Dec. 15, 1953 E. D. ZWEIGBAUM 2,662,619

BAG

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Fig. 1.

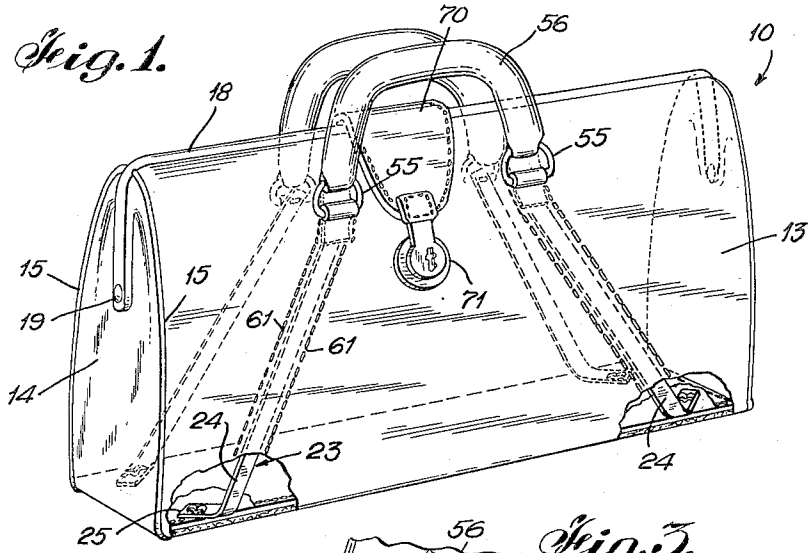


Fig. 2.

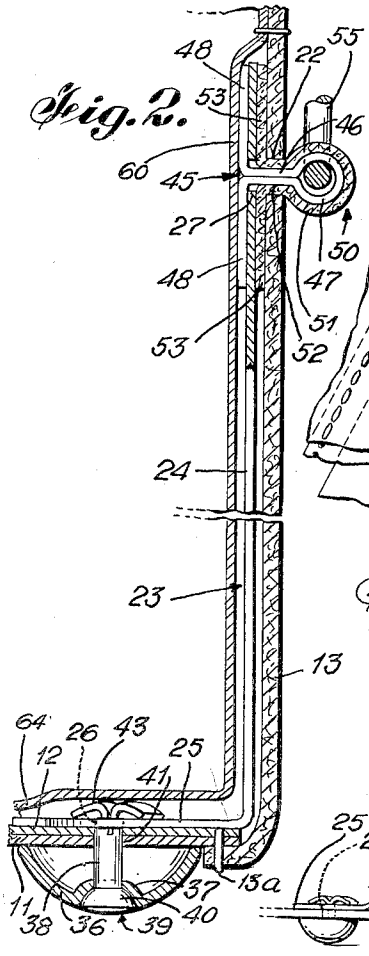


Fig. 3.

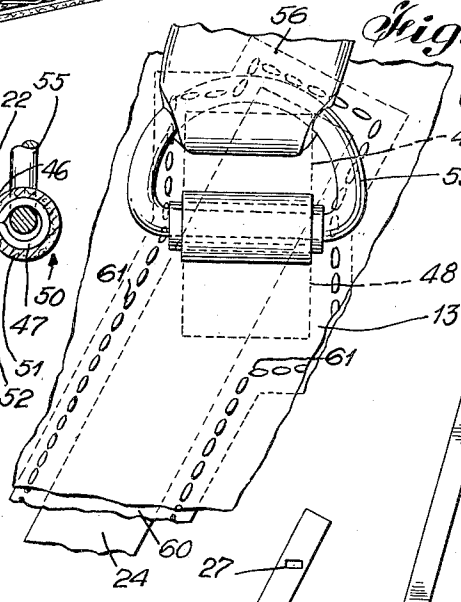


Fig. 4.

