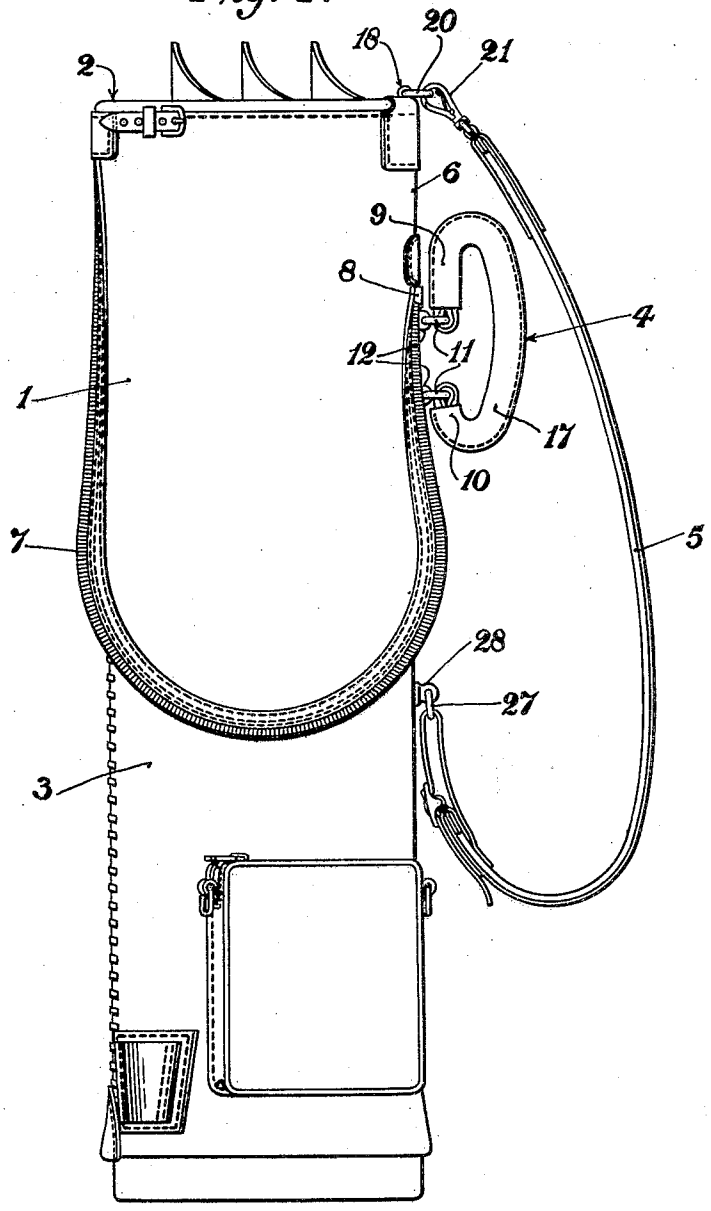
Feb. 9, 1932. P. A. MARTIN 1,844,068

GOLF BAG

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Fig. 1.



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GOLF BAG

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Fig. 2.

