

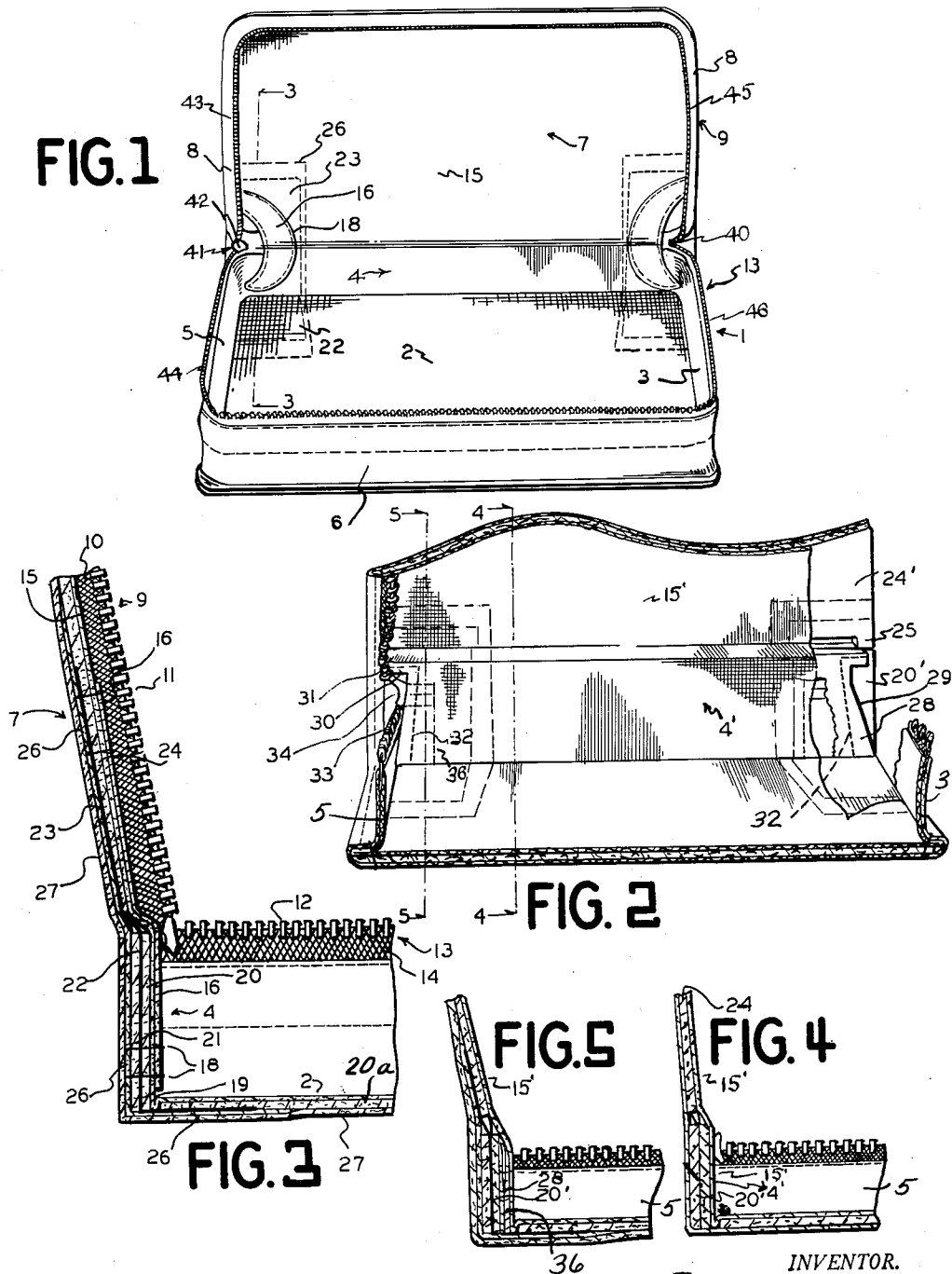
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TOILET CASE

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TOILET CASE

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The present invention relates to a fitted toilet or traveling case in which such things as combs, brushes, soap case, razor case, mirror, files, etc., are held. Such cases are usually made of fabric, leather and other materials with semi-stiff top and bottom walls and flexible side walls, and very often are closed by interlocking fasteners, as for example as illustrated by the patent to I. Schwartz, Patent No. 2,062,237, of which the present invention is an improvement.

