

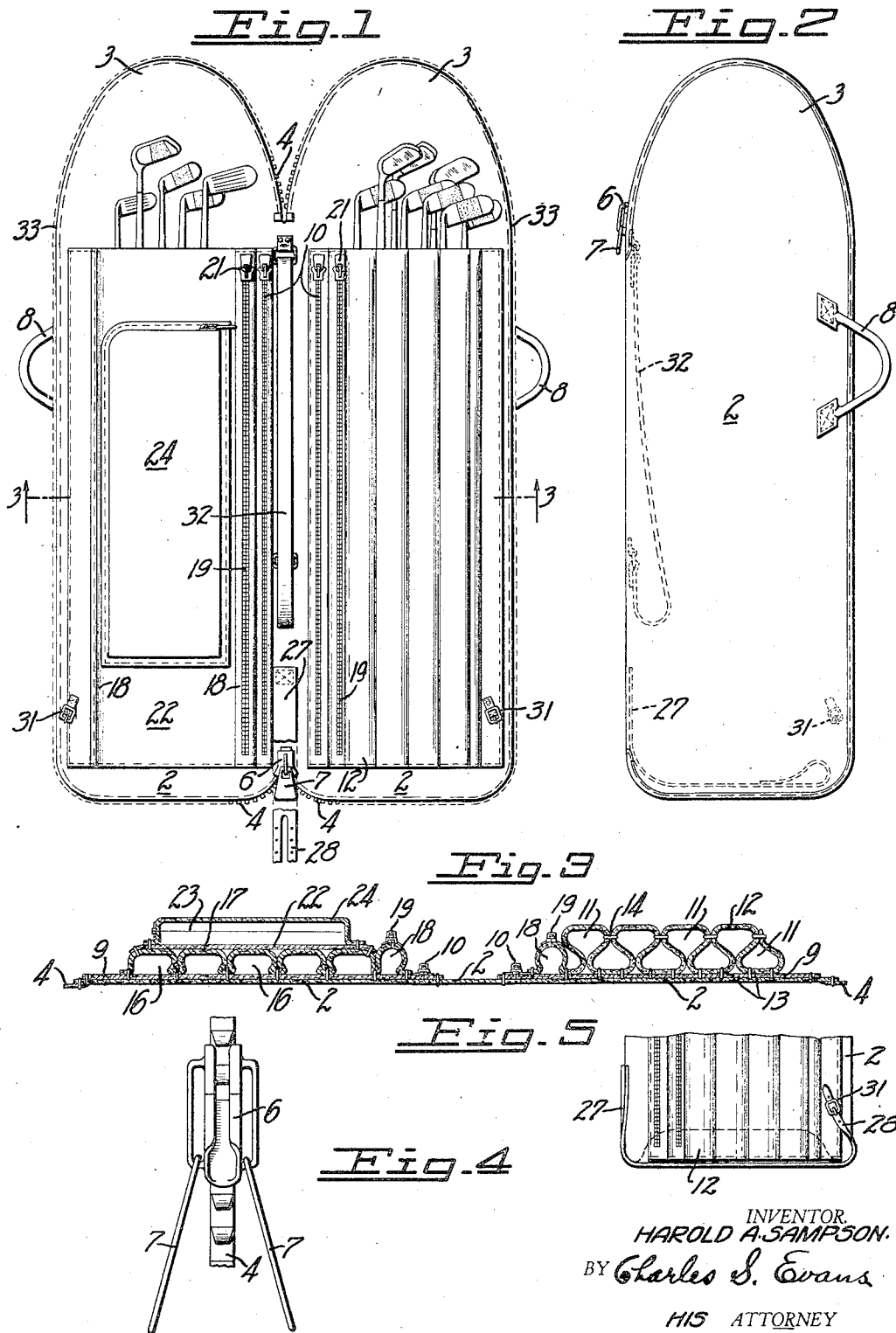
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GOLF BAG

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GOLF BAG

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2 Claims. (Cl. 150—1.5)

My invention relates to a golf bag, and particularly to a reversible golf bag.

It is among the objects of my invention to provide a golf bag which presents an improved external appearance for purposes of transportation when the golf clubs are not actually in use; under these conditions it being desirable to have a bag which is substantially symmetrical and which is characterized by a smooth and unobstructed outer surface.

Another object of my invention is to provide a golf bag of the character described which may be reversed when it is desired to use the same under playing conditions, so that structural elements such as the carrying strap and pockets are positioned on the outside of the bag.

Still another object of my invention is to provide a golf bag which gives added protection to and maintains an orderly arrangement of the golf clubs.

A further object of my invention is to provide an improved pocket for carrying golf balls.

