Aug. 29, 1933. E. M. FRITZ 1,924,183

GOLF BAG STAND

Filed June 15, 1932

Fig. 1

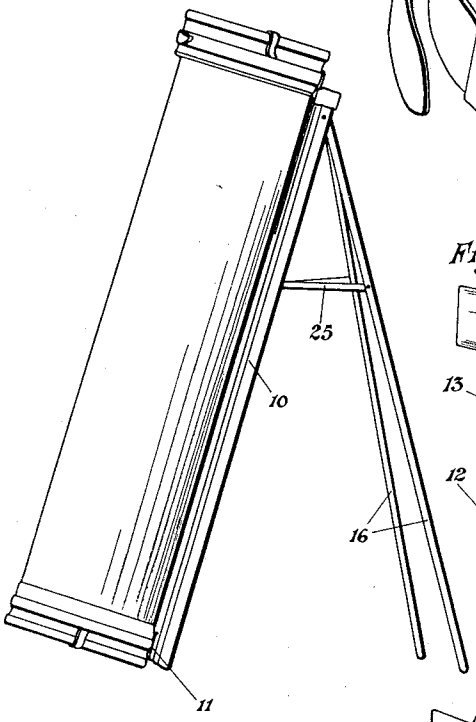


Fig. 2

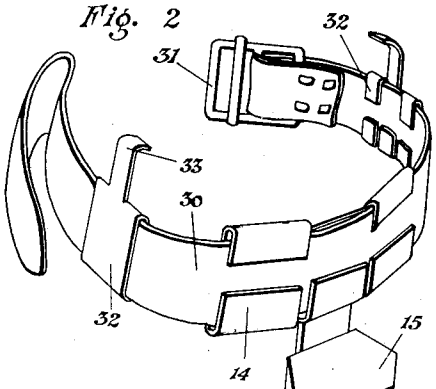


Fig. 3

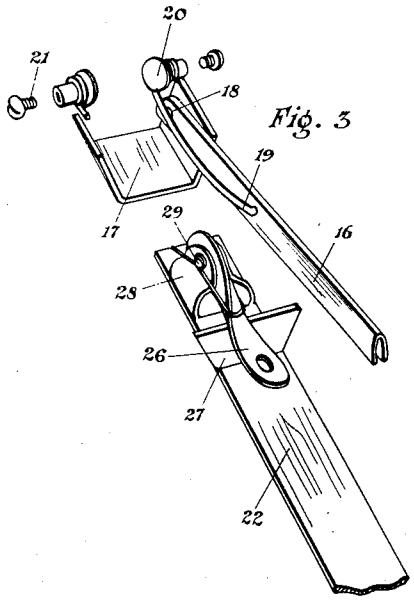
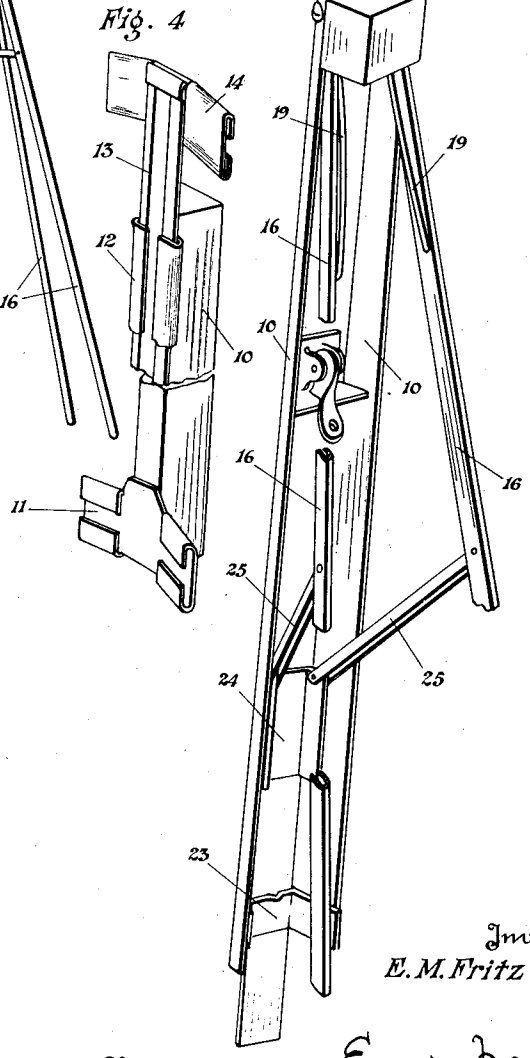


Fig. 4



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GOLF BAG STAND

Ernest M. Fritz, Chicago, Ill.

