

July 7, 1942.

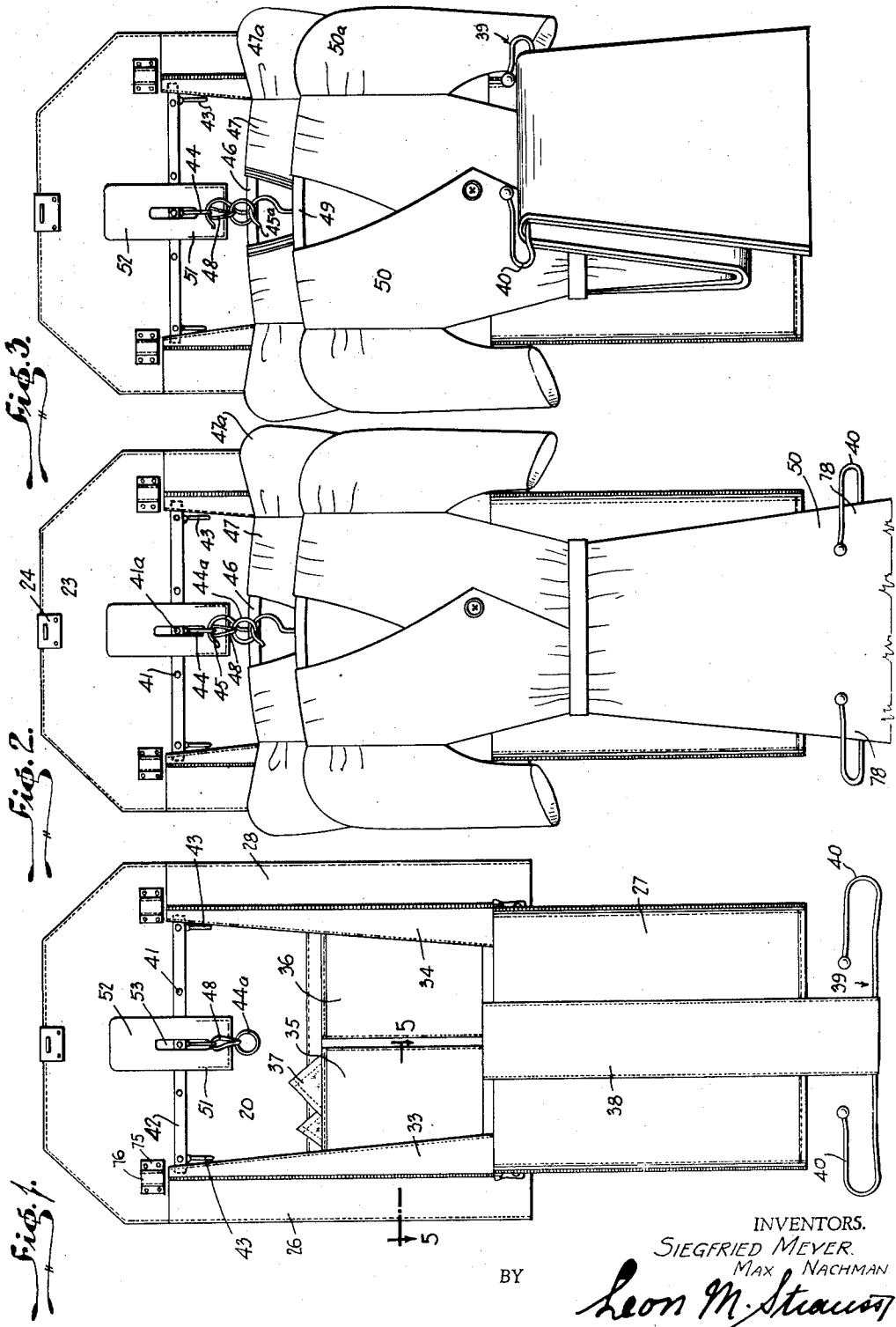
S. MEYER ET AL

2,288,867

CARRYING CASE

Filed Dec. 26, 1940

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



INVENTORS.

SIEGFRIED MEYER.

MAX NACHMAN.

BY *Leon M. Strauss*

July 7, 1942.

