March 28, 1950 B. P. BOHN 2,502,033

APPAREL CARRIER

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Fig. 1

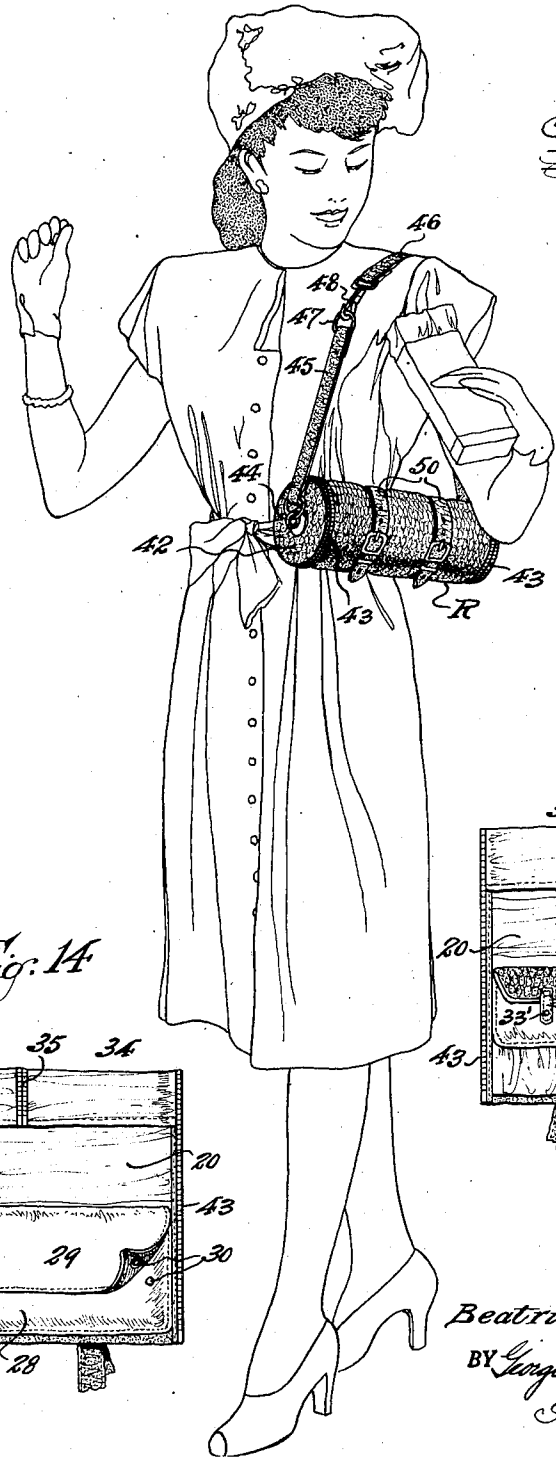


Fig. 15

