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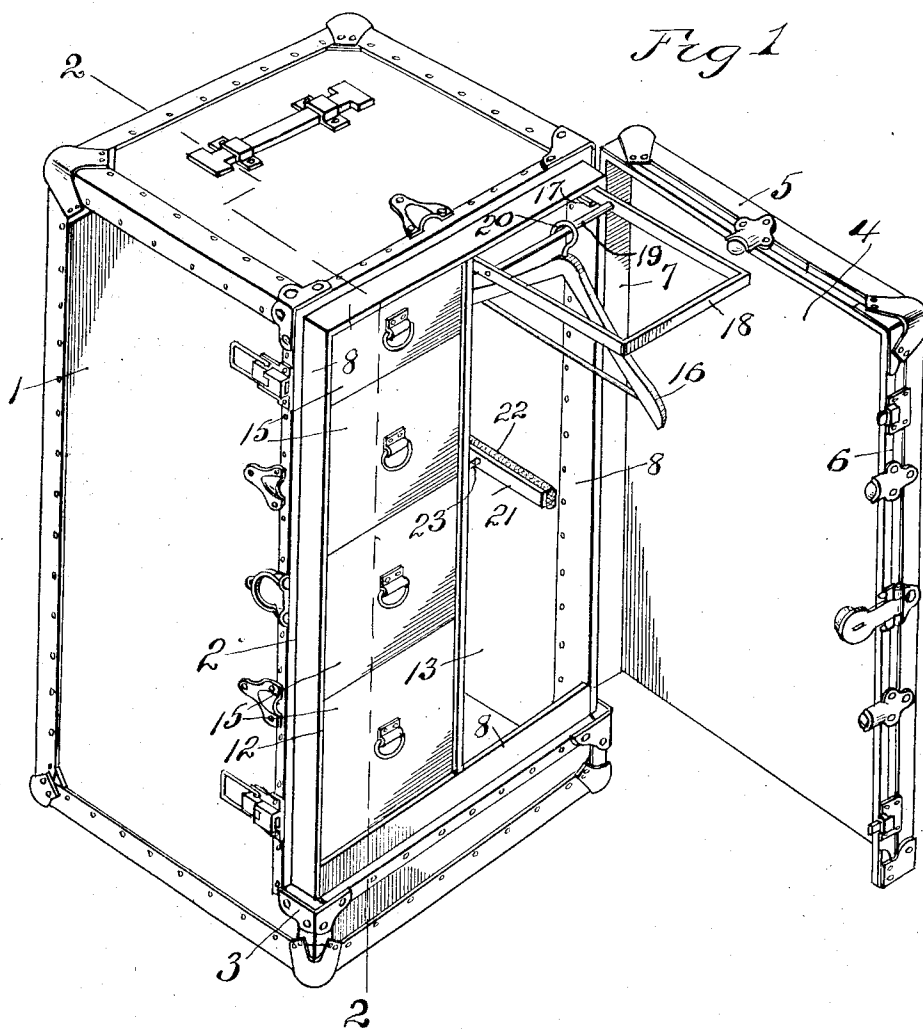
V. WEEKS

1,637,206

WARDROBE TRUNK

Filed Aug. 10, 1925

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



Witness:

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INVENTOR.

