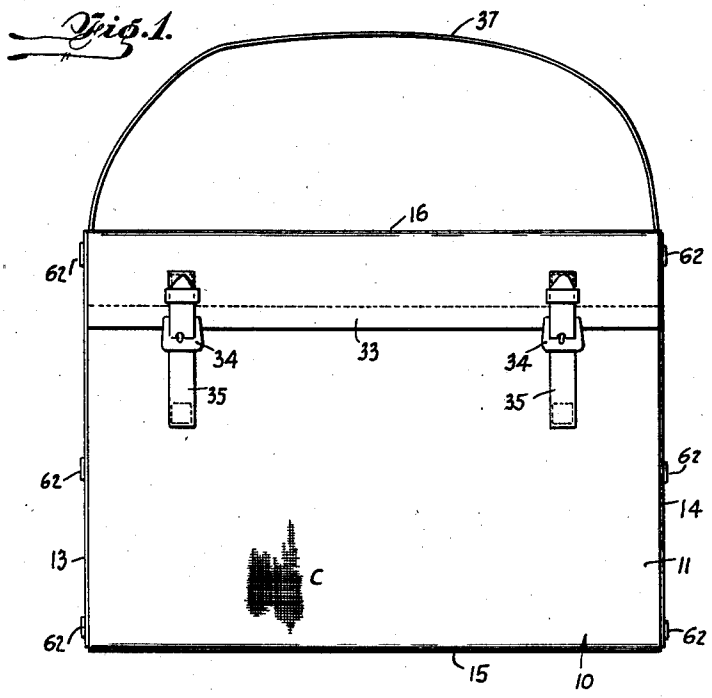
April 10, 1945. A. W. DOUX 2,373,106

COMBINED SUITCASE, HEAD AND BACK REST

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Fig. 1.



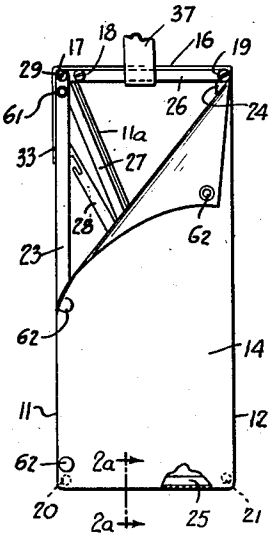
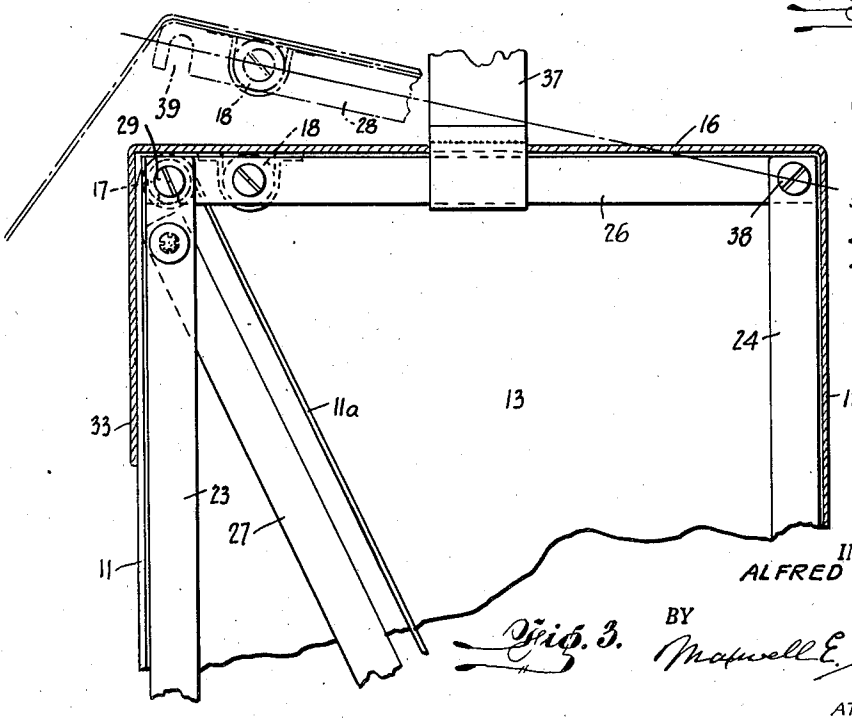


Fig. 2.



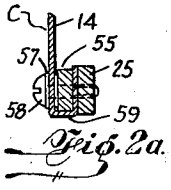


Fig. 2a.

Fig. 3.

