

Oct. 20, 1942.

A. ZOLKIND

2,299,673

COMBINED TRAVELING AND CORRESPONDENCE CASE

Filed June 26, 1941

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

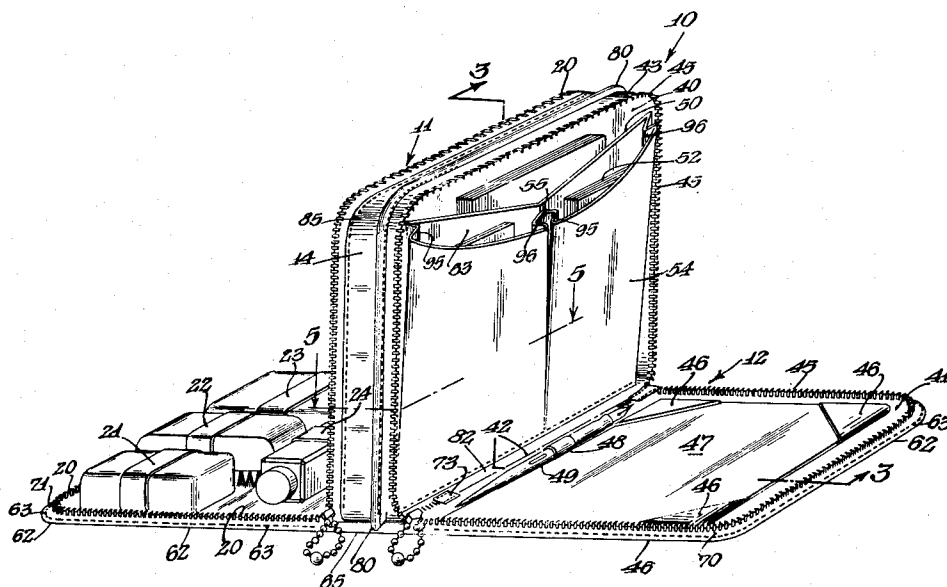


FIG. 1.

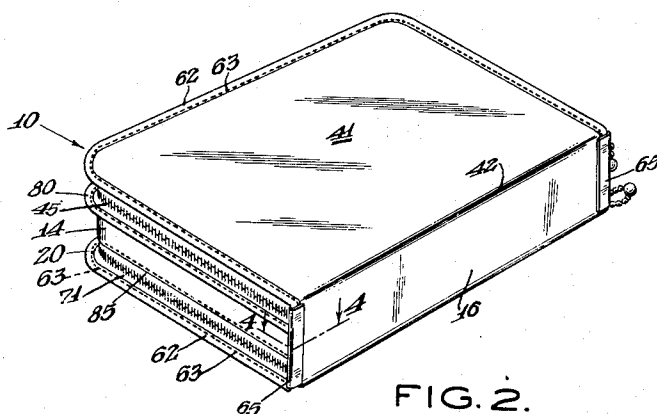


FIG. 2.

