

June 28, 1932.

G. E. HAINES

1,864,648

COMBINATION BATHING SUIT BAG, AIR PILLOW, AND AIR FLOAT OR BUOY

Filed Nov. 20, 1931

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

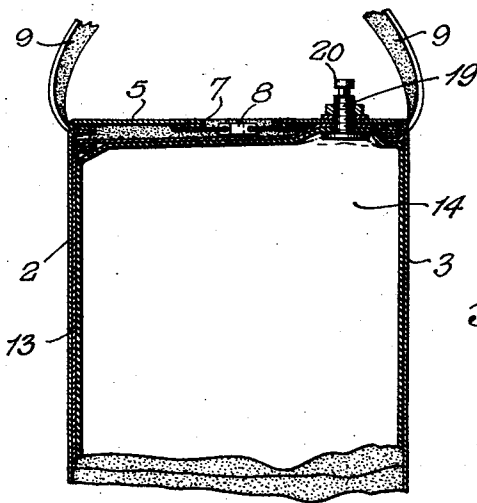
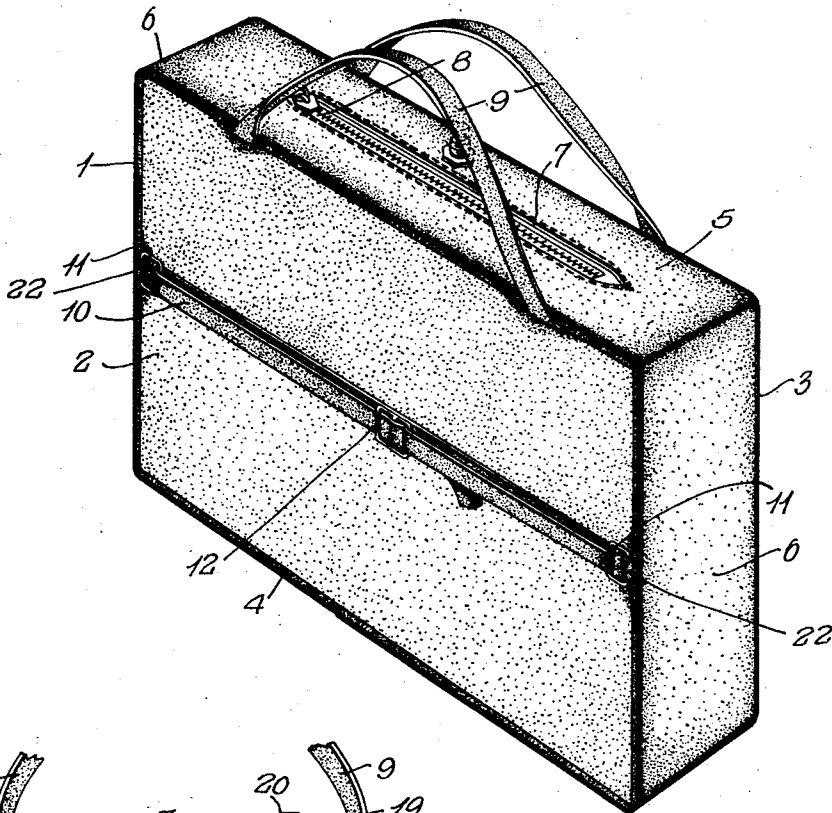


Fig. 2.

Inventor
George E. Haines.

By *William S. Haskins*
Attorney

June 28, 1932.

G. E. HAINES

1,864,648

COMBINATION BATHING SUIT BAG, AIR PILLOW, AND AIR FLOAT OR BUOY

Filed Nov. 20, 1931

3 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 3.