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BY

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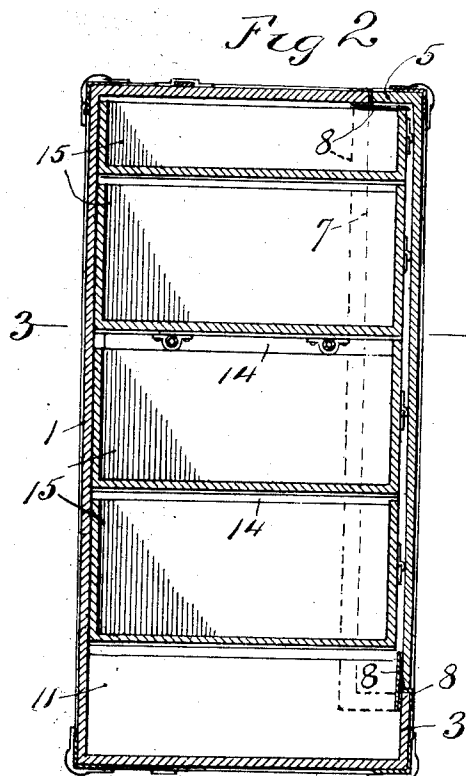
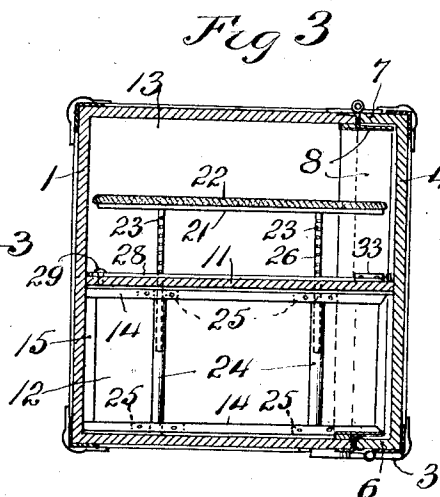
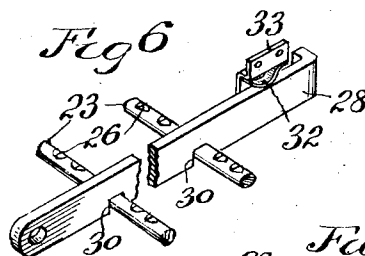
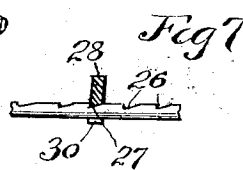
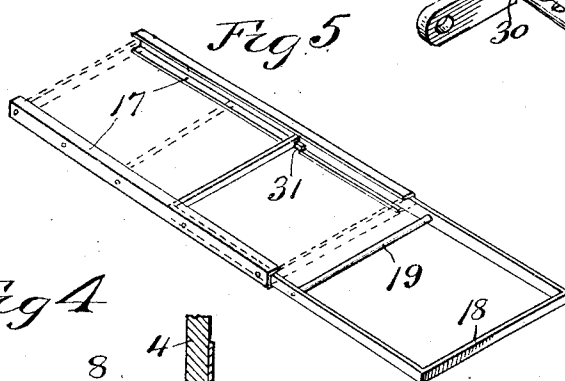
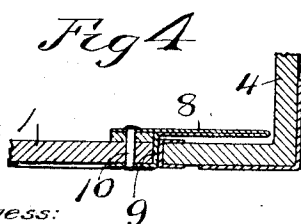
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WARDROBE TRUNK

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



Witness:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VIRGIL WEEKS, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

WARDROBE TRUNK.

Application filed August 10, 1925. Serial No. 49,299.

My invention relates to improvements in wardrobe trunks.

One of the objects of my invention is to provide in a wardrobe trunk, of the type having a front opening and arranged in its operative position to stand on end, and having a cover hinged on a vertical axis to the body, novel means for supporting and bracing the cover in its closed position.

Another object of my invention is the provision of novel binding means at the edges of the body around the front opening, which brace the body and at the same time forms supporting and bracing means for the cover in the closed position of the latter.

Still another object of my invention is to provide novel partitioning means in the body of the trunk by which the latter is braced and divided into compartments and which forms bracing means for the cover in the closed position of the latter.

My invention provides still further a construction which is simple, cheap to make, durable, not liable to breakage or to get out of order, which is convenient, and which affords a maximum of utilizable space.

The novel features of my invention are hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, which illustrate the preferred embodiment of my invention.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of my improved trunk, showing the cover open and the hanger support pulled out to its loading and unloading position.

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view on the plane of the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, the cover being shown closed.

Fig. 3 is a cross section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged horizontal sectional view of a portion of the cover and part of the body, the cover being shown in the closed position.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the hanger support.

