Feb. 11, 1958 W. L. COOPER 2,822,969

GOLF BAG LOCATING AND RETAINING CARRIER MEANS FOR VEHICLES

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Fig. 1

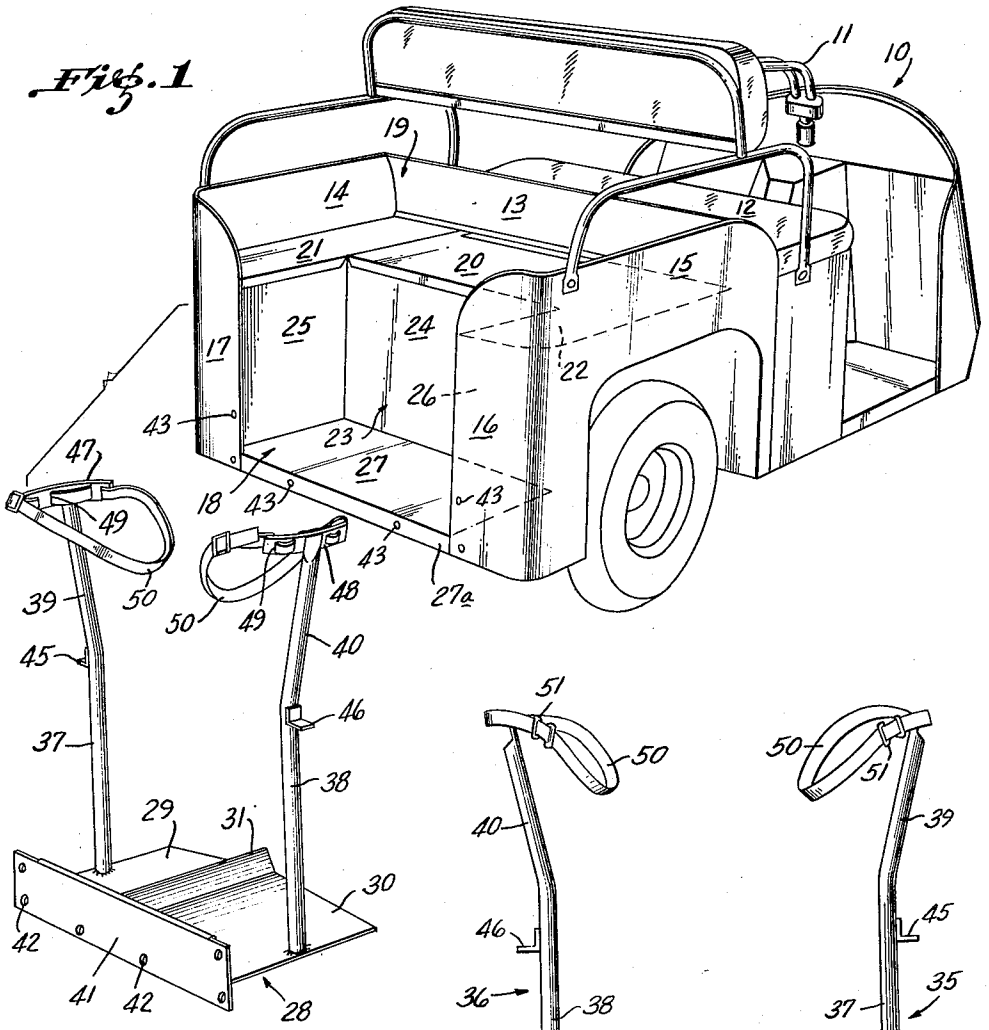

Fig. 2

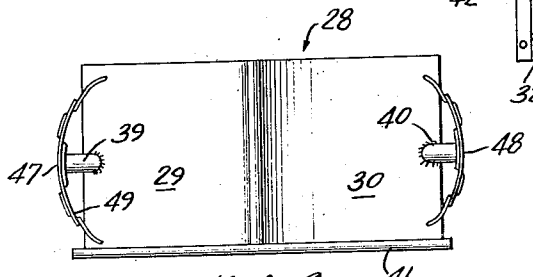

Fig. 3

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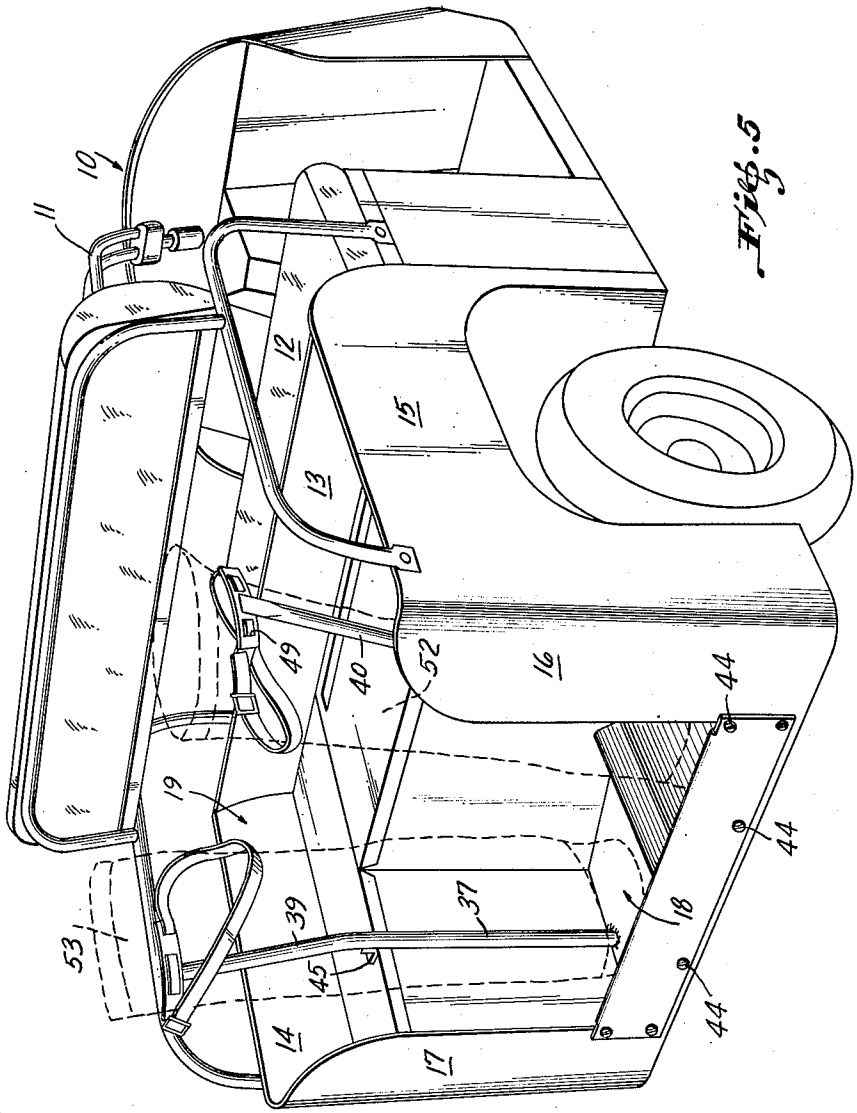

Fig. 5

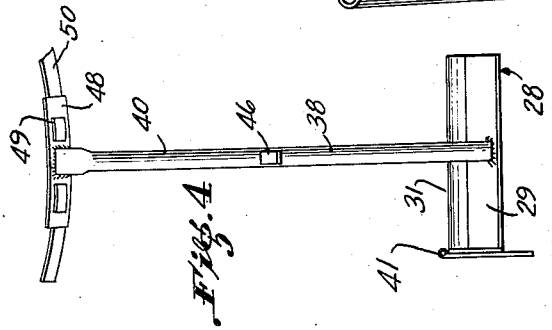

Fig. 4

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GOLF BAG LOCATING AND RETAINING CARRIER MEANS FOR VEHICLES

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Application April 12, 1955, Serial No. 500,970

5 Claims. (Cl. 224—42.32)

The present invention relates to golf bag locating and retaining carrier means for vehicles and has for an object to provide a removable support for use with vehicles adapted to travel over a golf course carrying both the players and their bags containing golf clubs.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a device of the character described which may be easily and quickly attached to the vehicle and which will position the mouths of the bags to render the clubs accessible to each player without interference to his partner.

