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HAND BAG

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Fig. 1.

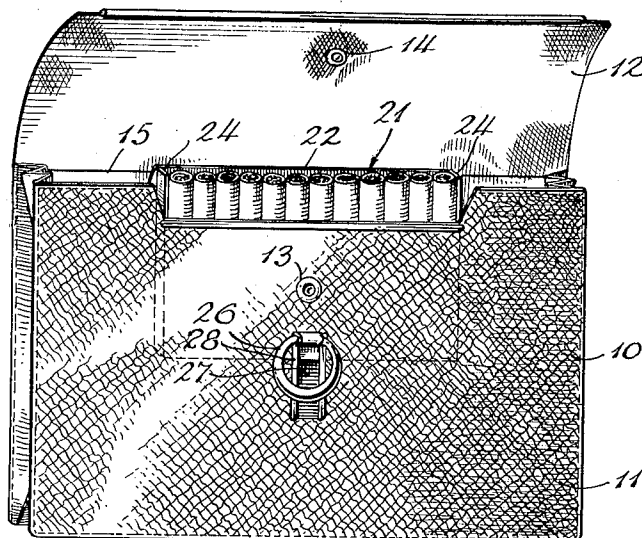
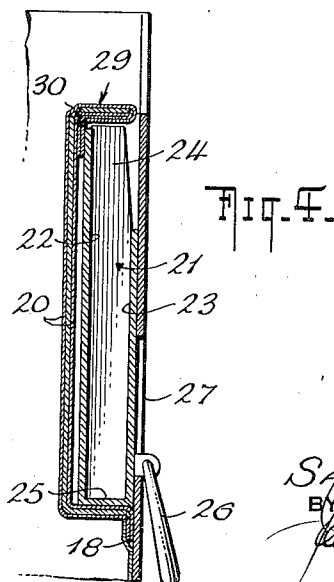
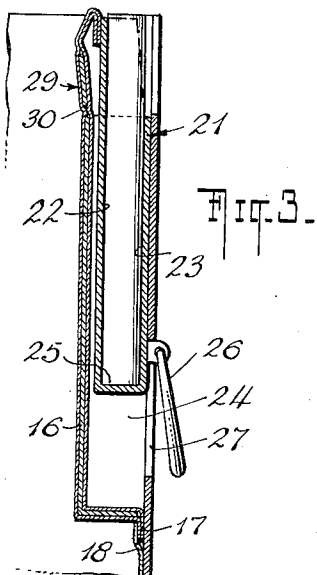
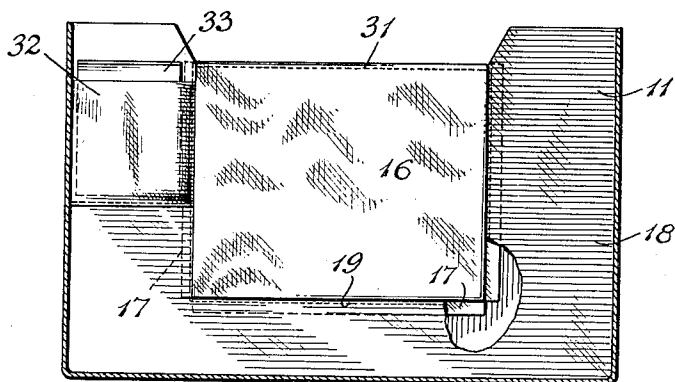


Fig. 2.



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HAND BAG

Samuel Miller, New York, N. Y.

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4 Claims. (Cl. 150—34)

My invention relates to handbags more particularly to ladies' handbags, and has for its general object to provide such article with a special pocket or receptacle suitable for containing cigarettes, currency, and other articles in a convenient and advantageous manner. The present invention is characterized by the provision within a ladies' handbag of a novel and improved receptacle which is so positioned and mounted within the handbag that it occupies a minimum of space, is easily accessible and does not interfere with the accessibility of other articles contained in the bag, does not alter the shape or contour of the bag and does not appreciably increase the bulk thereof, and at the same time is simple and inexpensive in construction and easily attached to the bag.

In the preferred form of the invention, the receptacle is normally closed and its contents not visible upon opening of the bag, but its interior is readily exposed to view upon the operation of means located at or upon the exterior of the bag. The receptacle may comprise a sliding member adapted to receive any suitable article such as cigarettes, currency, powder puffs, etc., a casing being preferably provided for housing the sliding member, such sliding member being adapted to be moved into position to facilitate access to the contents thereof without requiring insertion of the hand of the owner into the interior of the bag. Thus, the receptacle may comprise a casing member attached to the inner side or surface of the front wall of the handbag, and a slide member within the casing member provided with a finger piece attached thereto and extending through a suitable slot in said front wall of the bag. Upon operation of the finger piece, as by moving the same upwardly, the sliding member may be raised above the upper edge of the front wall of the bag to as great an extent as is convenient or necessary to bring the contents of the slide within easy handling reach. Where the receptacle is designed to receive cigarettes, a pocket for a box or book of matches may be provided adjacent to the receptacle.