INVENTOR  
*Abram Zolkind*  
BY *Samuel Osterlitz*  
ATTORNEY

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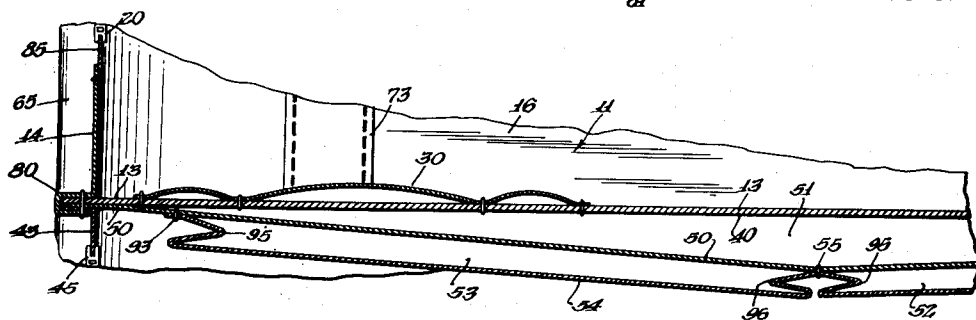
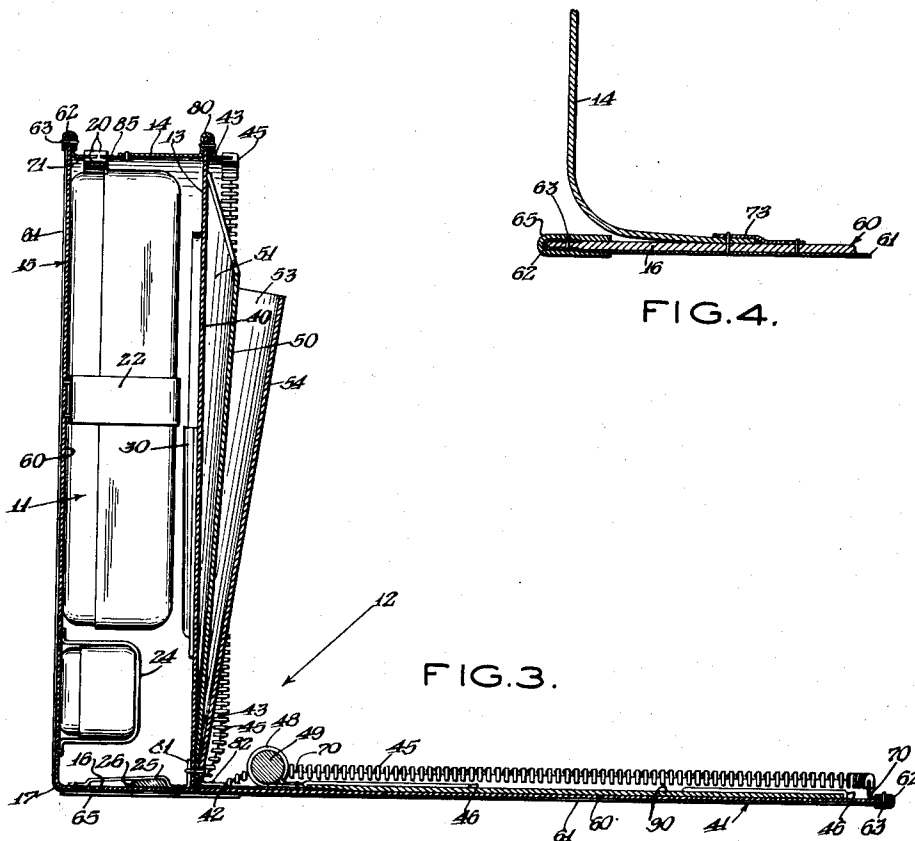


FIG. 5.

INVENTOR  
Abram Zolkind  
BY Samuel C. Scholten  
ATTORNEY

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,299,673

COMBINED TRAVELING AND  
CORRESPONDENCE CASE

Abram Zolkind, Brooklyn, N. Y., assignor to  
Nathan Flomenhaft, Abram Zolkind, and Irving  
Solomon, a partnership doing business as Man-  
hattan Novelty Company, New York, N. Y.

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2 Claims. (Cl. 120—1)

My invention relates to a traveling case, and more particularly to a combined traveling case and correspondence folder.

Ordinarily traveling cases consist of rather small folders or envelopes which are arranged and compartmented to contain brushes, combs, nail files and the like in such a manner that the user may readily pack the case into his luggage in preparation for traveling.

A traveler may, on occasion, however, desire to write letters or memoranda and ordinarily he is dependent, to a great extent, upon facilities which various hotels or public conveyances may or may not provide. Should he desire to carry correspondence or writing materials with him, they must necessarily be carried in a separate folder or package within his luggage or perhaps may be carried in the pocket.

An object of the present invention is to provide in a convenient form, integrated with the traveling case, a suitable container or folder for carrying all correspondence or writing materials which a traveler may possibly desire to use.

In forming a correspondence folder in connection with a traveling case of the type described, I have found it most advantageous to so incorporate the correspondence folder that it apparently forms an integral part of the traveling case and further to so arrange the correspondence folder that the traveling case itself may furnish a writing desk.