A still further object of my invention includes the provision of a golf bag which provides ample carrying space for items such as slickers, sweaters and other wearing apparel and excess paraphernalia.

My invention possesses other objects and features of advantage, some of which, with the foregoing, will be set forth in the following description of my invention. It is to be understood that I do not limit myself to this disclosure of species of my invention, as I may adopt variant embodiments thereof within the scope of the claims.

Referring to the drawing:

Figure 1 is a side-elevational view showing the golf bag embodying my invention with the side flaps spread out and ready to be either folded forward and the bag closed for ordinary transportation, or folded backward and the bag closed in a reversed condition for use when playing.

Figure 2 is a side elevational view of the bag in a closed condition and ready for ordinary transportation.

Figure 3 is an enlarged horizontal sectional view taken in a plane indicated by the line 3—3 of Figure 1, and illustrates the formation of the carrying pockets on opposing surfaces of the side flaps.

Figure 4 is a fragmental elevational view showing details of the "Zipper" construction; this view being drawn to a considerably larger scale than the views shown in the other figures for purposes of illustrating the construction more clearly.

Figure 5 is an elevational view of the lower portion of the bag when the same is in use under playing conditions.

In terms of broad inclusion, the golf bag embodying my invention comprises a pair of side flaps connected along one of their side edges and reversely foldable along the connected edges so that the flaps may be folded together with either of their surfaces forming the exterior of the bag. Means are also provided for detachably connecting the free edge portions of the flaps together.

Pockets for carrying the golf clubs, balls and other objects are preferably mounted on opposing sides of the flaps, and a carrying strap is also mounted on the sides of the flaps having the pockets, so that when the flaps are folded together and the bag closed in one position the pockets and carrying strap are positioned on the outside of the bag, but when the flaps are folded together in the opposite direction and the bag closed in the reversed position the pockets and carrying strap are positioned on the inside of the bag with the outer surface of the bag left free to present a smooth and unobstructed surface. Carrying means, such as hand grips, are preferably mounted on the sides of the flaps opposite the pockets so that these grips are exposed when the bag is closed for ordinary transportation. An improved golf ball pocket is also provided for giving access to one ball at a time.

In greater detail, and referring particularly to Figure 1, the golf bag embodying my invention comprises a similarly shaped pair of side flaps connected along one of their side edges so that the flaps are reversely foldable along the connected edges. These side flaps are preferably rounded at the top and bottom ends; the rounding at the top ends being more pronounced to provide the upwardly projecting tab portions. The connected side flaps are preferably formed from a single sheet of flexible material, such as soft leather or fabric; and the sheet is preferably generally rectangular in shape and cut to give the desired shape to the half portions thereof which form the side flaps.

When the side flaps are folded they form the bag of my invention, and since the flaps are reversely foldable along their connected edges they may be folded together with either surface of the sheet forming the exterior of the bag. When the connected tabs are formed from a single sheet of material, as is preferred, the flaps fold about a line which is substantially parallel with and midway between the side edges of the sheet; that

is, the flaps fold about the major axis of the rectangularly shaped sheet forming the flaps.

Means are provided for detachably connecting the free edges of the side flaps together. For this purpose a "Zipper" is preferably employed, and is mounted with its interlocking strips 4 secured along the edges of the flaps and with its locking runner 6 having an initial or starting position at a point along the bottom of the sheet where the flaps are joined. This arrangement is probably best shown in Figure 1. Referring particularly to Figure 4, the locking runner 6 is provided with a handle 7 on each side thereof so that the "Zipper" may be operated from either side of the sheet. By this arrangement the flaps may be folded together in either direction and the edges thereof secured together to close the bag.

One surface of the sheet is left free of substantially all obstructions so that when the flaps 2 are folded together with this surface forming the exterior of the bag a smooth outer surface is presented. When the bag is closed by the "Zipper" with the flaps in this position a golf bag having an improved external appearance is provided for use during ordinary transportation. This condition of the bag is illustrated in Figure 2. For purposes of facilitating handling of the bag in this condition the hand grips 8 are preferably provided. These grips are preferably of a flexible material, such as leather, so that they may be folded back within the bag when the latter is closed in the reverse position.

A plurality of pockets are mounted on the sides of the flaps which form the exterior of the bag when the latter is closed with the flaps folded together in a position reversed to that shown in Figure 2. In this condition of closure the bag is ready for use while playing. In order to add stiffness to the side flaps 2, and also to provide a backing for the pockets, plates 9 of relatively stiff material, such as rawhide, are secured to the sides of the flaps upon which the pockets are mounted. A "Zipper" 10 is preferably provided along one side of these backing plates, so that space between the plates 9 and flaps 2 may be used for pockets. This construction is probably best shown in Figure 3. Referring particularly to the latter figure, a plurality of elongated golf club pockets 11 are preferably secured to one of the backing plates 9.

