Sept. 1, 1959 M. J. ELIAS 2,902,287

WHEELED GOLF BAG

Filed Oct. 24, 1957 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

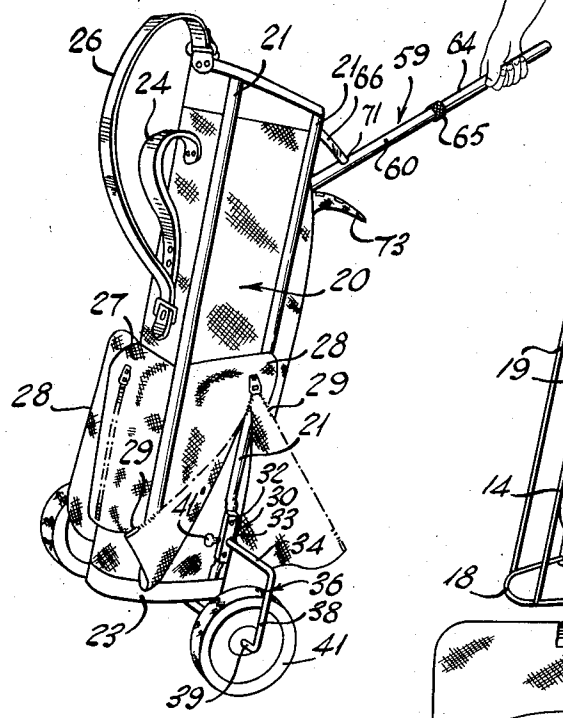


Fig. 2.

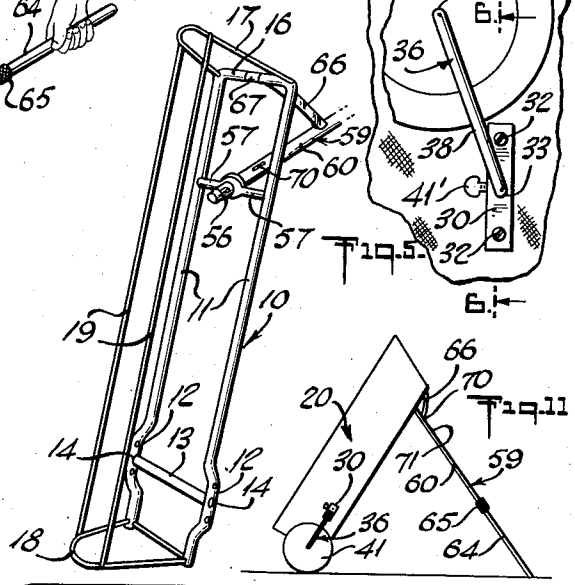
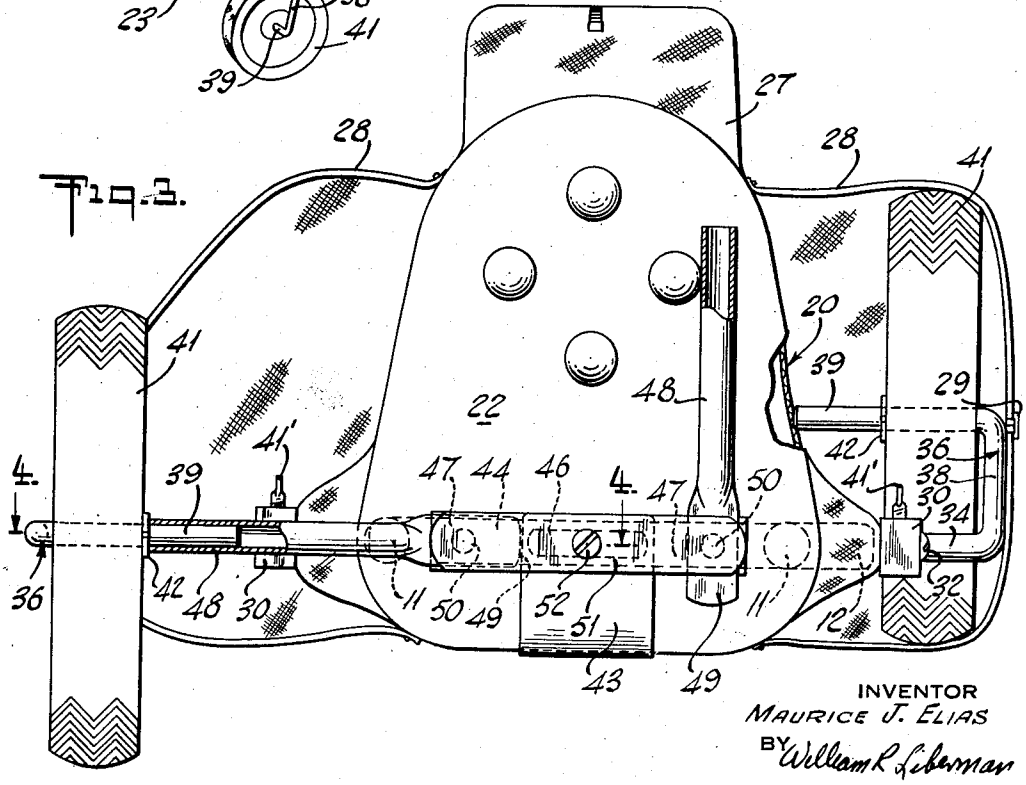