A still further object of the present invention is to provide a golf bag support of the character described which may be quickly installed and/or removed without disfigurement to the vehicle leaving the vehicle available for uses other than golfing when desired.

A still further object of the present invention is to provide a device of the character described which may be easily and quickly constructed and which has no moving structural parts to rust or foul due to any misalignment.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention will be more fully described hereinafter, and will be more particularly pointed out in the claims appended hereto.

In the drawings, wherein like symbols refer to like or corresponding parts throughout the several views:

Figure 1 is an exploded perspective view of an electric golf course vehicle and the golf bag locating and retaining carrier means of the present invention.

Figure 2 is a front elevational view of the device of the present invention removed from the vehicle.

Figure 3 is a top plan view of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a side elevational view of the device of Figures 2 and 3.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of an electric golf course vehicle having the device of the present invention installed thereon.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, **10** designates generally an electric utility vehicle of the three wheel type having a single steering wheel directed by a tiller arm **11** accessible to the occupants of the front seat **12**. Rearwardly of the front seat **12** is a utility body of sturdy sheet metal construction having a front wall **13**, side walls **14, 15** and a partial rear wall consisting of side flanges **16, 17** being separated by an opening **18**.

Within the above described utility body lies an upper receptacle **19** defined by the above walls and ledges **20, 21** and **22**. This upper receptacle **19** communicates at its rear with a lower receptacle **23** defined by walls **24, 25** and **26** together with the side flanges **16** and **17**. This lower receptacle **23** has a bottom **27** having a down turned flange **27A** at its rear edge.

For carrying golf bags on the vehicle **10**, the lower receptacle **23** is utilized and receives and retains a golf bag locating and retaining device which may consist of a base plate **28** having a pair of upwardly inclined walls **29** and **30** joined at their apex by a separating ridge **31**.

The base plate is adapted to seat upon the bottom **27** of the lower receptacle on the base tips **32, 33** at each end of the base plate **28**. The intermediate or apex ridge **31** is provided at its under side with a support plate **34** which is also adapted to seat upon the receptacle bottom.

Upstanding from the low ends of the base plate are two golf bag locating arms **35, 36** each having a lower portion **37, 38** and an upper portion **39, 40**. These arms **35, 36** may be welded or otherwise secured to the base plate **28**. The lower portion **37, 38** of each arm is substantially parallel to the other while the upper portions **39, 40** diverge from one another. The axes of the upper portions **39, 40** are substantially normal to the planes of the inclined walls **29** and **30** respectively.

The base and arms are adapted to be secured to the vehicle by two anchoring means the first of which may consist of a rear plate **41** having openings **42** therethrough adapted to register with openings **43** through the flanges **16, 17** and **27a**. The plate **41** is welded or otherwise affixed to base **28** along its rear edge with the major portion of plate **41** extending above and a portion below base **28** to abut against the flange **27a**. The portion of the plate **41** which upstands from the base plate constitutes a confining flange for preventing undue shifting movements of the bags in a rearward direction. The rear plate **41** and utility body may be joined by employing self tapping screws **44** passing through openings **42, 43** or other suitable removable fastening means may be provided. The second fastening or anchoring means may consist of brackets **45, 46** secured to the lower portions **37, 38** of the arms **35, 36** which brackets may have their free flanges bolted or otherwise secured to the ledges **21, 22**.

At the free ends of the upper portions **39, 40** are provided golf bag anchoring means which may consist of arcuate plates **47, 48** welded to the upper portions **39, 40**. Each arcuate plate is provided with vertical slots **49** to permit threading therethrough of retaining straps **50** having locking buckles **51** thereon.

Operation

When it is desired to employ the vehicle as a golf course transportation device, the golf bag locating and anchoring device is applied to the vehicle by placing the unit so that the base **28** rests upon the bottom **27** of the lower receptacle as shown in Figure 5. The ends of the rear plate **41** are urged into abutment with the flanges **16** and **17** and the lower portion of the plate **41** against the flange **27a** and the self tapping screws **44** are screwed into the openings **42, 43**. The brackets **45, 46** are then bolted to the ledges **21, 22** thereby stabilizing the unit with the sheet metal body of the vehicle.

