Jan. 6, 1959 T. S. CART 2,867,257

VENTILATED GOLF BAG

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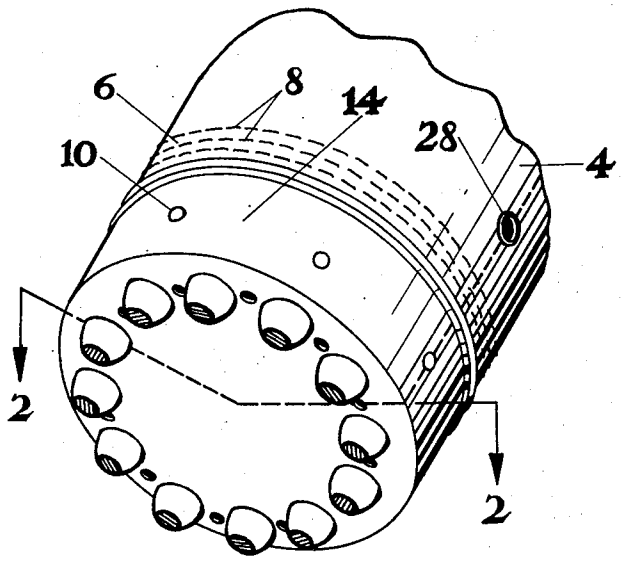


FIG. 1

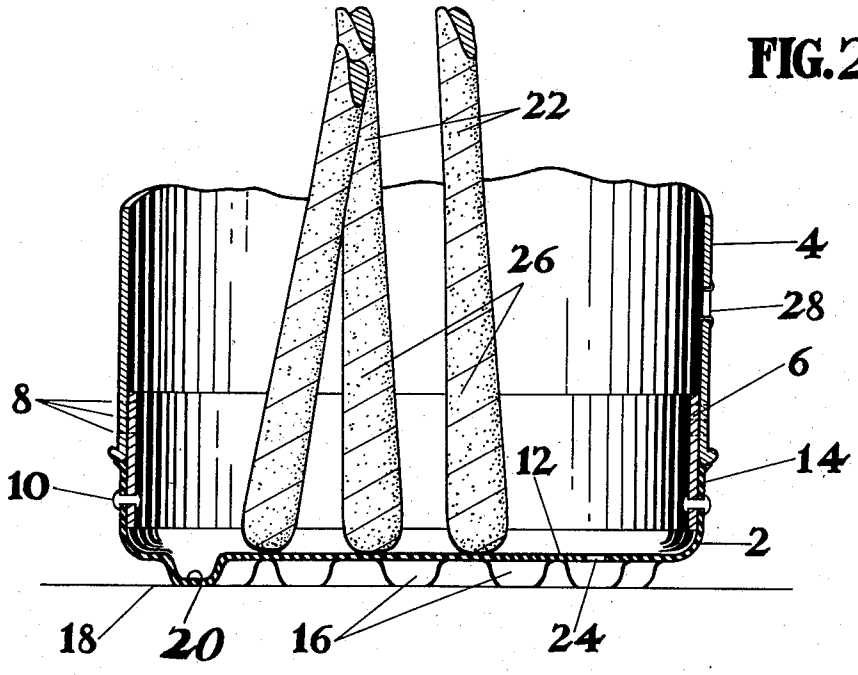


FIG. 2

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VENTILATED GOLF BAG

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1 Claim. (Cl. 150—1.5)

This invention relates to golf bags and is directed particularly to a novel type of construction which is provided with openings to permit the circulation of air within the lower portion of the bag so as to ventilate the bag.

Golf bags, as heretofore constructed, have been provided with a relatively stiff or rigid base which protects the lower end of the bag and permits the bag to stand by itself in a vertical position. However, the lower portion of a golf bag in which the handles of the clubs are housed has always been closed about the sides and bottom with the result that perspiration and atmospheric moisture tend to accumulate and remain in the relatively stagnant air near the bottom of the bag. The club handles which are located in this damp enclosure therefore become clammy and must be frequently wiped off to preserve them in condition for use and even then, the wrappings on the handles often become moldy or loosen due to deterioration of the wrapping and the adhesive by which it is secured in place. The moisture retained in the bag further tends to rot the fabric, leather or other material adjacent the bottom of the bag and tends to weaken the stitching and adhesive by which the various parts of the bag are secured together.

In accordance with the present invention these objections to prior golf bags are overcome and means provided whereby the lower portion of a golf bag is ventilated in such a way as to prevent deterioration of the club handles and of the bag itself. In the preferred form of the invention the base of the bag is formed with ventilating openings and further is constructed so as to prevent the entry of rain or water into the bag when the bag is in use. The construction further serves to prevent clogging of the vent openings with mud or dirt in the event the bag is set down in a muddy area.

These advantages are preferably attained by forming the base of the bag of substantially rigid material having spaced projections for holding the bottom of the bag in spaced relation to a surface on which it may rest and by locating the vent openings above the projections and at points which will not serve to weaken the bottom member.

The principal object of the present invention is to maintain the interior of a golf bag in a dry, ventilated condition which serves to reduce the tendency for the club handles and the interior of the bag to become or remain in a damp condition.

