

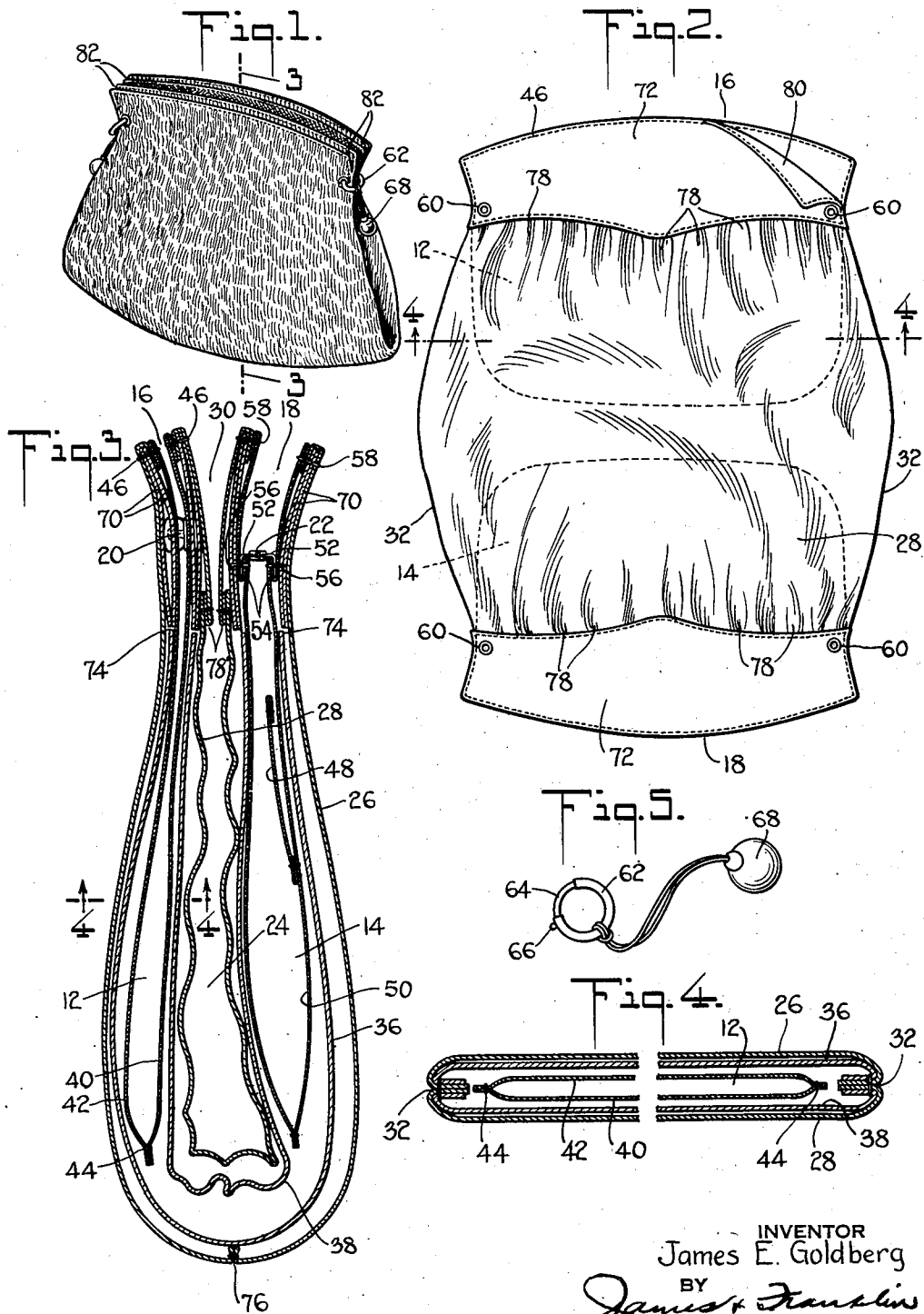
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REVERSIBLE HANDBAG

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REVERSIBLE HANDBAG

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This invention relates to ladies' handbags and ladies' muffs, and more particularly to a reversible combination of both.