Fig. 5.

6

Fig. 11

Fig. 3.



INVENTOR
MAURICE J. ELIAS
BY William R. Liberman
ATTORNEY

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Fig. 4.

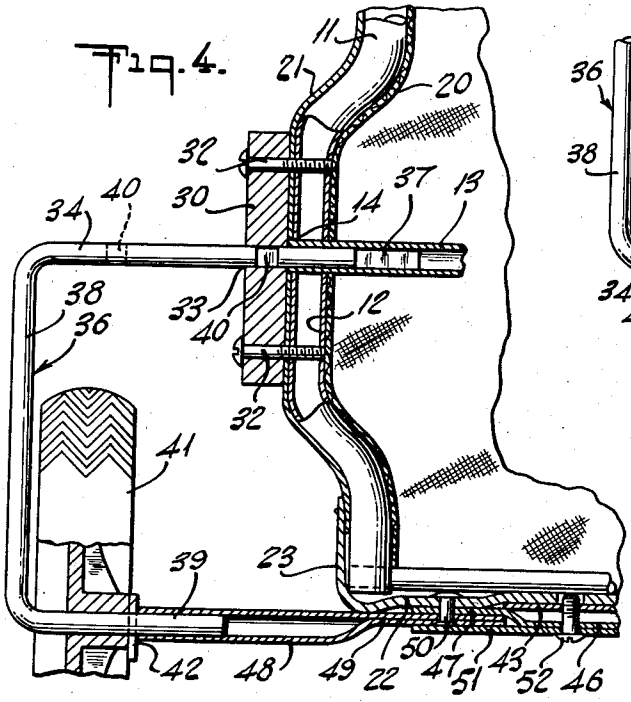


Fig. 6.

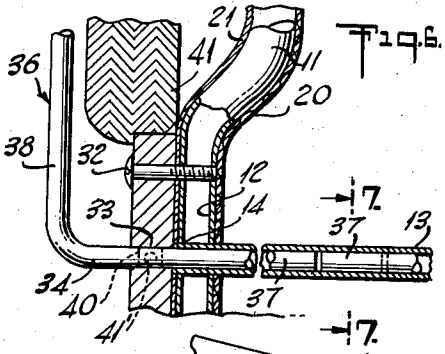


Fig. 8.

