

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN H. SHWAYDER, OF DENVER, COLORADO.

TRAVELING BAG.

Application filed July 5, 1924. Serial No. 724,330.

This invention relates to traveling bags and its principal object is to provide in a bag having a box-shaped bottom section and a relatively flexing top section, a frame which increases the stability of the lower section and at the same time provides means for the support of a horizontal partition which divides the interior of the bag into upper and lower compartments.

Further objects of the invention reside in details of construction to be fully disclosed in the course of the following description with reference to the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a traveling bag to which my invention is applied;

Figure 2, a vertical section of the bag shown in Figure 1;

Figure 3, a section similar to Figure 2, showing a modified construction of the bag;

Figure 4, a broken horizontal section on the line 4—4, Figure 2;

Figure 5, an enlarged section of a corner of the bag in the plane of Figure 4, showing a preferred method of fastening the members of the reenforcing frame together;

Figure 6, a view similar to Figure 5 showing a modification of the fastening means; and

Figure 7, an enlarged section on the line 7—7, Figure 1.

Referring in detail to the drawings, the bag comprises an outer casing 5 of conventional form made of fiber, leather, cloth, flexible iron or steel or other suitable material, the upper edges of which are bound in a metal or wood frame 6.

The frame as shown is composed of two members hinged together as at 7 and the end portions of the casing immediately below the frame are adapted to fold inwardly into gussets 8 when the members of the frame are closed together as shown in the drawings.

The frame is equipped with a lock 9, catches 10 and a handle 12 and leather straps 13 are drawn around the bag through loops 14 and fastened by buckles 15 to further secure the bag in its closed condition.

The lower or box section of the bag is equipped with metal corners 16 fastened exteriorly of the same and the inside surface

of the bag is lined by a partially loose covering 17 of cretonne or other soft, light and attractively patterned protective material.

The bag construction hereinabove set forth is well known in the art and no claim is made to its novelty except in association with the present invention the details of which will now be described.

A reenforcing frame 18 preferably made of wood, is fitted interiorly of the lower or box section of the bag between its outer casing and the lining 17, and it is fastened in place by riveting or otherwise securing it to the casing 5, it being preferred to use for this purpose one or more of the rivets by which the corners 16 are fastened, as illustrated in detail in Figure 7.

In the preferred form of the invention illustrated in Figure 2, the reenforcing frame is composed of four members which in rectangular formation engage the ends and sides of the lower section of the bag. The members may be fastened together by nails 19 as best shown in Figure 6, or by dove-tail joints 20 as depicted in Figure 5, or by other suitable means, and it will be understood that if so desired, the ends and sides may be fastened together and inserted as a whole or the end-members and side-members of the frame may be fastened together in pairs which are loosely assembled in the bag and held in place as hereinbefore described.

The frame may include a bottom member 21 of similar material as illustrated in Figure 3, but the provision of such a member although highly desirable, is not essential.

A partition 24 supported on the frame interiorly of the lining 17, divides the interior of the bag into a lower compartment 22 and an upper compartment 23.

In the form shown in Figure 2, the partition is composed of two halves hinged together as at 25 along a medial transverse line to provide two lids which may be separately lifted to afford access to the contents of the lower compartment, each lid being provided with a tab 26 to facilitate its manipulation.

The partition of the modified construction shown in Figure 4 differs from the other in that it is composed of three sections hinged together on parallel lines 27 to provide two lids in connection with an intermediate part which partially covers the con-

tents of the compartment while one or both of the lids are lifted as indicated in broken lines.

The partition can be made of any material adapted to support the contents of the upper compartment of the bag and it may be fastened in part to the frame if so desired.

It will be apparent that my invention provides a simple means for forming in a traveling bag of conventional construction a separate compartment in which fragile or damageable articles may be safely stored free from the weight of articles placed in the upper portion of the bag, thereby giving the bag the advantages of a suitcase without changing the form or outward appearance of the same.

The frame, furthermore, reenforces and strengthens the bag and its simple construction and mode of application render it applicable to any bag of the general character shown and described and with but little increase in the cost of production thereof.

The partition loosely supported on the frame and composed of hinged sections, provides a further advantage in that it is readily removed and folded when the lower com-

partment is not required and the bag is packed in the ordinary manner.

Having thus described my invention what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. The combination with a traveling bag having a fixed bottom and flexible side walls extending upwardly therefrom, of a reenforcing frame in engagement with and riveted to the lower portions of the side walls, whereby the lower portion of the bag is held rigidly in conformity with the frame, and a liftable lid resting on the frame.

2. The combination with a traveling bag having a bottom and flexible side walls extending upwardly therefrom and having an opening in its top, of a reenforcing frame above the bottom, in engagement with the lower portions of the side walls, whereby the lower portion of the bag is held rigidly in conformity with the frame, and a liftable lid on the frame dividing the bag into two compartments, both of which are accessible from the opening of the bag.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

BENJAMIN H. SHWAYDER.