One object of my invention is to provide a handbag finished in contrasting materials or colors and reversible in structure to bring either of the materials on the outside of the bag.

Considered in another aspect, an object of my invention resides in the provision of a reversible muff, the said muff embodying two different materials contrasting in nature, color, or the like, the muff being reversible to bring either of the two materials on the outside.

Still another object of my invention resides in the provision of a combined muff and handbag which is reversible to bring either of two contrasting materials on the outside, as aforesaid.

To the accomplishment of the foregoing and other more particular objects which will hereinafter appear, my invention consists in the muff and handbag elements, and their relation one to another, as hereinafter are more particularly described in the specification and sought to be defined in the claims. The specification is accompanied by a drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a combined muff and handbag embodying features of my invention;

Fig. 2 shows the same when opened out to flat condition;

Fig. 3 is a section through the handbag, taken in the plane of the line 3-3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view explanatory of the construction of the bag, this section being taken in the plane of the line 4-4 in Figs. 2 and 3; and

Fig. 5 is a detail of a clasp or fastener which may be used with the handbag.

Referring to the drawing, the invention, considered in one aspect, comprises a lady's handbag having two main pockets 12 and 14, best shown in Fig. 3, these pockets being closed on three sides but accessible on the top or fourth side, as is indicated at 16 and 18. The pockets may be closed by any suitable fastener or closure means, here exemplified by a snap fastener 20 on pocket 12, and a slide fastener 22 on pocket 14. The handbag includes a third pocket which is more in the nature of an open-ended space or passageway 24. When the bag is constructed of light materials suitable for summer use, this central passage 24 is useful to receive gloves or similar objects which are not readily lost and which it is inconvenient to place in pockets 12 and 14, the latter being used for change purse, cosmetics, and the like.

Considered in another aspect, the structure may be made of relatively heavy warm materials for winter use, and then constitutes a muff the center passage 24 of which receives and protects the hands of the wearer. The pockets 12 and 14 are convenient because they dispense with the necessity for carrying a handbag in addition to the muff.

An outstanding feature of the present muff or/and handbag construction is its reversibility, thereby doubling the utility of the same in matching or completing ladies' ensembles. To this end, the structure is made of contrasting materials, for example, a fur or pile fabric simulating fur, indicated at 26 in the drawing, and a plain or unpiled fabric indicated at 28 in the drawing. The structure is open or separable at the top, as is indicated at 30, and by folding the same in one direction or the other, either the material 26 or the material 28 may be brought on the outside, thus completely changing the appearance or/and color of the muff. In other words, the material 28 around the passage 24 heretofore referred to, is not merely a lining material but is itself a fabric or other material suitable for use as the exterior of the muff.

Considering the arrangement in greater detail, the materials 26 and 28 are patterned to a suitable shape, somewhat as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawing, and are stitched together in back to back relation at the side edges 32, thus forming a sleeve which is open at the ends 16 and 18. The stitching at the edges 32 is preferably concealed turned stitching, and it will be understood that in practice the materials 26 and 28 may be placed face to face and stitched along edges 32, after which the resulting sleeve may be turned right side out. Where, as in the present case, the structure is warmly built for use as a muff, it is desirable to provide suitable filler or padding materials, preferably bulky warm flannel. In the present case two layers of flannel are provided, one indicated at 36 just inside the material 26, and the other indicated at 38 just inside the material 28. The fillers 36 and 38 are preferably stitched in place in the regular course of manufacture, as by placing these fillers on the outside when materials 26 and 28 are assembled face to face, all four layers of material being stitched through by the edge stitching. Manifestly, when the resulting sleeve is turned inside-out, the filling materials 36 and 38 are brought on the inside of the sleeve, as is clearly evident from inspection of Fig. 4.