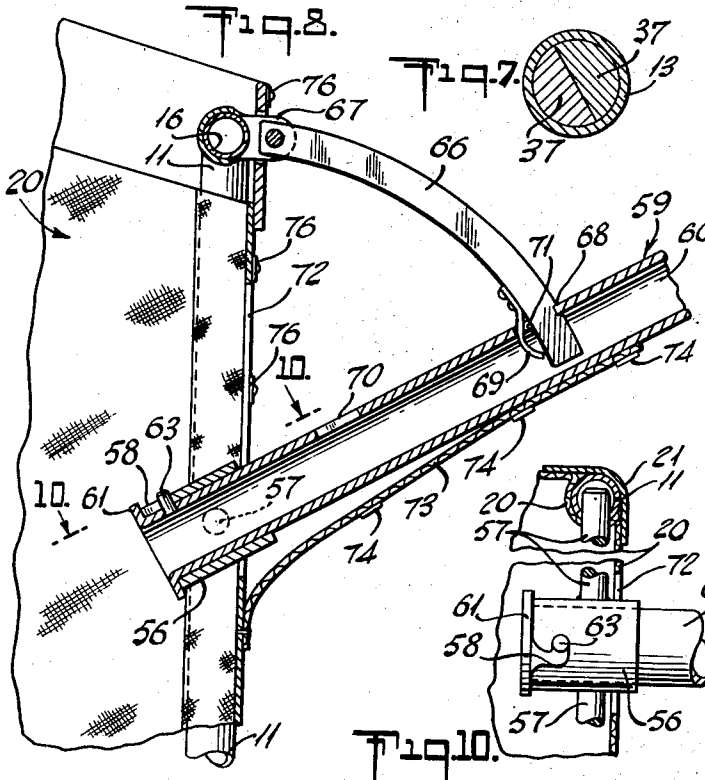
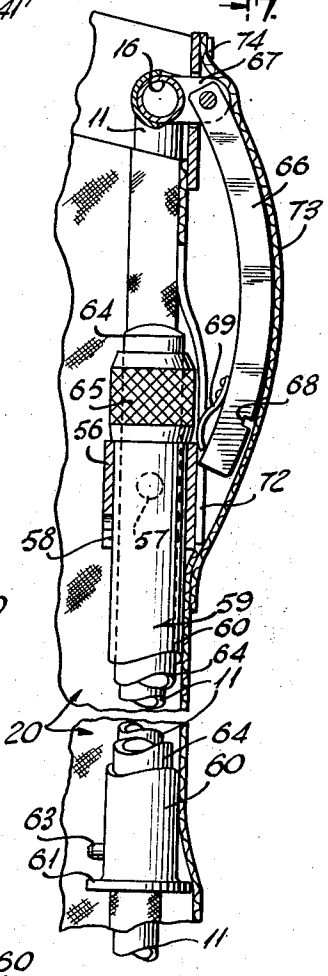


Fig. 7.

Fig. 10.

Fig. 9.



INVENTOR
MAURICE J. ELIAS
BY William R. Liberman
ATTORNEY

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WHEELED GOLF BAG

Maurice J. Elias, Hempstead, N.Y.

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5 Claims. (Cl. 280—38)

The present invention relates generally to improvements in wheeled receptacles, and it relates more particularly to an improved golf bag provided with retractable wheels permitting the easy transportation of the loaded golf bag.

It has become a common practice in recent years to employ a cart instead of a caddy to carry a golf bag along the golf course. These carts generally consist of a relatively large framework provided with a handle and a pair of wheels and having means for carrying a golf bag. The cart, while facilitating the transportation of the golf bag along the golf course, represents a bulky piece of equipment, difficult to carry and store when not in use and at best an expensive and inconvenient device. It has been previously proposed to attach wheels directly to the golf bag but these would result in a complex, expensive and unattractive arrangement.

It is thus a principal object of the present invention to provide an improved wheeled receptacle.

Another object of the present invention is to provide an improved golf bag.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide an improved golf bag having wheels to facilitate the transportation of the golf bag.

A further object of the present invention is to provide an improved golf bag having wheels which are readily retractable out of sight into receptacles forming part of the golf bag.

Still a further object of the present invention is to provide an improved golf bag having retractable wheels and a retractable handle to facilitate the transportation of the golf bag and which permits the supporting of the golf bag in an erect position.

