Sept. 27, 1938. J. J. CROTTY ET AL 2,131,583

INDIVIDUAL COMPARTMENT CONSTRUCTION FOR LUGGAGE

Filed June 18, 1937 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

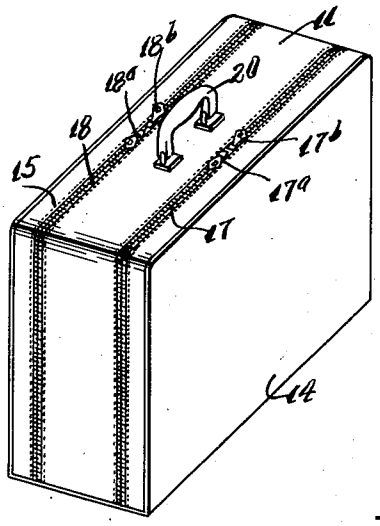


Fig. 1.

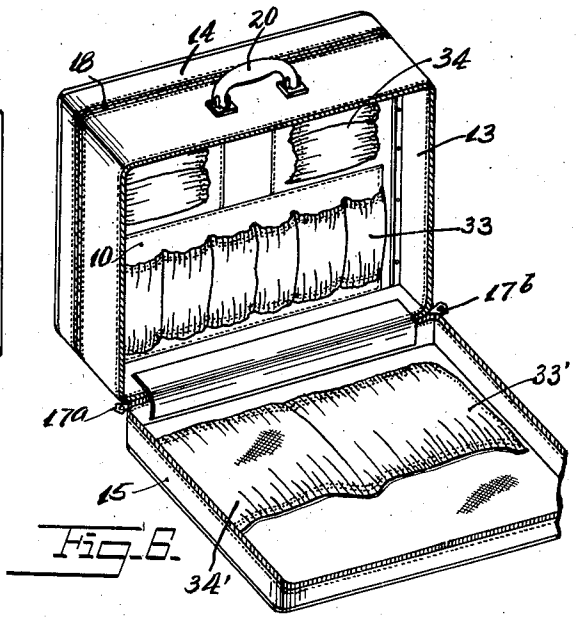


Fig. 6.

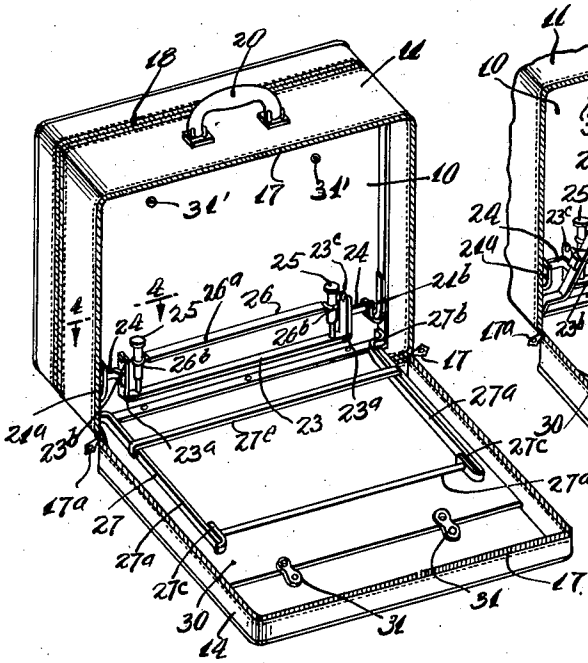


Fig. 2.

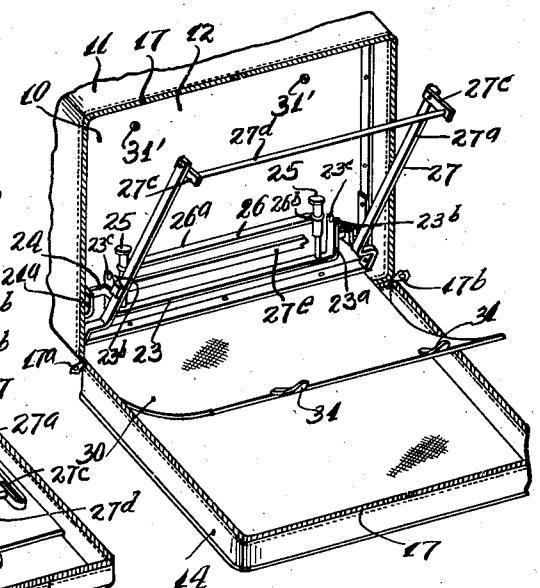


Fig. 3.