Accordingly, an object of the present invention is to arrange a traveling case and correspondence folder integrated therewith in such a manner that when the correspondence folder section of the case is opened, the opened case forms a readily usable writing desk with all necessary writing materials conveniently arranged.

These and many other objects of the present invention will in part be apparent and where not apparent pointed out in the following description and drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of the combined traveling case and correspondence folder with both sides thereof open.

Figure 2 is a view in perspective of the combined correspondence folder and traveling case when in closed position.

Figure 3 is an end view, partly in cross-section, on line 3—3 of Figure 1 of the combined correspondence folder and traveling case when the correspondence section is open, showing the manner in which the traveling case may be utilized as a desk.

Figure 4 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 55

4—4 of Figure 2, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 5 is another cross-sectional view taken on line 5—5 of Figure 1, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Referring now to the figures, I have here shown a combined correspondence folder and traveling case 10 having a traveling case section 11 and a correspondence folder section 12 integrated therewith.

The traveling case section 11, as will be seen more particularly in Figures 1 and 3, comprises a container having a back wall 13, side walls 14, a lid or cover 15, and a bottom wall 16. The lid 15 is integrally secured at the flex line 17 to the bottom wall so that it may rotate with respect thereto from the position shown in Figure 1 to the position shown in Figures 2 or 3, in order to effect a closure of the container. A slide fastener element 20, mounted along the free edges of the side walls 14, may cooperate with a similar element 20 on the free edges of the lid 15 in order to effect a complete closure of the traveling case section 11.

The slide closure elements 20 are preferably continuous along the three sides of the side walls 14, in order to permit a complete closure or opening of the dressing case section 11 of the combined unit.

The lid 15 may have various bands, pockets or holders 21, 22, 23, and 24 for the purpose of positioning such articles as bottles, brushes, boxes and the like. The base 16 may have a band 25 for the purpose of positioning a comb 26 or other similar members. The inside of the back wall 13 may have pockets 30 for the purpose of positioning pictures, nail files, or other flat materials as the necessity may arise.

In other words, then, the traveling case section 11 of the container 10 may be fitted up in any appropriate known manner with containers or holders for various toilet articles.

The correspondence folder section 12 of the traveling case is, as may be seen from an inspection of the figures, integral with the traveling case section. Thus the back wall 13 of the traveling case section 11 forms the back wall 40 of the correspondence folder section 12. The cover 41 of the correspondence folder section is integrally connected at the flex line 42 to the bottom wall section 16 of the traveling case section 11, thus making the cover 41, the bottom wall 16, and the lid 15 a single integral piece.

The back wall 40 of the correspondence section 12 has a rather short continuous side wall 43

around three sides thereof, as may more readily be seen in Figure 1, formed by the tape of the slide closure element 45. The slide closure element 45 coacts with the corresponding slide closure element 45 on the cover 41. Since each of these slide closure elements 45 is continuous around the three sides of the back wall 40 and of the cover 41 respectively, then closing this slide will serve to close the container in the manner shown in Figure 2.

The inside of the cover 41 of the corresponding section may be provided with corner members 46, 46, which may serve to engage the corners of a blotter 47 for the purpose of positioning the same.

A band 48 may be secured to the face of the cover 41 adjacent the flex line 42 for the purpose of mounting a pen 49 therein in the manner shown. Obviously, any suitable number of such bands 48 may be utilized for the purpose of positioning the various articles similar to the pen.

Various pocket compartments, envelopes or containers may be provided, either in portions of the cover 41 or secured to the back wall 40 of the correspondence folder section 10. In Figures 3 and 5 I have shown one form which the pockets may take. Thus a piece of fabric, paper, cloth, leather or other similar material 50 may be secured across the back wall 40 forming the pocket 51 which may be utilized to contain memorandum sheets, envelopes, notes, correspondence.

A pair of pockets 52 and 53 may be formed by another piece of fabric or other similar material 54 secured to the piece of fabric 50 and may be suitably divided, as for instance by the stitching 55, to form a plurality of pockets. In this manner, when the correspondence folder section only of the traveling case is open, in the manner shown in Figure 3, then a writing desk is formed which may be placed in the lap of the traveler or upon any table or other suitable support.

