June 23, 1931. A. COTLER ET AL 1,810,894

COMBINED HAND BAG AND CONCEALED MUFF

Filed June 25, 1929

FIG. 1.

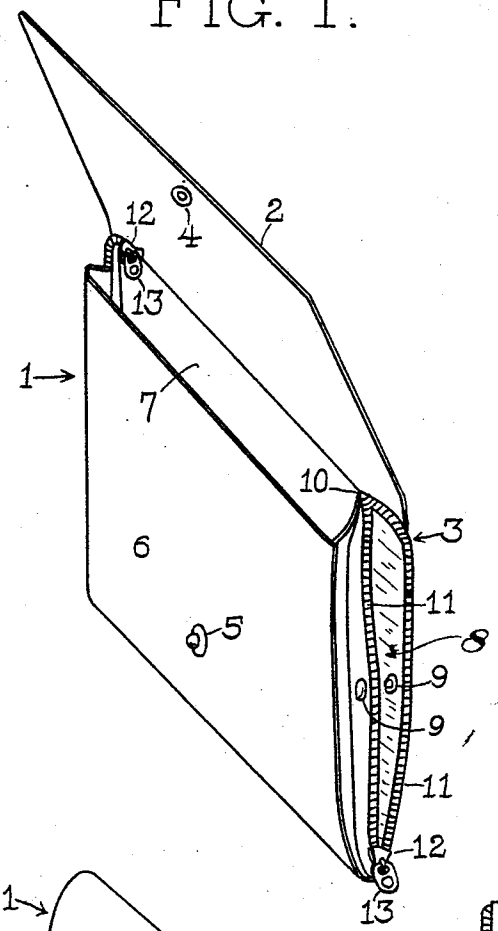


FIG. 4.

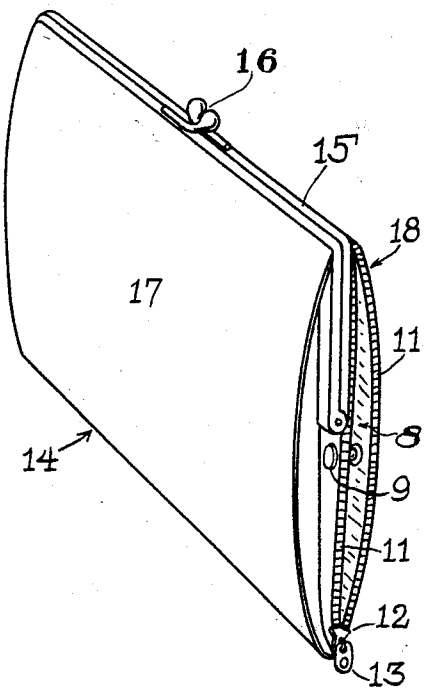
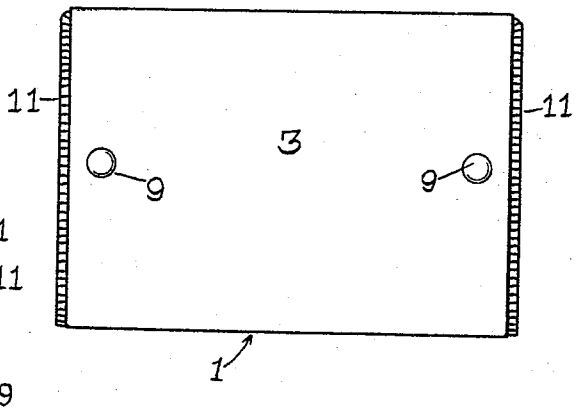


FIG. 3.



