

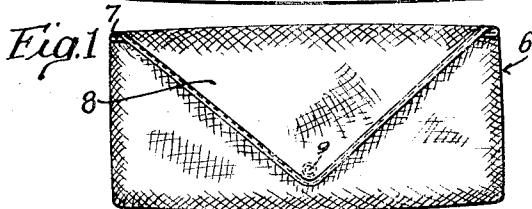
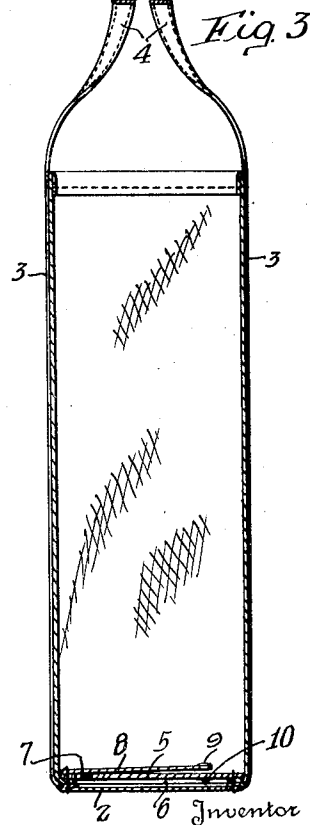
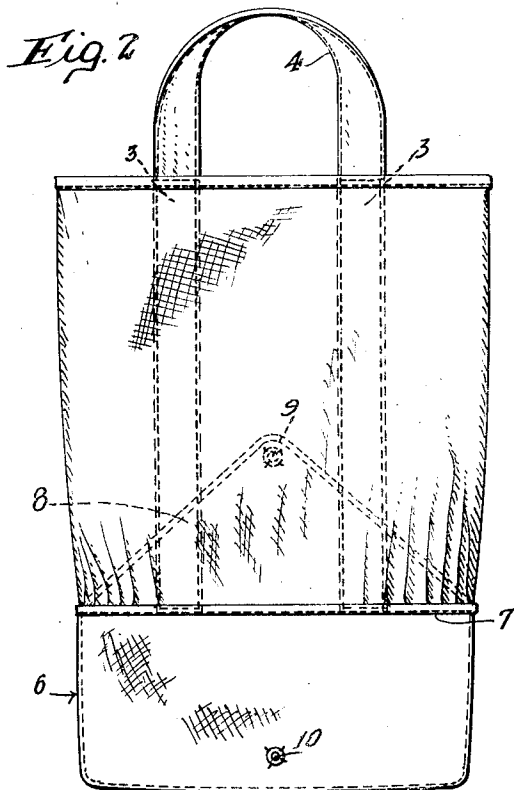
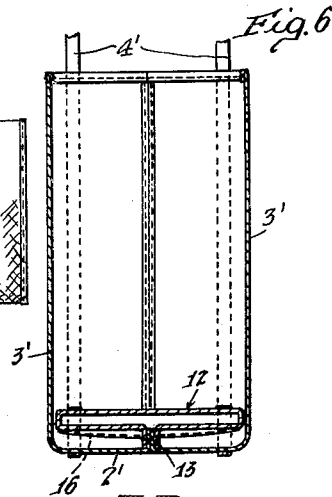
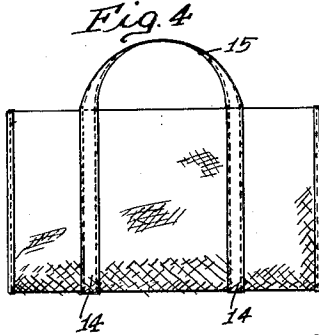
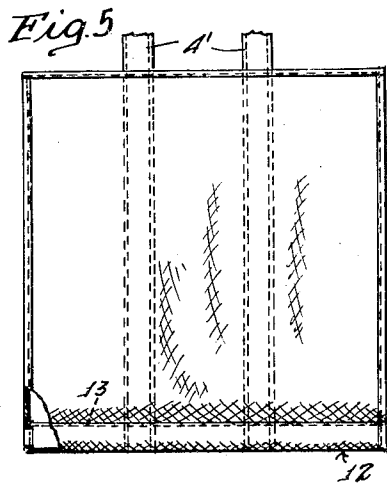
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M. M. DAVENPORT

2,164,641

BAG

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Margaret M. Davenport

By *Lyon & Lyon* Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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Margaret M. Davenport, Los Angeles, Calif.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 150—1.7)

This invention relates to shopping bags and the like of relatively large dimensions and constructed of flexible material and has, as a broad object, to provide such a bag so constructed that when not being used for carrying articles it can be folded into a relatively small self-contained package.

Essentially a bag in accordance with the present invention consists of the usual containing envelope of flexible foldable material with or without carrying handles at the open end, having formed integrally therewith an inner wall of relatively small dimensions, which inner wall co-operates with the juxtaposed portion of the main wall to define an envelope into which the remainder of the wall material defining the rest of the bag, together with the handles, if any, can be folded or tucked away in a simple manner. The inner wall is preferably provided with a flap secured to its open edge and adapted to be fastened to the inner wall to completely enclose the envelope or package when the bag is contained therein.

A full understanding of the invention can be had from the following detailed description of certain specific embodiments of the invention, it being understood that various modifications can be made from the specific constructions shown without departing from the invention as defined in the appended claim.

In the drawing

Fig. 1 is a front view of a bag in accordance with the invention, when in folded condition.

Fig. 2 is a view of one side of the bag with the bottom turned up, the bag being in partially open condition.

Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view through the bag when in fully open condition for carrying articles.

Fig. 4 is a side view of an alternative form of bag in accordance with the invention when in folded condition.

Fig. 5 is a view of one side of the bag in Fig. 4 with the bag in expanded form, but turned inside out preliminary to folding into the form shown in Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a vertical sectional view through the bag of Fig. 4, the bag being in fully opened position for carrying articles.

Referring first to Fig. 3, the bag therein disclosed comprises a main wall, consisting of any foldable material, such as cloth, tough flexible paper, rubberized fabric, leather, imitation leather, etc., this wall having four side sections and a rectangular bottom section 2. The walls

may be formed integrally in one piece or from several sections of material sewed together, the particular manner of joining the different wall sections being immaterial. For carrying purposes the particular bag disclosed is provided with strap members 3 which extend down the outer side walls of the bag across and below the bottom wall 2 of the bag and extend above the upper edges of the side walls to form loops 4 serving as handles. The structure so far described is in accordance with the well-known practice.

To define an envelope into which the bag may be compactly folded when not in use, a false bottom wall 5 is provided, this wall being of substantially the same dimensions as the main bottom wall 2 and secured to the latter along three sides, thereby defining an envelope space 6 in the bottom of the bag. This space 6 is open along one side adjacent one edge 7 of the bottom wall 2. A flap 8 of substantially triangular shape, as shown in Fig. 1, is secured to the edge 7 of the wall member 5, this flap being provided with a fastening device 9 on the free edge. A cooperating fastening device 10 is secured to the inner or bottom surface of the false bottom wall 5.

When in opened condition, as shown in Fig. 3, the bag resembles any conventional shopping bag in outward appearance, the false bottom 5 and the flap 8 being completely concealed from view in the bottom of the bag.

To fold the bag, the bag itself is first turned completely inside-out whereby the false bottom wall 5 is positioned exterior of the bag. Then the envelope defined by the bottom wall 2 and the false bottom wall 5 is turned inside-out, this operation carrying a portion of the side wall connected to the closed end of the envelope 6 into the envelope the remainder of the bag extending out of the envelope as shown in Fig. 2. The remainder of the side walls and the handle 4 are then worked into the envelope either by folding the material or merely stuffing it into the envelope. Prior to the insertion of the upper portion of the bag into the envelope the flap 8 is positioned on the opposite side of the bag from the open edge 7 of the wall 5, as shown in Fig. 2. The envelope is then closed into the condition shown in Fig. 1 by swinging the flap 8 flat against the false bottom wall 5 and securing it in place by engaging the fastener elements 9 and 10.

The fastener elements 9 and 10 may be of any well-known type. Snap fasteners have been shown in the drawing but it is immaterial what particular type of fastener is employed.

Although I have found it convenient to locate

the inner wall 5 in the bottom of a bag, as shown, and make it of the same dimensions as the bottom wall, if desired the pocket may be positioned anywhere on the inside wall of the bag. By
 5 attaching the inner wall 5 to one of the side walls adjacent the top of the bag with the open edge 7 at the top, the pocket may be used to carry small objects when the bag is in use in addition to
 10 performing its function of containing the bag when the latter is not in use for carrying purposes.

A modified form of construction is shown in Figs. 4, 5 and 6. This construction differs from that previously described in that the receptacle
 15 into which the bag is folded when not in use comprises a separate tubular member attached to the inner surface of the bag and normally concealed within the bag.

Thus referring to Figs. 4, 5 and 6, the invention
 20 comprises a bag having side walls 3' carrying straps 4' and an inner receptacle 12 which, as shown, is positioned within the bottom of the bag and connected to the bottom wall 2' along the center line thereof by stitching 13. The
 25 inner member 12 comprises a continuous band open at both ends and having straps 14 terminating in a carrying handle 15 on the inner surface of the member. The end edges of the lower half of the tubular member 12 may be stitched, as
 30 indicated at 16, to the ends of the bottom wall of the bag, although this is not essential.

The bag of Figs. 4, 5 and 6 is manipulated in the same way as the bag shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3. Thus to convert the bag from open condition, as
 35 shown in Fig. 6 to folded condition as shown in Fig. 4, the entire bag 3' is first turned inside-

out as shown in Fig. 5. This places the tubular member 12 on the exterior of the bag. The tubular member 12 then in turn is turned inside-out, the rest of the bag being folded into the member 12 during the operation. When the member 12
 5 has been turned completely inside-out with the rest of the bag contained therewithin it has the appearance indicated in Fig. 4. The tubular member 12 is preferably so dimensioned as to be
 10 tightly filled by the remainder of the bag when it has been inserted therein so that the pressure on the walls of the tubular member of the folded bag element therewithin is sufficient to maintain it in position and prevent its escape from the
 15 open ends of the member 12.

As previously indicated, various departures from the particular construction disclosed in the drawing can be made without departing from the invention, and the latter is to be limited only to the extent set forth in the appended claim. 20

I claim:

A bag having main walls of flexible material, an inner wall of relatively small dimensions secured to the inner surface of one of said main walls and defining with the juxtaposed portion of
 25 the main wall an envelope open along one edge, a flap connected to said one edge of said inner wall and cooperating fastening means on said flap and on that surface of said inner wall which is within said pocket when the bag is in open
 30 position, said envelope being adapted to completely contain said bag when the bag is turned inside-out and then said envelope turned inside-out and said flap secured to said inner wall with
 35 said fastening means.

MARGARET M. DAVENPORT.