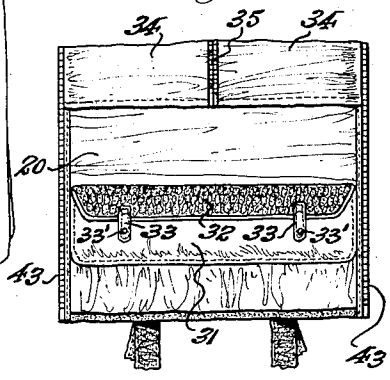


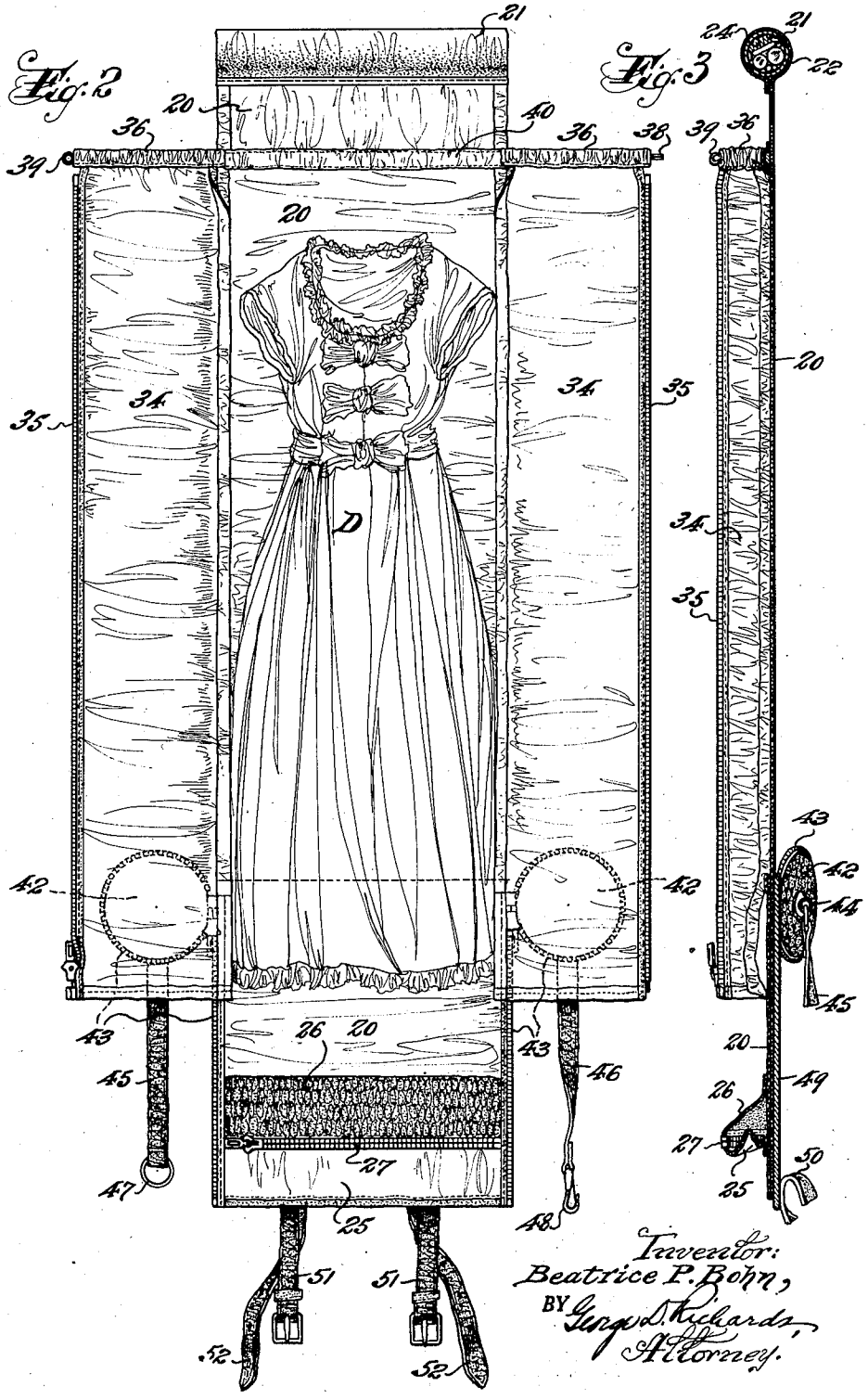
Fig. 14

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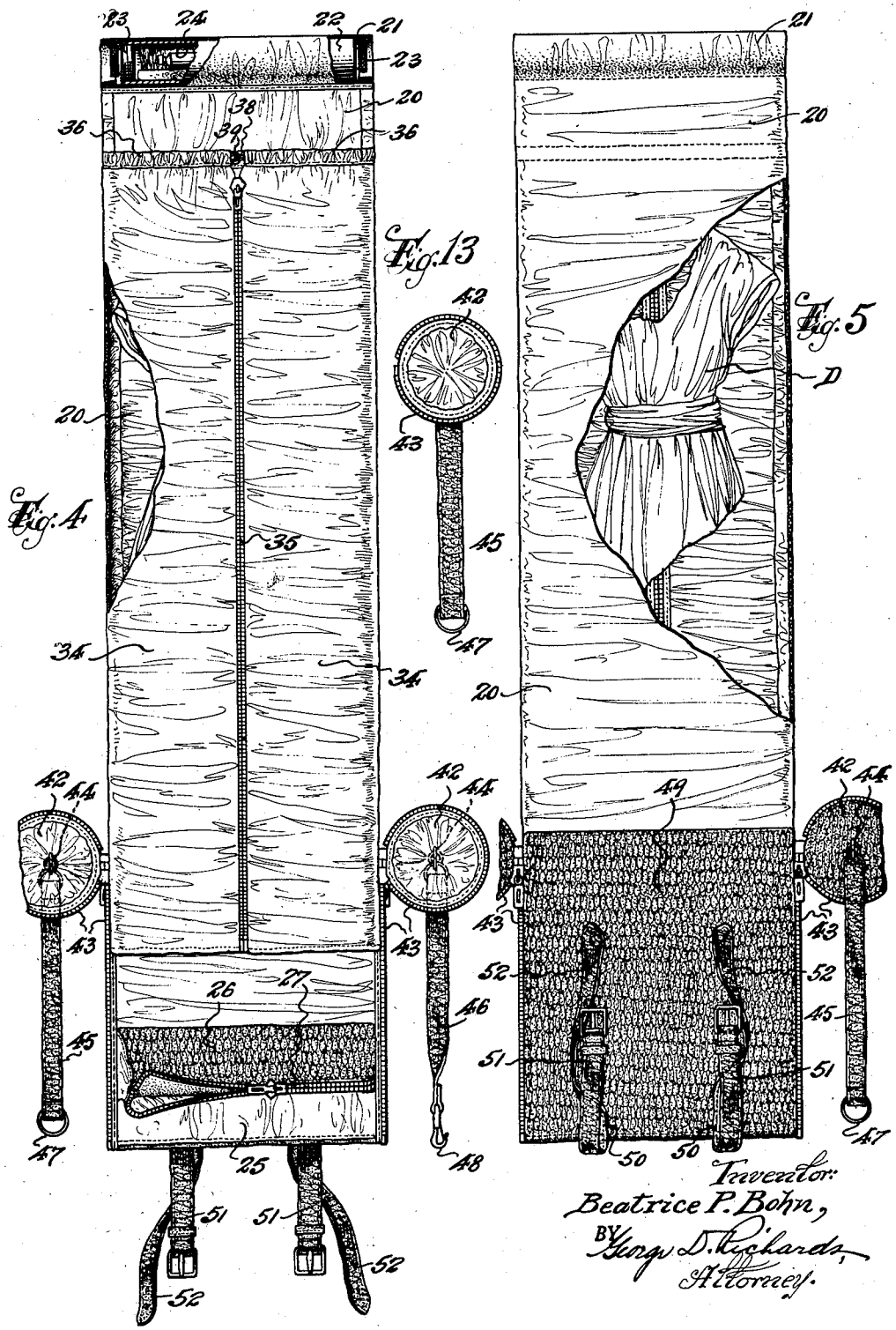


