

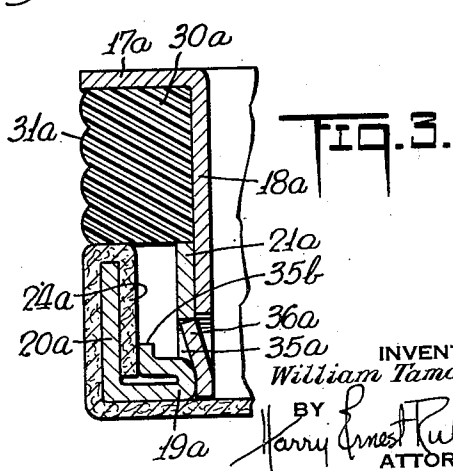
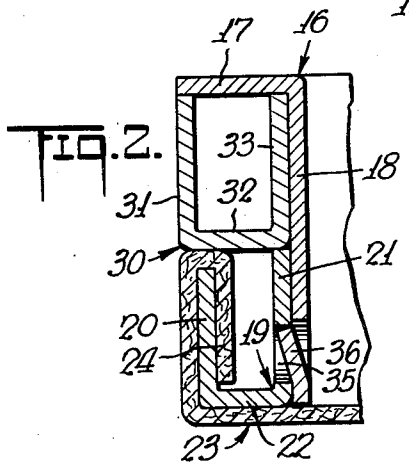
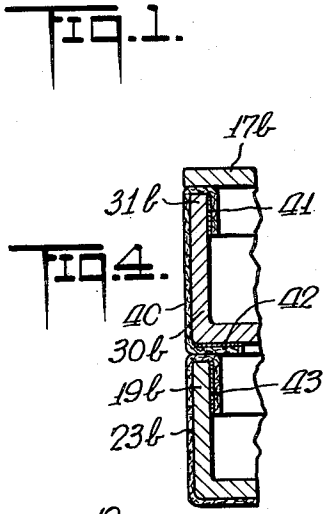
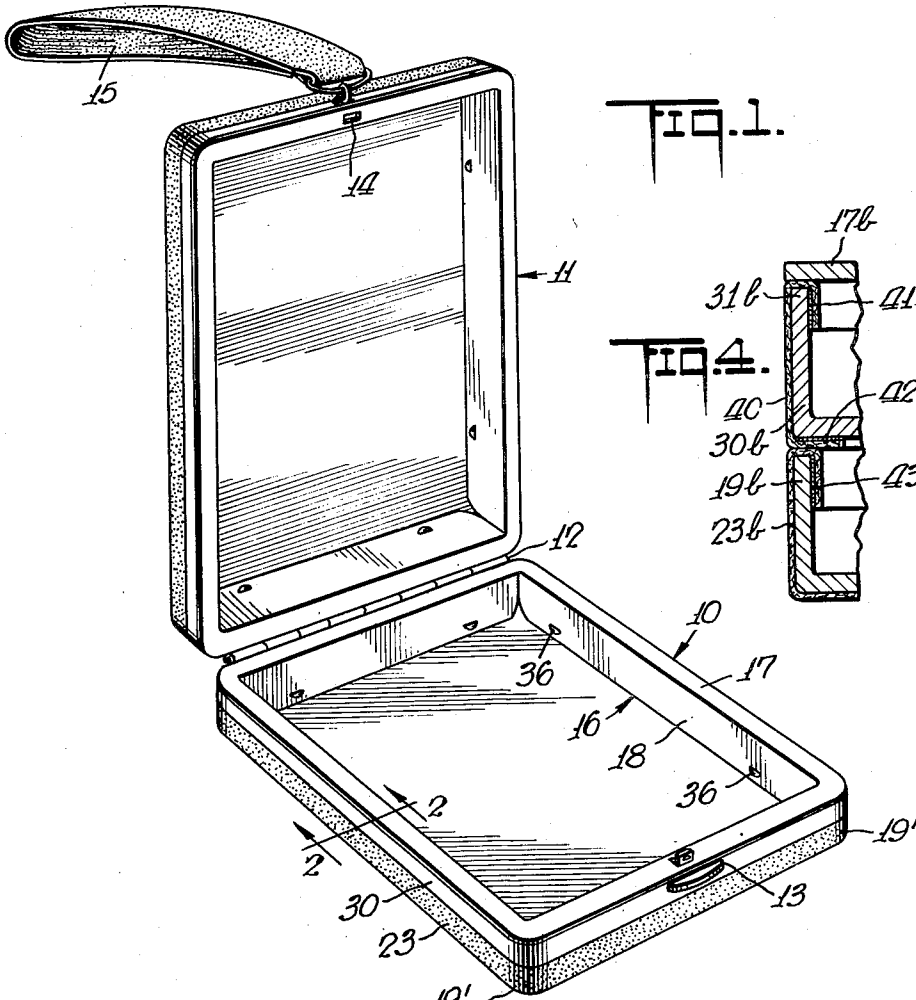
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2,536,785

COVER SECURING MEANS FOR CONTAINERS

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COVER SECURING MEANS FOR CONTAINERS

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My invention relates to containers that may be employed as a handbag or a vanity case, for enclosing a traveling clock; and generally for carrying specific articles.

In my earlier Patent 2,218,665, I devised a case adapted to be covered with a flexible material such as leather, and which was successfully employed as a cigarette case. It was characterized by a frame channel member around which the flexible cover was wrapped, the marginal edges of which were carried into the mouth of the channel. A clamping frame member was secured thereto, one leg of which extended over and secured the marginal edges of the flexible cover to the frame, and additionally furnished a metal edging which protected the leather edges against wear and simultaneously gave a finished and decorative appearance to the case whether opened or closed.