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INDIVIDUAL COMPARTMENT CONSTRUCTION FOR LUGGAGE

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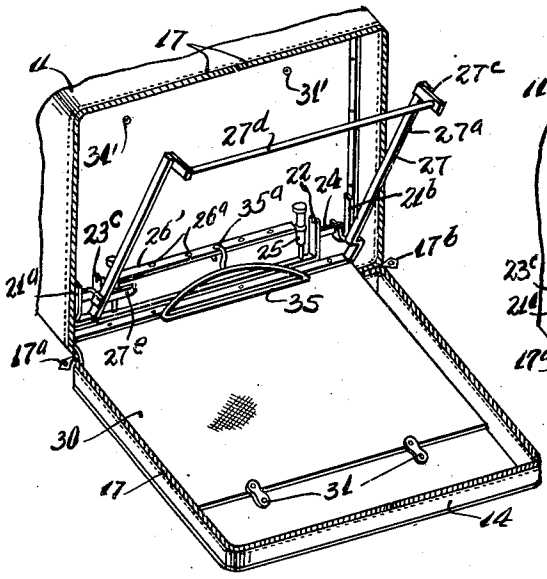


Fig. 7.

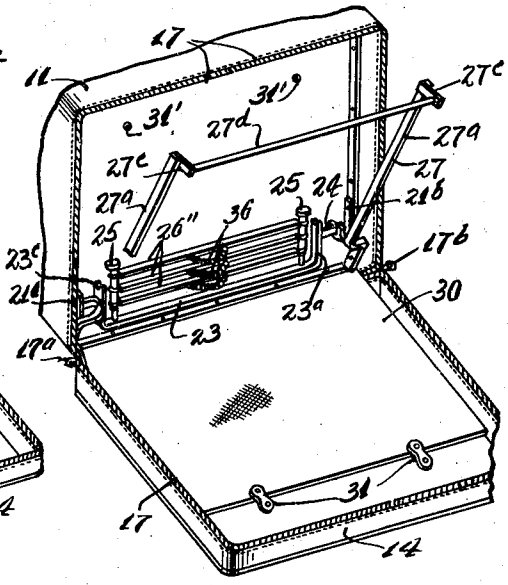


Fig. 8.

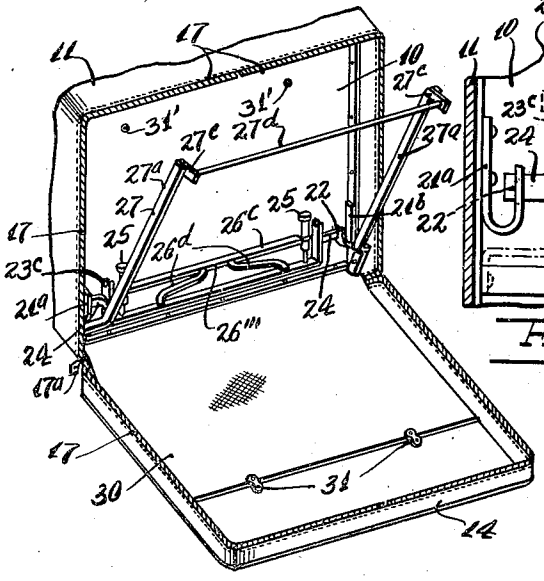


Fig. 9.

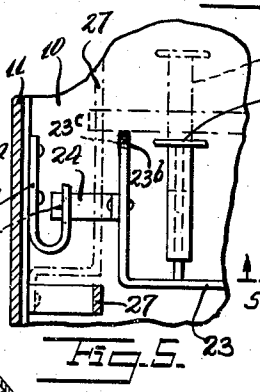


Fig. 5.

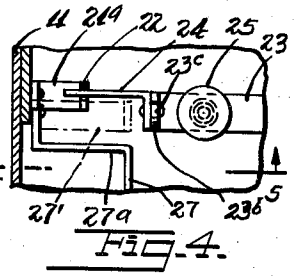


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,131,583

INDIVIDUAL COMPARTMENT CONSTRUCTION FOR LUGGAGE

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Application June 18, 1937, Serial No. 148,858

3 Claims. (Cl. 211—99)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in an individual compartment construction for luggage.

