Oct. 6, 1959 C. DOPPELT 2,907,420

CARRYING CASES

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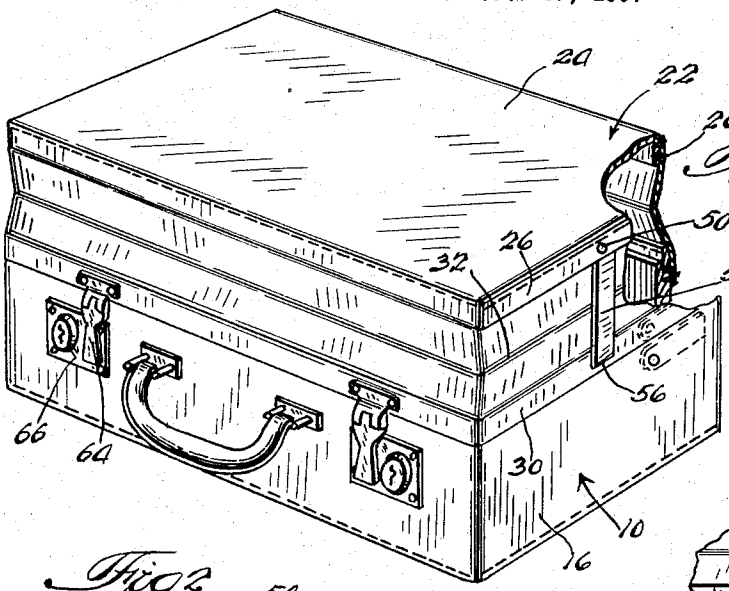


Fig. 1.

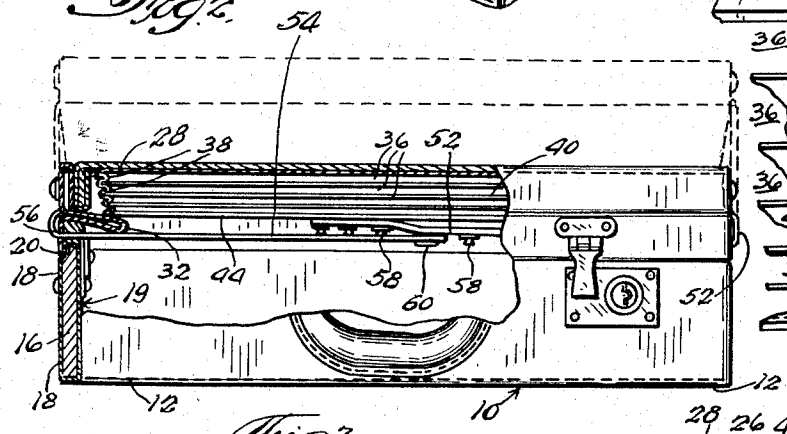


Fig. 2.

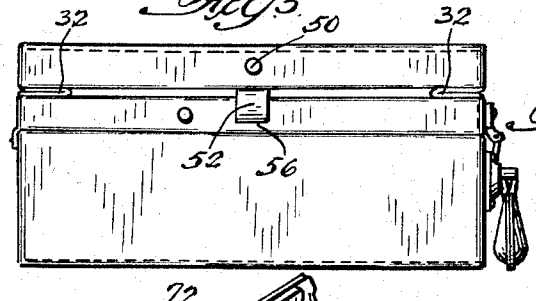


Fig. 3.

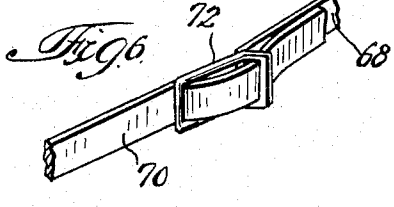


Fig. 6.