The pockets 12 and 14 may be formed of silk

or other suitable material. Referring to pocket 12, two layers of material 40 and 42 are stitched together on three sides by a line of stitching 44, the fourth or top side being left open and forming the mouth of the pocket. The pocket is inserted in one open end of the sleeve, in this case the end 16, and the pocket and sleeve openings are peripherally stitched together by lines of stitching indicated at 46 in the drawing. It will be noted on inspection of Fig. 3 that the edge of the pocket is hemmed or turned inwardly before the stitching operation in order to present a finished appearance.

Pocket 14 is constructed in a manner generally similar to pocket 12, but in this case I have shown a small extra pocket 48 stitched on the inside of the pocket wall 50. It will be understood that any desired number and arrangement of subordinate pockets may be provided in order to receive a small hand mirror, cosmetics, or the like. These pockets are all formed on the pocket walls before the pocket is inserted in the end 18 of the main sleeve.

Another feature illustrated by pocket 14 is the preferred manner of applying a slide fastener for closing the same. On inspection of Fig. 3, it will be noted that the tapes 52 of slide fastener 22 are substantially concealed within plaits or reverse folds of the pocket material, indicated at 54. The stitching 56 which secures the slide fastener tapes in place passes through the folds or plaits 54 as well as the slide fastener tape. This stitching operation is, of course, preferably performed prior to stitching the mouth of the pocket by the lines of stitching 58, and it is therefore readily possible not only to make the necessary fold or plait in the material of the pocket, but also to prevent the stitching 56 from passing through the outside materials 26 and 28. The walls of pocket 50 are hemmed or turned inwardly prior to stitching at 58, just as in the case of pocket 12.

In order to provide for reversibly folding the resulting sleeve to bring either the material 26 or the material 28 on the outside, it is necessary to secure the ends 16 and 18 together by reversible fastening means. In the present case, I fulfil this desideratum in a simple manner by providing eyelets 60 at or near the corners of the sleeve, as is clearly shown in Fig. 2. I further provide clasps 62 one of which is clearly shown in Fig. 5. This clasp is in the form of a large tubular ring having a solid section or tongue 64 slidable in the tubular ring against a suitable spring tending normally to close the ring. Section 64 may be slipped back in the ring by a small knob 66. The clasp is much like that used on watch chains, necklaces, or the like, but of course is much larger in size and is dimensioned to pass through two adjacent eyelets 60 when the sleeve is doubled or folded upwardly to the form indicated in Figs. 1 and 3. A small decorative bead 68 may, if desired, be suspended from ring 62 in order to improve the appearance of the bag. It will be understood without further comment, that to reverse the bag, it is simply necessary to remove the clasps 62 and to fold the sleeve in opposite direction, thereupon replacing the clasps 62.

Some further details may merit attention. Inasmuch as the structure is held in folded condition only at the ends thereof (although additional intermediate fastening means may, of course, be employed), it is desirable to stiffen or reinforce the ends of the sleeve so that the bag

will hold its shape. For this purpose, suitable reinforcements, here exemplified by plies of cardboard 70, are stitched in place at the ends of the sleeve. These plies may be given a configuration and width somewhat as is indicated by the outlined portions 72 in Fig. 2 at the ends of the sleeve. The stitching 56 for the slide fastener, the mounting of the male and female halves of the snap fastener 20, and the eyelets 60, all preferably pass through the stiffening or reinforcements 70 as well as some of the fabric. The ends of the materials 26 and 28 are turned inwardly about the cardboards 70 prior to stitching at 46 and 58, this being evident upon inspection of Fig. 3.

In order not to make the bag excessively bulky at the top, the lining materials 36 and 38 preferably terminate short of the cardboard inserts 70, as is indicated at 74 in Fig. 3.

Where a fur or imitation fur material is used, as in the case of the material 26, it is desirable to have the pile extend in one direction on both sides of the bag. For this reason, the outside 26 is preferably not made of a single piece of material, but is instead made of two pieces of material stitched together by a seam or line of stitching 76 at the bottom of the bag. In this manner the pile may be similarly directed on both sides.