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APPAREL CARRIER

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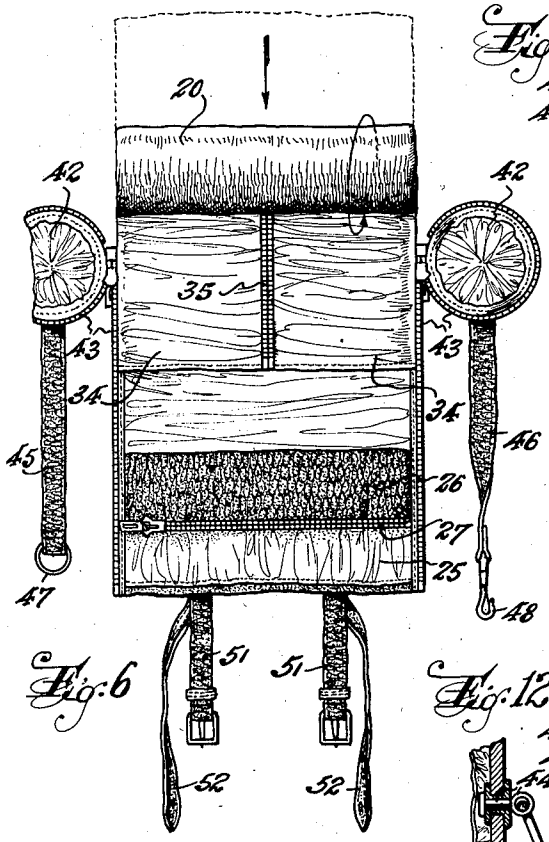


