Nov. 16, 1948. F. F. SCHERZINGER 2,454,013

SHOPPING BAG WITH FOLDABLE, EXTENSIBLE TOP

Filed March 14, 1945

Fig. 1.

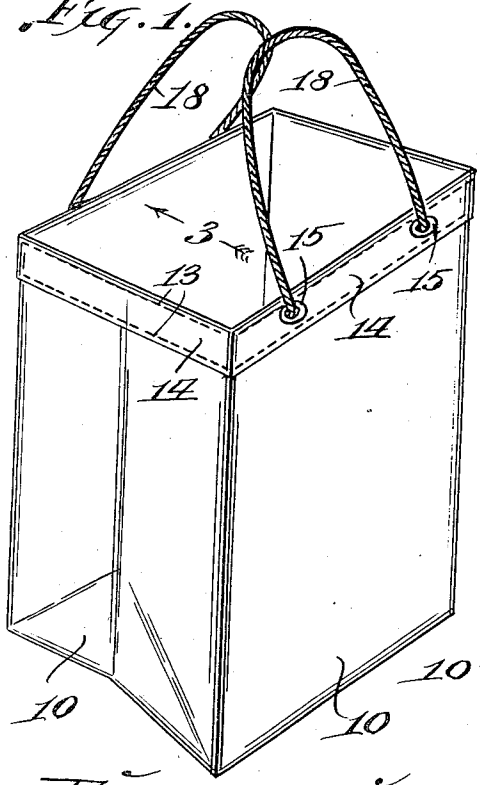


Fig. 2.

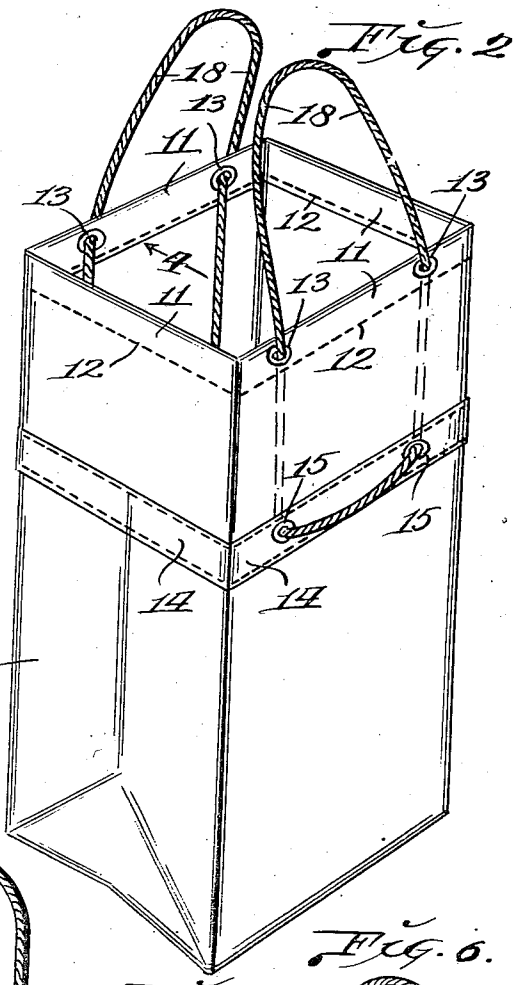


Fig. 3.

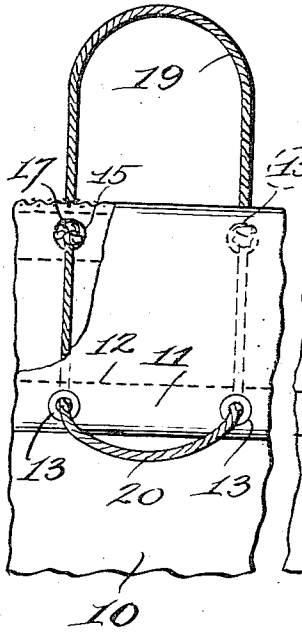


Fig. 4.

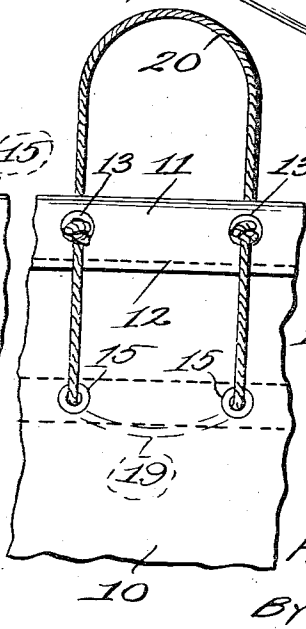


Fig. 5.

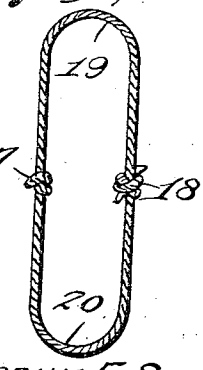
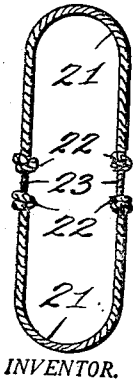


Fig. 6.