Fig. 6 is an enlarged perspective view, partly broken away, of the latch and the presser member arms with which it co-operates.

Fig. 7 is an enlarged cross section of the latch and one of the presser member arms partly broken away.

Similar reference characters designate similar parts in the different views.

1 designates the body of the trunk, which

is of the usual wardrobe type, adapted, in operative position, to stand on one end, and having a front opening 2, and an outwardly extending ledge portion 3 at the lower end of the front opening.

4 designates a cover adapted to close the opening 2 and to swing over the ledge portion 3, and provided at its upper end with a flange 5 and at its longitudinal edges with flanges 6 and 7, the latter being hinged in the usual manner on a vertical axis to the body 1.

The front edges of the body 1 and the upper edge of the ledge portion 3 are respectively provided with edge binders comprising flanges 8, each of which consists of a sheet member, preferably sheet metal doubled on itself, see Fig. 4, and extending outwardly from the inner side of the body, one side portion of the member extending across the adjacent edge of the body 1, as designated by 9, and both side portions of the doubled member respectively embracing and being fastened to the inner and outer sides of the body 1, as by rivets 10.

The lower flange 8 extends upwardly from the ledge portion 3 at the lower end of the opening 2 between the side flanges 8. The latter are at the sides of the opening 2 and the upper flange 8 is at the upper end of said opening.

Within the body 1 is a vertical partition 11 which extends from the upper to the lower end of the body, and which divides the latter into two compartments 12 and 13. The partition 11 extends from the rear of the body 1 to the forward edge of the upper flange 8 and to the inner side and over the upper edge of the lower flange 8.

When the cover 4 is closed, as in Figs. 2 and 3, it is adapted to bear against the front edge of the partition 11, and against the front side of the lower flange 8. The flanges 5, 6 and 7 of the cover, in the closed position of the latter, embrace the outer sides respectively of the upper and side flanges 8. The flanges 8 thereby support and brace the cover, as does the partition 11, in the closed position of the cover 4. The partition 11, in addition to its function of dividing the body 1 into compartments, braces the latter and also braces the upper and lower flanges 8, as well as the cover 4.

Fastened to the partition 11 in the compartment 12 are horizontal angle bars 14 which are paired with similar angle bars 14

secured to the inner side of the left side of the body 1. 15 designates drawers in the compartment 12 which are respectively slidably supported on the pairs of angle bars 14 so as to be withdrawn through the opening 2.

Suitable means for supporting clothes hangers 16, Fig. 1, in the compartment 13 are provided, and which may comprise two channel guide bars 17 respectively fastened to the partition 11 in the compartment 13 and to the inner side of the right side of the body 1 adjacent to the upper end of the latter. Slidably fitted in the channel bars 17 is a rectangular frame 18 adapted to be slid into the body 1 to the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 5, and through the opening 2 to the loading position shown in solid lines in Fig. 5 and Fig. 1.

A cross bar 19 has its ends respectively fastened to the opposite sides of the frame 18. It is adapted to support clothes hangers 16, one of which is shown in Fig. 1, and each of which has a hook 20 adapted to releasably engage and be supported by the bar 19, as shown.

When the frame 18 is in the position shown in Fig. 1, and in solid lines in Fig. 5, the hangers may be loaded on or removed from the bar 19. After being placed on the bar 19, the frame 18 is forced to the rear position, shown in dotted lines in Fig. 5, in which position, the clothes, not shown, will be suspended by the hangers in the compartment 13.

For pressing the clothes, so suspended, against the inner side of the body 1, suitable means may be provided, as a presser member 21, which is disposed horizontally in the compartment 13, and is provided at the side adjacent to the suspended clothes with a pad 22. At its other side the presser member 21 is provided with two horizontal parallel cross arms 23, which extend through the partition 11 and are slidably mounted respectively in two horizontal supporting cross tubes 24, Figs. 2, 3 and 6, disposed between two of the adjacent drawers 15, and which are supported by clips 25 fastened to the under sides of the adjacent pair of angle bars 14. It will be noted that the drawers 15 extend between the partition 11 and the upper flanges 8 and the left flange 8, thus affording a brace for said flanges. By having the flanges 8 extending forwardly from the front edges of the body, the available space in the body is largely increased, thus eliminating the use of the cover for supporting articles, and thereby reducing the weight of the cover, while affording in the body all the space usually divided between the body and cover.

