April 26, 1955

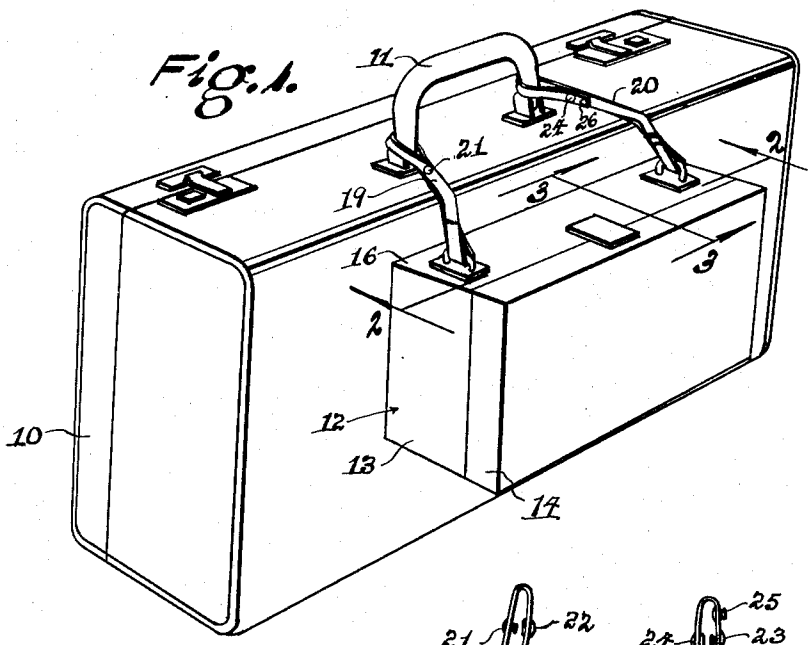
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AUXILIARY CASE

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2,707,035

Fig. 1.



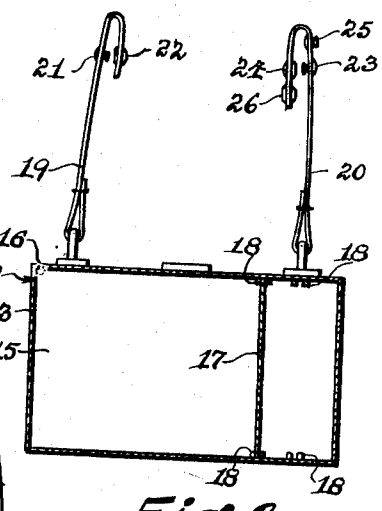


Fig. 2.

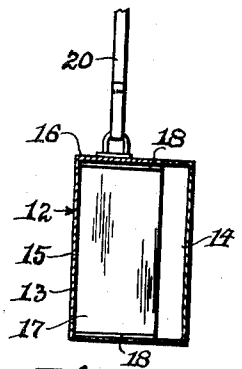


Fig. 3.

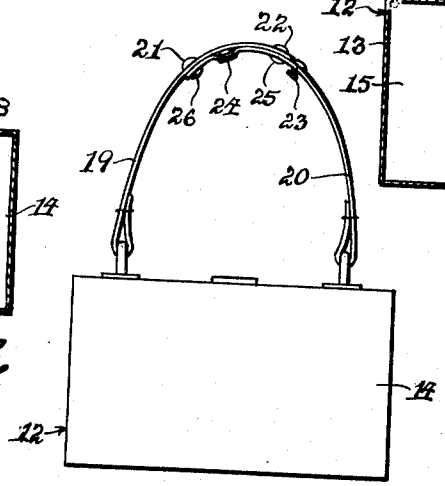


Fig. 4.

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AUXILIARY CASE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 190—52)

My invention relates to a new and useful auxiliary case including means whereby said case, which is relatively small, may be attached to portions of a handle of a large piece of luggage and both articles transported by gripping only the handle of the large piece of luggage, said means including elements capable of coaction to constitute a shoulder strap for separately carrying the auxiliary case as a shoulder bag.

Many travellers carry at least two pieces of baggage, such as a large article of luggage, commonly called a suitcase, and a small bag or case. The small case generally is utilized to hold things to which access is often desirable during a journey, and packaged items, which, if the contents became accidentally exposed, might soil clothing when packed therewith in the large article of luggage. Also the small case is frequently used for articles, such as shoes, which pack in an irregular manner and cause ordinarily flat pieces of clothing to bulge and lie in an uneven condition and shoes, in particular, occupy an excessive amount of space by leaving voids between adjacent ones thereof. The benefits of using two pieces of baggage are offset to some extent by the difficulties arising from attempting to manually transport them. The disadvantages are overcome by utilizing my invention which permits the convenient transportation of the two articles as one parcel. Therefore an object of this invention is to provide means for connecting the two articles of luggage whereby they may be manually toted in the manner of a single piece of luggage or disconnected and the smaller one hung on a person's shoulder for separate and independent use.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a novel means for attaching the connecting means of the auxiliary case to a large piece of luggage to function as a hanger and also for attaching the elements of said connecting means together whereby they constitute a shoulder strap.

A further object of this invention is to so mount the connecting means on the auxiliary case in a plane to one side of the center of gravity whereby the auxiliary case will lie in close contact with the large piece of luggage when the two are connected together.