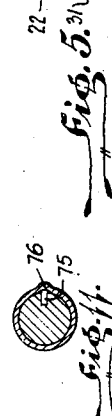
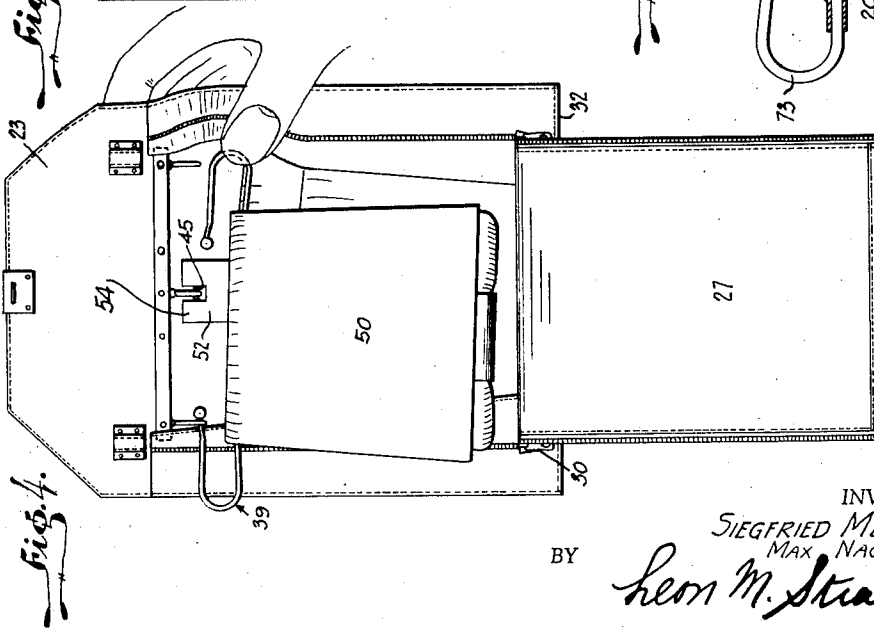
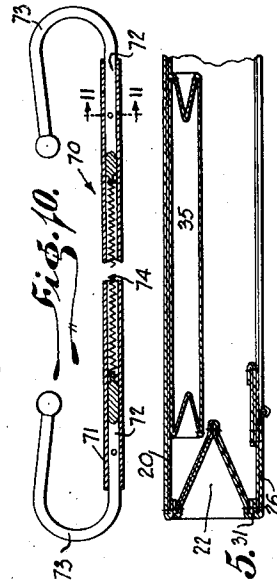
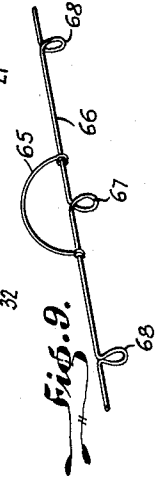
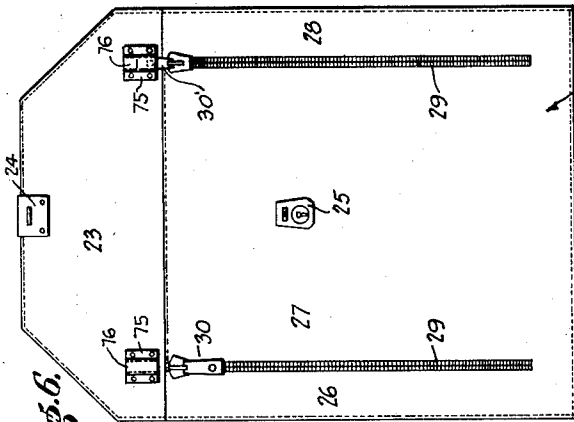
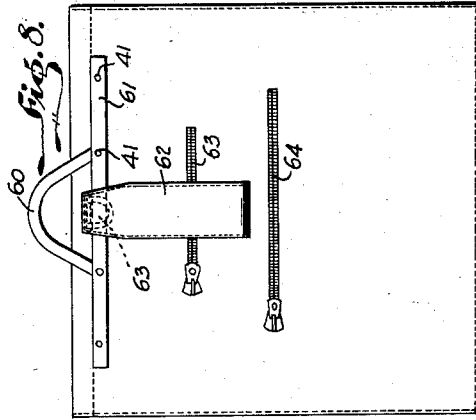
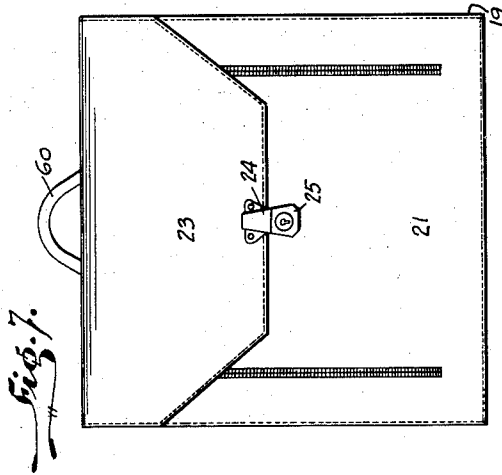
S. MEYER ET AL