Of course, when the material does not have a pile, a single piece of material may be used, and this is the case with the material 28 which is an ordinary woolen fabric. In the present case, the arrangement of the material 28 differs from that of the fur 26 in another respect, namely, in that the end portions 72 are pieces cut separately from the main center portion 28, and the ends of the center portion 28 are brought to reduced dimension by a series of tiny folds indicated at 78, this construction being sometimes referred to as shirring. The contrast between the flat and shirred parts of the fabric, the decorative shape given the end parts 72, and the presence of a folded shoulder at 78', all enhance the attractive appearance of the muff when the material 28 is outermost.

The accessibility of the pockets 12 and 14 may be and preferably is increased by opening the corners of the sleeve at the cardboard inserts. Referring to Fig. 2, it will be noted that the eyelets 60 are not located at the extreme corners, but instead are moved inwardly to the inner rather than the outer corners of the cardboard inserts. The edges between the true corner of the sleeve and the eyelets are left open, as is indicated by the turned-back corner portion 80 in the drawing. The resulting separation or gap is also clearly evident at 82 in Fig. 1. To produce this separation it is simply necessary to treat a part of the side edge, say one inch, as a continuation of the top edge, the lines of stitching 46 and 58, for example, being extended to or carried around the side edge, as shown.

It is believed that the mode of constructing and using, as well as the many advantages of my improved muff or/and handbag, will be apparent from the foregoing detailed description thereof. The muff is smart and attractive in appearance, yet is practical and warm. It dispenses with the necessity for carrying a handbag, because ample and commodious pockets are formed directly within the muff. Most important of all, the muff is reversible, thus bringing either of two contrasting materials on the outside, so that a single muff may be used to match a number

of different outfits. The change from one side to the other is readily made without noticeable delay or inconvenience. In fact, the exceptionally convenient reversibility of this construction makes it desirable for use even as a handbag in summer-time when there is no need for warmth. In such case the structure differs primarily in the omission of heavy warm filling materials, and in the use of light fabrics or thin leather instead of heavy fabric or fur.

It will therefore be apparent that while I have shown and described my invention in a preferred form, many changes and modifications may be made in the structure disclosed, without departing from the spirit of the invention, defined in the following claims.

I claim:

1. A reversible lady's handbag comprising first and second materials stitched along the side edges to form a sleeve having at least one fully open end, a separate pocket having a mouth as large as the fully open sleeve end, said pocket being inserted in and peripherally secured to the open end of the sleeve, said sleeve being bent about a line extending transversely thereof to bring the ends of the sleeve together, and reversible fastener means for securing the ends together with the sleeve in folded condition as aforesaid, said sleeve being foldable in one direction or the other in order to bring either the first or second material on the outside of the bag.

2. A reversible lady's handbag comprising first and second materials stitched along the side edges to form a fully open-ended sleeve, pockets having mouths as large as the fully open sleeve ends, one of said pockets being inserted in and peripherally secured to each open end of the sleeve, said sleeve being bent about a line extending transversely thereof to bring the open ends of the sleeve upward with the pocket depending therefrom, and reversible fastener means for securing the ends together with the sleeve in folded condition as aforesaid, said sleeve being foldable in one direction or the other in order to bring either the first or second material on the outside of the bag.

3. A reversible lady's handbag comprising first and second materials stitched along the side edges to form a sleeve having a fully open end, a pocket having a mouth as large as the fully open sleeve end, said pocket being inserted in and peripherally secured to the open end of the sleeve, independent closure means for said pocket alone, said sleeve being bent about a line extending transversely thereof to bring the ends of the sleeve together, reversible fastener means for securing the ends together with the sleeve in folded condition as aforesaid, and stiffening means to help hold the bag in desired shape, said sleeve being foldable in one direction or the other in order to bring either the first or second fabric on the outside of the bag.

