This invention relates to handbag covers, and has particular reference to handling covers of the removable washable type.

One object of the invention is to provide a handbag cover having an improved construction such that it can be readily opened up to a greater degree than heretofore possible to facilitate the washing and particularly the ironing of the cover, and the latter being readily applied to and removable from the handbag.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a device including a foundation bag and cover together with improved means for removably interengaging the same; and improved means to maintain a snug, uniform fitting relationship therewith.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a removable washable cover having stiffening elements removably associated in an improved manner with a closed end of the cover; and the stiffening elements being desirably so arranged relative to the cover and fastener portions thereof, as to materially facilitate washing and ironing of the cover by removal of obstructions upon withdrawing the stiffener elements from the cover.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a device such as a handbag cover having relatively few and simple parts, and which is inexpensive to manufacture, adapted for quantity production, adapted for rapid and convenient operation, durable, reliable and efficient in use, and neat, compact, and attractive in appearance.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent as the specification proceeds.

With the aforesaid objects in view, the invention consists in the novel combinations and arrangements of parts hereinafter described in their preferred embodiments, pointed out in the subjoined claims, and illustrated in the annexed drawing, wherein like parts are designated by the same reference characters throughout the several views.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a view in front elevation showing a device embodying the invention.

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the same.

Fig. 3 is a view in front elevation of the foundation bag.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a view in front elevation of the cover alone, with parts removed to clearly show the construction.

Fig. 6 is an edge view of the cover at the open end thereof.

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary plan view of a stiffener strip.

Fig. 8 is an end view thereof.

Fig. 9 is an enlarged sectional view taken on line 8—8 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 10 is a diagrammatic view in a plane of the arrangement of the interlacing.

The advantages of the invention as here outlined are best realized when all of its features and instrumentalities are combined in one and the same structure, but, useful devices may be produced embodying less than the whole.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art to which the invention appertains, that the same may be incorporated in several different constructions. The accompanying drawing, therefore, is submitted merely as showing the preferred embodiments of the invention.

Referring in detail to the drawing, 10 denotes a device embodying the invention. The same may include a foundation bag 11 and a cover 12 enclosing the same. The foundation bag provides any conventional pocket 13 by means of walls 14, having an internal lining 15, the walls being interconnected along their bottoms and ends and being separate of each other at the top. The latter may be releasably closed by any convenient closure, such as a slide fastener 16, having a slide 17. The slide fastener desirably comprises hooks of a composition material colored to conform to that of the device 10, said hooks being mounted on the usual flexible strips 18 that may be connected to the lining or other wall structure as shown at 19.

The side walls of the foundation bag may have one or more holes, such as 20, reinforced by eyelets 21. Each of these eyelets is provided in a corner portion of each side wall adjacent to an end of the bag and below the slide fastener but in relative proximity thereto, so that the slide fastener reenforces the bag portion at the region of the eyelets. Also each side wall is provided with a plurality of spaced snap fastener sockets in proximity to the slide fastener and spaced therealong. The eyelets 21 and sockets 22 may be backed by the lining 15 as shown in Fig. 4. In other respects the foundation bag 11 is conventional. If the bag is of the type having a closure flap, the cover hereinafter described may have a corresponding flap to overlie the same.

The cover 12 may consist of two walls 23, 24,
desirably consisting of a single piece of a washable fabric of any suitable character. In any case, these walls are permanently interconnected along one end 25 of the cover, and along the bottom 26 thereof. The walls are separable at each other at the top 27 of the cover and at the opposite end 28 thereof. The opening at the top of the cover may be regarded as permanently open, except in so far as it may be closed by the foundation bag, and the end 28 may be releasably clonned by any suitable fastening arrangement.

It will be seen that the cover 12 is of greater length than the foundation bag so as to provide end portions 29 that project beyond a corresponding end of the bag. These end portions may be suitably lapped inward at 30, and stitched at 31 for reinforcement. A series of spaced holes 32 is formed in the end portion of each wall, and said holes being reinforced by eyelets 33.

The lowermost of the eyelets 33 is near the bottom of the cover, and the uppermost near the top thereof, in the extreme corner, and in line with holes 34, 35, respectively, for each wall, arranged to line with the corresponding eyelets 21 in the adjacent corner of the foundation bag.

Extending marginally along the top opening of the cover is an internal hem portion 36 of tubular form secured by stitching 37. This hem portion serves as a reinforcement for the cover, affords additional body thereto, and strengthens the securing of the eyelets 35.

Desirably stiffener strips such as 38 are removably inserted in the hem portions to assure continuous engagement of the cover walls with the foundation bag. Such strips may consist of thin sheet metal of pliable or resilient character, or any other kind of bonding material. To receive the strips 38, slots or cut outs 39 are formed in the tubular portions adjacent to the closed end of the cover. When the strips in place, snap fastener heads 40, will, upon releasable engagement with their corresponding sockets 22, maintain the cover evenly against the foundation bag at the top of the cover.