2,288,867

CARRYING CASE

Filed Dec. 26, 1940

2 Sheets-Sheet 2



BY

INVENTORS.
SIEGFRIED MEYER.
MAX NACHMAN.
Leon M. Straus

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,288,867

CARRYING CASE

Siegfried Meyer and Max Nachman,
New York, N. Y.

Application December 26, 1940, Serial No. 371,640

3 Claims. (Cl. 190—41)

This invention relates to receptacles for wearing apparel and more particularly for use in connection with the dress trade and travelling purposes in general.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a container or carrying bag at least part of which is flexible and capable of supporting garments, particularly dresses or suits in folded substantially uncreasable condition.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a carrying case of the above nature in which the hanger elements supporting the garments are arranged and disposed within said case in such manner that a substantially flat and thin carrying case will be presented at all times simulating a relatively large brief case.

Still a further object of the present invention is to provide a carrying case of the above nature having lateral flaps to conceal the ends of the hanger elements thereby preventing the same from injuring the garments and to facilitate the garments being held in their folded condition.

Yet, another object of the present invention is to provide a supporting rail for the garment hangers and which also acts as reinforcing or stiffening means for the case, particularly where the walls of the case are made flexible.

It is still another object of the invention to relatively arrange the aforesaid supporting rail and the lateral flaps so that rail and flaps will not interfere with one another.

A still further object of the invention is to provide in such carrying cases a combined unit serving as a hanger-supporting rail and a hand grip for carrying or holding the case.

It is yet another object of the invention to provide a member about which a portion of a garment may be folded, said member being suspended from the case in such manner as to facilitate engagement of the garment therewith during the folding operation of the garment for its insertion and inclusion within the case.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a preferably flexible receptacle which is adapted to receive a garment in folded condition, means for folding said garment and to maintain the same in folded condition in said receptacle being disposed in the upper part thereof, said folding means forming simultaneously stiffening or reinforcing means for said receptacle.

Still a further object of the present invention is to provide a receptacle in brief-case shaped fashion, said receptacle having a front wall forming a movable cover section and a fixed flap sec-

tion at either side of said cover section and engageable with the latter, the folded garment being suspended from the upper portion of said receptacle, said receptacle having further a closure flap for locking engagement with said cover section.

Yet, a further object of the present invention is to provide a substantially flat bar or rail fixed in position to the upper portion of the receptacle, holding means connected to said rail, and a folding member for the garment to be folded, said holding means and said folding member being in engagement with one another for maintaining the garment in its folded condition on said member.

Another object of the invention is to provide means within the aforesaid case whereby the hooks of a plurality of garment hangers may be disposed preferably in tandem relation so as to minimize bulginess of the case when carrying the garments supported by said hangers.

These and other objects and advantages of the invention will appear from the following disclosure thereof together with the attached drawings which illustrate a certain form of embodiment thereof. This form is shown for the purpose of illustrating the invention, although it is to be understood that the various instrumentalities of which the invention consists can be variously arranged and organized provided they come within the scope of the claims.

Fig. 1 is a front elevational view of a carrying case made in accordance with the invention, the case being shown in open condition.

Figs. 2 and 3 illustrate the said carrying case supporting garments, the latter being shown in the process of being folded.

Fig. 4 is a front view of the said carrying case with the said garments in completed folded condition and the member about which the garment is folded in a step of being placed in adjusted supporting position.

Fig. 5 is a detailed sectional view taken through line 5—5 of Fig. 1.

Figs. 6 and 7 show the case in two different closed positions.

Fig. 8 is a rear elevational view of the case shown in Fig. 7.

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of a detail used in connection with the aforesaid case.

Fig. 10 is a sectional view (center being broken away) of the garment folding member.