In a further development of the invention, a cover member is provided for the slide member, such cover member being arranged and constructed to open automatically as the slide member is raised and to close automatically as the slide member is lowered. In its lowered position, the top edge of the slide with the cover thereon may be more or less flush with the top edge of the front wall of the bag, the cover member effectively closing the slide and thereby seal-

ing the interior of the latter in a neat and efficient manner.

My invention will be further described with the aid of the accompanying drawing which illustrates by way of example a preferred embodiment of the invention. In said drawing,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of an opened bag provided with a sliding receptacle, the sliding member being shown in raised position;

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section through the bag showing a rear view of the front wall of the bag and the attached receptacle;

Fig. 3 is a central vertical section through the receptacle and the front wall of the bag in the open position shown in Fig. 1; and

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 but showing the receptacle in the closed condition.

Referring to the drawing, the handbag is shown generally at 10 in the form of what is commonly called an envelope bag, although the invention is not restricted to this type of bag. The front wall of the bag is indicated at 11, and the cover flap at 12. Suitable closure mechanism, such as the snap fastener 13, 14, is provided on the wall 11 and flap 12 in any known or approved manner. The bag may be provided with one or more partitions 15, to which may be attached or which may embody one or more pockets for a mirror, change purse, etc., in a manner well understood in the art. These parts of the handbag form no part of the present invention and have therefore not been illustrated in detail.

In accordance with the present invention, and in the preferred embodiment thereof, a receptacle for cigarettes, currency, etc. is provided upon the inside of the front wall 11 of the handbag. This receptacle comprises a casing member 16 of channel form in horizontal cross-section and provided with lateral and bottom flaps 17 which are adapted to be inserted between the front wall 11 and the lining 18 of such wall the parts 11, 17 and 18 being then secured to each other by rows of stitching 19 (Fig. 2). The casing may be made of cardboard, metal, wood or other suitable material covered on the outside, or upon both the outside and inside with a lining 20 of the same material as the lining of the bag, or of any other suitable material.

The casing member 16 receives and is adapted to house a sliding member 21, whose height is slightly less than that of the casing member, for a purpose to be described hereinafter. The sliding member may be made of the same material as the casing member and includes a rear wall 22, a front wall 23, side walls 24, and a bot-

tom wall 25. As shown more clearly in Fig. 4, the front wall of the slide member is lower than the rear wall and contacts and moves along the inside surface of the front wall 11 of the bag. The slide member is actuated by means of a finger piece 26 which is attached in any suitable manner to the front wall of the slide member and passes through an elongated vertical slot 27 in the front wall 11 of the handbag. Thus by pushing upwardly on the finger piece 26 the slide member 21 is raised as shown in Figs. 1 and 3; while downward movement of the finger piece causes withdrawal of the slide within the casing member (Fig. 4). The side walls of the slot 27 may be provided with metallic or other guiding and wear resisting means 28, such means also serving for decorative purposes, if desired.

The front wall of the slide member, or at least that portion of it which is visible through the slot 27 is preferably made of or covered with the same material as the outer surface of the front wall 11 of the bag in order to maintain the harmony of the design.

As can be seen more clearly from Fig. 3, when the slide member is in its uppermost position, the top edge of the front wall of such member is approximately flush with or below the adjacent upper edge of the front wall of the bag, so that for a given degree of movement of the slide, the maximum possible space is available to the user of the bag for access to the interior of the slide member. On the other hand, when the slide member is in its lowermost position, the top of the casing member 16 and the upper edge of the rear wall 22 of the slide member are approximately flush with the upper edge of the wall 11, thereby presenting no impediment to easy access to the space in the bag to the rear of the receptacle 16, 21 and at the same time presenting a neat and pleasing appearance.

Means are also provided for covering the slide member to prevent escape of the contents thereof and at the same time keep such contents normally not exposed to view, and also further to improve the neatness and appearance of the bag. In the form of the invention illustrated, the cover member is constructed to operate automatically as the slide member is raised or lowered to open or close the bag, respectively. The cover member proper is shown at 29 and is hingedly connected to the rear wall of the casing 16 by means of the lining thereof, as shown at 30 such lining being extended to encase the cover member and being attached to the casing member 16 by the row of stitching 31. The lining material for the cover extends beyond the front edge thereof and is connected, as by stitching, to the upper edge portion of the rear wall 22 of the sliding member. The free or unattached forwardly extended portion of the lining of the cover is about equal in width to the width of the cover member itself, so that the range of movement of the slide is equal to approximately twice the width of the cover member. It will be understood that by making the extended portion of the lining longer or shorter the range of movement of the slide can be varied. In any case, the rear wall of the slide member is sufficiently lower in height than the rear wall of the casing member to cause the slide member to pull the extended lining taut and thereby pull the cover to its closed position when the slide member is brought to its lowermost position, so as automatically to cause closing of the cover when the slide member is lowered. In the preferred form of the invention illustrated, the outer ver-