The invention has for an object the construction of a luggage carrying device which is characterized by an interior wall portion having transverse wall portions mounted on the edges thereof at right angles thereto and extending in opposite directions, and cover members mounted on the edges of said latter walls for closing the luggage carrying device.

A further object of the invention resides in the provision of certain brackets and clothes support members associated with the brackets for holding suits or similar articles within the luggage carrying device.

Still further the invention proposes to provide a pair of J-shaped brackets or similar brackets mounted by one of their arms on opposite sides of said transverse wall portions, and formed with slots extended inwards from the tops of the free arms and adapted to support a cradle for holding hangers for clothes and the like and associated with a frame pivotally mounted on opposite sides and having an outer transverse bar for supporting clothes, and an inner transverse bar for abutting said cradle in one position and holding same on said brackets.

Still further the invention proposes the provision of several types of hangers for suits of clothes and an arrangement by which these hangers may be associated with the support cradle and frame mentioned in the previous paragraph.

Another one of the objects of this invention resides in the provision of a flexible partition adapted to be extended over clothing held upon said support cradle and frame in a manner so as to securely hold the clothing.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawings forming a material part of this disclosure:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a luggage carrying device constructed according to this invention and shown in the closed position.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view with the front side of the luggage device open.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary view similar to Fig. 2 but illustrating the parts in a slightly different position.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary enlarged sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the luggage carrying device seen from the back with the back side open.

Fig. 7 is a view similar to Fig. 3 but illustrating another form of the clothes support device.

Figs. 8 and 9 are additional views each similar to Fig. 3 but illustrating different support devices.

The luggage carrying device, according to this invention, comprises an interior wall portion 10 having a transverse wall portion 11 mounted on the edges thereof at right angles thereto and extending in opposite directions to form a front compartment 12 and a rear compartment 13. A front cover 14 is hingedly connected to one side of the wall portion 11 for closing the front compartment. A rear cover 15 is hingedly connected on the wall portion 11 for closing the rear compartment 13. A fastening element is provided for holding each of the covers closed. There is a slide control hook fastening device 17 controlled by two slides 17^a and 17^b which have a normal closed position at the top of the luggage carrying device and which may be moved from the top down the sides to open the front cover. The rear cover is provided with a similar hook fastening device 18 controlled by similar slides 18^a and 18^b.

Fig. 2 shows the front cover in its open position, while Fig. 6 shows the rear cover in its open position. It should be noted that the control slides have been moved down in each case to the bottom ends of the side walls of the luggage carrier. At the top, the luggage carrier is provided with a handle 20 by which it may be easily carried.

Within the front compartment 12 there is a novel device for supporting clothing, particularly suits, trousers and the like. This device comprises a pair of J-shaped brackets 21^a and 21^b mounted on one of their arms on opposite sides of the transverse wall portions 11 and formed with slots 22 (see Figs. 4 and 5) extended inwards from the tops of the free arms. A support cradle for hangers for clothes comprises, essentially, a frame 23 with projecting side fingers 24. These side fingers are adapted to engage in the slots 22. The frame 23 comprises a strip of material having its ends 23^a bent upwards at right angles thereto.

The fingers 24 are attached upon the ends 23^a. The support cradle comprising the frame 23 and the fingers 24, may be disengaged from the brack-

ets 21[a] and 21[b] merely by lifting it upwards. A pair of spaced headed telescopic support elements 25 are mounted upon the strip 23 and extend upwards and are adapted to receive a hanger element 26. This hanger element comprises a strip of stiff material 26[a] provided with hooks 26[b] at the ends, which hooks are adapted to engage the elements 25. A frame 27 is associated with the support cradle and comprises a pair of side arms 27[a] having out-turned inner ends 27[b] which are pivotally mounted at their extremities to the side walls of the transverse wall portion 11. These offset ends 27[b] permit the frame 27 to be pivoted upwards, as partially shown in Fig. 3, until it assumes a vertical position within the compartment 12. The dot and dash lines 27' in Fig. 4 indicate the vertical position of the frame 27.