Fig. 11 is a sectional view taken along line 11—11 of Fig. 10.

Referring now particularly to the drawings the

carrying case is shown as comprising a flexible rear wall 20, a front wall 21 joined together by means of lateral gussets 22. Extending from top of rear wall 20 is a closure flap 23 provided with a lock element 24 for engagement with a complementary lock element 25 located on front wall 21. Front wall 21 comprises three sections 26, 27 and 28 preferably by slitting wall 21, adjacent sections 26, 27 and 28, 27 being connectable by complementary fastening means 29 operable by slides 30. Sections 26 and 28 are much narrower than the center or intermediate section 27 and constitute lateral flaps for a purpose hereinafter described.

Flaps 26, 28 are laterally secured to respective gussets 22 as by means of stitching 31. This intermediate section 27 joins said flaps 26, 28 preferably adjacent the lower edge 32 of the case, so that section 27 may be folded downwardly as illustrated in Figs. 1 to 4. As shown in Fig. 1 lateral flaps 26, 28 are provided with extensions 33, 34 against which section 27 rests when the latter is in upright and closed position (Fig. 6). Within the body of the case there are arranged pockets, such as for example those indicated by numerals 35, 36 for containing small articles, such as handkerchiefs 37 etc. A strip 38 of flexible material has one of its ends secured to the rear wall 20 of the case, its other end supporting a garment folding member 39. Member 39 is preferably made of metal and bent to form substantially U-shaped ends 40. Also secured as by rivets 41 to rear wall 20 at or near its top is a rail 42 preferably made of metal. This rail 42 extends substantially to the extensions 33, 34 of flaps 26, 28, respectively, so that the flexible character of the lateral flaps 26, 28 and its respective extensions is preserved (Fig. 4). Secured to rail 42 or forming part thereof (Fig. 9) are loops 43 adapted to supportingly engage the U-shaped ends 40 of member 39 (as illustrated at the left hand side of Fig. 4). A center loop 44 is attached to rail 42 by rivet 41a, said loop 44 being adapted to receive the hook 45 of garment hanger 46 carrying, for example, dress or garment 47. From loop 44 depends a ring 44a, the latter being linked to the former preferably by flexible strip 48. Ring 44a is adapted to support the hook 45a of garment hanger 49, the latter supporting the garment 50. It can readily be seen from the just described arrangement that the hanger 49 is supported below hanger 46 thereby presenting a substantially flat assembly with the hangers 46, 49 in tandem relation. Stitched to the rear wall 20 at 51 is a slotted flap 52, its slot 53 allowing space for loop 44 and permitting flap 52 to be swung downwardly to a folded position indicated in Fig. 4, the fold line being designated by numeral 54.

As it will be readily understood from the drawings, the bottom portions of both garments 47, 50 are threaded or passed through the U-shaped ends 40 of member 39, as shown in Fig. 2. Member 39 is then raised as seen in Figs. 3 and 4 into engagement with the loops 43, by which it is supported.

The shoulder parts 47a and 50a are folded and tucked under the flaps 26, 28 and their extensions 33, 34. Of course, the extremities of U-shaped ends 40 of member 39 are also disposed between the said flaps and rear wall 20 of the case. The U-shaped ends 40 of member 39 form also reinforcing means for the upper part of the case and constitute substantially lateral extensions of rail

42 when they are in their engaged position in loops 43.

From the aforesaid it can be realized that the member 39 and rail 42 stiffens the upper portion of the case 19, when in closed position while slight swinging movement of the hangers 46 and 49 is permitted so that the garments 47, 50 will not be crushed against each other when the case 19 is closed. After the member 39, hangers 46, 49 and garments 47, 50 are adjusted within the case 19 as aforesaid, section 27 is then moved into closed position and secured to flaps 26, 28 by slide fasteners 29, 30. Closure flap 23 is then folded down and locked against flap section 27 by the locking members 24, 25. In removing the garments from case 19 the reverse operation as above explained is to be performed.

From Fig. 7 can be seen that the carrying case 19 when in entirely closed position resembles in appearance to a large brief case.

Before closing the case 19 flap 52 within said case is folded down over the hanger hooks of hangers 46, 49 thereby acting as a shield (Fig. 4).