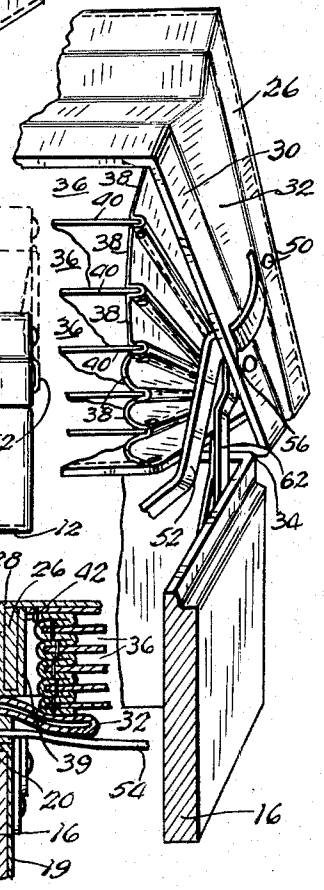


Fig. 5.

Fig. 4.

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CARRYING CASES

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4 Claims. (Cl. 190—51)

This invention relates to improvements in carrying cases.

One of the objects of this invention is to provide an attaché carrying case with a compartment whose depth may be varied.

Another object of this invention is to provide a carrying case with a lid which is extensible and collapsible in the direction of its depth for the purpose of increasing or decreasing the capacity of the case.

Another object is to provide an attaché carrying case with a lid which carries a plurality of extensible and contractable pockets, and which has means permitting extension of the lid in the direction of its depth when the pockets are loaded.

More specifically this invention comprises an attaché carrying case provided with a lid which includes a bellows section and which lid supports a plurality of extensible pockets. The lid is provided with adjustable strap means which limits and controls the degree of expansibility of the bellows sections to increase or decrease the capacity of the compartment of the carrying case.

Other objects will become apparent as this description progresses.

In the drawings.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view partly in section of the case in expanded position.

Fig. 2 is a front elevational view partly in cross section showing the case in collapsed position and showing in dotted lines the case in expanded position.

Fig. 3 is an elevated view of the side of the case in collapsed position.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged view of the cross sectional portion of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a view of a portion of the case in open position and showing the pockets expanded, and

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a modified form of strap.

The carrying case includes a base or body portion generally indicated at **10** which is of rectangular shape and formed of a rigid bottom wall **12** formed of a stiffened material and a border or frame **16** made of wood, plywood or the like which surrounds the bottom wall. The bottom wall and border or frame are secured together and covered on the outside and inside by a covering of leather or imitation leather **18** and **19**. The open end of the frame **16** has a recessed lip **20** extending all the way around to accommodate the lid.

The lid generally indicated at **22** is of rectangular shape and comprises a rigid top end wall **24** and a rigid inner frame or border **26** made of wood, plywood, or the like which extends all the way around the end wall. The top end wall **24** and the inner frame **26** are secured together and covered on the outside by a suitable leather or imitation leather covering **28** which is turned inwardly as at **29**. A border **31** surrounds the frame **26** and said border is covered by a covering **33**. The inside of the frame **26** is covered by an inner covering **39**. The lid also includes an outer rectangular shaped frame **30** made of wood, plywood or the like which is separate and distinct from the inner frame **26** but which is connected thereto by the coverings **33** and **39** and which forms a bellows section connection **32** between the outer and inner frames **26** and **30**. The bellows connection **32** is formed only of the coverings **33** and **39** and folds inwardly as best shown in Figs. 2, 3 and 4 when the lid is collapsed and openly expands when the case is extended as shown in Fig. 1.

The lid **22** is hingedly connected to the back of the body portion **10** of the case by continuing the coverings **33** and **39** rearwardly, and providing a rear extension and stitching said extension along a line of stitch to the outside covering **18** along the rear wall of the bottom frame **16**.

Secured to the inside of the lid are a plurality of expansible pockets generally indicated at **36**. The pockets are formed by two side flexible gussets **38**, between which are stitched or otherwise secured in spaced relation a plurality of partitions or walls **40** made of a fibre board having a degree of rigidity. The inner ends of the side gussets are stitched or otherwise secured as at **42** to the inside of the lid. The front wall **44** of the expansible pockets is preferably made of a more rigid material than the partitions **40**.

Secured to the bottom of the inside end wall **24** of the lid **22** is a strip of leather or the like which extends under the partitions **40** and is secured to the front wall **44**. This forms the bottom wall for the pockets **36**. The pockets thus formed are for receiving papers, documents and the like and said pockets due to the gussets **38** are expansible and contractible.