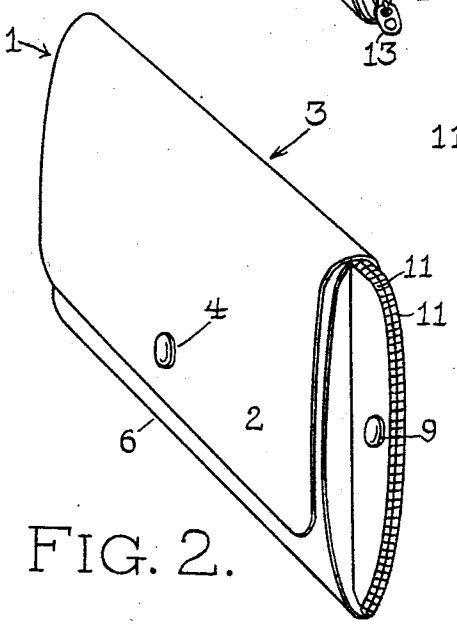


FIG. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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COMBINED HAND BAG AND CONCEALED MUFF

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This invention relates to hand bags and the like which are combined with concealed muffs so constructed and arranged that when the muff portions are used they are opened at will, and when closed are concealed and unobstrusive to render the hand bags containing them otherwise normal in size and appearance.

The main object of our invention is to provide a lady's hand bag with a muff which will not enlarge the bag to an appreciable extent or render the muff conspicuous, or otherwise alter the bag and thereby reduce its usefulness as a hand bag.

Another object is to produce a hand bag which is equipped with a muff which is normally concealed when not in use, and in addition completely closed, so that the bag appears to be then nothing more than a hand bag of conventional shape and size.

A further object is to provide such a combined hand bag and concealed muff with means for closing the end openings of the muff in convenient manner.

Other objects and the various advantages arising from the novel and useful structures included in our invention will appear more fully in detail as the specification proceeds.

In the acompanying drawings forming part hereof:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a hand bag of the envelope type partly open and equipped with the muff and closure structure in proper combination so as to embody the features of this invention.

Fig. 2 is a view of the same in closed condition.

Fig. 3 is a rear view of the bag when closed as in Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a view of another type of bag as equipped with the new muff and closure structure already indicated.

Throughout the views, the same or duplicate parts are indicated by the same reference numerals.

In the practice of our invention, as may be seen in the first three views, a hand bag of the envelope type, generally indicated by 1 has the well known front flap 2 attached to the back 3 and provided with a snap member 4 adapted to co-operate with a corresponding snap member 5 on the front side 6 of the bag. In the interior of the bag is a chamber or pocket 7 which may represent a number of pockets, if so desired, but one is shown.

However, in the back 3 of the bag, a muff is arranged, generally indicated by 8, each end of the muff being closable by a pair of snap members similar to 9, 9 for the purpose of shutting the muff when not in use and more or less uniting the muff ends so as to prevent the same from fraying out or presenting a disordered appearance. This closing feature adds to the appearance of the bag and tends to render the muff unobtrusive and for the most part concealed when closed. In order to make for a better closure and improved concealment of the muff, the ends are preferably fitted with rows of fasteners of the so called hookless fastener variety as at 11, 11, opened or closed at will by a sliding member 12 having the finger piece 13, this being the accepted construction of such fasteners. The sliding member may be drawn down to open its end of the muff as is the normal action of such fasteners, and then hang at the bottom as shown by slide 13 at the near end of Figs. 1 and 4 while the muff is open for use, and when it is desired to close the muff, it is but necessary to draw the slide member up and inward a little to a point or recess in fastener edges 11 indicated at 10 for the same to be readily concealed under the flap when the same is closed, and the bag is then closed as a whole with only the united edges 11, 11 in view.

The recess 10 just mentioned, merely consists of an inward bend or turn of the fastener edges 11, 11 toward the horizontal where they may merge a distance inward in under the flap 2 of the bag, and serves as a retreat or recess for the slide member under said flap. In Fig. 1, the edges 11, 11 are thus terminated at 10 upon the near end of the bag, at the upper portion thereof, and it is obvious that when the slide member is drawn up from the bottom along the vertical portions of said edges and then inward toward 10, that it is but necessary to close flap 2 to completely conceal said slide member. At the far end

of the bag, immediately under the junction of the flap with the body of the bag, the correspondingly opposite slide member is shown in its extreme upper and inmost position, or initially concealed position, as it may also be termed.

