

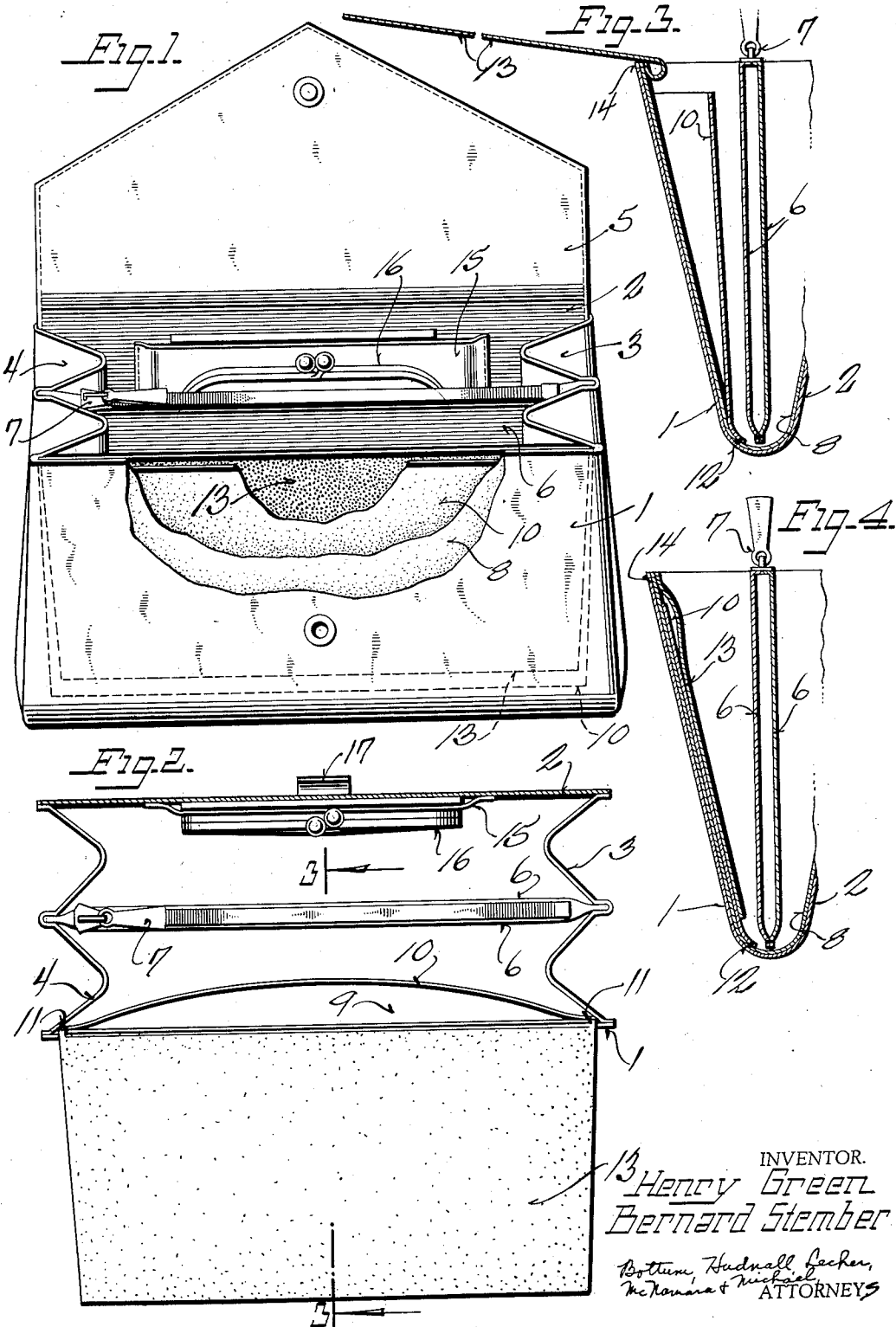
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LADY'S HAND BAG

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LADY'S HAND BAG

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This invention relates to hand bags and more particularly ladies' hand bags of the purse type.