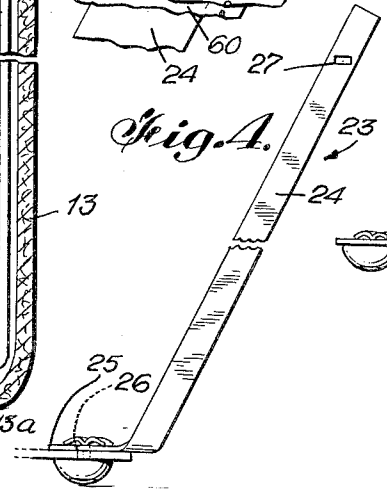
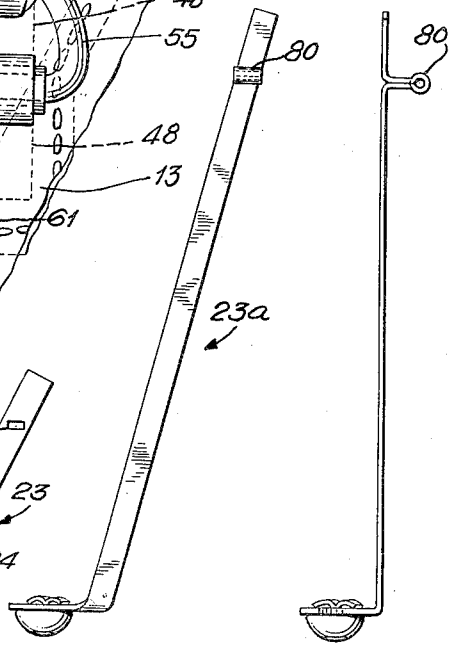


Fig. 5. Fig. 6.



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6 Claims. (Cl. 190—50)

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This invention relates to bags. It is particularly directed to briefcases and luggage of the club type which is provided with a pair of swivel or hinged handles at opposite sides of the open end of the bag.

An object of this invention is to provide in a bag of the character described, improved means to reinforce the side walls of the bag against collapse whereby to aid in retaining the shape of the bag.

Yet another object of this invention is to provide in a bag of the character described, a bag provided with a jaw frame at the bag opening and improved means for urging the jaws to open.

Yet another object of this invention is to provide a bag of the character described, having upwardly and inwardly curved side walls, and a jaw frame at the top opening of the bag, and spring metal reinforcing strips secured to the inner sides of the side walls of the bag, said strips extending from the lower corners of the bag upwardly and inwardly, buttons secured to the lower ends of the strips and disposed at the underside of the bag on which the bag may rest, and looped members on said strips extending through openings in the side walls of the bag for supporting rings to which the bag handles are attached, said strips serving to reinforce the side walls of the bag against collapse or distortion, and also serving to tend to open the bag.

Yet another object of this invention is to provide a strong, rugged, and durable bag of the character described, which shall be relatively inexpensive to manufacture, attractive in appearance, and yet practical and efficient to a high degree in use.

Other objects of this invention will in part be obvious and in part hereinafter pointed out.

The invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combinations of elements, and arrangement of parts, which will be exemplified in the construction hereinafter described, and of which the scope of invention will be indicated in the following claims.

In the accompanying drawings in which are shown various illustrative embodiments of this invention,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the bag embodying the invention with parts broken away and in cross-section;

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal cross-sectional view through one of the reinforcing strips of the bag;

Fig. 3 is a partial front perspective view illustrating the attachment of one end of the handle to one of the reinforcing strips;

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Fig. 4 is a front elevational view of the reinforcing strip and bottom button attachment thereto;

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 4 and illustrating a modified construction, and

Fig. 6 is a side elevational view of the structure shown in Fig. 5.

Referring now in detail to the drawing, 10 designates a bag embodying the invention here shown for the purpose of illustration in the form of a club bag, it being understood that the invention may be applied to other types of bags, briefcases and various types of luggage.

The bag 10 comprises a bottom wall 11 which may be made of leather or like material. Attached to the upper side of the bottom wall 11 is a reinforcing board 12 which may be made of cardboard, fiberboard or any other suitable material.