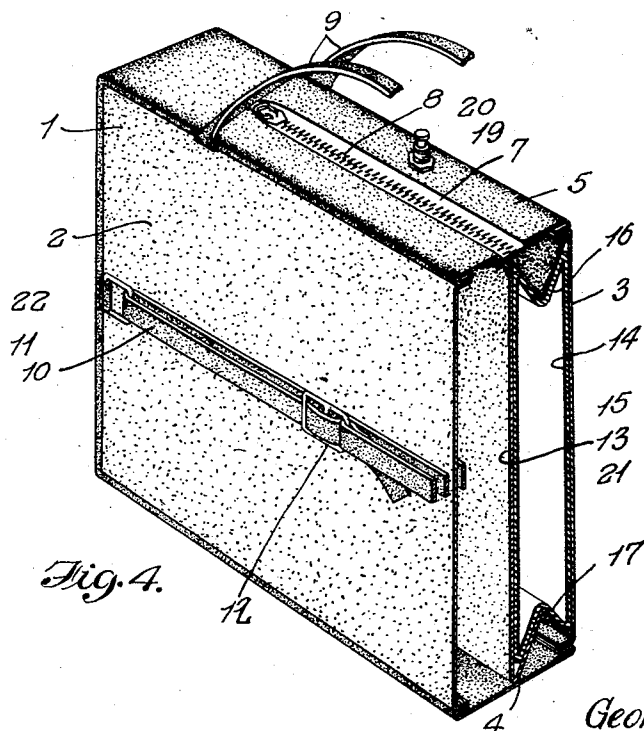
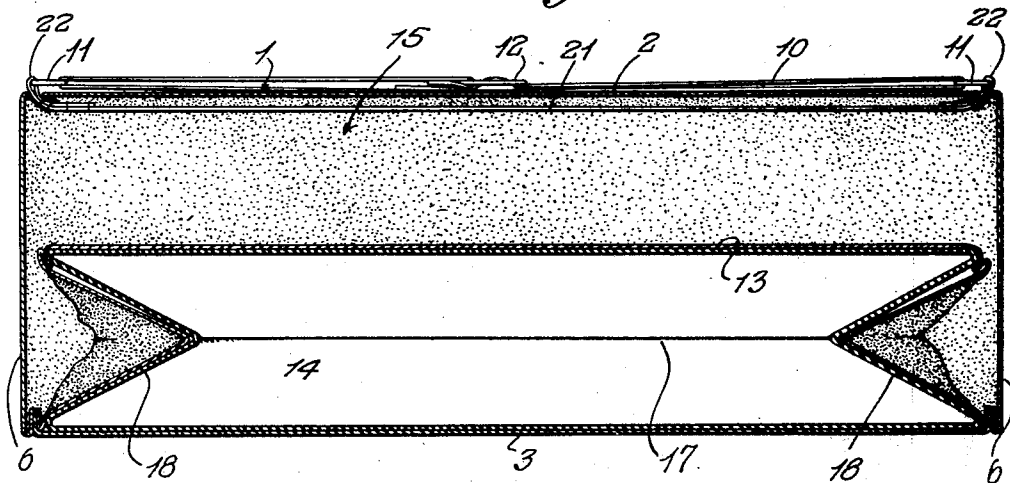


Fig. 4.

Inventor

George E. Haines.

By

Samuel S. Clarkson

Attorney

June 28, 1932.

