Sept. 10, 1940. W. BRACKEN 2,214,118

SUITCASE OR OTHER ARTICLE OF LUGGAGE

Filed Oct. 20, 1938

Fig. 1

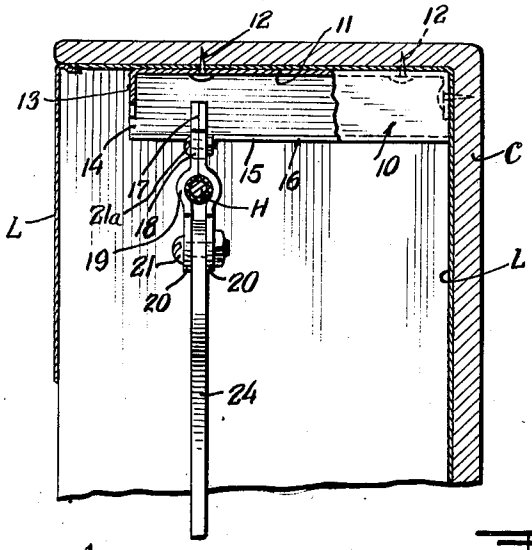


Fig. 5

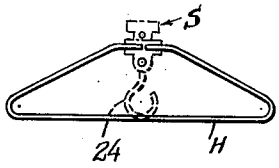


Fig. 2

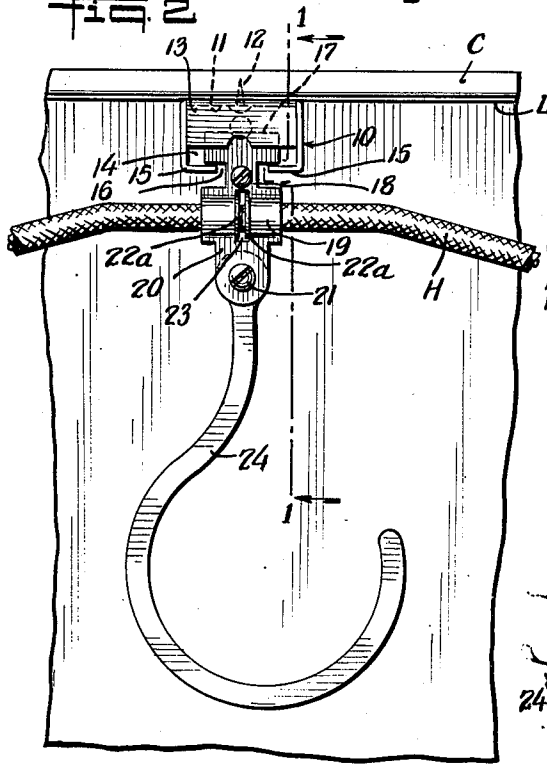


Fig. 3

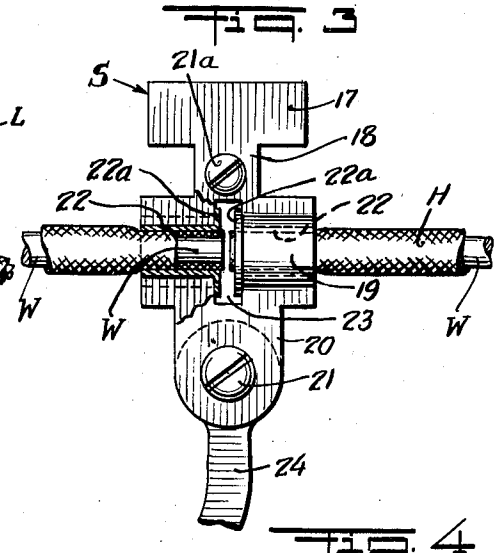
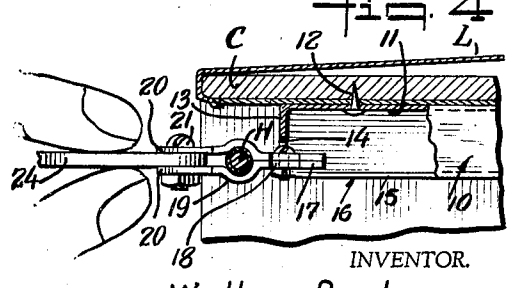


Fig. 4



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SUITCASE OR OTHER ARTICLE OF LUGGAGE

Wallace Bracken, Rye, N. Y.