tical dimension of the sliding member or receptacle 21 is smaller than the inner vertical dimension of the casing by approximately twice the thickness of the cover flap 29, the connecting piece between the cover flap and the sliding member being of such length that when the sliding member is brought into its lowermost position the cover flap is forced into the closed position. By such construction, lifting of the finger piece 26 immediately lifts the cover member and raises the sliding member above the upper edge of the casing without any appreciable lost movement, so that the vertical length of the slot 27 may be kept at a minimum. As the slide member is raised, the rear wall thereof pushes the cover open, after which the slide has an additional vertical movement whose extent is determined by the width of the extended lining portion of the cover.

As can be seen from the drawing, a portion at the top of the front wall 11 of the handbag is cut away to provide a recess whose lower edge is substantially on a level with the upper edge of the casing 16. The sliding member can thus be raised a sufficient distance above the lower edge of the recess to expose the contents of the same, such as cigarettes, and the necessity for raising the receptacle an equivalent distance above the upper edge of the wall of the bag is avoided and the cigarettes or other fragile contents thereby protected to a greater degree against injury.

My improved receptacle is characterized by extreme compactness, and as a container, for example, for cigarettes, has the advantage over the common packages for cigarettes that it is of smaller thickness and therefore does not increase to as large an extent the bulk of the handbag. As the receptacle can conveniently be made to extend over the whole length of the handbag, its capacity can be made at least as great as that of the ladies' metal cigarette cases now in common use, and it has the further advantage over such cases that it is far less expensive to make, is lighter in weight, and is not liable to misplacement or loss. The receptacle can be easily made of inexpensive material and covered with the lining of the bag, and can be readily mounted within the bag during the manufacture thereof. If desired, a small pocket 33 may be provided at the side of the receptacle 16, 21 for receiving a box or book of matches 33. This pocket may be made of the lining material of the bag and sewn to the front wall of the bag.

Various other modifications of the invention may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claims without departing from the spirit of the invention. Thus, instead of operating the slide member 21 by means of a pushing or pulling element 26, such member may be actuated by means of a rotating finger piece whose movement is converted into rectilinear movement of the slide in any suitable manner, as by means of a rack or pinion or through suitable cam mechanism. The slide member may also be raised by means of a rod, ribbon or other means positioned between the front wall of the bag and the slide member where it is desired to avoid puncturing the wall of the bag.

I claim:

1. The combination with a handbag, of an open-sided casing member secured to the inner face of the front wall of the bag, a sliding receptacle positioned in said casing, and a finger piece attached to the sliding receptacle and extending through the front wall of the handbag, the said wall being

provided with an elongated slot for said finger piece to accommodate the movements of the latter.

2. The combination with a handbag, of a casing member attached to the inside face of one of the outer walls of the bag, said casing being at least partly open at the front side thereof facing the said wall of the bag, a sliding receptacle movable within said casing, said outer wall having an opening in alignment with the opening at the front side of said casing, means associated with said receptacle and passing through said openings and engageable from the exterior of said wall for sliding said receptacle to bring the contents thereof into view, a cover member attached to the rear wall of the casing, the outer vertical dimension of the receptacle being smaller than the inner vertical dimension of the casing by approximately twice the thickness of the cover member, and means connecting the front edge of the cover member with the rear wall of the receptacle and of such length that as the receptacle reaches its lowermost position the cover member is pulled into its closed position.

3. A hand-bag containing a sliding receptacle positioned within the handbag and movable along the inside face of one of the outer walls of the hand-bag, with means for guiding the receptacle, said outer wall having an opening therein, means associated with said receptacle and passing through said opening and engageable from the exterior of said wall for sliding said receptacle with-

in the handbag and along said inside face of the outer wall to bring the contents of the receptacle into view at the mouth of the handbag, including a casing member for said receptacle, said casing member being completely open at the side facing the outer wall of the bag and being fastened to the said outer wall of the bag.

4. The combination with a handbag, of a casing member attached to the inside face of one of the outer walls of the bag, said casing being at least partly open at the front side thereof facing the said wall of the bag, a sliding receptacle movable within said casing, said outer wall having an opening in alignment with the opening at the front side of said casing, and means associated with said receptacle and passing through said openings and engageable from the exterior of said wall for sliding said receptacle to bring the contents thereof into view, a portion at the top of the front wall of the handbag being cut away to provide a recess whose lower edge is below the top edge of the remainder of the wall, the upper edge of the casing being substantially in line with the lower edge of the recess, and said opening being of a length corresponding to the extent of movement of the receptacle, and means connecting the sliding receptacle and casing to limit the upward movement of the receptacle to approximately the upper edge of the handbag wall.

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