

[54] **LADIES HANDBAG**

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[51] Int. Cl. **A45c 13/26**

[58] Field of Search **150/33, 12; 190/57, 58; 16/110 R, DIG. 24, DIG. 25; 24/265.1, 265 RC; 59/80; 63/3, 4**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A ladies handbag having a side wall to which a pair of connector members is secured in longitudinally spaced alignment, each connector member having a pair of spaced parallel connector means extending parallel to the longitudinal axis of the handbag and defining an upper and lower pivot seat. A handle having a connector element at each end, is pivotally connected to the upper pivot seat and an ornamental member having a connector element at its upper end is pivotally connected to the lower pivot seat.

8 Claims, 5 Drawing Figures

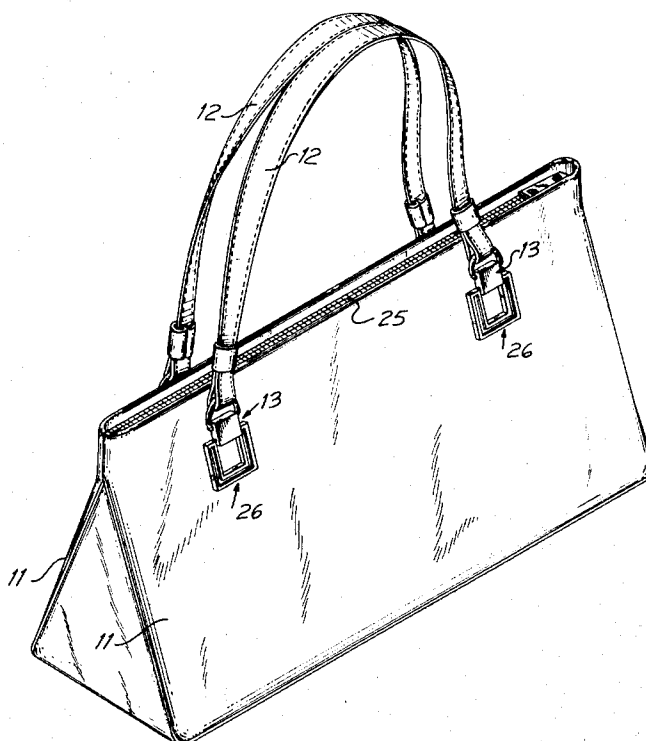


FIG. 1

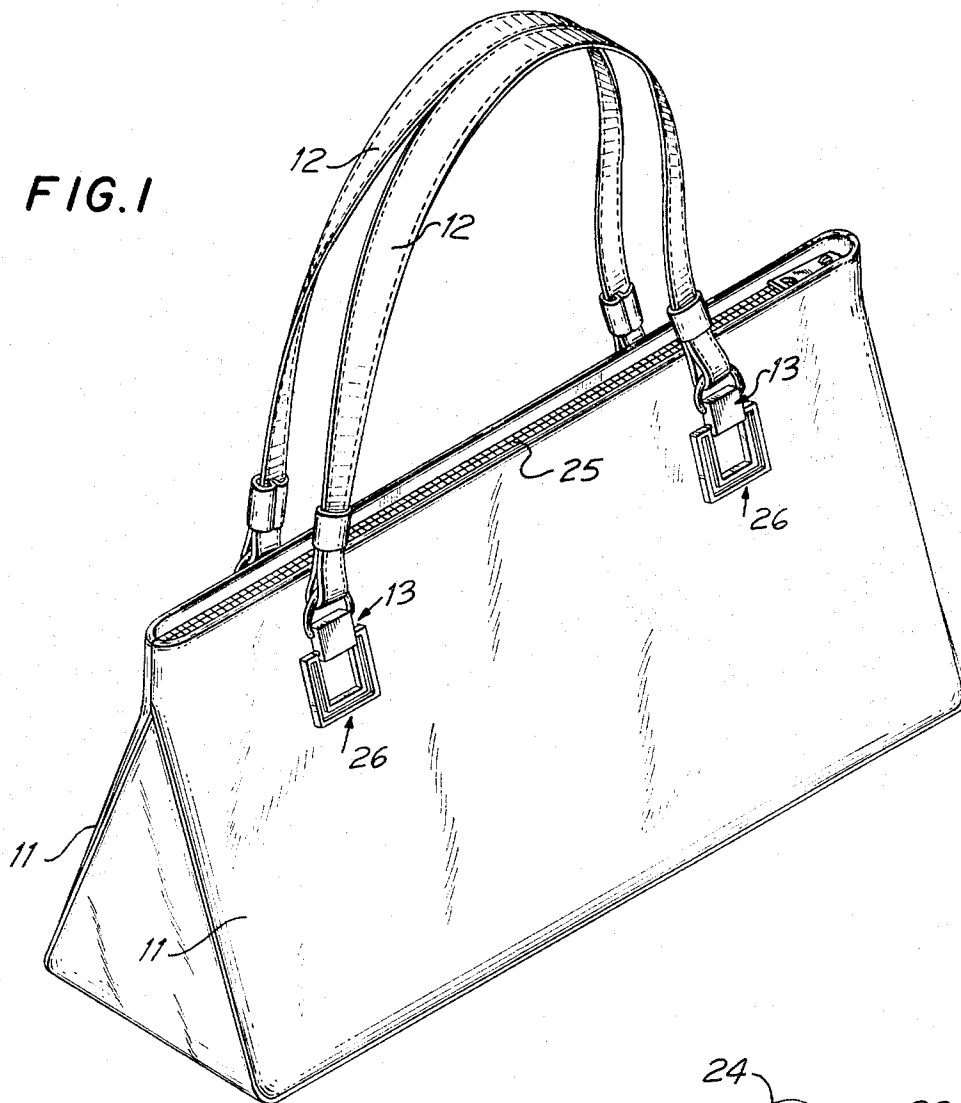


FIG. 2

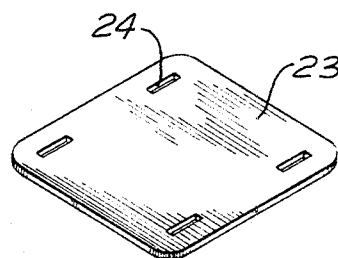
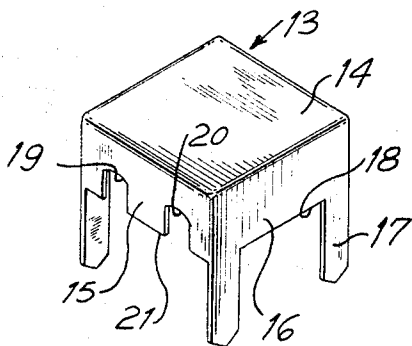


FIG. 3

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FIG. 4

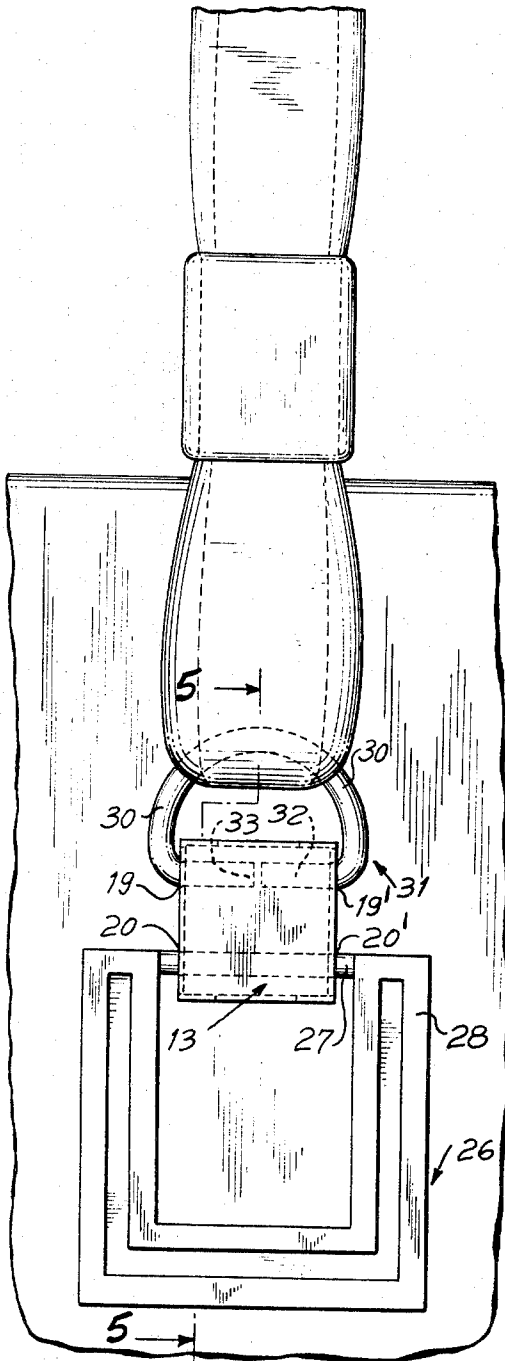
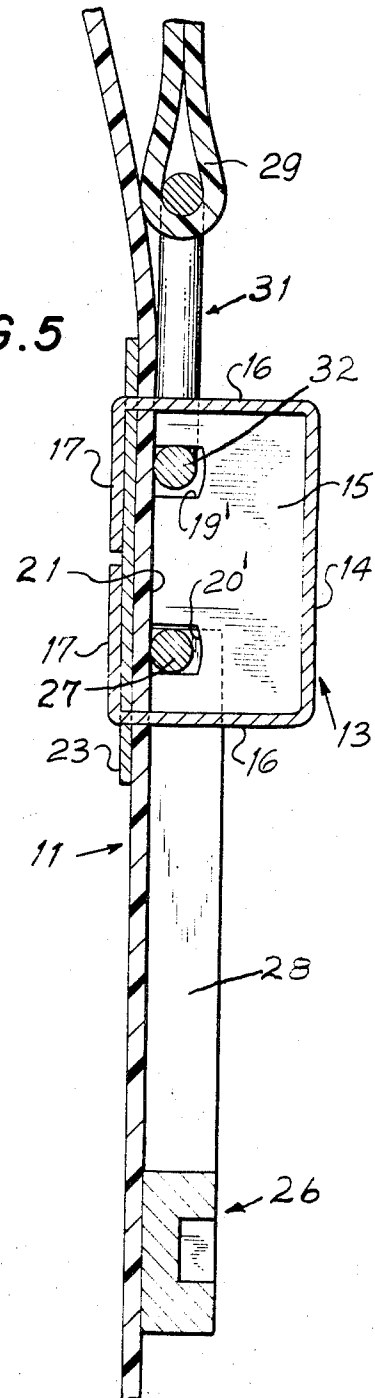