Fig. 6

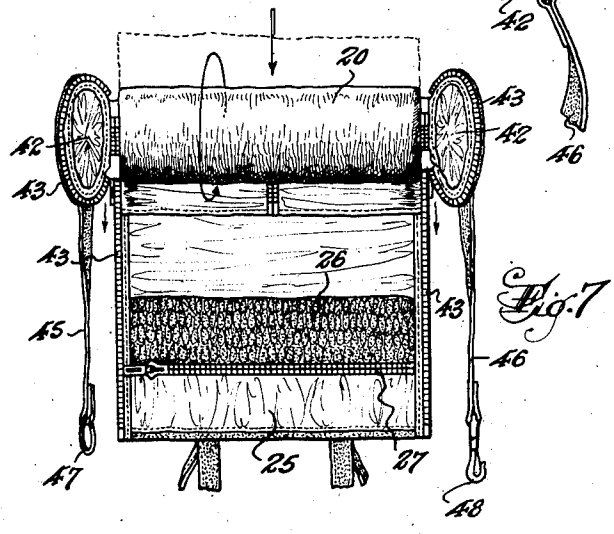


Fig. 7

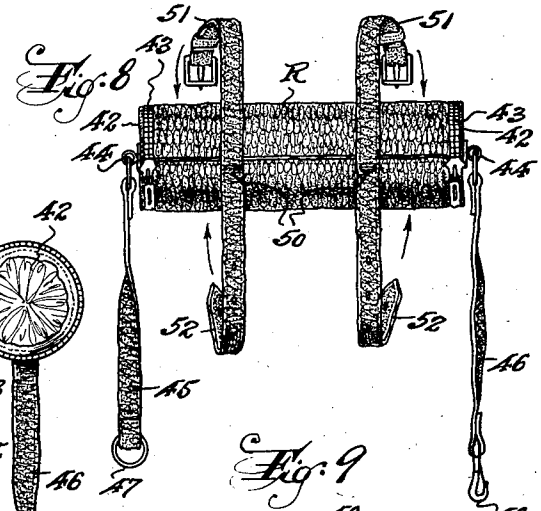


Fig. 8

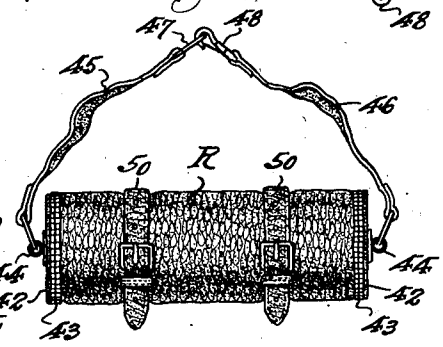


Fig. 9

Fig. 12

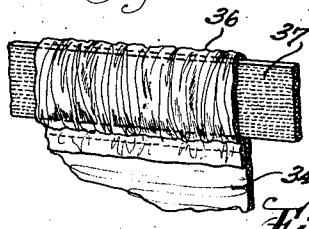


Fig. 10

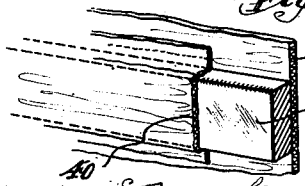


Fig. 11

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,502,033

APPAREL CARRIER

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Application March 25, 1947, Serial No. 736,965

3 Claims. (Cl. 190—43)

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This invention relates to an improved portable carrier means into which may be packed wearing apparel and personal necessities for carriage by travelers; and the invention has reference, more particularly, to a novel carrier means of light weight, small bulk and neat appearance.

The invention has for an object to provide a novel carrier means comprising a flexible body which, in open condition, may be out spread in flat lying extension so that a garment or garments to be carried can be smoothly laid thereupon, and then enclosed by covering means with which the body is provided, whereupon said body, together with the contained garment or garments, may be smoothly rolled endwise upon itself into a compact roll formation of comparatively small bulk, said body being provided with manipulatable closure members for closing the ends of the rolled body, and means being also provided by which the closed carrier roll may be conveniently carried by the user.

The invention has for another object to provide a carrier roll structure, characterized as above set forth, which includes compartment means for additionally carrying undergarments, small articles of personal use, and the like.

Other objects of this invention, not at this time more particularly enumerated, will be understood from the following detailed description of the same.

An illustrative embodiment of the invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a pictorial view of the novel carrier roll of this invention as packed and carried by a user.

