March 8, 1949. H. MEYERS 2,463,993

LADY'S HANDBAG HAVING UPPER AND LOWER COMPARTMENTS AND A REMOVABLE DRAWER IN THE LOWER COMPARTMENT

Filed Nov. 9, 1946

Fig. 1

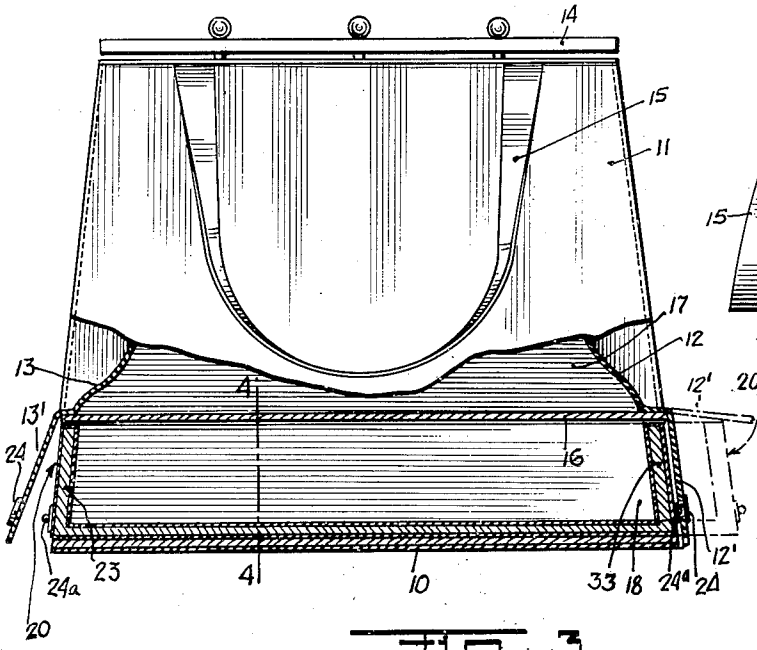


Fig. 2

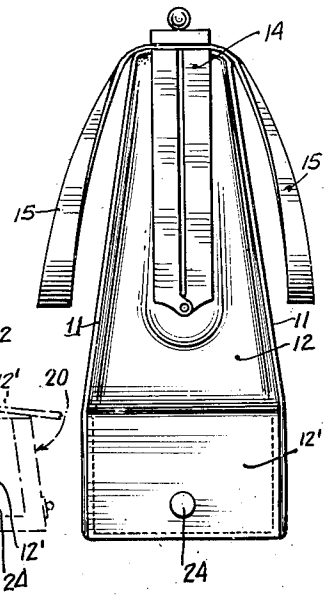


Fig. 3

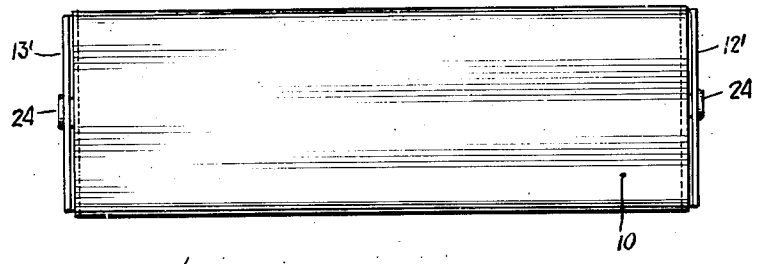
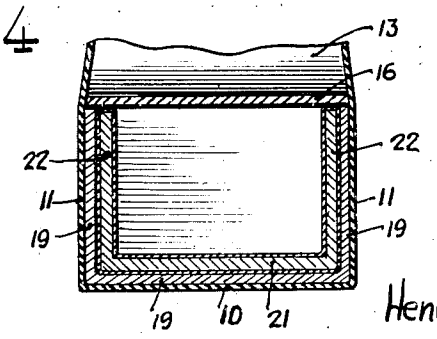


Fig. 4



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LADY'S HANDBAG HAVING UPPER AND LOWER COMPARTMENTS AND A REMOVABLE DRAWER IN THE LOWER COMPARTMENT

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Application November 9, 1946, Serial No. 708,992

1 Claim. (Cl. 150—34)

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This invention relates to a lady's handbag having upper and lower compartments and a removable drawer in the lower compartment. It relates broadly to portable carrying bags and, more particularly, to ladies' handbags, although the invention may be easily applied to a large variety of traveling bags, suitcases, and the like.

It is a general object of my invention to provide a handbag having an upper and lower compartment arranged in such a manner as to be individually and separately accessible, the lower compartment being adapted to receive a receptacle or drawer for holding special articles to which immediate and easy access is afforded, particularly such articles of greater bulk as cannot conveniently be held in the upper compartment and which normally, because of their bulk, would work their way to the bottom of a conventional handbag, thereby eliminating the necessity for searching and fumbling through a large assortment of articles and the attendant inconvenience and loss of time arising from the inherent limitations of previously available handbags of conventional construction.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a handbag of the character indicated which will be durable, which can be easily and economically fabricated and which will present continuity of design in external appearance.