The above and other objects of the present invention will become apparent from a reading of the following description, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a front perspective view of the improved golf bag, illustrated in operative condition;

Figure 2 is a front perspective view of the frame and handle member of the improved golf bag;

Figure 3 is a bottom plan view thereof, one of the wheels being illustrated in operative position and the other wheel being illustrated in retracted position;

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken along line 4—4 in Figure 3;

Figure 5 is a detail view, partially broken away, of the wheel and supporting bracket in retracted position;

Figure 6 is an enlarged sectional view taken along line 6—6 in Figure 5;

Figure 7 is a sectional view taken along line 7—7 in Figure 6;

Figure 8 is a longitudinal sectional view of the upper handle portion of the golf bag, the handle being shown in extended position;

Figure 9 is an illustration similar to Figure 8, the handle being shown in stored position;

Figure 10 is a sectional view taken along line 10—10 in Figure 8; and

Figure 11 is a front elevational view of the bag, illustrated and supported in an erect position.

In a sense, the present invention contemplates the provision of an improved wheeled golf bag comprising a frame member; a receptacle carried by said frame member and having an access opening formed in the top thereof and defining the golf bag; a pair of pockets located along opposite sides of the bottom of said golf bag; a pair of brackets disposed adjacent the bottom of said golf bag, each of said brackets comprising a horizontal shaft slidably and rotatably engaging said frame and projecting in opposite directions therefrom, and an arm angularly extending from said shaft and terminating in an inwardly directed axle; a wheel mounted on each of said axles, said wheels being movable between an advanced position below the level of said bag and a retracted position registering with said pockets; and locking means mounted at the bottom of said receptacle and releasably engaging said axles.

Referring now to the drawings which illustrate a preferred embodiment of the present invention, the numeral 10 generally designates a frame member including a pair of main upright laterally spaced tubular members 11 provided slightly above their lower portion with outwardly directed convexities 12 between which extends a tube 13 communicating with end openings 14 formed on the outer faces of the convexities 12. The upper ends of the tubular members 11 are connected by a tubular cross arm 16 which is integral with the members 11. The lower ends of the members 11 are connected by a cross rod. Projecting forwardly from the upper and lower ends of the upright members 11 are U-shaped members 17 and 18 respectively which are interconnected by laterally spaced vertical rods 19 to complete the frame 10.

A receptacle 20, defining the golf bag per se, nests within the frame 10 and is secured thereto in a conventional fashion by vertical lines of stitching which pass through the golf bag 20 and through the edges of strips 21 formed of leather or the like which cover the vertical frame members 11 and 19. The upper edge of the bag is secured to the U-shaped member 17 in the usual fashion. A relatively rigid base member 22 having an upright pereipheral wall 23 engages the lower U-shaped member 18 and the lower portion of the golf bag, being suitably secured thereto in any well known manner.

Positioned along the front face of the bag 20 are a carrying handle 24 and a separable shoulder strap 26 as well as a zippered pouch 27. A pair of wheel storing pockets 28 are positioned on opposite sides of the bag 20 and are each formed of a panel having its upper and side edges secured to the side walls of the bag 20 and provided with a vertical slit the opposite edges of which carry separable fasteners 29 and which extends from the lower edge of the pocket 28 to a point just short of the top thereof. Thus, free access to the pocket 28 through the side thereof is provided by separating the fastener 29, and when the fasteners 29 are in closed position a pocket is provided having a downwardly directed opening. It should be noted that the lower opening in the pocket may likewise be provided with means for closing same.

A bearing block 30 is affixed to the outer portion of each of the convexities 12 by means of screws 32 passing through aligned openings formed in the block 30 and the strip 21 and engaging tapped openings formed in the tubular member 11. Each of the blocks 30 is provided with a transverse bore 33 aligned with the tubular member 13 and corresponding openings formed in