Fig. 2 is an interior face view of the carrier roll in open condition for packing; Fig. 3 is a central longitudinal sectional view of the same; Fig. 4 is an interior face view of the carrier roll in open condition, but with its garment carrying section closed by the garment covering means with which it is provided; Fig. 5 is an exterior face view of the carrier roll in the condition shown in Fig. 4, parts being broken away; Fig. 6 is an interior face view of the carrier roll in an initial stage of the rolling of the same to closed condition; Fig. 7 is a view similar to Fig. 6 showing a further advanced stage of the rolling of the same to closed condition; Fig. 8 is an elevational view of the carrier roll as completely rolled and closed but before the girdling straps thereof are secured; and Fig. 9 is a view similar to that of Fig. 8, but with the girdling straps thereof secured.

Fig. 10 is a fragmentary perspective view of the top edge of a garment covering section with which the roll body is provided.

Fig. 11 is a fragmentary perspective view of a transverse reenforcing bar with which the body of the carrier roll is provided.

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Fig. 12 is a fragmentary sectional view showing means for coupling carrier straps to the carrier roll.

Fig. 13 is an interior face view of an end closure for the carrier roller as provided in a detachable form thereof.

Fig. 14 is a fragmentary interior face view of the carrier roll body provided with a modified form of auxiliary compartment means; and Fig. 15 is a similar view showing another modified form of auxiliary compartment means.

Similar characters of reference are employed in the hereinabove described views, to indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to the drawings, the reference character 20 indicates the body of the novel carrier roll R according to this invention, the same comprising a rectangular body of flexible material of suitable width and length, which may comprise one or more plies or layers of selected flexible material or materials. For example, the body 20 may be made of textile fabric, leather, or other selected flexible sheet material, which may be, and preferably is water-proofed or of water resistant characteristics. If desired, the interior side of the body 20 may include a facing or lining of suitable fabric or other material.

At its upper or the leading end from which it is to be rolled, said body 20 is formed to provide a tubular loop or sleeve section 21 in which is inserted a rigid roller element 22. Preferably, this roller element 22 comprises a hollow tubular member closed at its ends, and at least at one end, and preferably at both ends, by detachable closure members 23. As thus formed, said roller element 22 not only provides a means to facilitate the operation of rolling up the carrier roll body and its content into closed condition, but additionally provides a carrying compartment 24 in which may be inserted and carried small articles of personal necessity, such e. g. as toilet articles, toilet preparations, cosmetics and the like.

At its lower end portion, or exterior roll-cover portion when rolled, said body 20 is provided in connection with its interior face, with a pocket or pouch which, as shown, in Figs. 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7, comprises separable front wall sections 25 and 26 made of suitable flexible material, the meeting margins of which are equipped with cooperative slide fastener means 27, whereby the pocket or pouch may be opened and closed at will. Said pocket or pouch provides a separate auxiliary compartment in which the user of the carrier roll may pack undergarments, stockings, handkerchiefs and other small articles of apparel or the like. The detail form and construction of said pocket or pouch is subject to more or less variation in form and construction. For example, as shown in Fig. 14, the same may comprise a pocket forming wall 28 of selected depth, and a cooper-

ating overlapping closure flap 29, which may be secured in closed position by snap fastener means 30. Again, as shown in Fig. 15, the pocket or pouch may comprise a pocket forming wall 31 of selected depth, and a cooperating closure flap 32 which may be secured in closed position by button-hole tabs 33 adapted to be releasably engaged with buttons 33' affixed to the exterior face of said pocket forming wall 31. The roll-cover portion of body 20 will form the outermost convolution of the completed roll so access to the pockets may be gained by only partially unrolling the roll-cover portion.

Affixed respectively to opposite longitudinal side marginal portions of the mid-section of the body 20, so as to swing in and out about said marginal portions, are interior cover sections 34 of substantial length, the upper ends of which terminate in suitably spaced relation to and below the roller element 22 at the upper or leading end of said body 20, while the lower ends of which terminate in suitably spaced relation to and above the lower or exterior roll-cover end portion of said body 20 and its included auxiliary compartment forming pocket or pouch. The meeting free longitudinal edges of said interior cover sections 34 are equipped with cooperative slide fastener means 35 by which said cover sections 34 may be releasably secured together in closed over relation to the interior face of said mid-section of the body 20 and a garment or garments superposed thereon. Said cover sections 34 are preferably made of comparatively thin or light weight textile fabric. At their transverse upper ends, said cover sections 34 are each provided with a hollow hem portion 36 within which is enclosed an elastic strap 37. Said straps 37 are respectively anchored at their outer ends to the body 20, and are respectively provided at their inner or meeting ends one with the hook element 38 of a hook and eye fastener means and the other with the eye element 39 of said fastener means.