The main object of the invention is to provide the hand bag with a concealed pocket in which paper money, notes, checks and other articles of value may be carried without ready detection and thus guard against their theft should the bag be opened and inspected by unauthorized persons.

A further object of the invention is to have this concealed pocket formed in part by the lining of the bag and thus rendered indistinguishable from the other readily accessible compartments of the bag.

Another object of the invention is to provide a closing flap for the pocket of the same material as the lining so as to completely conceal the pocket when closed over the same and thus hide the presence of the pocket to an inspection by one not familiar with its construction.

Other and further objects of the invention will appear from the following specification taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a hand bag embodying the features of our invention, the main cover flap of the bag being shown in open position and the front wall of the bag and its lining being broken away to show the concealed or secret pocket;

Fig. 2 is a view looking into the bag showing the concealed pocket, the closing flap therefor being shown in open position; and

Figs. 3 and 4 are vertical sectional views taken through the bag at the pocket on line 4—4 of Fig. 2, Fig. 3 showing the flap for the pocket open and Fig. 4 showing it closed.

As shown in the drawing, the body of the bag is preferably made of flexible leather or other desired material and has front and rear walls 1, 2 and side walls 3, 4, the latter being in the form of gussets permitting distension of the bag in the direction of its width. The cover for the bag is in the form of a flap 5 integral with the rear wall 2, said flap when in closing position overlapping the front wall and having detachable connection therewith by snap fasteners, as shown.

Partition members 6, 6 divide the interior of the bag longitudinally into a plurality of article receiving compartments, all of which are open for immediate access when the main cover flap 5 is in open position as shown in Fig. 1. The partition members are secured together at their lower edges at the bottom of the bag and at their side edges where they are also secured to the

gusset sections. The upper edges of said members are releasably secured together by a "zipper" fastener 7, as shown.

The interior of the bag, including the closure flap 5, is lined throughout by a suitable lining material, the portion of which covering the front and rear walls 1, 2 and the flap 5 being indicated by 8 in Figs. 3 and 4. The partition members 6 are also faced inside and out with this same material so that when the bag is opened, all visible surfaces are formed of the same material. The lining is secured in place by the stitching which connects the walls together.

The concealed or secret pocket 9 in accordance with our invention is preferably mounted on the front wall 1. This pocket is formed in part by the lining section 8 covering said wall and in part by a wall member or section 10 also made of the same material as the lining. Section 10 is substantially co-extensive with the wall 1 and is secured to the lining 8 on the side facing within the bag. The pocket is open along its upper edge by having the section 10 secured to the lining 8 along the lower and side edges of the section, as by stitching 11, 12 as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, respectively. The section 10 may be made of a double layer of lining material with an interposed stiffener if desired.

To normally close and conceal the pocket, we provide a covering flap or section 13, also made of the same material as the lining, a double layer being preferable. This flap is of a size to practically cover the section 10 when inserted in the bag and flattened out as indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 1. The flap 13 above the pocket 9 is substantially as wide as the wall 1 and is secured thereto through the lining 8 by stitching 14. The flap 13 is secured to the inner side of the wall 1 so that the flap when closed over the pocket 9 will lie flat against the same and not give the appearance that it is other than a part of the lining of the bag. The flap 13 is shown slightly bulged in Fig. 4 where it extends over the upper edge of the section 10. This showing is purposely made in order that the upper edge of the section will be readily discernible in the illustration. As shown in this figure, the flap 13 extends close to the bottom of the bag and is thus long enough to be overlapped by any articles placed in the compartment into which the flap extends. This aids in keeping the flap closed and adds to concealing the pocket by giving the appearance that the flap is part of the lining of the bag.

