July 24, 1956 J. E. BREGLIA 2,755,896

LUGGAGE

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Fig. 1.

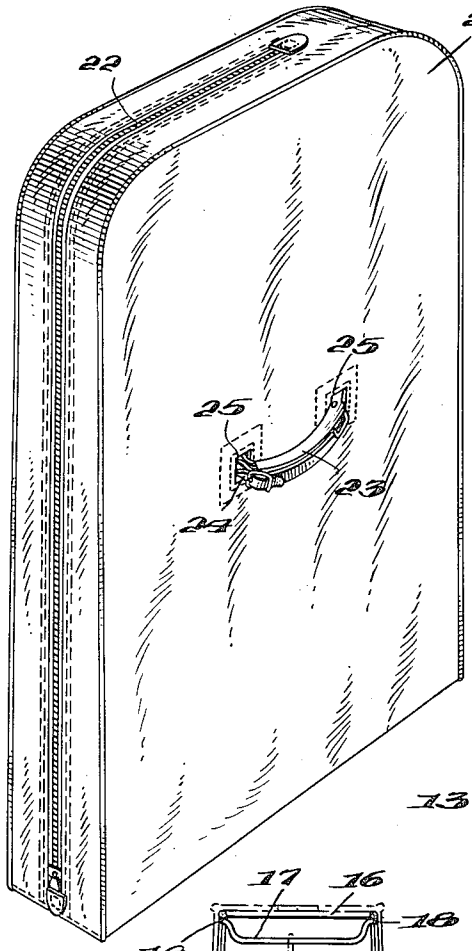
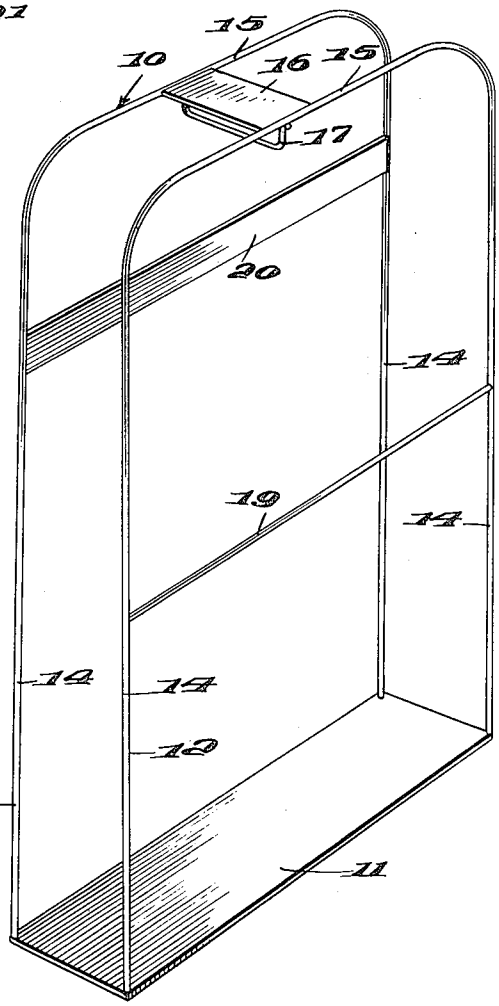


Fig. 2.



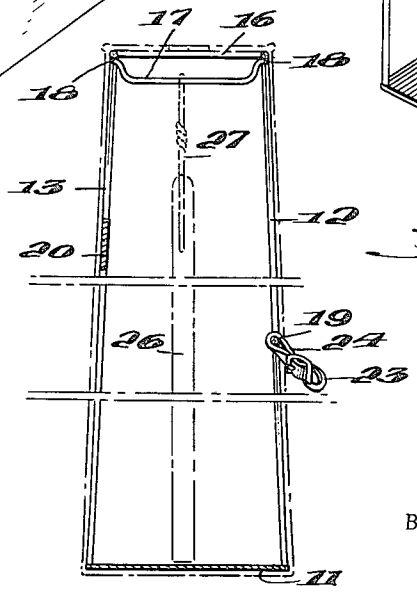


Fig. 3.

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LUGGAGE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 190—50)

The instant invention relates to luggage and more particularly to a piece of luggage that can be easily carried without discomfort to the carrier.

The object of this invention is to provide a piece of luggage that can be conveniently carried and which will not cause discomfort to the carrier. The luggage of the instant invention is constructed so that it may be carried between the arm and body of the carrier, the luggage resting or bearing on the carrier's hip. Thus, the greater part of the weight of the luggage is supported on the hip of the carrier, and this portion of the body being relatively immobile in walking, there will be no awkward swinging of the luggage as it is carried, easing the load of the luggage on the carrier and preventing chafing of the legs and entanglement with the luggage.

It is also an object of this invention to provide a piece of luggage which can be easily carried by the carrier, and in which the clothes may be suspended in hung position without any undesirable creasing thereof.

It is a further object of the instant invention to provide a piece of luggage which is easily and inexpensively constructed and which has a desirable appearance.

The invention will best be understood from the detailed description of a preferred embodiment thereof which follows, reference being had to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the luggage of the instant invention,

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the frame of the instant invention with the outer enclosing covering removed, and

Figure 3 is a sectional view of the luggage.