Fig. 8 shows a rear view of case 19 having the handle grip 60 attached to bar 61 coextensive with and secured to rail 42 as by the rivets 41. Further secured to bar 61 is a wrist loop 62 to facilitate carrying of the case. There also may be provided a ring 63 by which said case 19 may be suspended from a suitable support (not shown). Slide fasteners 63, 64 form closure means for outside pockets (not shown) provided in the rear wall 20 of the case.

Fig. 9 shows a unitary or combined structure of a carrying handle 65 and rail 66 having center loop 67 and lateral loops 68. Loop 67 corresponds to center loop 44 and loops 68 correspond to loop 43, heretofore described.

Fig. 10 discloses an expansible garment folding member or hanger member 70 for use similar to that previously described with respect to member 39. This member 70 comprises a sleeve 71 which slidably receives the ends 72 of the U-shaped elements 73 of the folding member 70. Ends 72 of these elements are connected together within sleeve 71 by a helical spring 74 which tends to urge the ends 72 toward each other. In order to prevent the elements 73 from turning, guide slots with pin 75, 76 are provided on ends 72 and 71, respectively.

The advantage of this construction of folding member 70 is that the elements 73 may readily engage the garment in a position shown in Fig. 2 by first expanding said elements 73 (with the sleeve portion 71 in the rear of the garments 47, 50) and then releasing the said elements whereby edge portions 78 of the garments 47, 50 are positioned between the U-shaped ends of the folding member; a further advantage of said construction being that the said garment folding member 70 may be readily brought into engagement with the lateral loops 43 or 68 as the ends 73 of garment folding member 70 may be expanded to laterally insert the ends 73 when released.

In order to prevent manipulation of the fastening means or slide fasteners 29, 30 when the case 19 is in its closed position (as illustrated in Fig. 7), the slide member 30' may be inserted into guideway 76 of holder 75 so that when flap 23 is moved downwardly toward front wall 21 said member 30' may be brought into engagement with said guideway 76 and cannot be operated until flap 23 is again moved into its extended position (Figs. 1 to 6).

From the above description it will be apparent

that there is thus provided a carrying case of the character described possessing the particular features of advantages before enumerated as desirable, but which obviously is susceptible of modification in its form, proportions, detail construction and arrangement of parts without departing from the principle involved or sacrificing any of its advantages.

While there has been shown and described and pointed out the fundamental novel features of the invention as applied to a preferred embodiment, it will be understood that various omissions and substitutions and changes in the form and details of the device illustrated and its operation may be made provided they do not depart from the scope of the claims.

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

1. A case of the character described comprising a rear wall, a flap upwardly extending from said rear wall, a front wall, and end walls, said front wall being provided with a central section swingable about a substantially horizontal axis and a flap section at either side of said central section fixed to the end walls respectively, said central section and said flap sections having complementary fastening means respectively for engagement with one another in closed position of said case, said flap being provided with a locking element, said central section carrying a locking element complementary to said flap locking element, a portion of said fastening means at either side of said central section being engageable with a portion of said flap when the latter is moved into the locking position in which the locking element of said flap engages the locking element of said central section.

2. A carrying case for garments and the like,

comprising a rear wall, a front wall, and enclosing end walls connecting said rear wall and said front wall, a flap extending from the upper edge of said rear wall, said front wall being provided with fixed lateral sections each having a free lateral edge, and with a removable intermediate section, a lateral extension adjacent to and connected with each lateral section, said lateral sections and their connected extensions together with said end walls and rear wall forming respective pockets, means for removably connecting said intermediate section to said lateral sections, respectively, said intermediate section when connected to said lateral sections overlying said lateral extensions, means to lock said flap to said front wall, and a garment hanger supporting bar extending across and fixed to the inner face of said rear wall, said bar having its ends positioned behind the upper ends of said lateral extensions, said flap overlying said bar when in locking engagement with said front wall.

3. A carrying case comprising a rear wall, a front wall, gussets connecting said walls together and forming the side walls and bottom wall; a central section forming the major part of said front wall and being hinged adjacent the lower end thereof, the lateral edges of said central section being engageable with the remaining parts of said front wall, said remaining parts constituting side flaps, a reinforcing bar extending across and secured to the inner face of said rear wall adjacent the upper end thereof, and means arranged in spaced relation on said bar for holding garment hangers thereon, said central section covering said hangers and said bar upon engagement with said remaining parts of said front wall in closed condition of said case.

SIEGFRIED MEYER.
MAX NACHMAN.