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3 Claims. (Cl. 150—1.5)

My invention relates to golf bag stands, the present invention being in the nature of an improvement on the golf bag stand described in my copending application, Serial Number 566,745, filed October 3, 1931.

The object of the present invention is the simplification of the structure to thereby decrease the weight of the stand, to reduce the number of parts and to lower the cost of manufacturing the stand.

It is also my object to simplify the operation of the stand so that one simple movement will unfold the parts of the stand into operative position, the folding movements being entirely automatic.

Having in view these objects and others which will be pointed out in the following description, I will now refer to the drawing, in which

Figure 1 is a view in side elevation of a golf bag with my stand attached thereto and in operative position for supporting the golf bag on the golf course.

Figure 2 is an illustration of my golf bag stand, parts of the operative mechanism being omitted and other parts being broken away.

Figure 3 is an illustration of a portion of my golf bag stand showing the arrangement of the springs for returning the legs to their folded position.

Figure 4 is a view in perspective of the rear upper end portion of my golf bag stand, showing particularly the means for extending the golf bag stand to fit golf bags of various lengths.

The casing of my golf bag stand has a rear wall from the edges of which two side walls 10 diverge outwardly. This case is preferably made from sheet metal which may readily be bent into the shape described. At the lower extremity of this case there is an arcuate transversely positioned metal strap 11 having its edges outturned. A strap 12 is secured longitudinally to the upper portion of the case, the strap 12 being provided with a sliding channel as shown in Figure 4 for the reception of a slide 13. The slide 13 has a rib in its middle portion and it is provided at its upper extremity with a strap 14 similar to the strap 11. The metal straps 11 and 14 are each arcuate in form for seating against the cylindrical surface of the golf bag and each of these straps is provided with a channel for receiving belts for securing the golf bag stand to the golf bag.

The upper end portion of the golf bag is covered by means of a cap 15 as shown in Figure 2. This cap conceals and protects the pivotal connections of the legs and the springs which return the legs to inoperative position. This structure is perhaps best shown in Figure 3 which shows only one of the two legs 16. Inside the case there is a plate 17 conforming generally to the inner surface of the case to which it is secured. The plate 17 is thus provided with two wings each of which receives a pivot pin 18 connecting a leg 16 thereto. In the inoperative position of the legs they are maintained in folded position within the case. For this purpose I provide springs 19 each secured at one extremity to a leg 16 and being coiled at the opposite end portion on a pin 20. These pins 20 are made to serve a double purpose as they are adapted to receive the screws 21 which secure the parts together but which permit access to the parts underneath the cap 15. The action of the springs 19 is such that it will cause the legs 16 to fold within the case and in parallelism therewith. The legs 16 are preferably made from sheet metal which is formed into channel form as shown in Figure 3.

Seated within the case 10 is a slide 22 which has a width slightly less than the width of the back of the case. This slides in the direction of its length and it is confined to its path by means of braces 23 secured to the side walls 10 and spaced from the back wall a distance sufficient to permit the slide 22 to move freely in the direction of its length. Secured to the slide is a bracket 24 for supporting the links 25 which are in channeled form and which are secured at their respective extremities to the legs 16 and to the bracket 24. The closing movement of the legs 16 under the action of the springs 19 therefore folds the links 25 into the legs 16 when the legs are being folded into the case. The slide 22 is forced downwardly at the same time to its lowermost position. All other parts are held in their closed position by the springs 19 and there is thus no danger of accidental unfolding.

By moving the slide 22 in an upward direction in the case, the link 25 will transmit the movement to the legs 16 to spread these legs. A finger hold 26 is therefore provided, this being positioned at the upper extremity of the slide 22. A direct upward thrust on the slide would not release the legs because such a thrust would be exerted in the direction of the length of the legs. It is therefore necessary to provide means for imparting initial pivotal movement to the legs in order to bring them over center. This is done by securing to the finger hold 26 a push

element 27 against which the legs normally rest when they are in their folded position. The finger hold 26 is pivotally secured between ears 28 projecting outwardly from the slide 22. The initial movement of the finger hold 26 will therefore be a pivotal movement about its pivot 29 and this pivotal movement will lift the push element 27 to lift the legs 16 from out of their dead center position. At the end of this pivotal movement of the finger hold 26, the legs will be in such position that further upward thrust on the finger hold 26 will lift the slide 22 in its case. This carries with it the links 25 so that the legs will not only spread away from the case but they will spread away from each other. The links 25 do not, however, reach a dead center position but they stop just short of that position, the plate 17 serving as a stop for the slide 22. They then act as braces to some extent but their inner pivotal points are so positioned that the legs would immediately be restored to inoperative position were it not for the weight of the golf bag and contents to prevent such reverse movement.