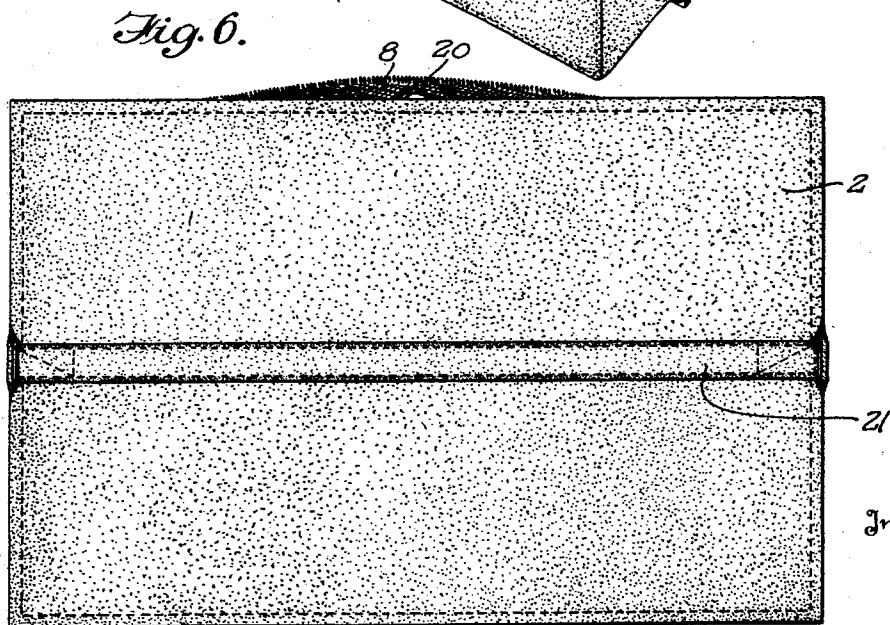
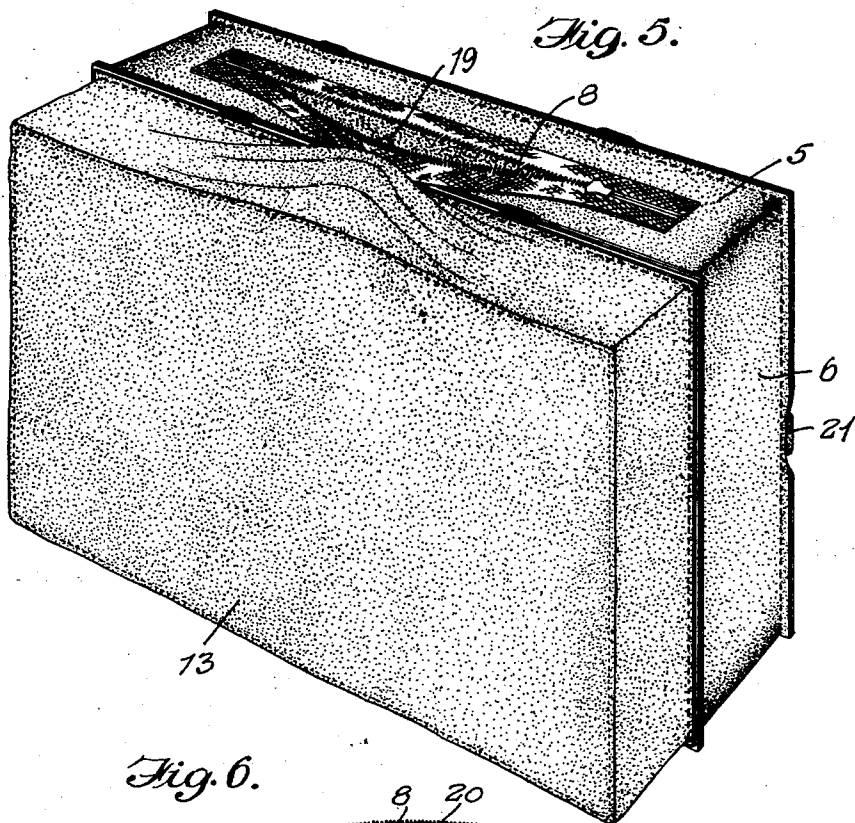
G. E. HAINES

1,864,648

COMBINATION BATHING SUIT BAG, AIR PILLOW, AND AIR FLOAT OR BUOY

Filed Nov. 20, 1931

3 Sheets-Sheet 3



Inventor

By *George E. Haines.*
Lawrence S. Clarkson
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

GEORGE E. HAINES, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO L. H. GILMER COMPANY, A CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY

COMBINATION BATHING SUIT BAG, AIR PILLOW, AND AIR FLOAT OR BUOY

Application filed November 20, 1931. Serial No. 576,389.

This invention relates to a combination bathing suit bag, air pillow and buoy or air float.

The main object of the invention is to provide a waterproof bag of this character in which a bathing suit in either a dry or wet condition may be conveniently carried, and one which will serve also as an air pillow or automobile or boat seat or back cushion, and as an air float or buoy for supporting a bather in the water.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel construction of bag containing an inflatable bladder or sack which may be inflated or not according to the use to which the bag is put at a particular time, which bladder or sack is held in a special compartment in such manner as to permit of its ready and free inflation and deflation and its inflation to a maximum extent without interference from the bag or its contents.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a bag of the character described having means whereby it may be carried in the hand or suspended from the waist or other part of the body of the wearer.

Still another object of the invention is to provide means for staying or reinforcing the bag against longitudinal distension when fully inflated and against any tendency to buckle, whereby the shape of the bag will always be preserved.

The invention consists of the features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts, hereinafter fully described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a closed device of the character described embodying my invention.

Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section through the upper portion of the same taken on a line intersecting the inflating and deflating tube.

Fig. 3 is a horizontal section through the device.

Fig. 4 is a sectional perspective view thereof, showing the air sack partially inflated.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the device

in outfolded condition, namely, turned inside out.

Fig. 6 is a side elevation of the device in the condition shown in Fig. 5 but looking toward the opposite side thereof.