These pockets are preferably formed by securing a sheet 12 to the backing plate; the securing of the sheet 12 to the backing plate being indicated by the rows of stitches 13. The sheet 12 is looped outwardly between the rows of stitches to provide the elongated pockets, and the outer portions of adjacent loops are secured together, as indicated by the stitches 14, to provide additional pockets between the loops. In order to give shape to the pockets the sheet 12 is also preferably of a relatively stiff material, such as rawhide.

A plurality of golf club pockets 16 are also preferably provided on the other backing plate; these pockets are preferably formed from a sheet 17 in a manner similar to the formation of the pockets 11, but in this case only a series of single loops are provided. Side pockets 13 adjacent the golf club pockets 11 and 16 are designed for carrying golf balls, and have a cross-sectional area which is substantially equal to the cross-sectional area thru the center of a golf ball. These pockets are preferably mounted along the sides of the backing plates adjacent the fold line of the flaps. Both ends of these latter pockets are closed, and

an opening slit is provided extending substantially the entire length of the pocket. A "Zipper" 19 is provided for detachably connecting the edges of the slit, so that the pockets may be opened for any desired portion of their length.

Thus, and as best shown in Figure 1, the locking runners 21 of the pocket "Zippers" may be moved downwardly to open the pockets for their entire length. The pockets are then filled by inserting the balls, one above the other, and moving the followers 21 upwardly as the balls are inserted. In removing the balls from these improved pockets it is only necessary to move the locking runners 21 downwardly until a ball is exposed.

Referring again to Figure 3, a backing plate 22 is also preferably provided over the intermediate club pockets 16 to form a backing for a rectangularly-shaped pocket 23 adapted for containing other articles in a golfer's equipment. This pocket is preferably formed by a sheet of material 24 secured to the backing plate 2 and having an opening slit extending along two sides; this slit being preferably closed by suitable means, such as a "Zipper".

Since the "Zipper" on the bottom of the bag is subject to possible damage due to resting the bag on the ground, a shield is preferably provided for protecting the "Zipper" when the bag is open and in condition for playing. Stitched to the joined side flaps at the fold line as shown in Figure 1, is a strip 27 of flexible but relatively stiff material, preferably leather. The free end of this strip is bifurcated to provide straps 28 having perforations formed therein; and secured to the side flaps 2, adjacent their edges are provided buckles 31. As shown in Figure 5 the flexible bottom portions of the bag are shoved up between the backing plates when the bag is in open position, the shield strip 27 is drawn along the bottom of the bag to overlie the "Zipper" at the ends of the bag and the straps 28 are secured in the buckles 31.

It will be seen that with the strip in this position and with the flexible material of the side flaps adjacent the bottom of the bag pushed up out of the way, the bag presents a substantially flat bottom so that it is possible to maintain the bag in an upright position when it is set upon the ground. As shown by the dotted lines of Figure 2 the strip 27 may be conveniently folded into the interior of the bag when the latter is closed and not in use.

A carrying strap 32 is also provided for the bag, and is mounted on the same sides of the flaps 2 as the pockets. As best shown in Figure 1, the strap 27 is secured along the fold line between the flaps. By this arrangement the carrying strap 32 as well as the various pockets mounted on the backing plates 9 are positioned within the bag when the latter is closed for ordinary transportation. Another important feature to be noted is that the inside of the bag provides a roomy receptacle for receiving slickers, sweaters and other excess paraphernalia when the bag is being carried on the golf course. Furthermore, when the bag is being used while playing, the "Zipper" runner 6 may be closed up to a point indicated at 33 and the tabs 3 turned inwardly to provide an open mouth bag adapted to receive clubs in the usual manner. Ordinarily however it is found desirable to retain the clubs in the pockets 11 and 16 so that the same are held separate in an orderly fashion.

I claim:

1. A golf bag comprising a body of flexible material, the lower portions of the body providing a club compartment and the upper portions providing a hood, backing plates substantially coextensive with walls of and terminating adjacent the upper edge of said club compartment and secured to the body for stiffening the latter compartment, and a "Zipper" for securing edge portions of the body together.

2. A golf bag comprising a reversible body of flexible material, the lower portions of the body providing a club compartment and the upper portions providing a hood, backing plates substantially coextensive with walls of and terminating adjacent the upper edge of said club compartment and secured to the body for stiffening the latter compartment, and a "Zipper" for securing edge portions of the body together.

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