It will thus be seen that an exceedingly simple mechanism is provided for attachment to the golf bag so that the golf bag may be set substantially upright in any desired location. All that is necessary is to lift upwardly on the finger hold 26 until the legs have been expanded and to set the golf bag down with the legs expanded in the position shown in Figure 1. Then, by simply lifting the golf bag, the legs instantly snap into their folded and inoperative position without effort or attention on the part of the golfer.

Novel means are employed for attaching the golf bag stand to the golf bag. The metallic straps 11 and 14 are rigidly secured to the stand in the manner already described. By means of the slide 13 these metallic straps 11 and 14 may be spread apart or forced closer together to adapt the stand to any golf bag regardless of its length. The metallic straps 11 and 14 are arcuate in form so that they may be seated tightly against the golf bag. Both metallic straps 11 and 14 are designed for supporting a flexible strap 30 of webbing, rubber, leather or similar material. The strap 30 is provided with a buckle 31 for adjustably securing the ends of the strap together. On the strap 30 there are a number of slidable clips 32 having hooked end portions 33. In the case of the upper strap 30, the hooked end portions 33 engage the top edge of the golf bag to prevent downward slippage of the strap 30 on the golf bag. In the case of the lower strap the hooks 33 engage the lower edge of the golf bag to prevent upward slippage. The clips 32 are slidable on the strap 30 so that they may be adjusted into any position to engage the upper edge of the golf bag at any desired points.

While the golf bag and the stand are in the position shown in Figure 1, the weight of the golf bag and its contents counterbalances the springs 19. These springs are just sufficiently heavy so that the weight of the golf bag will not permit them to collapse the legs. The result is that the golf bag has a tripod support when it is in the Figure 1 position but this support is immediately collapsed when the weight of the golf bag is removed from the legs. This results in great simplicity in the use of the golf bag stand. One simple finger movement will expand the legs into operative position while the folded or inoperative position of the golf bag stand is brought about automatically when the golf bag is lifted to be carried to another position on the golf course or to be carried home at the end of the game.

Having thus described my invention in such full, clear, and exact terms that its construction and operation will be readily understood by others skilled in the art to which it pertains, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A tripod stand adapted for attachment to a golf bag for supporting the golf bag in an inclined position, one leg being in the form of a shell which is open on the side opposite the golf bag, a telescoping slide for said open shell leg for adjusting the length thereof to conform to the length of the golf bag, straps adapted to surround the golf bag at the upper and lower extremities thereof, said straps being secured respectively to said open shell leg and to said slide, a pair of legs pivotally connected to said open shell leg to diverge therefrom and from each other into their operative position, yieldable means for normally maintaining said pair of legs in inoperative position within said open shell leg, and finger actuated means for moving said pair of legs into operative position.

2. A tripod stand adapted for attachment to a golf bag for supporting the golf bag in an inclined position, one leg being in the form of a shell which is open on the side opposite the golf bag, a pair of legs pivotally connected to said open shell leg to diverge therefrom and from each other into their operative position, yieldable means for normally maintaining said legs in inoperative position within said open shell leg, a slide within said open shell leg, said slide being in substantial parallelism with said legs when in their folded or inoperative position, each of said pair of legs having a link connection with said slide, and finger actuated means pivotally secured to said slide for first moving said legs out of parallel relation with said slide during the pivotal movement of said finger actuated means and then moving said slide to move said pair of legs into operative position.

3. A tripod stand adapted for attachment to a golf bag for supporting the golf bag in an inclined position, one leg being in the form of a shell which is open on the side opposite the golf bag, a pair of legs pivotally connected to said open shell leg to diverge therefrom and from each other into their operative position, yieldable means for normally maintaining said legs in inoperative position within said open shell leg, a slide within said open shell leg, a finger hold pivotally secured to said slide, and a transverse member secured to said finger hold and underlying said legs, the arrangement being such that upward finger thrust on said finger hold will first cause said transverse member to move said legs out of parallel relation with said slide and then move said slide to expand said legs.

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