the vertical member 11. Rotatably and slidably engaging the bores 33 are the horizontal shafts 34 of oppositely disposed bracket members 36, the inner portions 37 of the shafts 34 being of semi-circular cross section, the portions 37 of the opposite brackets 36 interfitting when the brackets 36 are in their innermost position and similarly oriented. The outer end of each of the shafts 34 is provided with a radially extending leg 38 terminating in an inwardly directed axle 39. The brackets 36 are thus rotatable about the shaft 34 and are laterally slidable within the bearing block bore 33 and the tubular member 13, the shaft 34 being provided with longitudinally spaced oppositely directed flats 40. A thumb screw engages a tapped opening formed in the block 30 and communicating with the bore 33 and is adapted to engage alternate flats 40 to lock the bracket 36 in a depending extended position or in a retracted upper position, as will be hereinafter set forth. Mounted on each of the axles 39 is a tire-carrying wheel 41 which is spaced from the inner end of the axle 39 and maintained in position by a cotter pin 42 engaging an opening in the axle 39.

An arrangement for locking the brackets 36 in their extended position and for imparting rigidity thereto includes an underplate 43 suitably secured to the bottom face of the base 23. A relatively rigid transversely extending strip 44 is provided with a raised portion 46 which extends across the underplate 43 adjacent the free edge thereof and outwardly extending arms 47 abutting the underface of the base 23. A pair of tubular bracket locking members 48 have their inner ends flattened as at 49 and are pivotally connected to the arms 47 and the base 23 by means of rivets 50 which pass through aligned openings formed in the locking member ends 49, strip arms 47 and base 23.

A flat leaf spring 51 is disposed below the strip 44 and extends parallel thereto, the inner ends 49 of the bracket locking members 48 being sandwiched between the confronting faces of the leaf spring 51 and the strip arms 47 to resiliently maintain the locking members 48 in any set position. The leaf spring 51 and the strip 44 are maintained in assembled condition and secured to the base 23 by means of a screw 52 passing through aligned openings formed in the spring 51 and the strip 44 and engaging a tapped opening formed in the underplate 43.

A handle engaging sleeve 56 is provided with oppositely directed trunnions 57 which rotatably engage openings formed in the tubular frame members 11 a short distance below the upper ends thereof. Formed in the sleeve 56 is a bayonet slot 58 which is provided with an inwardly directed flared opening. A handle 59 includes a tubular portion 60 which slidably registers with the sleeve 56 and is provided at its inner end with an outwardly directed flange 61 which prevents disengagement between the sleeve 56 and the tubular member 60. An outwardly directed pin 63 is mounted on the tubular member 60 shortly rearwardly of the flange 61 and is adapted to engage the sleeve bayonet slots 58 to releasably lock the tubular rod 60 in an extended position in which position the flange 61 substantially abuts the inner edge of the sleeve 56. The handle 59 also includes an extension portion 64 which telescopically engages the tubular portion 60 and may be locked in any desired position by means of a conventional arrangement including a knurled collar 65.

An arcuately shaped latching arm 66 has its inner end pivotally connected to a bracket 67 mounted on the frame member upper bridge portion 16 midway between the uprights 11. A recess 68 is formed in the outer edge of the latching arm 66 adjacent its free end and a curved leaf spring 69 is secured to the inner edge of the latching arm 66 opposite the recess 68. Inner and outer longitudinally spaced slots 70 and 71 are formed in the upper face of the tubular member 60. The latching arms 66 when engaging the slot 71, locks the handle 59 in a slightly upwardly inclined direction to facilitate the pushing of the golf bag as illustrated in Figure 1 of the drawing and when engaging the slot 70, locks the handle 59 in a downwardly inclined position to permit the support of the golf bag in a substantially erect position as illustrated in Figure 11 of the drawings. The spring 69 resiliently maintains the recess 68 in engagement with an edge of a selected slot 70 or 71. By pressing the latching arm 66 inwardly against the spring 69 disengagement between the latching arm 66 and handle 59 may be effected.

An opening 72 is formed in the golf bag 20 to permit the movement of the handle 59 to a storage position within the golf bag and to an operative position for the support of the golf bag or for the wheeled transportation thereof. A cover flap 73 has its lower edge secured to the golf bag at a point below the opening 72 and is provided with female snap fastener elements 74 which are adapted to releasably engage corresponding male snap fastener elements 76 carried on the bag 20 to permit the closing of the opening 76 and the housing of the latching arms 66 when these are in inoperative position as illustrated in Figure 9 of the drawing.