Another object of the invention is to insure the desired ventilation of a golf bag without weakening the structure or permitting the entry of rain or water into the lower portion of the bag.

A specific object of the invention is to provide a golf bag with a novel type of base member having projections thereon for supporting the base in spaced relation to the surface on which it is placed and for venting the base at points between such projections.

These and other objects and features of the present invention will appear from the following description thereof wherein reference is made to the figures of the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective showing the lower portion of a typical golf bag embodying the present invention; and

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view through the assembly shown in Fig. 1, taken on the line 2—2 thereof.

In that form of the invention chosen for purposes of illustration in the drawing, the golf bag has a base indicated generally at 2 and a body or side walls indicated at 4. The base may be secured to the body in any suitable or preferred way, but as shown, a reinforcing ring or cuff 6 is located within the base and side walls adjacent the bottom of the bag and is overlapped and secured to both members by stitching, rivets or other fastening means indicated at 8 and 10.

The base 2 is preferably formed of stiff or rigid material such as a molded resin, hard rubber, aluminum or the like, whereas the side walls 4 of the bag may be formed of leather, fabric, plastic sheet material or any other composition desired. The cuff 6 may be made of stiff fiber board, laminated material, sheet metal or the like, and in general, the bag may be of any desired design, shape or style since the present invention is capable of being incorporated in any type of golf bag.

The base shown is generally cup shaped or dished to provide a bottom portion 12 engageable by the handles of the clubs and a marginal flange or rim 14 which embraces the cuff 6 and is secured thereto by means such as the rivets 10. The lower surface of the base is formed with a series of circumferentially spaced projections 16 which, as shown, are in the form of buttons that are of sufficient height to support the lower face of the bottom portion 12 in spaced relation with respect to a surface 18 upon which the bag may rest. The projections 16 may be solid, but are preferably hollow so that they present cup like depressions 20 upon the upper surface of the bottom portion 12 in which any rain or water which enters the bag will be trapped and held out of contact with the handles 22 of the clubs carried in the bag.

The base 2 of the bag is further provided with a series of vent openings 24 which are formed in the bottom portion 12 so as to be held elevated above the surface 18 on which the bag is supported when it is set down. The vent openings are therefore always open to afford circulation of air through the lower portion of the bag and about the club handles. The height of the projections 16 may of course be varied and the shape and arrangement thereof on the bottom of the base member can be chosen to afford the desired strength and attractive appearance while holding the vent openings elevated to insure the entry of air into the bag.

In the preferred construction illustrated, the projections 16 are arranged in a circular pattern concentric with the base but spaced from the edges thereof. The vent openings 24 are located between the spaced projections 16 and adjacent the bases of the projections whereby they are positioned in the zone of greatest strength and do not serve to weaken the construction in any way. The base is therefore capable of withstanding the usual shocks incident to setting down a heavily loaded bag, despite the presence of numerous vent openings in the bottom portion of the base.

In a typical construction the projections 16 extend about ½ inch below the bottom surface 12 whereby the bag may be set down on soft turf or even in a somewhat muddy area without clogging of the vent openings 24 with dirt or mud. Furthermore, the provision of a series of vent openings between the various projections insures the entry of air into the bag even though one or more of the vent openings should be stopped up. Moreover, the

circulation of air within the bag aids in drying out any dirt or mud which has entered a vent opening so that it will soon fall out leaving the vent opening clear for the further circulation of air therethrough. Furthermore, if water should enter any of the vent openings, it will tend to become trapped in the cup like depressions 20 in the upper surface of the base until evaporated so that it will not remain in contact with the club handles.

The construction thus provided not only prevents stagnation of moist air about the club handles and within the lower portion of the bag, but also allows perspiration on the handles of the clubs to evaporate so that they will always be maintained in dry, clean condition ready for use. be maintained in dry, clean condition ready for use. The growth of mold on the leather or other wrapping 26 on the handles and on the adjacent portion of the bag itself is thus prevented or diminished. At the same time, deterioration of the adhesive material securing the wrapping on the handle of the club is prevented. The lower end of the bag, even though inaccessible, will thus be prevented from becoming foul or sour and rotting of the material of which the bag is formed and of the stitching by which the parts are secured together is avoided.

While the projections, vent openings and other elements of the base construction are preferably arranged in concentric form as shown in the drawing, the projections may be variously shaped and arranged radially or otherwise and the vent openings can be positioned at any suitable or convenient points in the base. In addition, or in the alternative, the base or body of the bag may be provided with other vent openings such as those indicated at 28.

These and other changes and modifications may be made in the form, construction and arrangement of the

various elements of the combination. In view thereof, it should be understood that the particular embodiment of the invention shown in the drawings and described above is intended to be illustrative only and is not intended to limit the scope of the invention.

I claim:

In a golf bag which is closed about the sides and open at the top to provide a space for receiving golf clubs, a base for the golf bag comprising a member formed of relatively stiff material of substantially uniform thickness secured about its edges to the sides of the bag and serving to close and define the bottom of said club receiving space, said member having a plurality of spaced projections extending downwardly from the lower surface thereof and provided with corresponding depressions in the upper surface of the member, said member having vent openings therein communicating with the club receiving space between said depressions and serving to permit the circulation of air throughout the lower portion of the club receiving space to ventilate the same.

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