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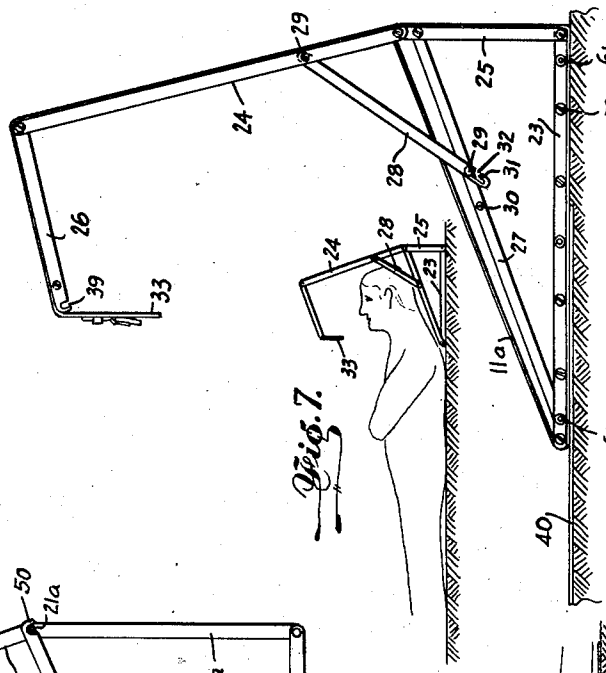


Fig. 4.

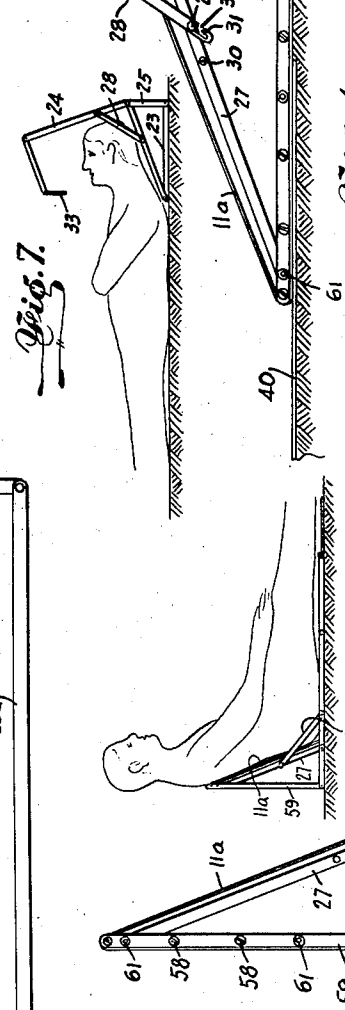


Fig. 5.

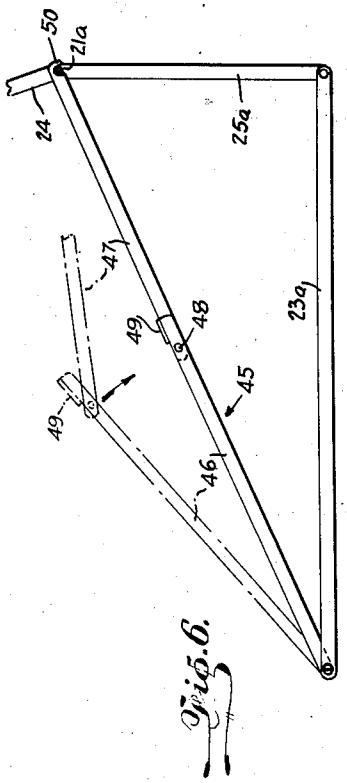


Fig. 6.

Fig. 7.

Fig. 8.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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COMBINED SUITCASE, HEAD AND BACK REST

Alfredo W. Doux, New York, N. Y.

Application September 27, 1943, Serial No. 503,979

8 Claims. (Cl. 190—8)

This invention relates to a combined carrying case, and collapsible head and back rest.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a compact carrying case which is easily convertible selectively into a head and a back rest.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a device suitably constructed for carrying beach apparel as well as edibles and which is convertible into a beach back or head rest.

It is a further object of the present invention to accomplish the above objects with simplicity of construction and utilizing a minimum number of parts, thus facilitating conversion from one form or condition of the device to another.

Yet another object of the present invention is to provide a substantially rigid carrying case which can be manipulated with but a few operations, to form a sturdy resting device for use at beaches, on the lawn, at picnics, on pleasure boats, and etc.

A still further object of the present invention is to utilize the top of said carrying case as a shade when the case is converted as a head rest.

This invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combination of parts and in the unique relations of the members and in the relative proportioning and disposition thereof; all as more completely outlined herein.