It is usual in hookless fasteners to draw the slide member up in order to mesh or close the fastener edges and down to dissociate or open them. It is obvious that if the fastener edges and slide member were bodily inverted and thus applied in use, drawing the slide member downward would then close the edges and upward movement of the slide member would part or open them. If thus applied to the bag, the so-called recess would, of course be at the top as before.

Naturally, the fastener rows may be inverted so that when the muff is open, the slide member is concealed in its retreat at 10 under the main flap 2 of the bag.

The same principles already described in connection with the first two views also apply to the third view, of course. In analogous manner, in the fourth view, the snap 9 and the fastener edges 11, 11 and slide member 12 are incorporated in the structure of the hand bag 14 of conventional form. Here the familiar hinge frame 15 takes care of the opening and closing of the bag in well known manner by means of the snap or lock 16. The front 17 of this bag is normal in every respect, but the back indicated at 18 is modified by including the muff structure and closing the ends at will as already fully detailed.

The snap members 9, 9 may be omitted, if desired and only the hookless fastener used, or the reverse may be the actual working structure for closing the muff, the idea being to incorporate a concealed muff in the back of a hand bag and to close the ends of the muff by means of snap members or hookless fasteners or both in order to conceal more fully the muff when not in use.

The combination of both fasteners tends to completely carry out the purpose of obliterating and concealing the muff structure from view, inasmuch as the snap members initially close the ends, and, being located within the ends and not upon the very edges tend to flatten the muff, while the hookless fasteners seal the edges and complete the concealment and obliteration of the muff. The closure means therefore serve the twofold purpose of both closing the muff structure, thereby providing a chamber separate from the bag chamber proper and also positively closing and thereby concealing or obliterating the appearance and possible inconvenience of the muff about the bag.

Having now fully described our invention, we claim:—

1. A combined hand bag and concealed muff including a bag having a front and back wall, a muff structure built into the back wall so that the ends of the muff structure are open at the ends of the back wall independently of the opening of the bag proper, co-operating closure means arranged at the ends of said muff structure, and concealable means for closing said closure means and thereby closing the ends of said muff structure at will.

2. A combined hand bag and concealed muff including a bag structure having corresponding front and back walls forming an inner pocket between them, a muff structure built into one of said walls and opening to the ends of the wall, means for closing said muff structure at its ends including hookless fasteners arranged at said ends, sliding members for opening and closing said fasteners, which sliding members are concealable at will.

3. A combination hand bag and concealed muff including a bag structure having corresponding front and back walls enclosing an inner pocket between them, a muff structure built into one of said walls so that the open ends of said muff structure open to the ends of said wall, and hookless fasteners arranged at the ends of said muff structure having slide members for opening or closing said muff structure, said sliding members being slidable into concealed positions in said bag when not in use.

4. A combination hand bag and concealed muff including a bag structure having corresponding front and back walls enclosing an inner pocket between them, a muff structure built into one of said walls so as to be generally coextensive with the same, so that the open ends of said muff structure open to the ends of said wall, snap members arranged within the ends of said muff structure for initially closing the same and tending to flatten said structure, and additional closure means therefor including hookless fasteners also arranged at the ends of said muff structure beyond said snap members and provided with sliding members for closing said fasteners at will and thereby finally closing the ends of said muff structure, and further tending to obliterate the resemblance thereof to a muff.

5. A combined hang bag and muff including the combination with a bag proper having a chamber which is closable at the upper portion thereof at will, of a muff permanently associated with one wall of said bag and including a second chamber generally coextensive with said wall, which second chamber is positively closable at the extreme ends thereof adjacent the ends of said bag at will, and there being means for closing the ends of said muff chamber immediately within the ends thereof including snap fasteners.

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