4. A reversible lady's handbag comprising first and second materials stitched along the side edges to form a fully open-ended sleeve, pockets having mouths as large as the fully open sleeve ends, one of said pockets being inserted in and peripherally secured to each open end of the sleeve, stiffening means for the ends of the sleeve in order to hold the same in shape, independent fastener means for closing each of said pockets, said sleeve being bent about a line extending transversely at the middle thereof to bring the open ends of the sleeve together at the

top with the pockets depending downwardly therefrom, and reversible fastener means for securing the ends together with the sleeve in folded condition as aforesaid, said sleeve being foldable in one direction or the other in order to bring either the first or second material on the outside of the bag.

5. A structure as defined in claim 4 in which the fastener means for securing the ends of the sleeve in upwardly folded condition comprise eyelets through each corner of the sleeve, and rings or clasps with a reciprocable slip section of suitable dimension to be passed through the adjacent eyelets when the sleeve is folded.

6. A reversible lady's handbag comprising first and second materials stitched along the side edges to form an open-ended sleeve, said materials differing from one another but both being suitable for the exterior of the bag, pockets having mouths as large as the fully open sleeve ends, one of said pockets being inserted in and peripherally secured to each open end of the sleeve, independent means for closing each of said pockets, said sleeve being bent about a line extending transversely thereof to bring the open ends of the sleeve together at the top with the pockets depending therefrom, and reversible fastener means for securing the ends together with the sleeve in folded condition as aforesaid, said sleeve being foldable in one direction or the other in order to bring either the first or second material on the outside of the bag.

7. A reversible muff and lady's handbag comprising two layers of suitable warm material arranged back to back and secured along their side edges to form a fully open-ended sleeve, pockets having mouths as large as the fully open sleeve ends, one of said pockets being inserted in and peripherally secured to each open end of the sleeve, cardboard stiffening inserts of substantial area concealed within each of the lips of the open ends of the sleeve in order to shape the same, independent closure means for each of the pockets, said sleeve being folded to bring the two pocket openings at the top of the muff, and reversible fastener means for securing the open ends of the muff together, said fastener means passing through the aforesaid inserts, said sleeve being foldable in either direction in order to bring either the first or the second material on the outside of the muff.

8. A reversible muff and lady's handbag comprising two layers of material arranged back to back and secured along their side edges to form an open-ended sleeve, the first and second materials differing from one another but both being suitable for use as an exterior of a muff, a pocket having a mouth as large as the fully open sleeve end, said pocket being inserted in and peripherally secured to the open end of the sleeve, relatively broad flat stiffening inserts of substantial area extending entirely across the lips of the open end of the sleeve in order to stiffen and hold the same in shape, said stiffening means being separable not only at their outer edges but also for at least a portion of their end edges in order to facilitate wide opening of and access to the pocket, closure means for the pocket, said sleeve being folded to bring the ends of the sleeve together to form a muff with the pocket opening at the top of the muff, and reversible fastener means for securing the ends of the muff together, said fastener means being applied to the inner corners at the ends of the stiffening means in order not to interfere with separation of the stiff-

ening means at their outer corners, said sleeve being foldable in either direction in order to bring either the first or the second material on the outside of the muff.

- 5 9. A structure as defined in claim 8, in which the fastener means for securing the ends of the sleeve in upwardly folded condition comprise eyelets spaced downwardly from each corner of the sleeve, said eyelets passing through and being
10 clamped on the inner corners of the stiffening insert as well as on the materials of the sleeve, and clasps with a reciprocable slip section of suitable dimension to be passed through the adjacent eyelets when the sleeve is folded.

- 15 10. A structure as defined in claim 8, in which

a filler of material characterized by bulk and warmth is placed within the sleeve, said filler material terminating short of the inner edges of the stiffening inserts in order not to produce excessive bulk in the separable stiffened edges of the pocket. 5

11. A structure as defined in claim 8, in which the closure for the pocket comprises a slide fastener, each tape of said slide fastener being received within a reversely folded plait of the material forming the pocket, said tape being stitched
10 in place by a line of stitching which passes through the reversely folded pocket material, the fastener tape, and the stiffening means.

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