Jan. 19, 1960 D. KILIK 2,921,615

CORNER PLATE FOR BRIEF BAGS AND THE LIKE

Filed April 16, 1959

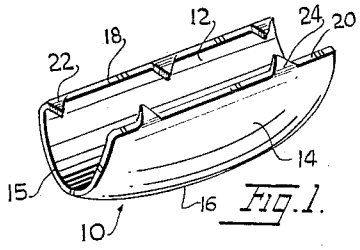


Fig. 1.

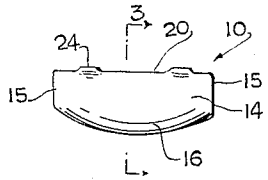


Fig. 2.

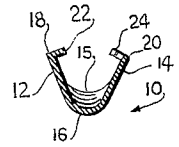


Fig. 3.

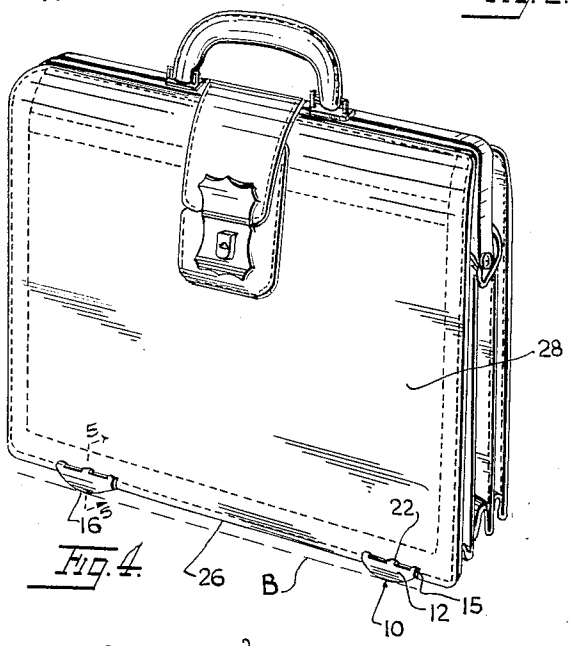


Fig. 4.

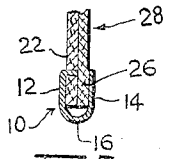


Fig. 5.

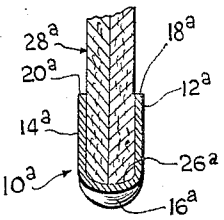


Fig. 9.

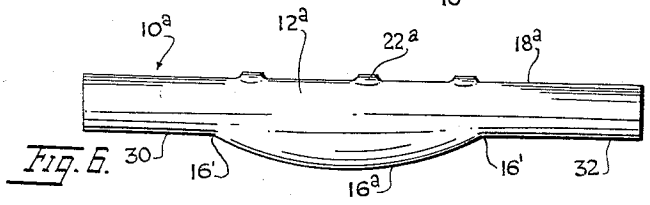


Fig. 6.

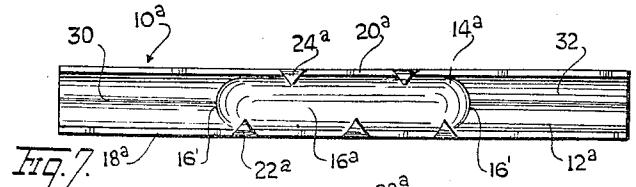


Fig. 7.

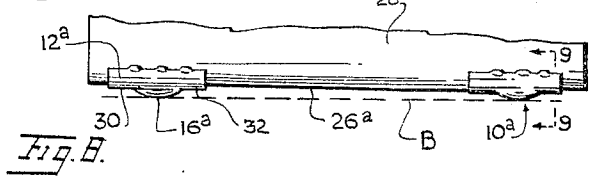


Fig. 8.

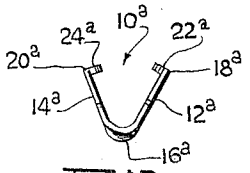


Fig. 10.