In the exemplified embodiment of my invention I provide a device of the character described comprising a carrying bag or receptacle 1, preferably of oblong rectangular form and having side walls 2 and 3, bottom and top walls 4 and 5 and end walls 6. This bag or receptacle is made of a suitable waterproof material, preferably of flexible character, such as rubberized fabric, and is provided in its top or upper wall 5 with a longitudinal mouth or access opening 7 through which a bathing suit or suits and/or other articles may be inserted and removed. This opening 7 may be closed and held in closed position by any suitable construction of fastening means, such as a zipper type of fastener 8. Hand straps 9 secured to the sides of the bag near the top thereof adapt the bag to be carried in the hand in the manner of an ordinary suitcase. I may also provide the bag upon one of its sides, as the side 2, with a longitudinally extending adjustable loop strap 10 extending through and adjustably held in guide loops 11 arranged near the ends of the bag, which strap may be passed about the waist or other part of the body of the wearer to adapt the bag to be suspended therefrom. This strap 10 may be of any suitable length for the purpose and provided with a buckle or other suitable fastening 12 for adjustably uniting the ends thereof.

Disposed upon the interior of the bag is a separator or partition 13 made of thin rubberized cloth or other like waterproof fabric, which is properly formed and secured at its marginal edges to one of the walls, as the wall 3, of the bag so as to form with said wall a compartment or chamber to receive and hold an inflatable and deflatable air bladder or sack 14. This bladder or sack 14 is of relatively smaller dimensions than the bag but of the same general form and is loosely disposed within the compartment so as to be freely expandible and contractible without interference from any of the walls or por-

tions thereof. By this construction and expansible and contractible air chamber is provided within the bag with one of its side walls fixed with relation to one of the side walls of the bag, and with its other side wall movable toward and from the other side wall of the bag, whereby a storage compartment 15 of a variable width, depending upon whether the air chamber is inflated or deflated, or its degree of deflation, is disposed between the movable wall or side of the inflatable chamber and the side 2 of the bag. This compartment 15 is designed to receive one or more bathing suits or other articles to be held in the bag, and which will be separated by the flexible partition 13 from the inflatable bladder or sack 14, so that said bladder or sack may be freely inflated and deflated without interference with or interference from the contents of the storage compartment 15. The sack 14 may be, and preferably is, provided with infolding or expansible and contractible top, bottom and end walls 16, 17 and 18, as shown clearly in Figs. 3 and 4, adapting said bladder or sack to fold, when deflated, in compact condition against the side 3 of the bag, so that a storage chamber 15 of maximum width may be produced, and also adapting said bladder or sack to expand the full width of the bag, if desired. By this means the bladder or sack may be fully expanded when the compartment 15 is empty, or expanded to different degrees according to the amount of contents in the compartment 15, to adapt the bag to serve as an air cushion when either fully empty or partly filled or to serve, when empty or filled, as an air bag or buoy for supporting a person or article against sinking in the water.

The structure of the bag body and formation of the separator or partition 13 is such that the bladder receiving compartment produced thereby is sufficiently flexible to adapt the bag to be turned inside out, as shown in Figs. 5 and 6, allowing the bag to be readily cleaned inside and outside in a thorough manner at desired intervals in order to keep it in a sanitary and presentable condition. The air bladder or sack 14 has connected therewith a valve or inflating and deflating tube 19, extending outwardly through and suitably fixed to the top wall 5 of the bag, and provided with a valve or closure member 20 whereby said bladder or sack may be easily and conveniently inflated and deflated.

In use, the bag may be employed for holding a bathing suit or suits, and other similar bathing paraphernalia and provides a convenient means whereby such bathing articles may be carried by hand or in an automobile, boat or other vehicle to and from a bathing beach or pool, in either a dry or a wet condition, without coming in contact with other articles. The bag in partly or wholly inflated condition may also be used, when otherwise empty or partly filled, as a seat or back cushion

for the driver or pilot or a passenger of an automobile, boat or other vehicle. It may be kept in a suitably inflated condition when in a boat or on a wharf or dock near the water, so that, in the event of its fall into the water, it will float and may be recovered, thus preventing loss of the bag and its contents. When the bag is empty it may be inflated to a desired degree and used as an air float or buoy in the water, either attached to or free from attachment to a bather, to support the bather in the water or to serve as a life buoy to which a bather may cling when in danger of drowning. The bag is also adapted to serve other various similar and useful purposes and may be carried by a steamship passenger for general purposes and for use as an emergency life preserver in the event of danger.