To enable others skilled in the art so fully to comprehend the underlying features thereof that they may embody the same by the numerous modifications in structure and relation contemplated by this invention, drawings depicting certain forms of the invention have been annexed as a part of this disclosure, and in such drawings, like characters of reference denote corresponding parts throughout all the views, of which:

Fig. 1 is a front elevational view of a device embodying the invention and presented in the form of a carrying case;

Fig. 2 is a side elevational view of Fig. 1; disclosing one end flap of the device in partly open position;

Fig. 2*a* is a sectional view taken along the line 2*a*—2*a* of Figure 2.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view of members shown in Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 illustrates the aforesaid device in open position and being presented as a head rest;

Fig. 5 illustrates the device in open position and being presented as a back rest;

Fig. 6 illustrates the invention in a modified form wherein a collapsible diagonal brace is disclosed;

Fig. 7 is a diagrammatic view showing the device in operation as a head rest; and

Fig. 8 is a diagrammatic view showing the device in operation as a back rest.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, the numeral 10, in general, indicates the device employed as a carrying case. The structure which when made up in the form of the box-like skeleton for the carrying case shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings comprises a frame formed by the relatively long strips 23, 24 and the shorter strips 25 and 26, disposed at each of the two ends of the device; and the preferably cylindrical cross-bars 17, 19, 20 and 21, connecting these frames in spaced relation. One end of each of the shorter strips 25 and a respective end of each the longer strips 23, are connected to an end of longitudinal rod or bar 20; the other end of each of the shorter strips 25 and a respective end of each of the longer strips 24 are relatively swingably connected together and connected to longitudinal rod or bar 21; while the other end of each of the strips 24 and a respective end of each of the shorter strips 26 are relatively swingably connected together and connected to rod or bar 19. A preferably cylindrical tie rod or bar 18 similar to the aforementioned cross bars is secured to strip 26 adjacent their free ends 26*a*; the said ends 26*a* being substantially hook-shaped as indicated at 39 to engage the bar 17 when the device is set up as a carrying case as clearly seen in Fig. 2.

Wrapped around and supported by the cross bars 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, is a covering generally indicated in Fig. 1 by the letter C, comprising the front and rear sides 11, 12, respectively, bottom 15, top 16 having the extension or flap 33, overlying the front side 11 when the device is set up as a carrying case. Flap 33 carries preferably two buckle members 34 engageable with straps 35 carried by front side 11. The covering C preferably continues over cross bar 17, the extended portion 11*a* being connected to cross bar 21 providing a diagonal partition when the device is used as a carrying case and selectively providing a back rest (Figs. 5 and 8) and a head rest (Figs. 4 and 7).

The ends of the bottom 15 and the ends of the front and rear sides 11, 12 are preferably folded over as indicated at 59, 60, providing pockets for the stays 55, 56 respectively. These stays and folded over portions are preferably, provided with eyelets 57 receiving securing means 58 to fix the covering C to the strips 23, 24, 25.

The rear side 12 is provided with end flaps 13,

14 having elements 61 adapted to engage elements 62 fixed to the folded over ends of front side 11, elements 61, 62 constituting members of complementary fastening means. When flaps 13, 14 are thus secured, they comprise the ends of the set up carrying case. Any other suitable means may be employed to secure the flaps 13, 14 in position.

Covering C is preferably constructed of suitable water-proof fabric or composition; or any other suitable material may be used.

Diagonally disposed end braces 27 are secured to the strips 23, 25. A tie member 28 is hingedly or pivotedly secured to each of the strips 24, the free ends of the members 28 having slots 31 adapted to engage stop pins 29, when the device is to be used as a back rest and either stop pins 29 or 30 when the device is to be used as a head rest. Each slot 31 is provided with an opening 32 at one side thereof to facilitate the reception of the pins 29 or 30 into the slots 31.

A handle or carrying strap 37 may be provided which may be seucred to the upper end strips 26.

An auxiliary piece of fabric 40, may be rolled up and carried within the carrying case, its purpose being to function as a gound covering upon which the person using the device rests without being in contact with the ground.

It is quite evident that the device may be employed (*a*) as a carrying case to hold articles of clothing and food, (*b*) as a back rest when manipulated into one position with the diagonal member 11*a* and the front side 11 extending substantially upwardly and the rear side 12 flat against the ground or floor, and (*c*) as a head rest when manipulated into another position with the diagonal member inclined toward the horizontal, the front side 11 against the ground or floor, and the rear side 12 extending upwardly.