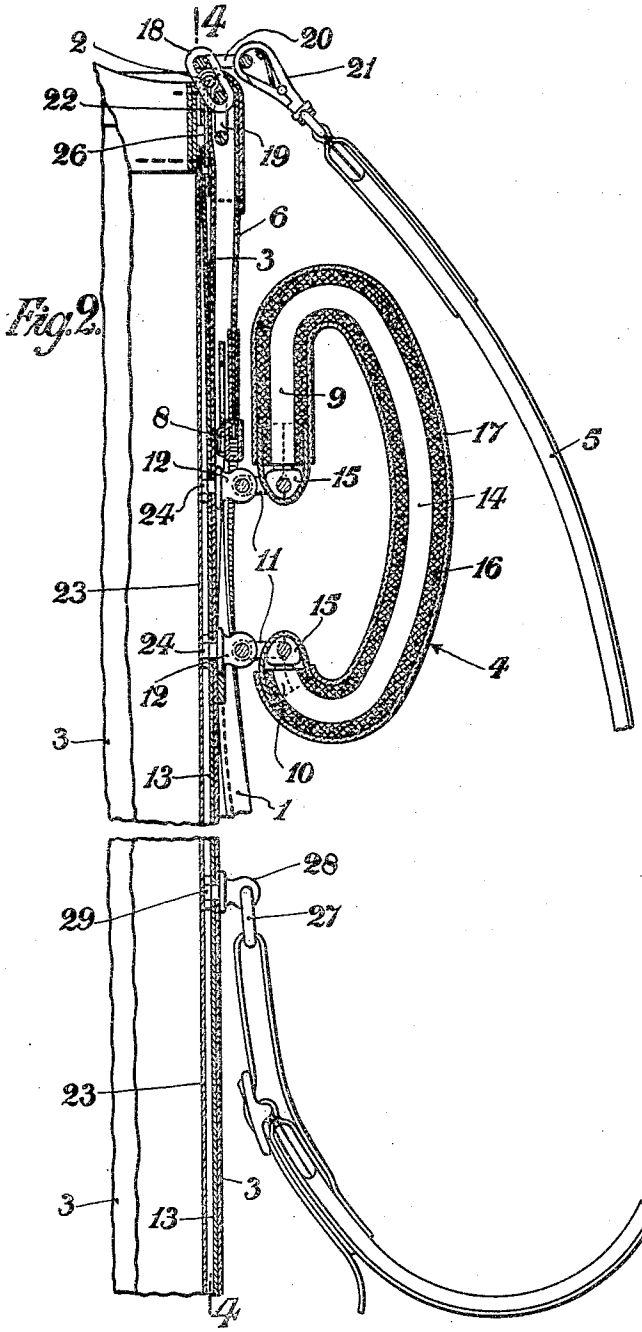
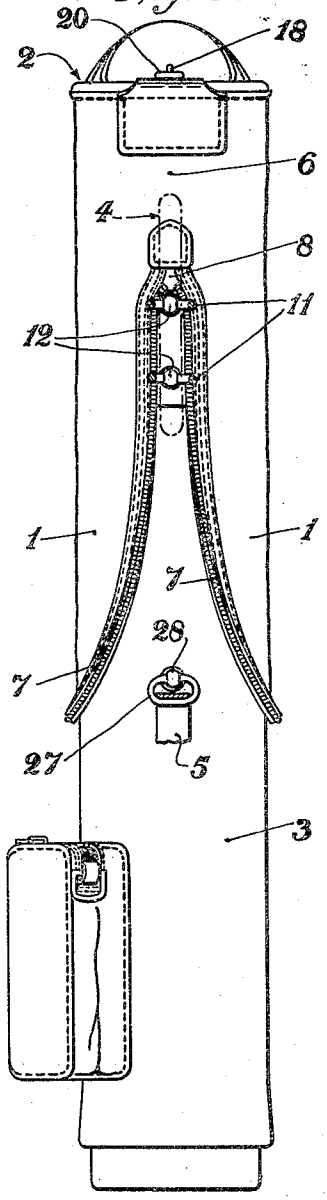


Fig. 3.



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Fig. 4.

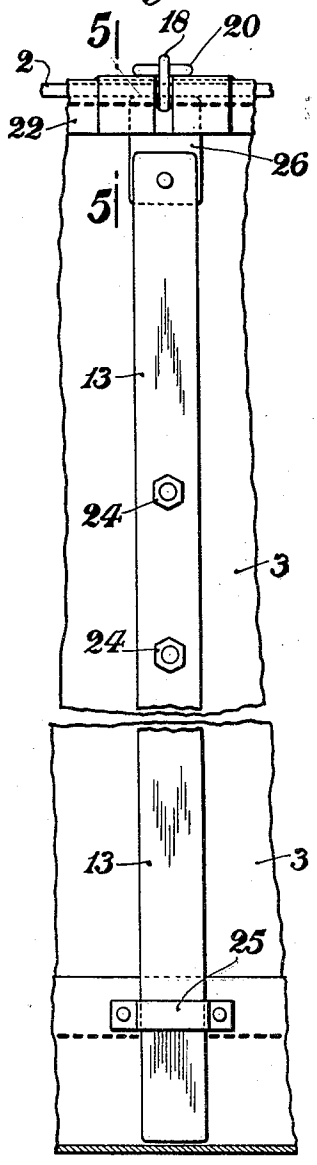


Fig. 6.