In view of the fact that the wall 3 of the bag is stiffened and reinforced, relative to the wall 2, by the attachment thereto of the partition 13, whereby said wall 3 is stayed against linear distension, it is desirable to also provide means for similarly staying and reinforcing the wall 2 in order to prevent such wall from being linearly distended and straining or causing warping of the bag when the air sack is fully inflated, and particularly under conditions where the storage chamber is partly or fully filled and the sack inflated. To this end, I provide a longitudinal stay strap or band 21 which extends along the inner side of the wall 2 preferably directly opposite and in parallel relation to the strap 10, and the ends of this strap 21 may be folded upon themselves and projected outwardly to form attaching loops 22 to receive and hold the rings 11 attached to the bag. Other ways of applying the strap 21 may, however, be employed. It will be obvious that the strap 21 will resist linear distension of the wall 2 and all of such side of the bag, thus preventing the bag from being warped or unduly strained.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings, the construction and mode of use of my improved combination bathing suit bag, air pillow and buoy or air float will be readily understood and its advantages appreciated without a further and extended description. While the structure disclosed is preferred, it will, of course, be understood that changes in the construction, form and arrangement of parts may be made within the scope of the appended claims, without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

What I claim is:—

1. A combination bathing suit bag, air pillow and air float or buoy comprising a bag of flexible waterproof material, said bag having an access opening, a flexible partition on the interior of the bag secured to one of the side walls thereof and forming with said wall

a receiving compartment, an inflatable sack in said compartment, and means for inflating and deflating the same.

2. An article of the character described comprising a bag, a partition of flexible material secured to one of the sides of the bag and having a free side wall movable toward and from the opposite side wall of the bag, said partition forming with the first-named side of the bag a buoying compartment and with the second-named side of the bag a storage compartment, and an inflatable air sack disposed in said buoying compartment.

3. An article of the character described comprising an oblong rectangular bag of flexible waterproof material comprising side, bottom, top and end walls, said top wall being provided with a mouth or opening and means for closing the same, a flexible partition of waterproof material secured to one of the sides of the bag and having a wall portion movable toward and from the opposite side of the bag, said partition forming with the first-named side of the bag a storage compartment, and an inflatable air sack in said buoying compartment.

4. An article of the character described comprising an oblong rectangular bag of flexible waterproof material comprising side, bottom, top and end walls, said top wall being provided with a mouth or opening and means for closing the same, a flexible partition of waterproof material secured to one of the sides of the bag and having a wall portion movable toward and from the opposite side of the bag, said partition forming with the first-named side of the bag a storage compartment, a longitudinal stay secured at the ends of the bag and extending along one of the side walls, and an inflatable air sack in said buoying compartment.

5. An article of the character described comprising an oblong rectangular bag of flexible waterproof material comprising side, bottom, top and end walls, said top wall being provided with a mouth or opening and means for closing the same, a flexible partition of waterproof material secured to one of the sides of the bag and having a wall portion movable toward and from the opposite side of the bag, said partition forming with the first-named side of the bag a storage compartment, a carrying strap extending along the outer side of the second-named wall, a longitudinal stay extending along the inner side of one of the side walls, and an inflatable air sack in said buoying compartment.

6. An article of the character described comprising a flexible waterproof bag, a flexible waterproof receptacle on the interior of the bag fixed at one side with relation to one side of the bag and movable at its opposite side with relation to the opposite side of the bag, a longitudinal stay extending along the

latter-named side of the bag, and an inflatable sack in said receptacle.

7. An article of the character described comprising a flexible waterproof bag, a flexible waterproof receptacle on the interior of the bag fixed at one side with relation to one side of the bag and movable at its opposite side with relation to the opposite side of the bag, a suspending strap extending along the outer side of the second-named side of the bag, a longitudinal stay extending along the inner side of the second-named side of the bag, and an inflatable sack in said receptacle.

8. An article of the character described comprising an oblong rectangular bag made of flexible waterproof material and having side, bottom, top and end walls, said top wall being provided with a longitudinally extending mouth or access opening, a flexible waterproof partition on the inside of the bag secured to one of the side walls thereof and having a side wall free from connection with and movable with relation to the other side wall of the bag, said partition forming with the first-named side wall a buoying compartment and with the second-named side wall a storage compartment, and an inflatable sack in said buoying compartment, the bag and its said parts being of such flexibility and the said access opening of such length as to adapt the bag to be turned inside out through said opening.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
GEORGE E. HAINES.

100

105

110

115

120

125

130