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CORNER PLATE FOR BRIEF BAGS AND THE LIKE

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6 Claims. (Cl. 150—1.6)

This invention concerns an improved corner foot clip or plate for a brief case or similar article of luggage.

According to the invention there is provided a plate which is attached to a brief bag by integrally formed prongs which are forced into an edge of a bag to be protected by the plate. Foot plates of this general character have heretofore been riveted, which requires special machinery and is time consuming and laborious.

It is a principal object of the invention to provide a corner foot plate for a brief bag, formed of pliable sheet metal and having interlocking integrally formed prongs.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a foot plate for a brief bag, with an outwardly bowed portion for supporting the bag in an elevated spaced position above a supporting surface and with longitudinal extensions for gripping and supporting the edge of the bag to provide a means for distributing the weight of the bag and for stiffening the edge if the bag.

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 clip or plate embodying the invention.

Fig. 2 is a reduced side elevational view of the clip.

Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a brief bag showing clips embodying the invention mounted thereon.

Fig. 5 is a sectional view on an enlarged scale taken on line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a side elevational view of another clip embodying the invention.

Fig. 7 is a top plan view of the clip of Fig. 6.

Fig. 8 is a side elevational view of a portion of another brief bag having clips of the type shown in Figs. 6 and 7, mounted thereon.

Fig. 9 is a sectional view on an enlarged scale taken on line 9—9 of Fig. 8.

Fig. 10 is a view similar to Fig. 3 of the clip shown in Fig. 6.

Referring to Figs. 1 to 5 there is shown a clip **10** which is so shaped that it can be stamped out of a single piece of pliable sheet metal. The clip has two flat sides **12** and **14** and is generally U-shaped in cross section. The bottom bight **16** of the clip is bowed downwardly with respect to the straight top edges **18**, **20**. On edge **18** is integrally formed three spaced prongs **22** which project inwardly toward the other side of the clip. On edge **20** are two spaced prongs **24**. The prongs on the opposite sides are staggered so that they alternate in an interlocking or intermeshing fashion in projecting into the material of the luggage. Figs. 4 and 5 show how a pair of clips may be secured to bottom edge **26** of a brief

bag **28**. The clips are located near the corners of the bag and serve to support the bottom of the bag in an elevated position spaced from the bottom flat support B indicated by a dotted line in Fig. 4. The bottom of the bag is elevated by a distance equal to the depth of the bowed bottoms **16** of the clips.

Figs. 6–10 show another clip **10ª** which is provided with extensions **30** and **32** to its side walls **12ª** and **14ª** and bowed portion **16ª**. Prongs **22ª** and **24ª** are formed on the upper straight edges **18ª** and **20ª** of the clip. The longitudinal extensions are formed integrally with the clip and extend from the ends **16'** of the bowed portion **16ª**. Clip **10ª** is generally U-shaped in cross section throughout, with the depth of the clip being maximum at the center of the bowed portion **16ª** and minimum throughout the extensions **30**, **32**. Initially the clip has its sides bowed outwardly as shown in Figs. 6, 7 and 10 in a manner similar to that shown in Figs. 1 and 3. After the clip is pressed into place at the bottom edge of the brief bag **28ª**, the sides of the clip assume a parallel disposition as shown clearly in Fig. 9.

Clip **10**, when secured to the bag **28**, also has its sides **12**, **14** in parallel array as shown in Fig. 5. The structure of clip **10ª** is preferred because the extensions **30** and **32** which abut the bottom edge **26ª** of the bag, as shown in Fig. 9, provide enlarged supporting surfaces which distribute the weight of the bag better than is done with clip **10**.

In clip **10**, the weight of the bag is supported on the U-shaped ends **15** of the clip and on the interlocked prongs **22**, **24**. This is also done in the clip **10ª** but the latter clip also has the extensions **30**, **32** which prevent warping and distortion of the bottom edge of the bag because of elongated longitudinal extensions which distribute the weight of the bag over a greater bearing surface. In clip **10** the bottom edge of the bag is spaced from the inner side of bowed portion **16**. This causes substantially the entire weight of the bag at this portion to be supported by the prongs **22**, **24**. The supplementary support given by the extensions **30**, **32** relieves the prongs **22ª**, **24ª** of a major part of their weight carrying function so that they can serve to grip the edge of the bag without developing a tendency to enlarge the holes formed in the bag by the penetration of the prongs therein.