The traveling case section 11 of the entire case normally has sufficient weight and the base thereof 16 is sufficiently wide to ensure that the traveling case section 11 will stand erect and not fall over when it is placed on a support when opened in the position shown in Figure 3. Consequently, the lid or cover 41 forms a writing surface while the back portion 40, which is supported by the traveling case section 11, forms a compartmented or pigeonholed type of desk back containing the necessary materials.

While I have here described my invention in general terms illustrating one method by which a writing desk and correspondence folder may be integrated with a traveling case, in actual commercial use the container or case may take many forms.

In the figures I have illustrated one commercially successful and easily manufactured form of combined traveling case and correspondence folder-writing desk.

As will be seen more specifically from Figure 3, the lid 41, the base 16, and the lid 15 are formed from a single continuous integral piece of material 60. The continuous material 60 may be faced in any suitable manner by leather, leatherette, or other decorative fabric 61, the said fabric extending continuously over the outer surface of the layer 60 and being bound thereto by a continuous covering or reinforcing edge binding tape 62 which is secured to the base 60 by the stitching 63.

As will be seen from Figure 2, the edge binding

tape 62 is continuous around the three sides of each of the lids 15 and 41 and may, if desired, be continuous along the edges of the base 16. In order, however, to rigidify the base so that it will form a proper stand as a writing desk and so that it will also prevent undue collapse of the combined traveling case and correspondence folder when the same is packed, I prefer to provide a metal edge reinforcement 65, 65 at each of the edges of the base 16. The reinforcement 65 also serves to protect the ends of the base 16 and prevent a loosening of the tape thereat. This is particularly effective and useful since it is difficult to stitch the tape 62 down along these ends and the reinforcement obviates the necessity for such stitching.

Thus, as seen in Figures 2 and 4, the base 16 having the leatherette or fabric decorative surface 61 is edge bound at 62 but, in addition, has a metal binding 65 clinched thereover and secured thereto in any suitable manner.

A portion of the slide fastener element 45 which is secured to the cover 41 is mounted on a tape 70 which, as may also be seen in Figure 3, is also positioned along the edges of the lid by means of the edge binding or tape 62. Correspondingly, the portions of the slide fastener element 20 which is secured to the lid 15 is mounted on a tape 71 which also is secured to the lid 15 by the edge binding 62.

The side wall 14 of the traveling case section 11 is secured to the bottom wall 16 in the manner shown in Figure 4 by means of leather gussets or reinforcing member 73 which are stitched to the side walls 14 and to the bottom wall 16. Any other suitable reinforcing members may be used.

The reinforcing member 73 may also extend, if desired, onto a portion of the base of the lid 15 on the side of the flex line 17 nearest the bottom wall 16.

The back wall 13-40 of each of the case elements of the traveling case is preferably a stiff member of fibrous material which is secured to the side walls 14 around the three sides thereof by means of a tape 80 which preferably is integral with the side wall 14 and which is folded around the free edges of the back wall 13-40 in the manner shown in Figure 3 and secured thereto by stitching.

Reinforcing strips 81, 82 may also be secured in any suitable manner, as for instance by stitching, to the bottom of the back wall 13-40 and bent over and secured in any suitable manner to the base or bottom wall 16 in order to complete the securement of the back wall in the casing.

The side wall 14 carries secured thereto the tape 85 which carries one of the elements of the slide fastener 20 which coacts with the other element of the slide fastener 20 on the lid 15 in order to close the casing.

As is seen also in Figure 3 the various bands 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25 may be secured by stitching to the main base or body of the material 60.

The small side wall 43 which carries the slide fastener element 45 for the correspondence section 12 of the casing is also secured to the back wall 40 by means of the tape 80 which serves to position the back wall 40 in appropriate relation to the remainder of the structure.

The interior of the dressing case section and the correspondence folder section may be finished with any suitable facing materials such as leather or leatherette which covers up the base material 60 and covers up any joints or seams which may

exist, as for instance at the reinforcing elements 81 and 82.