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SHOPPING BAG WITH FOLDABLE, EXTENSIBLE TOP

Frank F. Scherzinger, Henderson, Nev.

Application March 14, 1945, Serial No. 582,616

1 Claim. (Cl. 150—1.7)

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My invention relates to a folding extensible top shopping bag and has for its principal objects, to provide a simple, practical and inexpensive shopping bag which may be collapsed and compactly folded so as to occupy very little space while not in service, further, to construct the upper portion of the bag so that it may be easily and quickly folded or unfolded, so as to increase or decrease its volumetric or carrying capacity and further, to provide a simple and novel arrangement of handles which perform their intended function when the size or carrying capacity of the bag is made larger or smaller.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, my invention consists in certain novel features of construction and arrangement of parts which will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of my improved shopping bag with the upper portions of its walls folded inward and downward so as to diminish the length and carrying capacity of said bag.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the upper portions of the walls of the bag folded upwardly so as to increase the length and carrying capacity of said bag.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary elevational view looking in the direction of the arrow 3 in Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary elevational view looking in the direction of the arrow 4 in Fig. 2.

Figs. 5 and 6 are elevational views of different forms of handles which may be used on my improved bag.

Referring by numerals to the accompanying drawings, which illustrate a preferred embodiment of my invention, 10 designates a bag comprising four walls and a bottom which may be formed of suitable flexible material such as paper, or fabric either plain or treated with rubber or other waterproof coating and the upper portion of said walls are folded inwardly and downwardly to form hems 11, the lower edges of which are secured by rows of stitching 12.

Seated in the walls of the hems 11, on an oppositely disposed pair of the walls 10, are grommets 13, of metal, plastics or the like, and which receive the flexible handles of the bag.

Suitably secured by rows of stitching or otherwise, to the external faces of the walls of the bag several inches below the hems 11 and parallel therewith are narrow reinforcing strips 14 of fabric or the like and seated therein and in the underlying walls in vertical alignment with grommets 12 are grommets 15.

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Those portions of the walls of the bag above strips 14 function as the extensible portion of the bag, and to decrease or minimize the length of the bag said upper portions are folded downwardly into said bag so as to lie against the inner face of the walls thereof.

The handles of my improved bag are preferably of the form illustrated in Fig. 5, each handle being formed from a suitable length of flexible material such as cord.

Formed in the center of the cord is a knot 17 and the ends are tied to each other by a knot 18. Thus the cord is divided in two U-shaped portions, one of which 19, forms a handle for the bag when the same is folded to its smallest size, and the other portion 20 serves as a handle when the bag is opened to its largest size.

When the bag is folded to small size as seen in Figs. 1 and 3, handle portion 19 passes from the exterior of the bag inwardly through grommets 15 with knots 17 and 18 lying against the inner faces of said grommets, with handle portion 20 extending downward between the outer wall of the bag and the downwardly folded upper portion of said wall and thence outwardly through grommets 13, with that portion of the handle between said grommets, lying against hem 11.

Thus the strains developed by the weight of the bag and its contents when carried, are transmitted to knots 17 and 18 bearing against grommets 15 and from thence to the upwardly projecting handle members 19.

To lengthen and increase the carrying capacity of the bag, the downwardly folded upper portions of the walls are unfolded to the position seen in Figs. 2 and 4 and handle portions 20 are drawn upward, until knots 17 and 18 engage the inner faces of grommets 13.

Under such conditions, handle portions 19 extend downward against the inner faces of the walls of the bag, thence outward through grommets 15 with the central portions of said handle 19, lying against reinforcing strap 14.

In Fig. 6, I have shown a modified form of the handle wherein both ends of two pieces of heavy cord 21 are knotted as designated by 22 and the knots of one part connected to the respective knots of the other part by short pieces 23 of small cord.

In the smaller sizes of bags, or where the material forming said bags is of extra strength, the reinforcing strip 14 may be dispensed with and the grommets seated in the walls of the bag only.

Thus it will be seen that I have provided a shopping bag which is simple in structure, inex-

pensive of manufacture and which may be easily and quickly manipulated so as to be lengthened or shortened to thereby increase or decrease its carrying capacity.

It will be understood that minor changes in the size, form and construction of the various parts may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without departing from the spirit of the invention, the scope of which is set forth in the appended claim.

I claim as my invention:

A foldable, extensible top shopping bag, having predetermined portions of its walls at the top adapted to fold inwardly and downwardly into the bag, pairs of opposed grommets seated in the upper portions of the side walls of said bag, other pairs of opposed grommets seated in said side walls below the foldable portions thereof and in vertical alignment with the grommets in the upper portions of said side walls, an endless flexible handle arranged to slide freely through the grommets in each side wall with portions of said handles disposed on the insides of the foldable

upper portions of said side walls, with portions of said handles between the lower pairs of grommets disposed on the exterior of the bag and stops on those portions of the handles on the inside of said side walls between the grommets.

FRANK F. SCHERZINGER.

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