Application October 20, 1938, Serial No. 235,948

3 Claims. (Cl. 312—176)

My invention relates to improvements in a suitcase or other article of luggage.

The main object of my invention is to provide the cover of a suitcase with means for detachably and slidably connecting a number of hangers to said cover.

Another object is to provide a cover having a bracket which is shaped slidably to receive a number of hangers and to slidably support said hangers. These hangers are normally non-removable from said bracket, but they can be removed by tilting the supports of the hangers in predetermined relation to said bracket. This prevents accidental removal of the hangers from the bracket, and likewise makes it possible to remove the hangers from the cover of the suitcase and the like, when this is desired, so that the hangers can be used independently of the cover of the suitcase.

Another object of the invention is to provide a very simple device for this purpose which has a minimum number of parts, which is simple and easy to operate, and which will not get out of order.

Other objects of the invention will be stated in the annexed description and drawing which illustrate a preferred embodiment thereof, it being understood that the above general statement of the objects of the invention is not intended to limit the invention.

Fig. 1 is a sectional view on the line 1—1 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 2 is a front elevation showing a hanger located in the supporting bracket.

Fig. 3 is a detail front elevation of the hanger, partially in section.

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 1, showing how the support for the hanger is tilted, in order to remove the hanger from the supporting bracket.

Fig. 5 is an elevation of the hanger on a greatly reduced scale.

The invention is shown as applied to the cover C of a conventional suitcase or the like. This cover C is provided with a lining L, part of which extends beyond the adjacent wall of the cover C, in the form of a flap. This flap can be used for covering the garments which are supported upon the hangers. Since this flap is of conventional construction, it is not illustrated in detail.

A support or bracket 10 has a wall 11 thereof connected to a wall of the cover C, by means of nails or other fastening members 12. This bracket 10 is provided with a lip 13 at its front. This lip 13 is provided with a notch, as shown in Fig. 2. The bracket 10 has wall-portions 15 which are opposed to the wall 11, and said wall-portions 15 have their edges separated from each other so as to provide a slideway 16, as shown in Fig. 2. The bracket 10 can be made of metal or any other suitable material. The hanger can be made of a piece of wire W which is bent into the shape as shown in Fig. 5. This wire W is covered by a sleeve H made of cloth or any other suitable soft material. The sleeve can be applied to the wire while the wire is straight, and the wire and sleeve can then be bent into final form. The hanger preferably has the shape shown in Fig. 5, so that it can support a coat and a pair of trousers. As shown in Fig. 5, the adjacent ends of the wire W and of the sleeve H are separated from each other. The hanger is provided with relatively turnable supporting means for holding the same suspended from the the slotted bottom wall of the bracket 10. These supporting means consist of two identical members S. Each member S has a half-sleeve portion 19, and a T-head 17 which is integral with said half-sleeve 19. Each half-sleeve 19 is provided with a slot 23. The adjacent separated ends of the hanger are provided with bushings having shanks 22 of sleeve-like shape, which clamp the ends of the fabric sleeve H to the ends of the wire W. These bushings 22 have enlarged heads 22*a*. When the two turnable supporting members are assembled, the heads 22*a* are located in the slots 23 of the half-sleeves of the supporting members, so that the assembled supporting members can turn freely relative to said bushings and relative to the hanger H. The half-sleeve members 19 fit closely and turnably upon the shanks 22 of the bushings, which are rigidly and immovably clamped to the ends of the hanger. The opposed walls of the heads 22*a* substantially abut the adjacent walls of the openings 23, so that the assembled supporting members are prevented from shifting laterally relative to said bushings. The supporting members S are connected to each other by suitable means which are located on opposite sides of the half-sleeve members 19. A screw 21*a* and a suitable nut connect the necks 18 of the supporting members S to each other at one side of the half-sleeves 19, and a screw 21 and another nut connect the flanges 20 of the members S to each other at the other side of said half-sleeves 19. The screw 21 also serves turnably to support the usual hook 24.

