower portion thereof, it being further observed that the upper edge of the member 12 is spaced from that of the backing 11, while the lower edge of the member 13 is coincident with that of the backing. Preferably, the members are so designed that a space is provided between the bottom edge of the member 12 and the top edge of the member 13.

Before securing the frontal members upon the backing 11 in superimposed relation with respect thereto, the top and bottom edges of member 12 and the top edge of member 13 are suitably reinforced by binding tape 16 secured thereto preferably by stitching 17. When so reinforced, the frontal members 12 and 13 are ready to be secured upon the backing, the first step being to fold or pleat the material of each of these members upon itself, as at 14, to provide the intervening

sections 15. The side and bottom edges of each of the members 12 and 13 are then secured to the backing 11, preferably by stitching, although any other suitable means of securement may be employed, these members being further secured to the backing by stitching along the lines 18 extending vertically between adjacent folds of the sections 15. In this manner a plurality of pockets 19 are formed between the front members and their supporting backing, access to which is had through the reinforced upper edges of said front members. Due to the folds or pleats 14 these pockets are provided with the necessary fullness to insure ample room for receiving shoes, rubbers or other articles of considerable size or bulk.

The bag 10, constructed in the manner described above, is completed by stitching or otherwise securing to the perimetral edges of the back member 11 a reinforcing binding or tape 20 of cloth, this tape being similar to that employed for reinforcing the top and bottom edges of the frontal members 12 and 13. Inasmuch as this reinforcing tape 20 extends along and covers the coincident side edges of the members 11, 12 and 13, as well as the coincident bottom edges of the members 11 and 13, it is unnecessary to separately reinforce the side edges of the members 12 and 13 and the bottom edge of the latter before they are secured to the backing 11. In order to support or hang the finished bag upon suitable supports (not shown) it is preferable to provide a pair of eyelets 21 in the upper corners of the backing 11.

As appears most clearly in Figure 1, the member 11 is preferably arranged with the crinkles thereof extending horizontally while those of members 12 and 13 extend vertically. There is a decided advantage in this arrangement due to the fact that the paper of which the bag is formed is more or less expansible in the direction transverse to that of its crinkles. On the other hand, the paper does not give or stretch along the line of the crinkles. Thus, it will be apparent that with the parts arranged as shown the pockets 19 will be more or less laterally expansible whereby, when said pockets are filled, the lines of stitching between the members will be subjected to a minimum stress. By virtue of the fact that the bottom member is arranged with its crinkles extending in the transverse direction this member does not give or stretch in a horizontal direction with the result that the vertical lines of stitching 18 are always in parallelism irrespective of the amount of stretch of the pocket sections 15 of the members 12 and 13. The neat appearance and wear-resisting qualities of the bag are thus at all times assured.

Utility bags of the character herein described mark an advance in the art and are a decided departure from those as constructed prior to this invention. The use of crepe paper or similar inexpensive material for the body of the bag materially reduces the expense of its manufacture without, however, sacrificing any of its strength, durability or pliability. In fact, I have found that relatively heavy crepe paper such as is described herein is as strong and durable, if not more so, than the usual cloth fabric which is ordinarily employed in the manufacture of these bags. By covering and so reinforcing all of the free and exposed edges of the paper with a suitable binding tape of cloth, in the manner disclosed herein, it becomes practically impossible to tear the bag when inserting articles into the pockets thereof.

It will thus be understood, of course, that the invention is not to be limited to the particular type of utility bag herein shown and described and that various changes may be made from time to time in the form, shape, proportion and other details of construction without departing from the general principles or spirit of the invention. It is accordingly intended to claim the invention broadly as well as specifically as indicated by the appended claims.

What is claimed as new and useful is:

1. In a utility bag, a bottom panel of relatively heavy crinkled paper, a top panel also of relatively heavy crinkled paper arranged to be secured to said bottom panel in superimposed relation therewith to form a plurality of article receiving pockets, a cloth reinforcement extending along and secured to the top and bottom edges of said top panel, the reinforced top edges of said pockets being free from said bottom panel, and a similar cloth reinforcement for binding the coincident side edges of said top and bottom panels, the crinkles of the top panel extending longitudinally of the pockets and the crinkles of the bottom panel extending in a direction transversely of said pockets.

2. In a utility bag, a pair of top and bottom panels of relatively heavy crinkled paper arranged in superimposed relation, the crinkles of one panel extending in a direction substantially at right angles to those of the other panel, means for securing the panels together to form a plurality of open-topped article receiving compartments therebetween, and cloth reinforcement extending along and secured to the free edges of said compartments and along the coincident side and bottom edges of said superimposed panels.

3. In a utility bag, a bottom panel of crinkled paper, a top panel of crinkled paper superimposed upon said bottom panel with the crinkles thereof extending transversely with respect to those of the bottom panel, cloth reinforcement extending along and secured to the upper and lower edges of said top panel, said reinforced upper edge having portions

which are separable from said bottom panel and said reinforced lower edge being secured throughout its length to said bottom panel, and additional cloth reinforcement extending along and secured to the perimetral edges of said bag.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed my signature.

HERMAN B. FERGUSON.