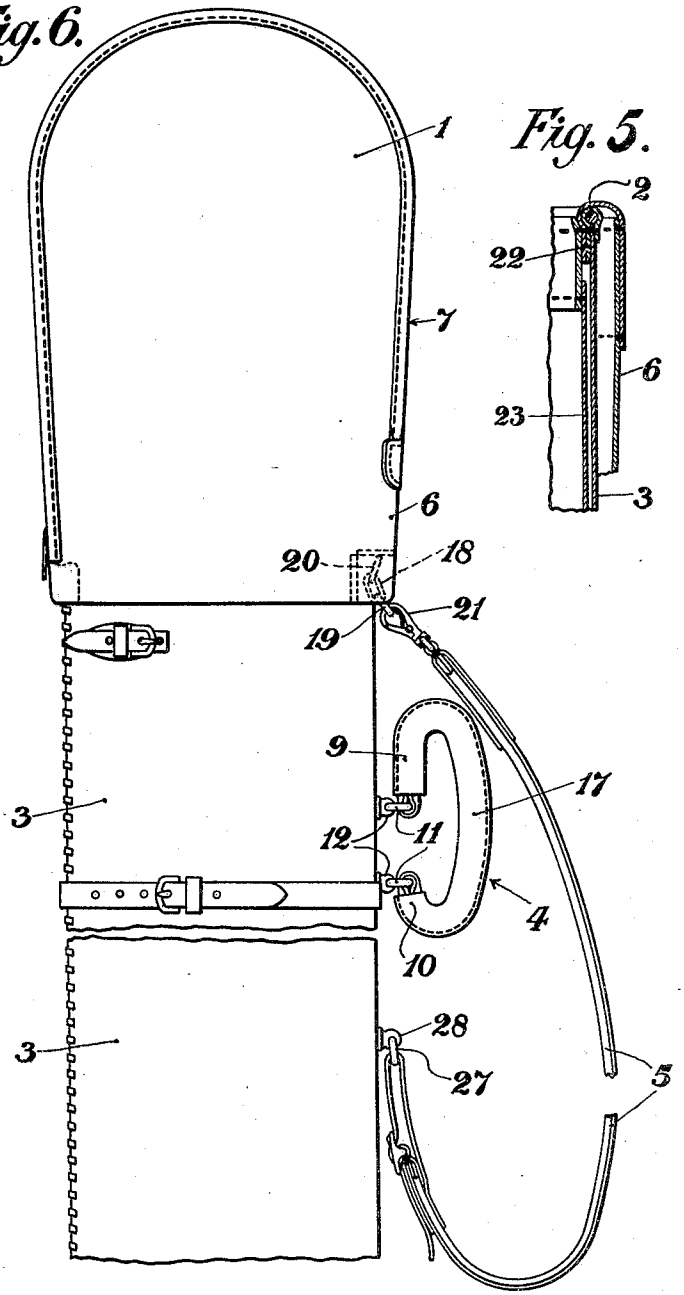


Fig. 5.

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GOLF BAG

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Fig. 7.

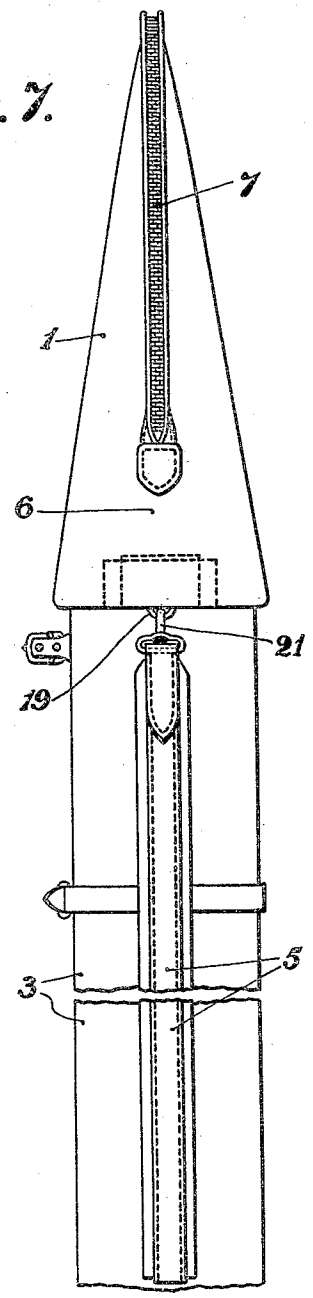
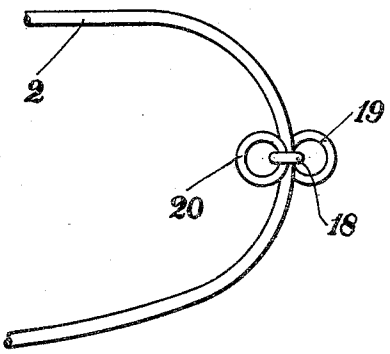


Fig. 8.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

PATRICK ALPHONSUS MARTIN, OF BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND

GOLF BAG

Application filed February 26, 1931, Serial No. 518,331, and in Great Britain November 18, 1930.