In order to insert the assembled supporting members S into the bracket 10, the assembled supporting members S are turned relative to the

hanger, until the hook 24 is substantially perpendicular to the plane of the hanger, as shown in Fig. 4. The T-heads 17 can then be inserted between the wall-portions 15 and the lip 13, through the opening 14. Said assembled heads fit snugly but slidably between the vertical walls of bracket 10 (referring to Fig. 2) and the assembled necks 18 may fit snugly but slidably in slideway 16. As soon as the assembled T-heads 17 have been inserted sufficiently, the assembled supporting members S can then be turned relative to the hanger until the hook 24 is in the plane of the hanger, as shown in Fig. 2 and Fig. 5. The assembled necks 18 are then located in the slideway 16, and the assembled heads 17 slidably support the hanger on members 15. Any suitable number of hangers can thus be inserted into the bracket 10. Each hanger is non-removable from the bracket 10 until its assembled supporting members S are turned relative to the hanger to the position shown in Fig. 4, so that the assembled T-heads 17 can pass through the opening 14. When the hanger has been removed from the cover of the suitcase, the assembled supporting members S can be turned until the hook 24 is located above the hanger. The hanger can then be used in the usual manner, as the hook 24 can then support the hanger from a hook in a closet or the like.

As shown in Fig. 5, the hook 24 is located wholly within the walls of the hanger, when the device is suspended from the bracket 10.

While the invention is particularly useful in connection with the cover of a suitcase or the like, said invention can be used in any other location.

The improved device therefore clamps the ends of sleeve H to the core-wire W by means which also provide a bearing for the swivelled support.

The designation T-head in the claims generally covers heads which are wider than the necks 18, and the claims are not limited to said specific shape. For convenience in defining the invention in the claims, it is assumed that member 10 is held with its top wall 11 horizontal and located above members 15.

Numerous changes and omissions can be made without departing from the scope of the invention.

I claim:

1. In combination, hanger-supporting means having a top wall and a bottom wall and side walls, said top wall having a depending lip at its front end, the bottom of said lip being spaced from the bottom wall to provide an opening, said bottom wall having a longitudinal slot, a hanger having a core and a sleeve which covers said core, said core and sleeve having separated adjacent ends, bushings located at said ends and having bodies which clamp the ends of the sleeve to the ends of the core, said bushings having enlarged heads which are adjacent each other, a support swivelled on said hanger, said support comprising two supporting members, each supporting member having a half-sleeve which is intermediate a T-head and a hook-supporting member, each half-sleeve having a slot, said supporting members being connected to each other with said slots in registration, said enlarged heads being located in said slots, said half-sleeves being mounted turnably on the bodies of said bushings, and a hook connected to said hook-supporting members, the height of the assembled T-heads exceeding the height of said opening, the thickness of said assembled T-heads being less than the height of said opening, the assembled T-heads having necks which are slidably located in said slot.

2. In combination, a bracket having a top wall and vertical walls and a bottom wall, said bottom wall having a longitudinal slot, said top wall having a depending lip at its front end, the bottom of said lip being spaced from the bottom wall to provide an opening, a hanger having a support swivelled thereto, said support having bearing means turnably embracing a portion of the hanger, said means having a T-head projecting therefrom at one side, said T-head including a neck which is shaped to slide in said slot and a head which is shaped to slide in said bracket between its top and bottom walls, the height of said T-head exceeding the height of said opening, the thickness of said T-head being less than the height of said opening, so that the T-head can be inserted in and be removed from said bracket when the plane of said T-head is parallel to said top wall.

3. In combination, a bracket having a top wall and vertical walls and a bottom wall, said bottom wall having a longitudinal slot, said top wall having a depending lip at its front end, the bottom of said lip being spaced from the bottom wall to provide an opening, a hanger having a support swivelled thereto, said support having bearing means turnably embracing a portion of the hanger, said means having a T-head projecting therefrom at one side, said T-head including a neck which is shaped to slide in said slot and a head which is shaped to slide in said bracket between its top and bottom walls, the height of said T-head exceeding the height of said opening, the thickness of said T-head being less than the height of said opening, so that the T-head can be inserted in and be removed from said bracket when the plane of said T-head is parallel to said top wall, said bearing means also having hook-supporting means projecting therefrom, and a hook connected to said hook-supporting means.

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