According to the modification shown in Fig. 6, the strips 23*a* and 25*a* are joined together by the diagonal brace 45, consisting of two parts 46 and 47, hinged at 48. The member 46 has a locking projection 49 permitting the opening of hinged diagonal member 45 only in one direction. Diagonal brace 45 is locked onto cross member 21*a* through its hook portion 50.

From the foregoing it is evident that the invention in one of its specific aspects comprises a pair of end frames each made up of the elements 23, 24, 25, 26, forming a rectangular structure, the elongated members 17, 19, 20, 21 connecting these frames in spaced relation, the corresponding elements 25 and adjacent corresponding elements 24 of the frames being arranged for relative swingable movement; and the corresponding elements 24 and the adjacent corresponding elements 26 being arranged for relative swingable movement, the frames and the members constituting a box-like skeleton; a covering C enveloping the sides, top and bottom of the skeleton and secured to the elements 23, 24, 25, the covering including the end extensions 13, 14 overlying the end frames and a flap 33 extending beyond member 19 to overlie member 17 and or 18, means 61, 62 for removably securing extensions 13, 14 to the end frames, means for securing the flap 33 in such overlying position, the skeleton and the covering constituting a carrying case having three sections swingable relatively to each other, respectively, namely, an intermediate section including the elements 24, an outer section including elements 26, and an outer section including elements 23, 25, the outer sections being engageable and disengageable from each other selectively at 39 whereby the case may be closed and swung open respectively, one of the outer sections comprising the bottom 15 and side 11 of the case and including the partition 11*a* extending from member 17 to the member 21 forming the juncture of said one of the outer sections and the intermediate section, partition 11*a* being adapted to constitute selectively a back rest and a head rest for different positions of the case when swung open, and means 27, 28, 30, 31, for maintaining the said one outer section in fixed relation with respect to said intermediate section.

It will thus be seen that there has been provided by this invention a combined suitcase, head and back rest, in which the various objects hereinabove set forth, together with many thoroughly practical advantages, are successfully achieved.

As many possible embodiments may be made of the above invention, and as many changes might be made in the embodiments above set forth, it is to be understood that all matter herein before set forth or shown in the accompanying drawings is to be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

Having thus described my invention what is claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is:

1. A combined case, head and back rest comprising a pair of spaced-apart end frames, elongated members connecting said frames, each of said frames comprising elements connected together to form a rectangular structure, corresponding elements of said frames being arranged to swing with relation to other corresponding elements of said frames to provide swingable sections, said frames and said members constituting a box-like skeleton, a covering eleveloping the sides, top and bottom of said skeleton and secured to at least some of said elements, said covering including end extensions overlying said end frames and a flap extending beyond one of said members to overlie another of said members adjacent thereto, means for removably securing said extensions to said end frames, means for securing said flap in said overlying position, said skeleton and said covering constituting a carrying case having three sections swingable relatively to each other to provide an intermediate and outer swingable sections respectively, said outer sections being engageable with and disengageable from each other selectively whereby said case may be closed and swung open respectively, one of said outer sections comprising the bottom and a side of said case and including a diagonal partition extending from the juncture of said one outer section and said intermediate section to the juncture of said one outer section and the other outer section when the case is closed, said partition being adapted to constitute selectively a back rest and a head rest for different positions of said case when swung open, and means for maintaining said one outer section in fixed relation with respect to said intermediate section when said case is swung open.

2. A combined case, head and back rest comprising a pair of spaced-part end frames, elongated members connecting said frames, each of said frames comprising elements connected together to form a rectangular structure, corresponding elements of said frames being arranged to swing with relation to other corresponding elements of said frames to provide swingable sections, said frames and said members constituting a box-like skeleton, a covering enveloping the sides, top and bottom of said skeleton, said cover-

ing including end extensions overlying said end frames, means for removably securing said extensions to said end frames, said skeleton and said covering constituting a carrying case having three sections swingable relatively to each other to provide an intermediate and outer swingable sections respectively, said outer sections being engageable with and disengageable from each other selectively whereby said case may be closed and swung open respectively, one of said outer sections comprising the bottom and a side of said case and including a partition extending substantially diagonally across said one outer section, said partition being adapted to constitute selectively a back rest and a head rest for different positions of said case when swung open.