This invention relates to golf bags for holding golf clubs, the said bags being particularly of that kind in which a flexible hood is fitted to the top or open end for the purpose of enclosing and protecting the clubs, the said hood being permanently secured to the body of the bag around its entire lower edge and having an opening extending from one edge for a suitable distance towards the opposite edge, the said opening being adapted to be closed by suitable fastening means, such as a sliding clasp causing the engagement of rows of interlocking elements on the opposite edges of the opening.

In hooded golf bags of this type it is desirable that when the bag is being carried by the usual shoulder sling in a more or less horizontal position the hood should open from the underside, so as to prevent rain from entering the opened hood; while when the hood is not required to be used, it is desirable that it should be capable of being folded down or turned inside out over the outside of the body of the bag without interfering with the use of the ordinary carrying handle and the shoulder sling. Heretofore, with hoods wherein the opening extends from one edge for a portion of the distance towards the opposite edge, leaving an undivided back portion, this undivided back portion has covered the ordinary carrying handle when the hood is folded down, thereby rendering this handle useless; and the one end of the sling has had to be detached and secured to a fitting projecting through a slot in the said undivided back part of the hood when the latter opened or folded down.

The principal object of the present invention is to provide for the free use of the ordinary carrying handle when the hood is folded down, and also to provide improved means whereby the shoulder sling may be attached to the bag in a manner suitable for use when the hood is either closed or opened. A further object is to provide improved means for attaching the handle to the bag.

According to the invention, the hood is divided from one edge for a suitable distance down the back towards the edge which is situated at the side of the bag to which the handle and sling are attached, leaving the lower portion of the back undivided, and the handle has its upper end, or both ends, inturned so that the points of attachment of the ends of the handle to the bag are separated by a distance which is less than the maximum length of the handle, leaving between the upper end of the handle and the body of the bag a clearance space adapted to receive the undivided back portion of the hood, the handle itself extending between the adjacent edges of the divided portion of the back of the hood.

To attach the upper end of the shoulder sling two fittings or attachment parts are provided upon the bag, one on the outside and the other situated within the interior of the hood when the latter is raised, such as on the mouth frame, and the end of the sling is adapted to be detachably secured to either of these fittings or attachment parts according to whether the hood is raised or folded down. Conveniently these attachment parts may consist of two rings carried by a middle loop surrounding the mouth frame of the bag, so that one is outside and the other inside the hood when the latter is raised.

The handle is preferably secured to a flexible metal strip upon the inside of the main wall of the bag. This strip may be attached by a tab to the mouth frame and its lower end may engage a socket.

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawings is an elevation of a golf bag in accordance with the present invention, the hood being shown turned down.

Figure 2 is a vertical section through the upper part of one side of the golf bag and through the handle, showing how the latter is constructed and how it is attached.

Figure 3 is an edge view of the bag with the handle indicated by dotted lines.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary elevation corresponding to a section on line 4—4, Figure 2, showing a face view of the handle-carrying strip.

Figure 5 is a section on line 5—5, Figure 4, on a larger scale.

Figure 6 is a side elevation with the hood raised.

Figure 7 is an edge view of the bag with the hood raised.

Figure 8 is a plan of a portion of the mouth frame with the sling-attachment rings thereon.

Referring to the drawings, the hood 1 consists of a single piece of flexible material secured along its entire lower edge to a band 22 that encircles and is stitched around the metal mouth frame 2 and to which the outside wall 3 of the bag body is stitched, as shown in Figure 5. The hood is divided transversely from the side of the bag which is underneath when the bag is being carried by the handle or sling, towards the opposite side, the division extending across the top of the hood and partially down the back, in alignment with the handle 4 and sling 5, leaving the lower part 6 of the back undivided. The hood is thus divided into two side flaps the opposed edges of which carry counterpart interlocking fastener elements 7 adapted to be drawn into engagement or to be separated by a sliding stringer or clasp 8 in the well-known manner.

The carrying handle 4 is attached to the back of the bag body near the upper end, and in accordance with this invention it is made of a substantially C-shape having inturned ends 9, 10 of hook form of which the upper hook part or end 9 is longer than the lower hook part 10. The extremities of these inturned ends are attached by transverse loops or rings 11 to spaced studs 12 projecting from the side of the body and carried by a flexible steel reinforcing strip 13 lying against the inside face of the body wall 3, between the said wall and an inner lining 23 of the bag. The studs 12 may be secured to the strip 13 by nuts 24 or by riveting over the ends, and the loops or rings 11 are preferably free to turn within eyes or holes in the studs 12. The strip 13 has its lower end engaged within a socket or loop 25 (Figure 4) attached to the base or foot of the bag, and at its upper end it is secured to a flexible tab 26 which is anchored to the mouth frame 2 by being stitched to the mouth band 22. The strip 13 relieves the body of the bag from strain and will yield in the event of a sudden pull or jolt and thus, particularly as the ends are anchored to the bag body, is not liable to tear or damage the bag.