The frame 27 is also provided with pivotal extension pieces 27[c] at its extremities between which a support rod 27[d] is mounted. Also, a transverse bar 27[e] is mounted between the side arms 27[a] of the frame 27. This bar 27[e] is adapted to engage and slide over rounded corners 23[b] at the upper extremities of the ends 23[a] and come to rest within slots 23[c] formed in the upper ends of the end portions 23[a]. In the raised position of the frame 27 the bar 27[e] engages the slots or grooves 23[c] and maintains the raised position of the frame 27.

The manner of mounting clothes upon the holder is as follows: If the clothing is a pair of trousers or a skirt or similar article, an end portion thereof is first wound about the hanger 26 and then another portion thereof extended over the bar 27[d] so that the cloth is taut. The frame 27 is raised into a position in which it is disposed within the compartment 12. The clothes are now being supported so that they will not crease unduly.

To further insure the proper supporting of the clothes there is a flexible sheet of material 30 which has its lower edge secured within the compartment 12 and which is free to extend over the frame 27. This flexible sheet 30 is provided with tabs 31 which have snap fasteners mounted thereon cooperative with the snap fastener elements 31' mounted on the inner wall portion 10 to hold the flexible sheet 30 over the clothes which are being supported.

The rear compartment 13 is provided with a plurality of ruffled cloth holding members 33 and 34 which are mounted on the wall 10 and which are adapted to receive shoes or similar articles. The rear cover 15 is also provided with suitable pocket members 33' and 34'.

The dot and dash lines 25' in Fig. 5 indicate the manner in which the members 25 may be extended. This is merely for convenience in engaging and removing the hanger 26 therefrom. When extended it is not so close to the wall portion 11 and consequently more convenient.

In Fig. 7 the conventional type of hanger 35 for supporting a suit of clothes is shown mounted by its hook portion 35[a] through one of a plurality of openings 26[a] formed in the hanger bar 26'. In other respects this form of the invention is similar to the preferred form and similar parts may be identified by corresponding reference numerals.

In Fig. 8 another embodiment of the invention has been disclosed in which a plurality of hangers 26'' are illustrated substituted for the hanger 26. Each of these hangers 26'' comprise a strip of rigid material to which a chain 36 is attached. By these chains the hangers 26'' may be hung upon fastening elements. In other respects this form of the invention is similar to the previous form and similar parts may be identified by corresponding reference numerals.

In Fig. 9 still another embodiment has been disclosed which is also substantially identical to the previous form except for the construction of the hanger element. According to this form the hanger element 26''' comprises a strip portion of material 26[c] from which a pair of shoulder portions 26[d] project. In other respects this form of the invention is similar to the previous form and similar parts may be identified by corresponding reference numerals.

In place of slide control fasteners 17 and 18 any other type of fasteners may be used for releasably securing the cover members 14 and 15 to the wall portion 11.

While we have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of our invention, it is to be understood that we do not limit ourselves to the precise constructions herein disclosed and the right is reserved to all changes and modifications coming within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:—

1. In a device of the class described, a body having opposite transverse wall portions, a pair of J-shaped brackets mounted by one of their arms on said transverse wall portions and formed with slots extended inwards from the tops of the free arms, a support cradle for clothing hangers and having fingers engaging said slots, a frame pivotally mounted on said opposite sides and having an outer transverse bar for supporting clothes and an inner transverse bar for abutting said cradle in one position and holding same on said brackets.

2. In a device of the class described, a body having opposite transverse wall portions, a pair of J-shaped brackets mounted by one of their arms on said transverse wall portions and formed with slots extended inwards from the tops of the free arms, a support cradle for clothing hangers and having fingers engaging said slots, a frame pivotally mounted on said opposite sides and having an outer transverse bar for supporting clothes and an inner transverse bar for abutting said cradle in one position and holding same on said brackets, said support cradle having end portions with slots adapted to be engaged by said inner transverse bar for maintaining the relative position of the frame.

3. In a device of the class described, a body having opposite transverse wall portions, a pair of J-shaped brackets mounted by one of their arms on said transverse wall portions and formed with slots extended inwards from the tops of the free arms, a support cradle for clothing hangers and having fingers engaging said slots, a frame pivotally mounted on said opposite sides and having an outer transverse bar for supporting clothes and an inner transverse bar for abutting said cradle in one position and holding same on said brackets, said support cradle having end portions with slots adapted to be engaged by said inner transverse bar for maintaining the relative position of the frame and curved to permit the inner transverse bar to readily reach said latter-mentioned slots.

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