The cover 41 of the correspondence folder section carries secured thereto in any suitable manner a blotter carrier 90 to which is secured the corner positioning elements 46 and the blotter 47 may be supported on the cardboard or other similar member 90 and positioned by the corner elements 46.

As may be seen from Figure 5, the pocket 30 may have many different forms and may have various compartments and it is secured and compartmented by stitching to the back wall 13 of the dressing case section 11. The piece of fabric or other material 50 which forms the largest pocket 51 of the correspondence folder section may be secured to the back wall 40 of the correspondence folder section by the same tapes or edge binding 80 which serves to position the back wall 13-40 in the casing.

Pockets 52 and 53 may be formed from a single flexible sheet 54, one end of which is stitched at 93 to the fabric 50, the opposite end of which being similarly stitched to the opposite side of the fabric 50; and in order to form a plurality of pockets the center portion of the fabric 54 may be stitched at 55 to the fabric 50 of the first pocket.

Pockets 52 and 53 may be provided with a suitable surplus of creased material 95 and 96 in order to provide for suitable expansion of the pocket in order to accommodate various quantities of material. Preferably, in the construction herein described, the base layer of the lid 41 and of the lid 15 as well as of the back portion 13-40 is of relatively stiff material which thus serves to define the casing and maintain the shape thereof. Likewise, the bottom portion 16 is of stiff material and is further reinforced by the metallic member 65 which serves further to rigidify the same.

As has been pointed out, particularly in connection with Figure 3, not only does my invention provide for the integration of a correspondence folder in a dressing case, but also provides for an arrangement of the elements in such a manner that a writing desk may be formed when the correspondence folder section is open and the dressing case section is closed.

The lid of the correspondence folder section then serves as the writing desk or surface and the back wall 40 of the correspondence folder section is supported by the remainder of the casing in such a manner as to form a type of pigeonholed or compartmented structure for suitably positioning any writing material which may be necessary.

In the foregoing I have described but one preferred embodiment of my invention.

In view of the nature of the foregoing disclosure, however, many modifications of the vari-

ous structures therein described should now be obvious to those skilled in the art. I prefer, therefore, to be bound not by the specific disclosures herein but only by the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A traveling case having a dressing case section and a correspondence folder section, each of said sections having a cover opening on opposite sides of the case and fastening means individual to each cover; each section having a common rigid back wall; and a common rigid bottom wall extending across the bottom sides of both sections, each section having a peripheral wall carrying the fastening means individual to said section, the ends of said peripheral walls being secured to said bottom wall, the edges of said peripheral walls being secured to said back wall, the cover of the correspondence folder section being connected to said bottom wall and opening downwardly into the plane of said bottom wall, the rigid back wall being supported by the dressing case section in a position perpendicular to said bottom wall when said correspondence folder section is open, said bottom wall section forming a flat base for maintaining said rigid back wall erect while the cover of said correspondence folder section is opened to horizontal position and metallic channel reinforcements secured over the edges of the ends of said bottom wall; compartments carried by said back wall for writing materials and the like; the inside of the cover of said correspondence folder section providing a flat horizontal writing surface.

2. A traveling case having a dressing case section and a correspondence folder section, each of said sections having a cover opening on opposite sides of the case and continuous slide fastening means individual to each cover; each section having a common rigid back wall; and a common rigid bottom wall extending across the bottom sides of both sections, each section having a peripheral wall carrying the continuous slide fastening means individual to said section, the ends of said peripheral walls being secured to said bottom wall, the edges of said peripheral walls being secured to said back wall, the cover of the correspondence folder section being connected to said bottom wall and opening downwardly into the plane of said bottom wall, the rigid back wall being supported by the dressing case section in a position perpendicular to said bottom wall when said correspondence folder section is open, said bottom wall section forming a flat base for maintaining said rigid back wall erect while the cover of said correspondence folder section is opened to horizontal position and metallic channel reinforcements secured over the edges of the ends of said bottom wall; compartments carried by said back wall for writing materials and the like; the inside of the cover of said correspondence folder section providing a flat horizontal writing surface.

ABRAM ZOLKIND.