Attached to the sides of the superimposed walls 11, 12 are side walls 13 which may be of leather or any other suitable material, of which the outer sides of the bag are made. The walls 13 are curved upwardly and inwardly as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawing. Also attached to the ends of the superimposed walls 11, 12 are end walls 14 which may be seamed to the side walls 13 by seams 15. The side walls 13, end walls 14 and the bottom walls 11, 12 may be of usual construction.

The side walls may be attached to the bottom walls by stitching 13a. At the seams 15, furthermore, there may be beading or piping in the usual manner.

The bag is opened at the top. At the top of the bag is a pivoted jaw frame 18 of usual construction attached to the walls 13 and 14 and comprising a pair of jaws interpivoted as at 19, likewise in accordance with the usual construction.

In accordance with the present invention, each of the side walls 13 is formed with a pair of spaced aligned horizontal narrow slots 22, for the purpose hereinafter appearing. At the inside of each side wall 13 is a pair of symmetrical spring metal strips 23. Each spring strip 23 has an upwardly and inwardly inclined portion 24 contacting the inner surface of the side wall. At the lower end of each portion 24 is an outwardly inclined offset foot 25 disposed in a horizontal plane and contacting the top surface of wall 12. Foot 25 is inclined toward the end wall 14, and overlies the corner of the superimposed walls 11, 12. It is formed with a through opening 26, for the purpose hereinafter appearing. The strip portion 24 is formed with an open-

ing 27 aligned with one of the slots 22, for the purpose hereinafter appearing.

At the underside of wall 11 is a hollow metal dome-shaped button 36 of substantially hemispherical shape, the upper edges of which touch the underside of the wall 11. The center of the button is formed with an apertured recess 37 through which extends the shank 38 of the split rivet 39. The head 40 of the rivet is received within the recess 37. The shank 38 passes through staple registering openings 41 in the walls 11, 12 and through the opening 26 in the foot 25.

Extending from the shank 38 are a pair of split bendable fingers 43 which are bent outwardly against the upper surface of the foot 25 thereby firmly anchoring the button 36 to the bag. The bag is thus provided with four corner buttons on which the bag may rest.

Attached to each strip 23 is a fastener or staple 45. Each staple 45 has a pair of contacting portions 46 passing through the opening 27 in the strip 23 and through slot 22 in the side wall 13 registering therewith. The contacting portions 46 diverge and form a loop 47 which projects forwardly or outwardly of the wall 13. Extending from the inner ends of said contacting portions 46 are bent back fingers 48 which contact the inner side of the strip portion 24.

A gasket or covering 50 for the fastener or staple may be provided. Said gasket or lining may be made of leather or any other suitable soft or flexible material. The member 50 comprises a loop portion 51 covering the loop 47. Extending from the portion 51 are portions 52 which contact the outer sides of said portions 46. Said portions 52 pass through the slot 22. Extending from said portions 52 are portions 53 which contact the inner side of wall 13 and are interposed between said wall and the strip portion 24.

Swiveled to each loop 47 is a split ring 55. The rings 55 on each side of the bag are interconnected by a usual luggage handle 56 formed with usual openings through which the ring passes.

Stitched to the inside of each side wall 13 is a pair of strips 60 of leather or any other suitable material to cover the strips 23. Each covering strip 60 may be stitched to the side wall 13 by means of parallel inclined lines of stitching 61. The strips 60 may be extended as at 64 to cover the bent back fingers 43 of the rivet 39.

It will now be understood that the strips 23 serve to anchor the staples or fasteners to which the handles are attached thereby providing a strong and yet relatively inexpensive means of anchoring the handles to the bag. Furthermore, they support the supporting buttons 36.