In the patent above referred to, the bulk of the heavier toilet articles are attached to the cover rather than the body of the case itself. One of the results of such an arrangement is that the base may readily stand at right angles in an open position to the cover when the cover is lying on a table or flat horizontal surface. If, however, the base is to be put in the horizontal position on the table, then there would be a tendency for the cover to flap backwards or forwards and it would not readily stand in an upright position. Even using an empty base and providing a flat end so that the base can stand on its end, it is difficult to make a stable structure.

In the present invention the applicant has devised means of construction whereby the cover will readily stand in an erect position without any special means of support. However, special features of construction must be employed in order to accomplish this result, and these are incorporated in the present invention and will be more readily apparent from the description in the specification as set forth below when taken in connection with the drawings illustrating an embodiment of the same in which:

Figure 1 shows the toilet case in an open position with the base horizontal and the cover projecting substantially vertically upwards or sloping slightly backwards.

Figure 2 shows in fragmentary section a slight modified construction of the arrangement shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 shows a fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 shows a section taken along the lines 4—4 of Figure 2; and

Figure 5 shows a section taken along the lines 5—5 of Figure 2.

In the arrangement indicated in Figures 1 and 3, the toilet case 1 which may be made of leather, fabric, or other similar material comprises a base 2 with attached side walls 3, 4, 5 and 6, and a cover member 7 which is hinged to the side wall 4, by a flexible hinge composed of fabric elements arranged and described as in the specification below. The cover member 7 has a strip 8 attached around its periphery acting as a flexible small wall to which is attached one half of the interlocking fastener stringer 9 which includes the tape element 10 which is attached to the strip 8. The individual interlocking fastener elements 11 interlock with complementary fastener elements 12 of the stringer 13 which has a tape 14 sewed to the edge of the walls 3, 4, 5 and 6. The interlocking stringers extend only to the corners 40 and 41 of the cover member and base. The stringers at 40 are joined by stitching, or otherwise, and at 41 by a bridge stop 42 so that the stringer lines at the edges 43 and 44 are continuous, and likewise at the edges 45 and 46.

In the case as shown in the Figures 1 and 3, the heavier

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elements as for instance the brushes, cases for tooth paste, shaving cream, razor, etc., fit into the base section 2 while the lighter units such as comb, file, mirror, etc., fit into the cover 7.

One of the features of the present invention is that the cover member 7 will keep a vertical position when the case is placed on a level surface. This is true even though the cover member 7 is quite freely and loosely hinged to the side wall 4.

Referring more particularly to Figure 3 and also to Figure 1, it will be noted that the cover member 7 has a fabric or leather inner face 15, or other suitable material, with corner pieces 16 each of which have the general shape of a crescent (Figure 1) which extend from one side of the cover member 7 around the end of the wall 4 at the corner where the walls 4 and 5 join one another in one case, and 4 and 3 join one another in the other case. Each corner piece or corner element 16 is stitched both to the cover member 7 and to the wall 4 of the base by stitching 18. Each corner piece 16 is positioned so that it comes very close to the interlocking fastener stringers 9 and 13 at the corners of the hinge. Each corner piece 16 in this position tends to stiffen the hinge at the corners and offers tension against the bending back of the cover member. A further feature of this construction is that the stringers 9 and 13 are carried just to and terminate at the corners 40 and 41 where the sides formed by wall 5 and strip 8, and wall 3 and strip 8 respectively terminate; but are not carried inwardly along the top joint where the hinge of the cover member 7 on the wall 4 is effected. This together with the positioning of the crescent shaped corner pieces 16 right at the corners of the hinge aid in preventing the opening of the case beyond the particular position as shown in Figure 1. An additional aid in preventing the opening of the case beyond the particular position shown in Figure 1 however is obtained through the construction which is shown in Figures 1 and 3 and partly in Figure 2, which is a slight modification of the invention, but has the same features as the modification of Figures 1 and 3.