The golf bags **52, 53** are then placed in the lower receptacle **23** so that the bases of the golf bags seat upon the inclined walls **29, 30**. Proximate the mouths of the bags the retaining straps **50** are passed about each bag drawing it tightly against the arcuate plates **47, 48**. The mouths of the bags will be directed to opposite sides of the vehicle as shown in Figure 5 whereby each player may withdraw his desired club from the mounted bag without interfering with the similar movement of the other player. The divergent condition of the bags emerging from the lower receptacle **23** is maintained by the cooperative relationship between the upper portions **39, 40** of the arms **35, 36** and the inclined walls **29, 30** of the base **28**. The golf bags and support unit may of course be removed from the vehicle quickly when desired.

It will be understood that the device will carry a single golf bag, two, three or four bags. The bag carrier may be located permanently in the receptacle of the vehicle, or removably mounted in the receptacle, as desired.

The base plate **28** and its separating ridge **31**, the support plate **34** and the rear plate **41** may be of sheet metal

or other suitable material. The base plate **28** and its separating ridge **31** may be in one or more pieces. The arms **35** and **36** may be of tubular metal.

While it is preferred that the top surface of the base plate be inclined, the angle of inclination may be varied and in some cases, very small, and in some cases the surface may be substantially horizontal.

Although I have disclosed herein the best form of the invention known to me at this time, I reserve the right to all such modifications and changes as may come within the scope of the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. For use with a vehicle adapted to travel about a golf course carrying both players and their golf bags, said vehicle having an open top receptacle for receiving golf bags therein, a golf bag locating and anchoring device comprising a base having two upwardly convergent flat walls, said base being adapted to seat upon the bottom of said receptacle, golf bag locating means upstanding from said base at opposed ends thereof, and golf bag retaining means carried by each said locating means adapted to retain each golf bag firmly against its base wall and its locating means.

2. For use with a vehicle adapted to travel about a golf course carrying both players and their golf bags, said vehicle having a receiver for golf bags, a golf bag locating and anchoring device comprising a base member adapted to be supported on the receiver, said base member having upwardly convergent walls the apex of which lies above said receiver, golf bag locating means extending upwardly above the base member and having means for operatively associating said locating means with said base member for positioning the bottoms of said golf bags against the upwardly convergent walls of said base member, and retaining means associated with said locating means for retaining said bags against said base member whereby the tops of the golf bags are outwardly divergent from the receiver of the vehicle making the clubs of each player accessible to him without interference to the other player.

3. For use with a vehicle adapted to travel about a golf course carrying both players and their golf bags, said vehicle having a receiver for the golf bags, a golf bag locating and anchoring device comprising a base member adapted to be received upon said receiver and having inclined upwardly divergent golf bag biasing means adapted to receive the bottom of golf bags thereagainst and incline the bags in upward divergent relationship with the mouths of said bags directed to opposite sides of the vehicle, and anchoring means extending upwardly above the base member and having means operatively associating said anchoring means with the biasing means and adapted to retain the bottoms of the golf bags in contact with said biasing means of said locating means to preserve the upward divergent relationship of said bags with their mouths at opposite sides of the vehicle whereby each player may remove his clubs from a bag without interference to the other player.

4. For use with a vehicle adapted to travel about a golf course carrying both players and their golf bags, said vehicle having an open top receptacle for receiving golf bags therein, a golf bag locating and anchoring device adapted to be received by the receptacle comprising a base having two upwardly convergent walls, golf bag locating means on said base comprising a member upstanding from each base wall, said members having outwardly divergent portions, the axis of each portion being substantially normal to the plane of its base wall, and golf bag retaining means carried by each said locating means adapted to retain each golf bag firmly against its base wall and the divergent portion of its locating means.

5. For use with a vehicle adapted to travel about a golf course carrying both players and their golf bags, said vehicle having an open top and rear receptacle for receiving golf bags therein, a golf bag locating and anchoring device adapted to be received by the receptacle comprising a base for receiving the bottom portions of the golf bags, golf bag locating means upstanding from said base, golf bag retaining means carried by each said locating means adapted to retain each golf bag firmly against its locating means, and confining means on said base adapted to close the lower open rear portion of the receptacle for limiting shifting movements of the golf bags on said base.

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