It will be further understood that the strips 23 serve to support the bag against collapse either by crushing downwardly or when force is exerted inwardly at the ends of the bag. The strip portions 24 are normally straight and when the bag is closed the strips are under tension. The bag may be provided with any suitable latching means to retain the bag in closed position. Thus, for example, the tab 70 may be attached to one side of the bag overlapping the opening of the bag and provided with a usual hasp to be secured to a locking means 71 attached to the side of the bag. When the bag is unlatched or unlocked, the springs 23 tend to open the bag and to retain it open so as to facilitate inserting articles into the bag or taking them out.

In Figs. 5 and 6 there is shown a spring strip 23a similar to spring strip 23 except that it is not formed with a slot 27. Instead, it is formed with an integral offset loop portion 80 which passes through the opening 22 and it may be covered by a covering member 50. The rings 55 may then be engaged with the loop portions 80 in the same way as they engage the loop portions 47 of the staples 45.

It will thus be seen that there is provided a device in which the several objects of this invention are achieved and which is well adapted to meet the conditions of practical use.

As various possible embodiments might be made of the above invention, and as various changes might be made in the embodiment above set forth, it is to be understood that all matter herein set forth or shown in the accompanying drawings is to be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States:

1. A bag having a bottom wall, side walls and end walls and being provided with a jaw frame at the top open end of the bag, a pair of similar symmetrical strips of springy material contacting the inner surfaces of the side walls of the bag, each side wall being formed with a pair of spaced horizontal aligned slots, said strips being formed with openings registering with said slots, fasteners passing through the openings in the strips and through said slots in the side wall, each fastener having a loop at the outside of the bag, rings engaging said loops and handles interconnecting the rings at each side of the bag.

2. A bag having a bottom wall, side walls and end walls and being provided with a jaw frame at the top open end of the bag, a pair of similar symmetrical strips of springy material contacting the inner surfaces of the side walls of the bag, each side wall being formed with a pair of spaced horizontal aligned slots, said strips being formed with openings registering with said slots, fasteners passing through the openings in the strips and through said slots in the side wall, each fastener having a loop at the outside of the bag, rings engaging said loops and handles interconnecting the rings at each side of the bag, said strips each having an offset foot at its lower end overlying the upper side of the bottom wall at a corner of the bag, a button at the underside of the bottom wall of the bag, and a stud interconnecting the buttons with said feet, and a covering for each fastener having a portion surrounding the loop, and portions passing through the slot in the side wall of the bag, and portions interposed between the strip and the side wall of the bag, and means stitched to the inside of the side walls of the bag and covering said strips.

3. A bag having a bottom wall, side walls and end walls and being provided with a jaw frame at the top open end of the bag, a pair of similar symmetrical strips of springy material contacting the inner surfaces of the side walls of the bag, each side wall being formed with a pair of spaced horizontal aligned slots, said strips being formed with openings registering with said slots, fasteners passing through the openings in the strips and through said slots in the side wall, each fastener having a loop at the outside of the bag, rings engaging said loops, and handles interconnecting the rings at each side of the bag, said strips each having an offset foot at its lower end overlying the upper side of the

bottom wall at a corner of the bag, buttons at the underside of the bottom wall of the bag, and studs interconnecting the buttons with said feet.

4. The combination of claim 3 and a covering for each fastener having a portion surrounding the loop, and portions passing through the slot in the side wall of the bag, and portions interposed between the strip and the side wall of the bag.

5. A bag having a bottom wall, side walls and end walls, strips of springy material, having bent feet with through openings therein, at their bottoms, and being formed with through openings near their upper ends, the side walls of said bag and said bottom wall of the bag having through openings therethrough registering with said through openings in the said strips, means passing through said registering through openings in said bag bottom and in the feet of said strip for securing the bottom wall of said bag to the said strips, a pair of handles, and means passing through the registering openings in said strips and side walls for attachment of said handles to the outer sides of said side walls of the bag and to anchor the top ends of the strips

to the side walls of the bag and to said handles.

6. The combination of claim 5, said bag having a pivoted jaw frame with conventional locking means attached thereto, said strips of springy material spreading said jaws and maintaining them in opened position when said locking means is in unsecured position.

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