Preferably the head elements 40 may be permanently secured to the stiffener strips 38, as holes 41 formed in the inner walls of the tubular portions 36, for passage of the heads therethrough into engagement with the sockets 22 as stated.

Hence the stiffener strips are directly rigidly secured to the foundation bag, and hold the cover with increased reliability against any slipping relative to the bag. Further, if the strips 38 are removed for washing of the cover, the heads 40 will not be present to interfere with the ironing operation. The cover must be ironed smooth especially near the top thereof, as this is a conspicuous part of the cover. By placing the heads 40 at equal distances from the ends of the strips 38, the latter can be variously inserted, and the heads will readily register with the holes 41.

For securing the cover on a handbag, a flexible or tension element, such as a cord or braid is desirably of a contrasting color with the cover 12 is successively passed through the different registering eyelets 33 of the opposed cover walls, beginning at the lowermost eyelets, each side of the element 42 forming a series of reverse bends, and the different sides of the elements describing a loop formation as shown in Fig. 10 by the crossing of the element at the eyelets as indicated at 43.

The length of each loop 44 is equal to the distance between the successive eyelets 33. After passing through the uppermost eyelets 33, one side 45 of the flexible element 42 is passed through both sets of registering eyelets, including eyelets 21 in the foundation bag, and eyelets 35 in the cover, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and the ends of the element are tied in a releasable, neat and ornamental knot 46.

The manner of using the invention will now be clearly apparent. The invention is made up and sold as a unit as shown in Fig. 1. Access to the pocket 13 is had by opening the slide fastener 16, and the cover 12 is not affected by such operation. If the cover becomes soiled and requires washing, the knot 46 is opened and the braid 42 removed. Then the snap fasteners 22, 40 are disengaged for removal of the cover. Finally, the cover is opened up fully to permit the strips 38 to be removed through the openings 39, the heads 40 being thus easily disengaged from the holes 41.

The ironing of the cover is especially convenient, because the iron can be easily inserted into the cover, the latter being open along two adjacent sides, so that the cover can be ironed on the inside as well as on the outside, and the cover may also be disposed conveniently on a suitable buck for ironing. To reassemble the cover, the strips 38 are inserted into the tubular part 38 through the holes 39, until the heads 40 register with the holes 41. The closed end of the cover prevents accidental removal of the strips 38 and also closes the openings 39. Now the foundation bag may be inserted into the cover and by engaging the latter at 21, and by the tensioning engagement of the cover and bag, caused by suitably tightening the braid. However, the most desirable results are obtained by utilizing in addition the stiffener strips and snap fastener elements referred to.

It will be appreciated that various changes and modifications may be made in the device as shown in the drawing, and that the same is submitted in an illustrative and not in a limiting sense, the scope of the invention being defined in the following claims.

I claim:

1. A handbag including a foundation bag having a top opening, a cover for the bag including side walls interconnected along the bottom and an end thereof and affording a top opening in register with the bag opening, said cover walls being separate of each other at the opposite end thereof and having holes therethrough at said end, said foundation bag having holes in register with certain of the holes of the cover, and a flexible element extending continuously removable through the several holes of the cover walls and through the registering cover and bag holes to close the cover at said end and to secure the cover to the bag, said element having its ends releasably secured, and as for the purpose set forth.

2. A handbag comprising a foundation bag and a cover therefor, said cover being closed along two adjoining edges and being open along the remaining edges, the foundation bag having an opening in register with one of the openings of the cover, the other opening of the cover being at an end of the foundation bag, the opposite having side walls projecting beyond said end of the foundation bag, and means for releasably engaging said projecting ends of the cover walls to close the corresponding opening of the cover, said means including a tie element and holes in
the projecting ends of the side walls through which the tie element is interlaced, and the side walls having other holes in a corner thereof adjacent to the permanent opening of the cover and the interlaced end thereof but spaced inward of the latter, the bag having holes in register with the last mentioned holes, and the element extending operatively through the registering holes to secure the cover to the bag.

3. A washable cover for a handbag, said cover having an opening for receiving a handbag, said cover having a tubular hem along said opening, said tubular hem having an opening, a stiffening strip removably inserted into the tubular hem through the opening thereof, said strip having a fastener element, said tubular hem having a hole through which the fastener element is releasably engageable with a handbag to snugly retain the cover against the handbag.

4. A handbag including a foundation bag and a removable cover therefor, said cover being closed along two adjacent sides thereof and being adapted to be open along the remaining two adjacent sides thereof, said bag and cover having registering holes, and means removably passing through said holes for securing the cover to the bag, and said cover having opposed walls provided with other registering holes at an opening thereof, and said means being a flexible lacing that also passes through the last mentioned holes to close said cover opening.

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