The novel luggage comprises a supporting frame **10** constructed on a base plate **11**, the frame **10** consisting of a pair of side frame members **12, 13** extending upwardly from the base plate **11**. Each of the side frame members **12, 13** comprises legs **14** secured to the base plate and rising therefrom, and terminating in horizontally disposed portions **15** defining the top of the luggage. In the preferred embodiment of the invention the base plate **11** is made of sheet metal and the side frame members **12, 13** are each made of materials having sufficient thickness and diameter, respectively, that they will be rigid and that the luggage will maintain its shape and stand up under the abuse to which luggage is subjected in the course of ordinary use.

The side frame members **12, 13** are maintained in their spaced apart relationship by a cross plate **16** welded to the opposite top portions **15** of the side frame members **12, 13**. Immediately below the cross plate **16** and centrally disposed within the luggage there is provided a hanger rod **17**. The hanger rod **17** is most conveniently made from the same stock used to form the side frame members **12, 13**, and is bent to a substantially U-shape with ears **18** projecting from the ends thereof and welded to the top portions **15** of the side frame members **12, 13**. A cross piece **19** is secured to the opposite legs **14** of the

side frame member **12**, spanning said member intermediate the top and bottom thereof. The cross piece **19** further rigidifies the frame structure **10** and serves an additional purpose which will be discussed in greater detail below. On the opposite side of the luggage there is provided a cross strap **20** which is secured to the opposite legs **14** of the side frame member **13**. The cross strap **20** also serves to rigidify the frame structure **10** and has an additional function which will be described in detail below.

The frame **10** constructed as described above supports an enclosing covering **21** having an interior shape which is the complement of that of the frame **10**. In the preferred embodiment the covering **21** is made of cloth which can be easily cut to the appropriate patterns and the pieces sewn together in the desired shape, the cloth used being of substantial strength to withstand the abuse to which luggage is normally subjected in use. The cloth covering **21** encasing the frame **10** is provided with a zipper **22** extending the height of an end wall of the luggage and approximately half of the top wall of the luggage to give easy access to the interior of the luggage for insertion and removal of the articles carried therein.

The novel luggage is further provided with hand grip means on a side wall thereof, and located intermediate the top and bottom of the side wall. Said hand grip means may comprise a handle **23** of a conventional form having securing straps **24** at each end thereof. The enclosing covering **21** is provided with apertures **25** in its side wall to permit passage of the straps **24** therethrough, said straps **24** being looped around the cross rod **19** for securing the handle **23** to the luggage. The cross rod **19** may be made of the same stock as used in constructing the side frame members **12, 13** or may be made of heavier stock if it is found necessary to provide the additional strength for securely anchoring the handle **23**. It will be apparent that other conventional handle means may be used in practicing the instant invention and that the form described is merely a preferred construction.

In use of the novel luggage, the articles of clothing **26**, for example such as suits, are suspended in hung position within the luggage from the hanger rod **17** by means of conventional hangers **27** which can be hooked over the hanger rod **17**. The luggage is formed with a suitable profile to permit hanging of the articles of clothing without any creasing thereof. In carrying the luggage of this invention, the carrier grips the handle **23** by draping his arm over the side of the luggage supporting the handle **23**, with the opposite side of the luggage adjacent his body. Thus, the luggage is positioned between the inside of the arm and the body of the carrier. The cross strap **20** functions as a hip brace in that upon lifting the luggage by the handle **23** there is a tendency for it to tilt towards the body of the carrier. Upon such tilting the cross strap **20** will come into contact with the carrier's body in the area of the hip so that some of the weight of the luggage will be supported on the carrier's body. In walking, the parts of the body in the area of the hip are relatively immobile with the result that in carrying the luggage in the described manner, there will be little or no swinging thereof, preventing chafing of the legs and entanglement with the luggage. As a further feature of the invention, side frame members **12, 13** are inclined towards each other so that the luggage tapers towards the top. This feature improves the appearance of the luggage and also facilitates carriage of the luggage between the arm and body of the carrier. The luggage constructed in accordance with the instant invention is simple in its construction, inexpensive and extremely light avoiding any excess weight on the carrier. The

bottom plate 11 permits setting the luggage on the ground without any possibility of the luggage falling over.

The novel luggage has been described in a preferred form which is merely exemplary of the invention. It will be apparent to those skilled in the art that the construction of the novel luggage may be modified without departing from the scope of the invention. Accordingly it is not intended that the invention be limited except as set forth in the claims which follow.

I claim:

1. Luggage comprising a skeletonized frame of box-like shape having height, width, and thickness, said height being of a dimension substantially lower than the average person's arm and said thickness being of a dimension such that said luggage can be accommodated between the arm and the side of the body of an average-size person, wherein the hand of such person would extend approximately half-way down the length of said luggage and on the outside thereof, said frame being constructed of a substantially rectangular base plate having a pair of inverted U-shaped members disposed widthwise of said box-like shape secured thereto at the corners thereof, and extending inclinedly upward therefrom so as to converge toward each other in order to fit comfortably within the space between the arm and the body, including a flexible bag enveloping said frame to form covering walls for said frame comprising top, bottom, end and side walls, and handle means disposed on the exterior of a side wall substantially below said top wall so that said luggage may be carried with a substantial portion thereof between the arm and the body.

2. Luggage comprising a skeletonized frame of box-like shape, said frame having a base plate, a pair of inverted U-shaped members secured thereto and extending upwardly therefrom, said members being slightly inclined toward each other from the base plate upwardly, a cross-piece extending across the legs of one of said members and secured to said legs at a point predeterminedly spaced from said base plate, a cross plate secured to said members and extending therebetween at a top portion thereof, a flexible bag enveloping said frame, and a handle element having means for connection to said cross-piece through slits in said bag.

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