Secured to each of the opposite sides of the inner frame **26** of the lid under the leather covering **33** by rivets **50** are straps **52** and **54** which pass across the bellows section **32** and through a slot **56** in each of the sides of the outer frame **30** of the lid and then extend inwardly thereof a substantial length. The strap **52** is provided with a plurality of spaced male fasteners **58** and strap **54** is provided with a single female fastener **60** so that the inner or free ends of the straps may be connected together as best shown in Fig. 2. The female fastener **60** may be made connected to any of the spaced male fasteners **58** to provide for longer or shorter straps and the straps extend across the front of the front wall **44** of the expansible pockets **36** and serve to permit the expansible lid **22** to be collapsed or expanded for the following purpose. When the compartment of the case is filled with material to be carried or the pockets **36** are filled so that expansion of the lid is desired, the free ends of the straps **52** and **54** are disengaged from each other and the lid is fully or partially expanded by permitting the straps to slide outwardly through the slots **56**. The free ends of the straps are then connected together along their adjusted position by engagement of the female member **60** with any of the male members **58**. When there is no need for an expanded lid the straps may be connected together in a taut relationship to hold the lid in its fully collapsed position and prevent expansion of the bellows section **32**.

Conventional collapsible hinge means **62** are secured on the inside of each side of the case. One end of the hinge **62** being connected to the outer frame **30** of the lid and the other to the frame **16** of the base or body **10**. The hinge means **62** permit the lid to be opened and held in opened position. Secured to the top of the outer frame **30** of the lid are a pair of hinged hasps **64** which are connected to conventional locking means **66** on the front of the frame of the bottom frame **16** for locking the case.

In Fig. 6 a modified form of strap is shown. The outer ends of the straps **68** and **70** shown in Fig. 6 are con-

nected to the lid in the same manner previously described and said straps extend through slots in the lid and into the case as previously described. However to the inner end of strap **68** there is fixedly connected a conventional buckle **72** and the free end of the strap **70** passes through the buckle for locking engagement therewith. This permits connecting the straps together anywhere along the length of one of the straps for accomplishing the same purpose as heretofore set forth with respect to straps **52** and **54**.

As is clear from the foregoing the lid **22** is expansible and contractible in the direction of its depth as is also the expansible pockets **48**. The adjustable straps **52** and **54** or **68** and **70** in addition to providing a support for the expansible pockets **48** serve to hold the lid in its fully collapsed position, or to limit the expansion of the lid to that desired or to permit full expansion of the lid.

It will be understood that various changes and modifications may be made from the foregoing without departing from the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A carrying case having a body portion and a lid hinged thereto and providing an interior compartment, said lid having a pair of frame members connected together by a flexible material infolded to provide for expansion and collapsing of said lid, straps secured to one of said frames and passing through openings in said other frame and extending into the interior of said case, means on said straps in the interior of said case for adjustably connecting the front ends of said straps to hold said lid in collapsed position or to permit partial or full expansion of said lid for varying the depth of the compartment of said case.

2. A carrying case having a body portion and a lid hinged thereto and providing an interior compartment, said lid having a pair of frame members connected together by a flexible material to provide a bellows for expansion and collapsing of said lid, a plurality of expansible pockets secured to the inside of said lid, straps secured to one of said frames and passing through openings in said other frame and extending into the interior of said compartment and across the front of said pockets, means for adjustably connecting the front ends of said straps inside said compartment to limit the degree of expansibility of said bellows and said pockets.

3. A carrying case having a body portion, a lid hinged thereto, and a bellows section secured to said lid and positioned between said lid and said body portion all providing an interior compartment, straps secured to said lid and extending adjacent the bellows section and into and across the interior of said compartment for limiting the expansibility of said bellows section to increase or decrease the depth of said compartment, and means on said straps inside said compartment for adjusting the length of said straps.

4. A carrying case having a body portion, a lid hinged thereto and a bellows section secured to said lid and positioned between said lid and said body portion all providing an interior compartment, a plurality of expansible pockets secured to said lid and extending into said compartment, straps secured to said lid and extending adjacent the bellows section and into said compartment and across the front of said expansible pockets for limiting the expansibility of said expansible pockets and for limiting the expansibility of said bellows section to increase or decrease the depth of sad compartment, and means on said straps inside said compartment for adjusting the length of said straps.

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