3. A combined case, head and back rest comprising a pair of spaced-apart end frames, elongated members connecting said frames, each of said frames comprising elements connected together to form a rectangular structure, corresponding elements of said frames being arranged to swing with relation to other corresponding elements of said frames to provide swingable sections, said frames and said members constituting a box-like skeleton, and a covering enveloping the sides, top and bottom of said skeleton and overlying said end frames, said skeleton and said covering constituting a carrying case having three sections swingable relatively to each other to provide an intermediate and outer swingable sections respectively, said outer sections being engageable with and disengageable from each other selectively whereby said case may be closed and swung open respectively, one of said outer sections comprising the bottom and a side of said case and including a member extending substantially diagonally across said one outer section, said diagonally extending member being adapted to constitute selectively a back rest and a head rest for different positions of said case when swung open, and means for maintaining said one outer section in fixed relation with respect to said intermediate section when said case is swung open.

4. A combined case, head and back rest comprising a pair of spaced-apart end frames, elongated members connecting said frames, each of said frames comprising elements connected together to form a structure, corresponding elements of said frames being arranged to swing with relation to other corresponding elements of said frames to provide swingable portions, said frames and said members constituting a box-like skeleton, a covering enveloping said skeleton, said skeleton and said covering constituting a carrying case having three sections swingable relatively to each other to provide an intermediate and outer swingable sections respectively, said outer sections being engageable with and disengageable from each other selectively whereby said case may be closed and swung open respectively, one of said sections comprising the bottom and a side of said case, and a diagonally disposed member connected to at least one of said sections and extending within said case, said extending member being adapted to constitute selectively a back rest and a head rest for different positions of said case when swung open.

5. A combined case, head and back rest comprising a pair of spaced-apart end frames, elongated members connecting said frames, each of said frames comprising elements connected together to form a structure, corresponding elements of said frames being arranged to swing with relation to other corresponding elements of said frames to provide swingable sections, said frames and said members constituting a box-like skeleton, and a covering enveloping said skeleton, said skeleton and said covering constituting a carrying case having three sections swingable relatively to each other, two of said three sections being engageable with and disengageable from each other selectively whereby said case may be closed and swung open respectively, a diagonally disposed member connected to at least one of said three sections and extending within said case, said extending member being adapted to constitute selectively a back rest and a head rest for different positions of said case when swung open.

6. A combined case, head and back rest comprising a pair of spaced-apart end frames, elongated members connecting said frames, each of said frames comprising elements connected together to form a structure, corresponding elements of said frames being arranged to swing with relation to other corresponding elements of said frames to provide swingable sections, said frames and said members constituting a box-like skeleton, a covering enveloping said skeleton, said skeleton and said covering constituting a carrying case having three sections swingable relatively to each other to provide an intermediate and outer sections respectively, said outer sections being engageable with and disengageable from each other selectively whereby said case may be closed and swung open respectively, one of said sections comprising the bottom and a side of said case, and a diagonally disposed member connected to at least one of said sections and extending within said case, said extending member being adapted to constitute selectively a back rest and a head rest for different positions of said case when swung open, one of said sections constituting a shade when said member is used as a head rest.

7. A combined case, head and back rest comprising a pair of spaced-apart end frames, elongated members connecting said frames, each of said frames comprising elements connected together to form a structure, corresponding elements of said frames being arranged to swing with relation to other corresponding elements of said frames to provide swingable portions, said frames and said members constituting a box-like skeleton, a covering enveloping said skeleton, said skeleton and said covering constituting a carrying case having sections swingable relatively to each other, two of said sections being engageable with and disengageable from each other selectively whereby said case may be closed and swung open respectively, one of said sections comprising the bottom and a side of said case and diagonally disposed elements connected to said bottom and said side, a diagonally disposed member connected to at least one of said sections and extending within said case, said extending member being adapted to constitute selectively a back rest and head rest for different positions of said case when swung open, one of said outer sections constituting a shade when said member is used as a head rest.

8. A combined case, head and back rest comprising a pair of spaced-apart end frames, elongated members connecting said frames, each of said frames comprising elements connected together to form a structure, corresponding elements of said frames being arranged to swing with relation to other corresponding elements of

said frames to provide swingable portions, said frames and said members constituting a box-like skeleton, a covering enveloping said skeleton, said covering including end extensions overlying said frames, means for removably fastening said extensions to said frames, said skeleton and said covering constituting a carrying case having sections swingable relatively to each other, two of said sections being engageable with and disengageable from each other selectively whereby said case may be closed and swung open respectively, one of said sections comprising the bottom and a side of said case, and diagonally disposed elements connected to said bottom and said side, a diagonally disposed member connected to at least one of said sections and extending within said case, said extending member being adapted to constitute selectively a back rest and head rest for different positions of said case when swung open, one of said outer sections constituting a shade when said member is used as a head rest, said extensions constituting lateral shade members when said case is swung open and said extending member is used as a head rest.

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