FIG. 5



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LADIES HANDBAG

This invention relates to the art of handbags and more particularly to a handbag having associated therewith a connector member which facilitates the connection to the handbag of a carrying handle as well as ornamental members.

As conducive to an understanding of the invention, it is noted that connector members in the form of rectangular boxes have been secured to the side walls of handbags and either the ends of a handle pivotally connected to the connector box and ornamental members rigidly secured to each connector box, or the handle has been secured directly at each end to the handbag and the ornamental members pivotally connected to an associated connector box.

Where the ornamental members are rigidly secured to the connector boxes, it is difficult to have the ornament lie flush against the side wall of the handbag as most bags have some curvature and consequently the rigidly mounted ornament may stick out at an angle which is unsightly and the ornament may catch on the cloth of the user and break off. In addition, where the ornament is rigidly secured to the connector box and the handbag is flexible, even if the ornament originally lies substantially flush against the side wall of the handbag, as the bag is filled with articles, the side walls would bulge outwardly and the ornament would be bent outwardly. Thus, when the bag is emptied and resumes its original shape, the ornament will stick out at an angle from the wall of the bag with the problems above noted.

Where the ornament is pivoted to an associated connector box and the handle ends are secured directly to the side wall of the handbag, a separate operation must be performed in manufacture which necessitates with sewing of such handle end directly to the handbag or the attachment of an additional connector member thereto to which the handle end can be connected. Such operations are time-consuming and add considerably to the cost of manufacture.

It is accordingly among the objects of the invention to provide a connector member which may be manufactured at low cost and which may readily be attached to the side wall of a handbag in a simple, low cost manufacturing operation and which will pivotally support both the end of a carrying handle as well as an ornament, with assurance that the ornament will lie substantially flush against the side wall of the handbag.

Another object of the invention is to provide a handbag having a pair of connector members secured to a side wall thereof in a simple low cost manufacturing operation, which connector members will pivotally mount the ends of a carrying handle as well as the end of an associated ornament.

According to the invention, these objects are accomplished by the arrangement and combination of elements hereinafter described and more particularly recited in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings in which are shown one of various possible embodiments of the several features of the invention;

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a handbag according to the invention;

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of a connector member;

FIG. 3 is a perspective view of a washer for securing the connector member in position;

FIG. 4 is a detail plan view on an enlarged scale showing the connector member pivotally mounting one end of a handle and an ornament, and

FIG. 5 is a sectional view taken along line 5-5 of FIG. 4.

Referring now to the drawings, as shown in FIG. 1, the handbag is of conventional type having opposed side walls 11, illustratively of flexible material such as plastic, leather or fabric and having a pair of flexible carrying handles 12.

As the construction of the handbag itself per se forms no part of the invention, it will not be further described except when necessary to explain the invention.

Secured to each of the side walls 11 of the handbag is a pair of connector members 13. Each connector member is illustratively in the form of a box having a substantially rectangular top wall 14 with depending side walls 15 and end walls 16.

Each end wall 16 has a pair of prongs 17 preferably formed integral therewith and extending outwardly from the lower edge 18 of each end wall 16 at each end thereof in a plane perpendicular to the plane of top wall 14.