With the above and other objects in view this invention consists of the details of construction and combination of elements hereinafter set forth and then designated by the claims.

In order that those skilled in the art to which this invention appertains may understand how to make and use the same I will describe its construction in detail, referring by numerals to the accompanying drawing forming a part hereof, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a large piece of luggage with a relatively smaller auxiliary case temporarily attached to portions of the handle of the piece of luggage by the connecting means whereby the two articles may be transported as a single parcel.

Fig. 2 is a section of the auxiliary case on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view of the auxiliary case on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is an elevation of the auxiliary case with the elements of the connecting means joined to constitute a shoulder strap.

In carrying out my invention as herein embodied **10** represents a large conventional piece of luggage or suitcase provided with any well known type of carrying handle **11**, and **12** is the auxiliary case included as a part

of my invention. This auxiliary case generally comprises the usual body **13** and hinged lid **14** and said body includes among its constituents a back wall **15** and a top wall **16**. The interior of the auxiliary case, preferably, is divided into two variable compartments by a selectively shiftable partition **17** slidable in spaced parallel pairs of track grooves **18** located adjacent one end of the body **13**.

In accordance with my invention one end of each of the two flexible strap elements **19** and **20** are appropriately secured to the wall **16** of the auxiliary case in longitudinally spaced relation and to one side of the plane of the center of gravity when the top wall is uppermost. Preferably the points of attachment of said strap elements are to the rear of a vertical plane through the longitudinal center of the auxiliary case so as to be adjacent the plane of the back wall. In one aspect of the invention these strap elements constitute the connecting means between the auxiliary case and the large piece of luggage **10** and therefore the free ends are to be separately or individually and temporarily attached to portions of the handle **11** of said piece of luggage **10** when the latter and the auxiliary case are in side by side relation.

For purposes of illustration I have shown one of the strap elements, as **19**, provided with companion stud and socket fastening members **21** and **22**, respectively, spaced sufficiently to permit the free end of said strap element **19** to be looped about a portion of the handle **11** and secured together.

The other strap element **20** is shown as also provided with companion stud and socket members **23** and **24**, respectively, appropriately spaced apart to allow the free end of said strap element **20** to be looped about another portion of the handle **11** and attached to each other to hold the strap element in place. In addition, the strap element **20** is provided with a supplementary stud member **25**, in reverse relation to the stud member **23**, and a supplementary socket member **26**, in reverse relation to the socket member **24**. These supplementary stud and socket members engage the socket and stud members **22** and **21**, respectively, when the normally free ends of the strap elements are positioned in overlapping relation for temporarily fastening said strap elements together whereby they are joined to constitute a shoulder strap as depicted in Fig. 4.

In practice, the auxiliary case is connected to the piece of luggage, as shown and described herein, and both articles of baggage transported by merely gripping the handle of said piece of luggage. This provides a rather compact parcel which can be readily handled by the use of one hand leaving the other hand free to carry other accessories and/or for other purposes. The auxiliary case, generally, is packed rather light and by providing two compartments therein, such items as shoes, toilet accessories and the like may be placed in one compartment and such items as cosmetics, toilet waters, beauty aids and similar articles may be placed in the other compartment thus isolating things which might soil clothing from the wearing apparel packed in the piece of luggage.

When a person reaches his or her destination the auxiliary case can be readily disconnected for the purpose of unpacking or separately placing the two pieces in convenient locations in a room or apartment. Also, when the large piece of luggage is not needed, the normally free ends of the strap elements can be joined together to form a shoulder strap which can then be placed over a person's shoulder to remove the load, represented by the auxiliary case, from the person's hand or arm. Thus it will be apparent that the flexible strap elements serve a two-fold purpose and in each instance facilitates the carrying of the auxiliary case.

Of course I do not wish to be limited to the exact details of construction herein shown and described as these may be varied within the scope and objects of my invention.

Having described my invention what I claim as new and useful is:

1. An auxiliary case of small size for use in connection with a relatively large piece of luggage having a carrying handle, said auxiliary case comprising a body including a top wall, a pair of flexible connecting ele-

ments having one end of each permanently secured to the body top wall at separated locations longitudinally of said body top wall, a pair of companion cooperating fastening members on the other and normally free ends of each of said connecting elements to secure said other ends in loop formation about individual spaced portions of the carrying handle of the piece of luggage, and supplementary fastening members on said other end of one of the connecting elements for selective cooperation with a part of the companion fastening members on the other connecting element for temporarily and detachably joining the said other or free ends of the connecting elements together to function as a shoulder strap.

2. An auxiliary case comprising a body with a lid therefor, said body including a top wall, a pair of flexible connecting elements having one end of each secured to the body top wall at separated locations longitudinally of said top wall, and fastening means on the other or normally free ends of each of said connecting elements for selectively attaching said normally free ends separately to a support or joining said ends to constitute a shoulder strap, said fastening means on one connecting element including a pair of companion cooperating members positioned to secure the normally free end in a loop formation and a pair of dissimilar supplementary fastening members in reverse relation to the pair of companion members, and the fastening means on the other connecting element including a pair of companion cooperating members positioned to selectively secure the normally free end of said other connecting element in a loop formation or receive the supplementary fastening members for joining the free ends of said connecting elements together as a shoulder strap.

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