The clips are readily mounted on and removed from a bag as desired. No special tools other than a pliers are required to press the sides of the clips together to effect secure engagement with the edge of the bag. They are durable, economical to manufacture and install and generally provide long trouble-free service.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise constructions herein disclosed and that various changes and modifications may be made within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

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

1. A corner foot plate for an article of luggage, comprising an elongated metal clip having flat outwardly flaring sides and being generally U-shaped in cross section, the bottom of the clip between ends thereof having a portion longitudinally bowed outward to provide a means for spacing the luggage from a flat support when the clip is attached to a bottom edge thereof, and means for attaching the clip to said edge of the luggage, said clip having integrally formed portions extending from opposite ends of the bowed portion to provide weight bearing surfaces for said luggage.

2. A corner foot plate for an article of luggage, com-

prising an elongated metal clip having flat outwardly flaring sides and being generally U-shaped in cross section, the bottom of the clip between ends thereof having a portion longitudinally bowed outward to provide a means for spacing the luggage from a flat support when the clip is attached to a bottom edge thereof, and means for attaching the clip to said edge of the luggage, said clip having integrally formed end portions extending from opposite ends of the bowed portion to provide weight bearing surfaces for said luggage, said flat sides of the clip having free straight upper edges, said means being integrally formed prongs spaced apart and extending inwardly toward each other on the respective edges.

3. A corner foot plate for an article of luggage, comprising an elongated metal clip having flat outwardly flaring sides and being generally U-shaped in cross section, the bottom of the clip between ends thereof having a portion longitudinally bowed outward to provide a means for spacing the luggage from a flat support when the clip is attached to a bottom edge thereof, and means for attaching the clip to said edge of the luggage, said clip having integrally formed end portions extending from opposite ends of the bowed portion to provide weight bearing surfaces for said luggage, said flat sides of the clip having free straight upper edges, said means being integrally formed prongs spaced apart and extending inwardly toward each other on the respective edges, said prongs on the respective edges being staggered so that they intermesh when the clip is attached to said bottom edge of the luggage, said end portions of the clip relieving said prongs of a major portion of the weight of the luggage to prevent enlargement of holes in the bottom edge of the luggage caused by penetration of the prongs therein.

4. A corner foot plate for an article of luggage, comprising an elongated metal clip having flat outwardly flaring sides and being generally U-shaped in cross section, the bottom of the clip between ends thereof having a portion longitudinally bowed outward to provide a means for spacing the luggage from a flat support when the clip is attached to a bottom edge thereof, and means for

attaching the clip to said edge of the luggage, said clip having integrally formed end portions extending from opposite ends of the bowed portion to provide weight bearing surfaces for said luggage, said flat sides of the clip having free straight upper edges, said means being integrally formed prongs spaced apart and extending inwardly toward each other on the respective edges, said prongs on the respective edges being staggered so that they intermesh when the clip is attached to said bottom edge of the luggage, said end portions of the clip relieving said prongs of a major portion of the weight of the luggage to prevent enlargement of holes in the bottom edge of the luggage caused by penetration of the prongs therein said metal being pliable so that the sides of the clip assume a parallel disposition when secured to the edge of the article of luggage.

5. A corner foot plate for an article of luggage, comprising a clip having a U-shaped cross section, prongs extending inwardly at opposed free upper edges of the clip, and an outwardly bowed bight portion for elevating the luggage above a flat support, said clip having at least one U-shaped portion extending longitudinally from at least one end of the bowed bight portion for relieving said prongs of a major portion of the weight of the luggage.

6. A corner foot plate for an article of luggage, comprising a clip having a U-shaped cross section, prongs extending inwardly at opposed free upper edges of the clip, and an outwardly bowed bight portion for elevating the luggage above a flat support, said clip having U-shaped portions extending from opposite ends of said bowed bight portion and providing weight distributing bearing surfaces for said luggage.

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