The above objects as well as additional objects and advantages will readily appear from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation, with parts broken away and in section to show internal structure, of a handbag embodying the features of my invention;

Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the handbag showing one of the end cover-flaps which afford access to the drawer in the lower compartment of the handbag in closed position;

Fig. 3 is a bottom plan view of the handbag showing both end cover-flaps for the lower compartment in closed position;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 1 showing the disposition of the drawer within the lower compartment of the handbag.

To illustrate a typical application of my invention, I have indicated in the accompanying drawing a lady's handbag fabricated of any suitable material, such as leather, fabric or the like, and having a body comprising a bottom wall 10, side walls 11, and end walls 12 and 13. The handbag may be opened and closed at the top by means

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of a pair of hinged frame members 14 appropriately secured to the top ends of the side walls 11 and to the end walls 12 and 13 as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 or by means of any other conventional arrangement, such as a slide fastener means. Handles 15 may be provided for carrying the handbag.

The handbag has suitably secured therein a partition 16 of fiberboard, cardboard or any other suitable material, said partition being disposed between the side walls 11 at a spaced distance from bottom wall 10 to define an upper compartment 17 and a lower compartment 18. Partition 16 is preferably covered with the same material with which upper compartment 17 is lined.

Lower compartment 18 is preferably provided along its sides and bottom with inner reinforcing layers 19, to impart shape and rigidity thereto. Reinforcing layers 19 may be of the same material as partition 16, if desired, and may be secured to the sides and bottom of lower compartment 18 by stitching, adhesive, or in any other suitable manner. The top edges of the reinforcing layers 19 along the sides of lower compartment 18 serve additionally as a strengthening foundation for partition 16.

A receptacle or drawer 20 of relatively rigid material and having a bottom wall 21, side walls 22 and end walls 23 is adapted to be received within the lower compartment 18. The bottom portion of each of the end walls 12 and 13 of the handbag extending downwardly from the region of partition 16 is free of engagement with the corresponding portions of side walls 11 and bottom wall 10, thereby providing a cover flap 12' and 13' at each end of lower compartment 18. Thus, it is apparent that the drawer 20 may be entered into or withdrawn from lower compartment 18 at either end thereof. Fig. 1 shows in dot-and-dash outline drawer 20 partly withdrawn from lower compartment 18 to allow access to the articles held therein with cover flap 12' in raised position and also illustrated in dot-and-dash outline.

In order to retain cover flaps 12' and 13' in closed position and prevent dislodgment of drawer 20 from lower compartment 18, each of said cover flaps and each of the end walls 23 of drawer 20 is provided with a cooperating pair of fastening elements 24 and 24a.

Of course, any other suitable means may be employed to retain the cover flaps 12' and 13' in closed position. One such alternative arrangement contemplates the use of a cooperating pair of conventional slide fastener tapes, one of which

might be secured around the peripheral edges of cover flaps 12' and 13', the other fastener tape being secured to the corresponding portions of side walls 11 and bottom wall 10 at each end of compartment 18.

Also, if desired, compartment 18 might have but one open end and one cover flap, either end wall 12 or 13 of the handbag opposite this open end being permanently secured to the respective side walls 11 of the handbag for the full length of said end wall from the top of the handbag to the bottom wall 10. In this case, a pull tab (not shown) could easily be affixed to the end wall of drawer 20 adjacent its cover flap for withdrawing said drawer from the compartment 18.

In the modification of the invention illustrated in the drawings, however, withdrawal of drawer 20 may be easily effected by raising both of the cover flaps 12' and 13' from their closed positions and then pushing drawer 20 slightly outwardly from compartment 18 at one end thereof, after which said drawer may be withdrawn further from said compartment to any desired extent.

To achieve a good visual effect, it might be considered desirable to cover partition 16, reinforcing layers 19 of lower compartment 18, drawer 20 and the insides of cover flaps 12' and 13' with the same material which forms the lining of upper compartment 17.

Since certain additional modifications may be made in the article of my invention without departing from the scope thereof, it is intended that all matter contained in the foregoing description and shown in the accompanying drawing be interpreted merely as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

I claim:

A handbag comprising, in combination, a body having a bottom wall, two side walls and two end walls, a horizontal partition attached to said side and end walls at a spaced distance above the bottom wall to define a compartment above it and a second compartment below it, said walls being attached to the side walls above said partition only, leaving an opening in the ends of said body below said partition, a drawer removably insertable within said second compartment, through the open ends of said body, flaps integral with the end walls of said body which extend across the open ends of said body and overlie the corresponding end walls of the drawer, and separable fastening elements secured to said end flaps and to the end walls of said drawer for releasably attaching said cover flaps to said end walls of the drawer for holding said drawer in place in said second compartment.

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