Feb. 20, 1923. 1,446,035

C. L. CONOVER

PORTFOLIO HANDLE

Filed June 21, 1920

Fig. 1.

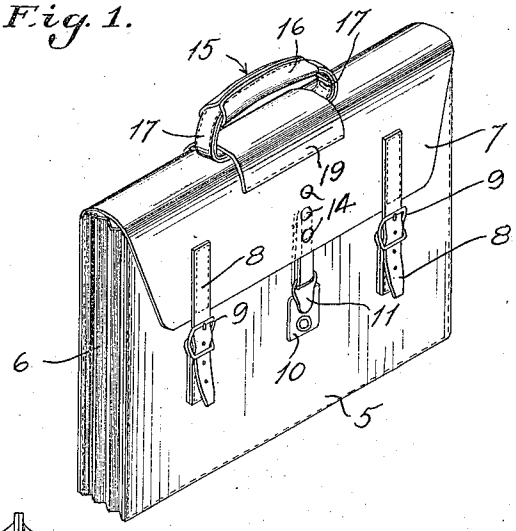


Fig. 2.

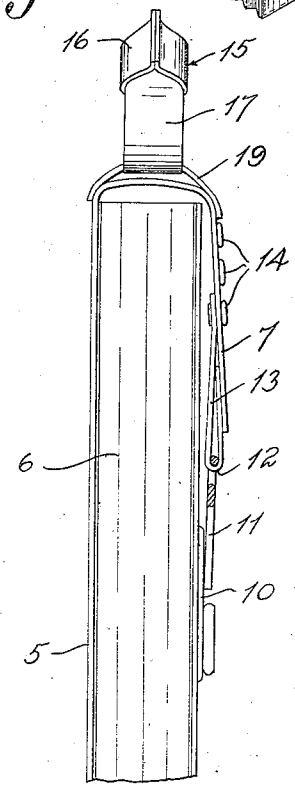


Fig. 4.

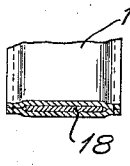
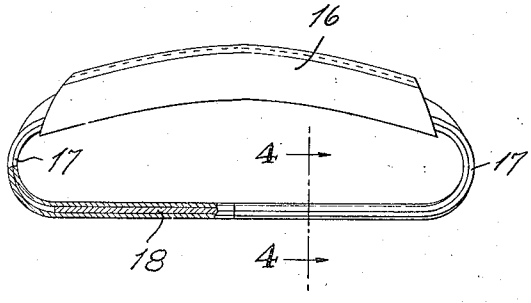


Fig. 3.



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Patented Feb. 20, 1923. 1,446,035

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES LAWRENCE CONOVER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

PORTFOLIO HANDLE.

Application filed June 21, 1920. Serial No. 390,320.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES L. CONOVER, a citizen of the United States, and resident of the borough of Manhattan, city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Portfolio Handles, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in handles for portfolios, suit-cases and the like, and more particularly to cases commonly known as brief cases, having telescopic ends, and those wherein articles varying in thickness are carried.

Heretofore, it has been common to rigidly secure the handles of such devices into place with the result that, when thin papers and the like were inserted in the case and the straps drawn down tightly, the handles were usually in proper position to balance the bag. When, however, the bag was filled to capacity and the closing flap extended to its greatest width, obviously the handle would be off center so that the bag would hang unevenly. The principal object of the present invention is to provide a bag-handle which is adjustable transversely, so that regardless of the contents of the bag, the handle may, at all times, be centered and will automatically adjust itself to proper position.

Another and more specific object of the invention is to provide a handle which is reinforced on its side with a stiffening member so as to avoid the cramping of the hand through the buckling of the handle.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a locking hasp for the bag which is adjustable to permit the bag to be locked regardless of its contents.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of a novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts which will be fully set forth in the following specifications, claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Fig. 1, is a perspective view of a bag showing this improved handle and locking-means for the flap applied thereto.

Fig. 2, is an end view of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3, is an enlarged side-view in elevation, of the handle, showing a portion thereof in section, to more clearly illustrate the details of construction, and

Fig. 4, is a sectional view on line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Referring to the drawings in detail, the numeral 5 designates a bag or brief-case of ordinary construction, provided with the extensible ends 6, and the usual closing flap 7. This flap carries the ordinary securing straps for cooperation with the buckles 9 carried to the bag, and the ordinary lock 10 is secured to the front of the bag in any well-known manner.

Co-operating with the lock 10, a hasp 11 secured in the loop 12 and a strap 13, one end of which is stitched or otherwise permanently secured to the inner side of the flap 7, while the opposite end is removably and adjustably secured as at 14, to the inner side of the flap 7 by suitable snap fasteners, or the like.

The handle is designated in its entirety by the numeral 15 and comprises the grip portion 16 from the ends of which extend tubular members 17 which are doubled back as illustrated in Figure 3 and receive a stiffening member 18 which, in the present instance consists of a strip of spring steel. The ends of the tubular members 17 abut as illustrated in Fig. 3 preferably at a point central to the ends of the string 18, and are secured together in any desired manner, to prevent longitudinal movement of the parts.

In order to adjustably secure the handle to the bag, a flat strap of flexible material 19 is stitched at opposite ends to the flap 7, while the sides of said strap are left open to accommodate the tubular extensions 17 of the handle.

In use it will be seen that the case may receive the desired articles whereupon the strap 13 is adjusted to bring the hasp 11 into proper position with relation to the lock 10 after which the bag is closed in the ordinary manner. Obviously, upon grasping the handle 15, the same will adjust itself within the strap 19 and automatically center itself with relation to the load or contents of the bag. It will be clearly seen that the handle is free to move transversely of the bag and thus whether the bag contains only a few papers, or is loaded to capacity, the handle may at all times be centered and much inconvenience to the user avoided.

While in the foregoing there has been shown and described a preferred embodiment of this invention, it is to be understood that certain minor changes in the details of construction, combination and ar-

rangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

Having carefully and fully described my invention what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

A portfolio comprising a body portion having extensible ends, a flap adapted to close the upper side of said portfolio, a retaining member for the flap comprising a portion adapted to be adjustably held in relation to said flap, a lock on said body portion in which said flap retaining member is adapted to be held, a handle comprising a grip, a practically endless member connected to said handle and having a continuous loop arranged parallel with said handle and a flat member secured to said flap and under which said loop is engaged and transversely adjustable.

Signed at the city of New York, in the county of Manhattan, and State of New York, this 28th day of April, 1920.

CHARLES LAWRENCE CONOVER.