

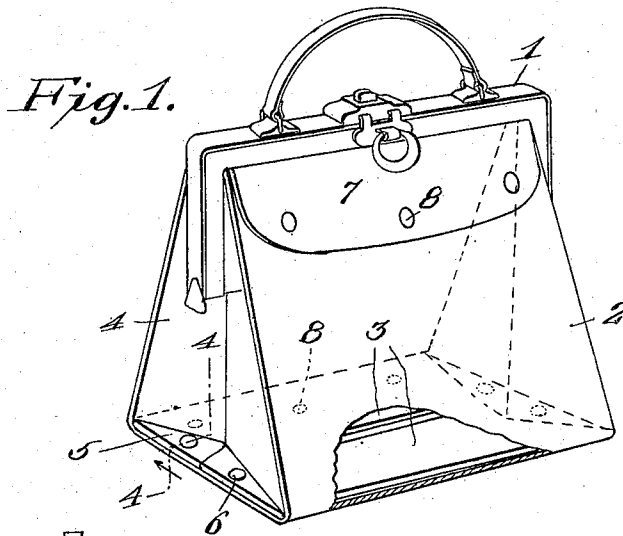
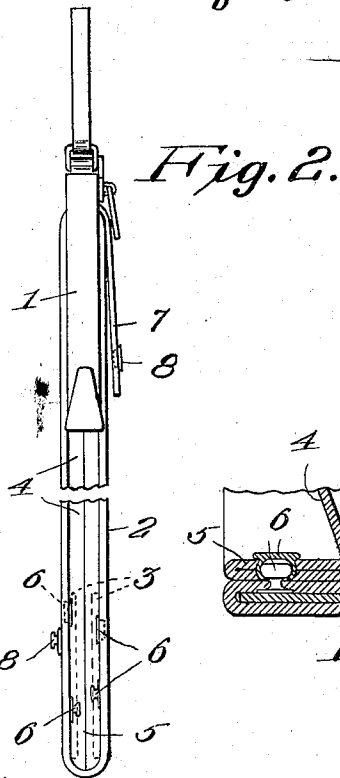
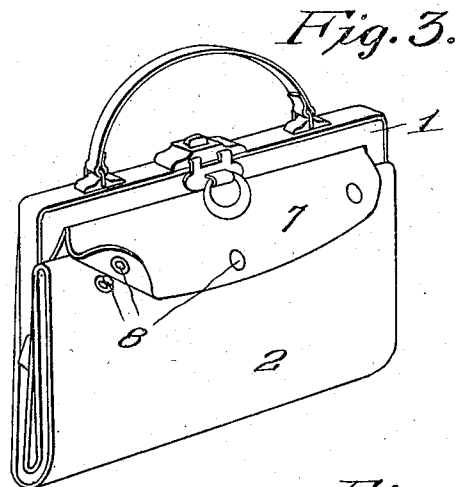
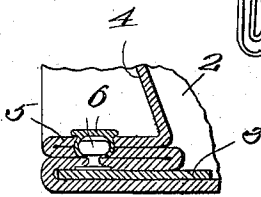
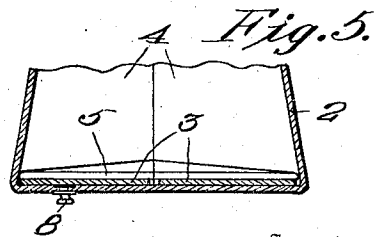
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HAND BAG.

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920,852.

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Witnesses

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HAND-BAG.

No. 920,852.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PATRICK J. FLANAGAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Everett, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hand-Bags, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

10 This invention relates to improvements in hand bags or satchels of that class which may be converted into different sizes by folding and fastening its parts.

One object of the invention is to provide a 15 folding hand bag of this character which will be simple and inexpensive in construction, neat in appearance when either folded or extended and strong and durable in use.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved flap which serves not only 20 to fasten the bag material in folded position but also to conceal the fold and render the device more ornamental and attractive in appearance.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved foldable bottom for the bag with a distending device which may be fastened in position to provide a flat bottom of 25 rectangular or other shape.

30 With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists of the novel features of construction and the combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed, and illustrated in the 35 accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved hand bag showing it in its opened or 40 extended position and also showing a portion of one of its sides broken away; Fig. 2 is an end view of the bag showing its bottom folded preparatory to folding the bag material upon itself to reduce the size of the device; Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the hand 45 bag in its folded position; Fig. 4 is a detail section taken on the plane indicated by the line 4—4 in Fig. 1; and Fig. 5 is a detail cross section through the bottom of the bag showing its distending device.