With the secret pocket 9 on the front wall of 55

the bag, it is far more accessible to the owner of the bag than when on the rear wall because the main covering flap 5 of the bag is not in the way nor need it be concerned with when withdrawing the flap 13 to open the pocket. Moreover, with this pocket fixed in the bag, and open along its upper edge, the pocket is immediately open for access on withdrawing the flap 13 from the bag. With the upper edge portion of the flap 13 substantially as wide as the wall 1 and secured to said wall flush with the upper edge thereof gives the flap the appearance when inserted into the bag as being the immediate lining section for said wall. This further conceals the pocket 3 and renders its presence in the bag less discernible to one not familiar with the construction of the bag. With this pocket substantially co-extensive with the wall 1, pocket has a large carrying capacity and may therefore be used to carry paper money, checks, notes and the like articles of value in spread out flat form without undue distension of the pocket to reveal its location or presence in the bag. With the section 10 of the pocket within the bag and secured to or carried by the lining 8, the pocket will distend when filled into the adjacent compartment of the bag rather than outside of the bag to betray its presence.

The arrangement shown and described is simple in construction and effective for the purpose designed. To the owner of the bag, the secret pocket is readily accessible whereas to one not familiar with the bag's construction, the pocket is well concealed and not readily discernible. Thus the pocket may be used to carry jewelry, money, and other articles of value, the presence of which are not betrayed to one casually opening the bag or making a hurried inspection of it. Moreover, to have access to the pocket, its closing flap 13 must be completely withdrawn from the bag which could not be easily done by a thief or pick pocket while the bag is carried by the owner without attracting the owner's attention. Furthermore, with the opening for the pocket 9 at its upper edge, the bag need not be inverted to reach the pocket and thus the articles are not likely to be spilled therefrom when the flap is open.

With the pocket and its covering flap made of the same material as the lining of the bag, the pocket is so well concealed that articles of value as likely to be carried in the bag are practically safe from theft.

The compartment of the bag opposite the one containing the secret pocket may be equipped with a mirror or card carrying pocket 15 and a coin purse 16, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The bag may be provided with any desired form of handle, a loop 17 being secured to the rear wall 2 as shown in Fig. 2.

We claim as our invention:

1. A hand bag of the character described hav-

ing a body portion providing front and rear walls, a lining secured to and covering the inner surfaces of said walls, a wall member located in the bag opposite one of the body walls and forming with the lining thereof a pocket, said wall member overlying a considerable portion of said body wall and secured thereto along its side and lower edges only to provide a relatively large pocket on the inner side of said body wall, the upper edge of said wall member being free of the lining to provide an opening for the pocket along the upper edge of the wall member, and a covering flap for said pocket, said flap being secured to the last named body wall adjacent the upper edge of the wall member and swingable into the bag over and against said wall member to close the pocket formed thereby, said flap consisting of a flexible, flat section substantially coextensive with the bag wall to which the flap is secured so that the flap when closing the pocket may extend relatively close to the side and the lower portions of the bag wall and be smoothed out to cover and overlap substantially all portions of the wall member to effectively conceal the same and the pocket formed thereby, said flap and said wall member being of substantially the same material and appearance as the lining to render less discernible the presence of the flap and the wall member in the bag.

2. In a hand bag of the character described, a body portion having a pair of opposed substantially parallel wall sections forming between them one of the main article receiving compartments of the bag, a lining secured to and covering the opposed surfaces of said wall sections, a wall member located between said wall sections and forming with the lining of one of them a pocket, said wall member being connected to its associated wall section along its side and bottom edges only and having its upper edge terminating short of the upper edge of said wall section and free of the lining thereof to provide an opening for the pocket along the upper edge of the wall member, and a covering flap for said pocket, said flap being secured to the last named wall section adjacent the upper edge thereof and swingable into the bag over and against the wall member to close the pocket formed thereby, said wall member and said flap consisting of flexible flat sections of substantially the same material and appearance as the lining and said flap being substantially co-extensive with the wall section to which it is secured whereby the flap when smoothed out flat over the wall member will extend relatively close to the side and the bottom portions of the bag and overlap substantially all portions of the wall member to cover the same and effectively close and conceal the pocket formed thereby.

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