Affixed to the body 20, as by an anchoring retainer sleeve 40, which is stitched or otherwise suitably secured thereto, is a transverse rigid bar 41 disposed to extend in substantially aligned relation to the transverse upper ends of said cover section 34 when the covers are spread open and to underlie the elastic straps in parallelism therewith when the covers are closed.

Connected respectively with the opposite longitudinal side margins of the body 20, preferably at points suitably spaced above the extremity of the lower or exterior roll-cover end portion of said body, are circular roll end closure members 42, which are suitably stiffened to possess a substantial degree of rigidity and of a diameter substantially equal to that of the periphery of the rolled body. The peripheral edges of said roll end closure members 42 and those portions of the longitudinal side edges of the body 20 which are coextensive with the roll-cover portion thereof are equipped with cooperative slide fastener means 43, by which said roll end closure members 42 may be releasably secured in closing relation to the ends of the body 20, when the latter is rolled into ultimate carrier roll forming condition.

While it is perhaps preferable that said roll end closure members 42 be connected with the body 20 so as to be non-separable therefrom, it will nevertheless be understood that the same may be provided in the form of parts separable from the body 20, when the cooperative slide fastener means thereof are in released condition (see Fig. 13).

Attached by anchoring connections 44 which are centrally affixed to the respective roll end closure members 42, preferably in swiveling relation thereto, so as to project from exterior faces of the latter, is a carrier sling means. In a preferred form thereof, said carrier sling means comprises separable suspension strap sections 45 and 46 which respectively extend from the anchoring connections 44 of the respective roll end closure members 42. The meeting ends of said suspension strap sections 45 and 46 are respectively equipped with cooperative coupling elements, one e. g. comprising a ring or eye 47 and the other a snap hook 48, by means of which said strap sections may be releasably joined together in carrier sling means forming relation.

The outer side or face of the lower or exterior roll-cover portion of the body 20 may, if desired, have applied thereto an external facing 49 of ornamental or decorative material, and the outer sides of the roll end closure members 42 may be likewise correspondingly faced, so that, when the body 20 is rolled and closed into ultimate carrier roll formed condition, its external appearance will be attractive and pleasing.

Affixed to the outer side or face of the lower or exterior roll-cover portion of the body 20 are one or more girdle straps 50, but preferably two thereof arranged to be disposed respectively adjacent opposite end portions of the carrier roll when the body 20 is rolled into the carrier roll formation. Each said girdle strap 50 is affixed by a mid-portion thereof to the body 20 so as to provide a free buckle end portion 51 and a free tongue end portion 52. Said end portions 51 and 52 are adapted to be releasably engaged whereby to secure the girdle straps in encircling relation to the carrier roll formation and thus retain the latter in rolled condition.

To arrange the body 20 for reception of the apparel desired to be packed therein for carriage, said body is unrolled and spread out in flat extension, with its cover sections 34 released and outswung to open position (see Fig. 2). An outer garment to be packed, such e. g. as a dress D, is smoothly superposed upon the inner face of the mid-section of the body 20, and positioned so as to be enclosed by the cover sections 34, when the latter are inswung and joined. In some cases, it may be preferable to lay the dress D substantially in the position shown in Fig. 2. In other cases, it may be desirable to so dispose the dress that the shoulder portions thereof lap the bar 41 with which the body 20 is provided, whereby, when the cover sections 34 are closed and the elastic straps 37 thereof are joined, said elastic straps will tend to flatly press said shoulder portions of the dress against the bar 41, so as to better retain said shoulder portions smoothly spread and held against shift. Either method of dress disposition may be resorted to as best suits the convenience and desire of the user of the carrier roll. It will be understood that within reasonable limits, more than one garment may be arranged and packed for carriage in the manner described.

The dress D having been placed in position, the cover sections 34 are closed over the same, and joined in closed relation by the slide fastener means 35 with which their meeting edges are equipped. At the same time, the elastic straps 37 are joined by engaging the hook and eye fastener elements 38—39 with which their free ends are provided (see Fig. 4).