50 In the drawings 1 denotes a hinged frame of the usual construction and 2 the bag material which may be leather, cloth, or other flexible material.

In the present embodiment of the invention the bag is adapted to fold once upon

itself to reduce its size one-half and when ex- 55 tended it is adapted to have a rectangular bottom, the shape of which is preserved by a distending device consisting of two longitudinally extending reinforcing strips or plates 3 secured to the inner face of the bottom of 60 the bag. These strips 3 are of equal size and each is of slightly less length than the length of the bottom of the bag and of slightly less width than half of the width of the bottom, their opposing inner edges being spaced apart 65 so that they may fold upwardly and inwardly toward each other when the bottom is folded, as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings. The distending strips or devices 3 are 70 retained in their opened or extended position shown in Figs. 1 and 5 of the drawings by means of wings 4 formed at the ends of the bag. These wings extend inwardly and 75 when the bag is unfolded or opened their lower portions fold upon themselves to provide supplemental wings or folds 5 which rest upon the end portions of the strips 3 and are 80 retained thereon by detachable fastening devices 6 preferably of the resilient head and socket type, as illustrated in the drawings. Two of the co-acting fastenings 6 are provided at each end of the bag, one being for 85 one end of each of the strips 3, as will be seen upon reference to Fig. 1 of the drawings. When the fastenings 6 are loosened the folds 85 or wings 5 straighten up and the wings 4 fold inwardly, as the bottom of the bag folds. When the bottom is opened or unfolded the wings 4 swing out to a flat vertical position while the wings or folds 5 drop down upon 90 the bottom so that the co-acting fastenings 6 may be engaged with each other. It will be noted that by making the bottom in this manner with the distending strips or devices 3 and with the fastening means for the same, 95 the bag when extended will have a square bottom which will be maintained in a flat position, and at the same time one which may be quickly and easily folded when it is desired to reduce the size of the bag. The 100 latter is accomplished by first folding the bottom to its position shown in Fig. 2 and then folding the bag material over upon itself so that the portion which forms the bottom of the bag when extended, will enter beneath 105 a flap 7 provided at the upper edge of the bag material upon one side. This flap 7 may be of any suitable construction, shape or design,

but it preferably extends longitudinally the full length of the bag so as to effectively hide the fold in the bag material. It may be ornamented or of any fancy design to render the bag more attractive in appearance. In addition to these uses, it serves a further function of fastening the bag material in its folded position, the same being accomplished by providing co-acting or detachable fastenings 8, preferably, of the resilient head and socket type, as shown. Three of the co-acting fastenings 8 are preferably employed, one being at the center of the flap and the other two adjacent its ends, the socket members of the fastenings being preferably upon the under face of the flap and the head members upon the outer face of the bag material adjacent to that side edge of its bottom which is opposite to the side on which the flap 7 is arranged.

In operation, assuming the bag to be in its unfolded or extended position shown in Fig. 1, when it is desired to make the bag smaller in size the co-acting fastenings 6 are separated and the wings or folds 4, 5 at the ends of the bag are pressed inwardly, whereupon the bottom will fold to its position shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings. The bag material may be then folded over upon itself so that its folded bottom portion will enter beneath the flap 7 and may be retained in such folded position, as shown in Fig. 3, by engaging the members of the co-acting fastenings 8 with each other.

While the preferred embodiment of the invention has been shown and described in detail, it will be understood that various changes in the form, proportion, arrangement and details of construction may be made within the scope of the invention and without departing from its spirit.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed is:

1. A hand bag comprising a hinged frame, a bag material secured thereto and adapted to be folded upon itself, said bag material having end wings to fold inwardly when the bag is folded and to fold downwardly to provide supplemental folds to rest upon the bottom of the bag when the latter is extended, spaced distending strips upon the bottom of the bag adapted to fold together, co-acting fastening devices on said supplemental folds or wings adjacent the ends of the bag bottom to retain the distending strips in open position and provide a flat bottom for the bag when extended, a flap to receive the fold of the bag beneath it and thereby conceal the fold and co-acting fastening devices on the flap and folded portion of the bag material to retain the bag in folded position.

2. A hand bag comprising a hinged frame, a bag material secured thereto and adapted to be folded upon itself and adapted to be secured in folded position, said bag material having end wings to fold inwardly when the bag is folded and to fold downwardly to provide supplemental folds to rest upon the bottom of the bag when the latter is extended, spaced distending strips upon the bottom of the bag adapted to fold together and co-acting fastening devices on said supplemental folds or wings adjacent the ends of the bag bottom to retain the distending strips in open position and provide a flat bottom for the bag when extended.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

PATRICK J. FLANAGAN.

Witnesses:

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