By using a handle of the form described the points of attachment to the body are set close together, their distance apart being considerably less than the overall length of the handle, so that between the upper inturned end of hook part 9 and the side of the body 3 a clearance space is left, and when the hood 1 is drawn down over the body when not required for use, as shown in Figures 1 to 3, the undivided lower back portion 6 of the hood will be received within this space. The upper part 9 of the handle thus overlaps the undivided part 6 of the back of the hood, and the studs 12 for the attachment of the handle extend outwards from the body through the division of the back of the hood. By this means full and unrestricted use of the handle can be made when the hood is drawn down over the body. Preferably the handle is of a rigid construction, being made of metal or wood covered with leather. Thus, it may comprise a metal bar or tube 14 bent to the required C-shape and having eyed ends 15 engaged by the loops 11 which turn within the eyed studs 12 on the body. The metal bar or tube may be covered first with felt 16 and then with leather 17, as shown in Figure 2. The mouth of the golf bag is stiffened and reinforced by the metal frame or ring 2 to which the material of the bag is secured, as above described. At the back of this mouth frame 2, in alignment with the carrying handle 4, a fitting is provided for the attachment of the upper end of the usual shoulder sling 5. This fitting conveniently comprises an elongated loop 18 encircling the mouth frame 2 and carrying at opposite ends two loose rings 19, 20, situated at opposite sides of the said mouth frame, one outside and the other inside. The connecting loop 18 lies with its extremities projecting through the material of the mouth band 22 where it is folded over the mouth frame 2, so that when the hood is raised, as in Figures 6 and 7, the one ring 19 is situated outside the body of the bag and the other ring 20 extends into the mouth and lies inside the hood. The upper end of the shoulder sling 5 carries a swivelling snap hook 21 which, when the hood is raised (Figures 6 and 7) is adapted to be engaged with the outside ring 19. When the hood is to be drawn down the sling hook 21 is detached from the outside ring 19, and after the hood has been folded over the body to cover the said outside ring, the said hook is engaged with the inside ring 20, as shown in Figures 1 and 2. The sling can thus be used when the hood is down without the necessity of providing a slot in the hood. The lower end of the sling 5 is attached to the bag body by a loop 27 turning in a stud 28 fixed to the inside strip 13 by a nut 29 or by being riveted over, in a similar manner to the handle 4.

Having fully described my invention, what I desire to claim and secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A golf bag comprising a body part, a flexible hood secured to the body part at its lower edge and divided transversely to form an opening leaving an undivided back portion, fastening means for closing the opening, and a carrying handle upon the body of the bag having its upper end inturned to

form, with the said body part a clearance adapted to receive the undivided back portion of the hood when the said hood is turned down over the body part.

2. A golf bag comprising a body part, a flexible hood secured to the body part at its lower edge and divided transversely to form an opening but having an undivided back portion, fastening means for closing the opening, and a carrying handle having its ends attached to the body part at points which are separated by a distance which is less than the overall length of the handle so as to leave a clearance between the upper part of the handle and the body part of receive the undivided back portion of the hood when the said hood is turned down.

3. A golf bag comprising a body part, a divided flexible hood secured to the body part at its lower edge and adapted to be turned down over the body part said hood having an undivided back portion, and a carrying handle of substantially C-shape attached to the body part of the bag with its upper end spaced from said body part to form a clearance adapted to receive the undivided back portion of the hood when the said hood is turned down.

4. A golf bag comprising a body part, a divided flexible hood secured to the body part at its lower edge and adapted to be turned down over the body part, a shoulder sling attached to the body part at its lower end, a metal frame at the mouth of the bag, a loop on the said frame, two rings carried by the loop at opposite ends thereof, one being outside and the other inside the hood when the said hood is raised, and means on the upper end of the shoulder sling whereby the said end may be engaged with one or other of the said rings according to whether the hood is raised or turned down.

5. A golf bag comprising a body part, a mouth frame, a flexible metal strip disposed longitudinally upon the inside of the body part, a socket on the body for receiving the lower end of the strip, a flexible tab connecting the upper end of the strip to the mouth frame, and a carrying handle having its ends secured to the said flexible strip.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

PATRICK ALPHONSUS MARTIN.