Undergarments, stockings, handkerchiefs and

other small articles of apparel and the like having been packed in the auxiliary compartment provided by the pocket or pouch with which the lower end portion of the body **20** is provided, and small articles of personal necessity having been packed in the carrying compartment **24** provided by the hollow roller element **22** with which the upper end of the body **20** is provided, said body **20** is thereupon ready to be rolled up into the ultimate carrier roll formation. Utilizing the roller element **22** as a rolling aid and guide, the body **20**, with the enveloped dress D, is rolled endwise upon itself about said roller element **22**, whereby the contained dress is smoothly convolved and firmly held, within the convolutions of the body **20**, against shifting, rumpling or mussing, and is thereby so enclosed as to be effectively protected against dust, dirt and the elements. The body **20** and its content having been thus rolled into the ultimate carrier roll formation, the girdle straps **50** are secured in operative encircling relation thereto so as to retain said formation, whereupon the roll end closure members **42** are swung inwardly to closed positions against the roll ends, and then joined to the latter by the slide fastener means **43** with which the peripheries thereof and the contiguous side longitudinal edge portions of the body **20** are equipped, thus completing the ultimate carrier roll formation.

From the above description and an inspection of Figs. 1 and 9 of the drawings, more particularly, it will be obvious that the carrier roll formation is of comparatively small bulk and provides a compact and very neat and attractive appearance. Furthermore, since the form of construction and character of the materials entering thereinto involves no heavy framework and unduly heavy materials, it will be obvious that the invention provides a carrier means for the intended purposes which is of relatively light weight, while at the same time one which is subject to easy carriage with little physical effort.

A very convenient means for carrying the carrier roll is provided by the strap sections **45—46** which, when joined by the coupling elements **47—48** with which their free meeting ends are provided, form a carrier sling means extending between the ends of the carrier roll. Said carrier sling means can be slung over a shoulder of the user, so as to suspend the carrier roll therefrom, thus leaving both hands of the user free for other uses (see Fig. 1).

Although the carrier roll of this invention is especially well adapted for use by women as an overnight bag or carrier, it will be understood that it may also be sized and arranged to serve equally well for use by men for the carriage of men's apparel, toilet necessities, etc.

Having now described my invention, I claim:

1. In a carrier for the purposes described, an elongated rectangular body of flexible material capable of being rolled endwise upon itself together with wearing apparel superposed thereon into a convolved roll formation, a tubular roller element substantially equal in length to the narrow dimension of the rectangular body and being affixed to the inner leading end thereof in parallelism therewith, the interior of said roller element being adapted to provide a container for miscellaneous articles, circular end closure members for cooperation with the ends of the rolled body and being adapted to mask the ends of the tubular roller element, and means for releasably securing said end closure members to the side edges of the outermost convolution-forming portion of the rolled body.

2. In a carrier for the purposes described, an elongated rectangular body of flexible material comprising an inner end portion and an outer roll-cover end portion, the said body being capable of being rolled endwise from the leading edge of its inner end portion together with wearing apparel superposed thereon into a convolved roll formation of which the roll-cover portion forms the outermost convolution, pouch-forming means connected with the inner face of the said roll-cover portion of the body, circular end closure members for cooperation with the ends of the rolled body, and cooperative slide fastener means connected with the peripheries of said end closure members and with longitudinal edges of the roll-cover portion of the body contiguous thereto, whereby to be manipulatable to releasably secure said end closure members to said ends of the rolled body and to permit access to said pouch-forming means when the slides are moved into partially open positions but not far enough to release the end closure members completely.

3. In a carrier for the purposes described, an elongated rectangular body of flexible material capable of being rolled endwise upon itself from an inner leading edge together with wearing apparel superposed thereon into a convolved roll formation, foldable interior cover sections respectively extending from opposite longitudinal side marginal portions of the mid-section of said body adapted to be closed over the wearing apparel superposed on said body and to be rolled up with the same, cooperative slide fastener means on the meeting edges of said cover sections for releasably securing the same in apparel covering relation, a transverse rigid bar connected with said body to underlie the inner transverse edges of said cover sections, elastic straps supported in connection with said inner transverse edges of the cover sections, inner ends of said straps being affixed to said cover sections, and cooperative releasable fastening means at the free ends of said straps operative to join the latter under tension when the cover sections are secured in apparel covering relation, whereby said straps bind the apparel against said rigid bar.

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