The arms 23, which may be round rods, are provided each on its upper side with notches 26 shaped like ratchet notches and

which are adapted to receive the beveled edge 27 on the under edge of a horizontal forwardly and rearwardly extending latch bar 28, pivoted by a pin 29 in the compartment 13 to the adjacent side of the partition 11. The latch bar 28 has two such beveled edges 27 adapted to respectively engage the rod arms 23 and respectively located in notches 30 provided in the under edge of the latch bar 28 and adapted to respectively receive the rod arms 23.

The frame 18 has its forward movement limited by a tongue 31, Fig. 5, which extends upwardly inside the frame 18 from the lower flange of one of the channel bars 17, and is adapted to engage the rear end of the frame 18, as shown in solid lines in Fig. 5.

In the operation of the invention, after the hangers 16 have been loaded on the cross bar 19, the frame is forced into the body 1 to the position in which the clothes carried by the clothes hangers will be in the trunk body, and the frame 18 will be in the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 5. The presser member 21 is then forced to the right so as to press the clothes against the adjacent inner side of the body of the trunk. The latch bar 28 is then disposed with its beveled edges 27 engaged with the adjacent notches 26 of the rod arms 23 respectively. The latch bar will thus releasably hold the presser member 21 from retracting from the pressing position.

For holding the latch bar 28 thus engaged, when the trunk is turned upside down during shipment or storage, a spring plate 32 bears on the upper edge of the latch bar 28, and is fastened at one end to a clip 33 in which the latch bar 28 is upwardly and downwardly movable, and which is fastened to the partition 11. The spring plate 32 yields to permit the latch bar 28 being freed from the rod arms 23, but engages it with the arms when the latch bar is released.

When the cover 4 is closed, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, it will embrace the flanges 8, and will be adapted to be supported against inward pressure upon its outer side by the partition 11, which also braces the body 1 and serves as a supporting means for the drawers 15, the frame 18 and the presser member 21, as well as dividing the body into compartments.

By the provision of the ledge portion 3 with the cover 4 disposed above it, the cover is free to swing without contacting with the floor. Any usual locking means may be provided for holding the cover 4 closed.

When it is desired to insert clothes hangers into or remove them from the trunk, the cover 4 is swung to the open position, shown in Fig. 1, following which the latch bar 28 is swung free from the arms 23 and the presser member 21 is moved to the left

out of contact with the clothes which are supported by the hangers. The frame 18 is then drawn forwardly to the position shown in Fig. 1, and in solid lines in Fig. 5, in which position hangers may be placed upon or removed from the bar 19. The frame 18 is then forced rearwardly to the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 5, after which the presser member 21 is moved to the right until the pad 22 engages and presses the clothes suspended from the hangers against the body 1. At this time the spring plate 32 will engage the latch bar 28 with the arms 23 by forcing it into the adjacent notches 26, whereby the latch bar will hold the presser member 21 from retracting from the pressing position.

I do not limit my invention to the structure shown and described, as many modifications, within the scope of the appended claim, may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention.

What I claim is:

In a wardrobe trunk, a body having a side opening, an outwardly projecting ledge portion at the lower end of said opening, flanges extending outwardly from the front edge of the body of the inner sides respectively of the upper end and sides of said opening, the side flanges extending to said ledge portion, and a flange extending upwardly from the inner side of said ledge portion between said side flanges, and a cover for said opening adapted to cover said ledge portion flange and having at its upper end and side edges flanges adapted to respectively overlap and cover said end and side flanges of the body, the cover being hinged to said body and having the edges of its flanges abutting against the adjacent edges of said body, when the cover is closed.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification.

VIRGIL WEEKS.