When the improved golf bag described above is not in use the extension 64 is completely nested within the tubular handle portion 60 and is disposed within the golf bag 20 as illustrated in Figure 9 of the drawing, the latching arm 66 depending from the bracket 67 and being enclosed by the flap 73. The wheels 41 are located within the closed pockets 28, the bracket arms 36 being upwardly and inwardly disposed with the split ends 37 of the shafts 34 interfitting within the tube 13, the thumb screws 41' tightly engaging the outer shaft flats 40. The locking members 48 are turned inwardly as illustrated in the right hand side of Figure 3.

In the above condition the improved golf bag appears to be conventional, being highly attractive in appearance and giving no indication of the wheel and handle arrangement. In order to place the golf bag in the wheeled condition the pockets 28 are opened by separating the fasteners 29 and loosening the thumb screws 41'. The brackets 36 are shifted to their outer position and are then rotated to a depending position. The locking members 48 are swung outwardly into alignment with the axles 39 and the brackets 36 are slid inwardly to effect engagement between the locking member 48 and the inner end of the axle 39 at which time the inner flat 40 is aligned with the thumb screw 41 which is then tightened. The flap 73 is opened and the handle 59 slid along the sleeve 56 out through the opening 72, the pin 63 being brought into locking engagement with the bayonet slot 58. The extension 64 is pulled out and locked in its extended position. Thereafter, the latching arm 66 is brought into engagement with the slot 71 as illustrated in Figures 1 and 8 of the drawings, in which position the handle inclines upwardly and the golf bag is ready for wheeling. In the event it is desired to support the golf bag in an erect position, the latching arm is disengaged from the slot 71, the handle 59 is swung downwardly and the latching arm 66 brought into engagement with the slot 70. In order to return the bag to its original condition the above procedure is merely reversed.

While there has been described and illustrated a preferred embodiment of the present invention, it is apparent that numerous alterations and omissions may be made without departing from the spirit thereof.

What I claim is:

1. An improved wheeled golf bag comprising a frame member, a receptacle carried by said frame member and having an access opening formed in the top thereof and defining the golf bag, a pair of pockets located along opposite sides of the bottom of said golf bag, a pair of

brackets disposed adjacent the bottom of said golf bag, each of said brackets comprising a horizontal shaft slidably and rotatably engaging said frame and projecting in opposite directions therefrom, and an arm angularly extending from said shaft and terminating in an inwardly directed axle, a wheel mounted on each of said axles, said wheels being movable with said brackets between an advanced position below the level of said bag and a retracted position registering with said pockets, and means releasably locking said brackets and wheels in said advanced position, including arms located along the lower part of said golf bag releasably engaging said axles.

2. An improved golf bag in accordance with claim 1, wherein said locking arms are of tubular configuration and separably register with said axles.

3. An improved golf bag in accordance with claim 1, including a longitudinally extending handle mounted on said frame member and movable between a position within said bag and a position projecting rearwardly thereof.

4. An improved golf bag in accordance with claim 3, including means for selectively releasably latching said handle in an upwardly or downwardly inclined position.

5. An improved wheeled golf bag comprising a frame member, a receptacle carried by said frame member and having an access opening formed in the top thereof

and defining a golf bag, a pair of pockets located along opposite sides of the bottom of said galf bag, a pair of brackets disposed adjacent the bottom of said golf bag, each of said brackets comprising a horizontal shaft rotatably engaging said frame and projecting in opposite directions therefrom, and an arm angularly extending from said shaft and terminating in an inwardly directed axle, said brackets being inwardly and outwardly slidably relative to said frame member and the inner ends of said shafts mutually interfitting when said brackets are in their innermost position, a wheel mounted on each of said axles, said wheels being movable with said brackets between an advanced position below the level of said bag, and a retracted position registering with said pockets, and means releasably locking said brackets and wheels in said advanced position.

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