In Ser. No. 632,167, now issued as Patent No. 2,527,339, dated October 24, 1950, of which this is a continuation in part, I first disclosed the securing of the marginal edges of the flexible cover to the frame member, independently of the clamping member.

In both prior concepts, the depth of the case was limited to the ability of the leather to be evenly drawn around the corners and tucked into the mouth of the channel without leaving unsightly corner folds.

It is the primary object of my invention to provide an improvement of my earlier containers, wherein the case may be made of practically unlimited depth, yet employ leather as the principal covering for the case.

I accomplish these and other objects and obtain my new results as will be apparent from the device described in the following specification, particularly pointed out in the claims, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view illustrating my container in opened position.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional view of a portion of the case taken in the plane 2-2 of Fig. 1, indicating the cross-sectional construction.

Fig. 3 is a similar view of a modification thereof.

Fig. 4 is another similar view of a further modification.

As shown in the drawing, my container is made in two complementary halves 10 and 11 which may be substantially identical, as illustrated, hinged at 12 with latch elements 13 and 14 of suitable construction to hold the two halves in closed position.

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One of the container halves, namely 10, is shown in partial cross section in Fig. 2. It comprises the clamping or upper frame member 16 having an outwardly laterally extending flange leg 17 and a vertical flange leg 18, which interlocks with the channel shaped lower frame 19 composed of an outer leg 20, an inner leg 21, and a bottom section 22.

The flexible covering 23 is wrapped around outer leg 20 with the marginal portions 24 positioned in the mouth of the lower frame 19 where it is securely held by several methods previously disclosed and hereinafter again described.

The flexible covering 23 when made of flat thin leather sheeting has a limited depth of draw wherein the corner portions can be smoothly shaped around the corners of the lower frame member 19 before insertion into the channel. Beyond this limited depth of draw which varies with the leather but in the type used for cigarette cases, may be only $\frac{1}{4}$ " , the corners lose their smooth appearance, and become bulky and unsightly.

I have discovered how to retain a leather covering with a limited draw and yet obtain a case of substantially unlimited depth.

Between the outwardly extending flange 17 of the upper frame member 16 and the lower frame member 19, I insert a spacer device which, as shown in Fig. 2, may be a U-shaped spacer 30 having an outer wall 31, bottom portion 32, and inner wall 33, all similar, in general shape, to the lower frame member 19. Thus the flange 17 of the upper frame member 16 keeps the spacer in position on the lower frame member 19. The spacer may be of unlimited depth, since the vertical flange 18 of the upper frame member 16 may be similarly extended to interlock with the inner leg 21 of member 19.

The interlocking means as shown in Fig. 2 may be formed by providing a cut-out 35 in the inner leg 21 into which a tongue 36 formed in leg 18 may snap to interlock the parts together.

In Fig. 3, the spacer is shown made of solid plastic material 30a having the selected height, provided with, if desired, an ornamental exposed outer surface 31a of pleasing configuration. The marginal portions 24a of the flexible covering may be secured in position by bending over a tongue section 35b formed from the cut-out 35a, and compressing the marginal portion against leg 20a securing it to the lower frame member 19a independently of the pressure of the spacer against the flexible cover, due to the clamping pressure produced by the outwardly extending

flange 17a, brought about by interlocking the leg 18a to leg 21a by tongue 36a engaging cut-out 35a.

In Fig. 4, the spacer 30b is covered with a flexible sheeting 40 which may be the same as the flexible covering 23b or of contrasting color or material. The covering 40 may be independently secured to the spacer 30b by glueing as at 41 and 42 or other suitable means, or by the clamping pressure of the flange 17b upon the edge of leg 31b.

Similarly the flexible covering 23b may be independently secured to the lower frame member 19b by glueing 43 or other suitable means.

I am thus able to accomplish the primary object of increasing the depth of the container construction shown in my earlier patent, in a manner both inexpensive and satisfactory. Some of the die cut parts are identical thus obtaining an advantageous economy manufacture. Additionally I can employ the method of independently securing the covering materials to their frame members which adds to the manufacturing convenience when the parts are stored, prior to as well as in assembly operations.

I have thus described my invention, but I desire it understood that it is not confined to the particular forms or uses shown and described, the same being merely illustrative, and that the invention may be carried out in other ways without departing from the spirit of my invention, and, therefore, I claim broadly the right to employ all equivalent instrumentalities coming within the scope of the appended claims, and by means of which, objects of my invention are attained and new results accomplished, as it is obvious that the particular embodiments herein shown and described are only some of the many that can be employed to attain these objects and accomplish these results.

I claim:

1. In a container of the class described, a lower frame member having inner and outer legs forming a continuous channel, the outer surface of the inner leg having a flat contacting surface; an upper frame member having an inner vertical flange and an outwardly extending lateral flange; a side wall comprising a cover extend-

ing across said lower frame member and having marginal edge portions overlying the outer leg and edge surfaces of the lower frame member, and turned inwardly and downwardly into the mouth of the lower frame channel; a spacer interposed between the outwardly extending lateral flange of the upper frame member and the cover overlying the edge surface of the outer leg of the lower frame member, said spacer constructed of shape retaining material extending across the mouth of the channel and engaging the inner vertical flange of the upper frame member, and having an outer peripherally exposed surface, said lower and upper frame members being assembled to cause the spacer to be securely compressed under pressure of the outwardly extending lateral flange of the upper frame member, with the vertical flange of the upper frame member in direct bearing contact with the flat inside contacting surface of the inner leg of the lower frame member, said vertical flange and inner leg having coacting parts to retain said members in assembled relation.

2. The construction of claim 1, wherein the spacer is channel shaped.

WILLIAM TAMOSCHAT.

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