Each side wall 15 of the connector box 13 has a pair of notches 19, 20 formed in the lower edge 21 thereof, the associated notches 19, 19', 20, 20' in the side walls of each box being transversely aligned as shown in FIG. 4 and defining an upper and lower pivot seat respectively.

The connector box 13 is secured to the side wall 11 of the handbag by forcing the prongs 17 through said side wall and after positioning a washer 23 against the inner surface of said side wall so that prongs 17 of each box extend through associated openings 24 in said washer, bending such prongs at right angles as shown in FIG. 5.

As shown in the drawings, the connector box 13 is positioned on side wall 11 so that the transversely aligned pairs of notches 19, 19', 20, 20' extend parallel to the mouth 25 of the handbag.

Pivotally connected to the handbag is a suitable ornament 26 which illustratively comprises a U-shaped member having a cross pin 27 secured at each of its ends to the free ends of the legs 28 of the ornament 26.

As is clearly shown in FIGS. 4 and 5, the cross pin 27 extends through the transversely aligned pair of notches 20, 21' which define the lower pivot seat. Since the cross pin 27 is shown permanently connected at its ends to the legs 28 of the ornament 26, the cross pin is positioned in the notches 20, 20' before the connector box 13 is secured to the side wall 12 of the handbag.

The handle 12 illustratively is a strip of flexible material having a loop 29 formed at each end thereof. A split connector ring 31 of conventional type having a pair of normally spaced legs 32, is positioned in each loop 29 with the ends 33 of the legs 32 aligned with the upper pair of notches 19, 19'. The sides 30 of the split ring 31 are then forced together to move the ends of legs 32 into the notches 19, 19' to pivotally mount the handle 12.

The connector box 13 may be formed by stamping sheet metal or it may be made by casting. The ornamental member 26 may be of any desirable design or shape such as the configuration shown or, for example it may be a disc having decorations thereon or initials, the only requirement being that it must be provided with suitable means such as a cross pin 27 in the embodiment shown or a pair of separate pins which enter the notches 20, 21' for pivotal mount of the ornament.

With the use of the unique connector box above described, a handle and an ornament may both be pivotally connected to a handbag in a relatively simple operation.

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

1. A handbag comprising a pair of side walls, a pair of connector members secured to at least one of said side walls in longitudinally spaced relationship thereon, each of said connector members having a pair of spaced parallel connector means defining an upper and lower connector means respectively, extending parallel to the longitudinal axis of said side wall, a handle having a split ring connector element at each end thereof pivotally connected to the upper connector means of each connector member and a pair of ornament members, each having a cross pin connector element pivotally connected to the lower connector means of each connector member.

2. The combination set forth in claim 1 in which each of said connector members has a plurality of prongs extending through the side wall of said handbag to secure the connector members thereto.

3. The combination set forth in claim 1 in which each of said connector members has a plurality of openings through the side wall of said handbag, a washer is positioned on the inner surface of said side wall, said washer having a plurality of openings through each of which an associated prong

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extends, each of said prongs being bent over said washer to secure the connector member in fixed position.

4. The combination set forth in claim 1 in which each of said connector members has a top wall with a pair of spaced parallel side walls depending therefrom, each of said pairs of connector means comprising a pair of transversely aligned notches in each of said parallel side walls.

5. The combination set forth in claim 1 in which each of said connector members has a top wall, a pair of spaced parallel end walls and a pair of spaced parallel side walls, the end and side walls depending from the top wall, each of said pairs of connector means comprises a pair of transversely aligned notches in each of the free edges of said parallel side walls, each of said end walls having prongs extending outwardly from the free edge thereof perpendicular to said top wall, said prongs extending through the side wall of said handbag to secure the connector member thereto.

6. The combination set forth in claim 1 in which each of said connector members has a top wall, a pair of spaced parallel end walls and a pair of spaced parallel side walls, each of said pairs of connector means comprise a pair of transversely aligned notches in each of the free edges of said parallel side

walls, each of said end walls having prongs extending outwardly from the free edge thereof perpendicular to said top wall, a washer is positioned on the inner surface of said side wall of said handbag aligned with an associated connector member, each washer having a plurality of openings through each of which an associated prong extends, each of said prongs being bent over said washer to secure the connector member in fixed position.

7. The combination set forth in claim 4 in which the connector element at each end of the handle comprises a split ring member carried by the end of the handle, the portion of said ring member adjacent the split defining a pair of longitudinally aligned legs, each of said legs extending through one of the pair of transversely aligned notches defining the upper connector means, pivotally to connect the connector element to the upper connector means.

8. The combination set forth in claim 4 in which each of said ornament members has a pivot bar at one end thereof, said pivot bar extending through a pair of transversely aligned notches defining the lower connector means pivotally to connect the ornament member to the lower connector means.

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