In this construction of Figures 2, 4 and 5 the sidewall 4 in back of the leather cover 19 is provided with two cardboard strips 20 and 21 between which is fixed a fabric or leather sheet 22. The elements 20, 21 and 22 may be cemented or stitched together. The flexible fabric strip 22 extends upward into the cover member 7 as shown at 23. The lower end of the fabric 22 extends into the base 2 underneath the cardboard member 20a. This strip is shown in dotted outline in Figure 1. The inner face 15 of the cover member, which is a continuation of the member 19, is backed by a stiff cardboard sheet 24 to which the fabric strip 22 is sewed, sealed or attached in some suitable manner. This sheet 24 of stiff fabric, cardboard or other suitable material is spaced from the top edge of the stiff strips 20 and 21 a slight distance along its mid-section as indicated in Figure 3, but at the end edges the stiff sheet 24 is continued down to the top edge of the stiff strips 20 and 21 in the end projecting section 25. The section 25 may extend for a considerable distance in from the end wall, and where the stiff cardboard sheet does extend to the top of the strips 20 and 21, the entire space in the hinge section is filled within that region.

In the back of the fabric sheet 22 is a second fabric sheet member 26 which covers the fabric sheet 22 on the outside, extending downward on the outside of the lower wall 4 covering the stiff cardboard strip 21 on the outer side and, also extending under the base 2. This sheet member 26 may be stitched or sewed in any suitable manner to the strips 23 and 21. Externally of this is the outer leather or fabric cover 27 which extends over the wall back of the cover member 7, the side wall 4 and the base 2. The arrangement of the fabric sheet

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member 26, extending and covering the outside of the cardboard strips 24 and 21 and the fabric strip 22 which also covers the cardboard strip 24 and extends between the cardboard strips or members 20 and 21, serves to provide a greater tension to the inner fabric sheets 22 than to the outer fabric sheet member 26 and cover 27. In this way as the top tends to bend backwards, the double fabric sheet 22 and member 26 are tensioned to prevent the top from swinging further backwards. The cover member is also kept from swinging far back by the fact that the projecting end 25 of the cardboard strip 24 jams against the top of the cardboard strips 20 and 21. The effect is that the cover member 7 bends over easily to the position shown in Figures 1 and 3 and then will stay in this position unless deformed or forced further back. The arrangement serves therefore to position a mirror attached to the cover in a desired and advantageous position and is a distinct advantage over the arrangement where the box portion of the case stands in an upright position, since under the latter arrangement the mirror is partially concealed by the side walls of the box.

A slight modification of the arrangement described in connection with Figures 1 and 3 is shown in Figures 2, 4 and 5. In Figure 2 the back wall 4' of the base has attached to the cardboard strip 20', a stiff covered face member or wall member 28 which has an edge contour as shown by the heavy line 29. At the left of Figure 2 it will be noticed that this face member has an upper longitudinally extending section 30 which comes up against the slide fastener stringer 31, thereby holding or forcing the stringer outwardly to the side of the casing. The wall member 28 is stitched around its peripheral edge by stitching 32 which follows closely the edge contour 29 of the strip. The purpose of this strip is to provide a stiff face at the corners where the interlocking stringers 31 and 33 come together. The stringer fastener 34 is such that it extends just inward of the corner, but not sufficiently to permit any movement or play transversely in the hinge between the top stringer and the bottom stringer. In order for the top to fold completely back, it would be necessary to carry the stringers inwardly a slight distance along the top of the back wall 4' and the adjoining edge of the cover 15'. By terminating the stringers just at the corners, the stringer members themselves provide the necessary tautness in the joint which also aids in preventing the top cover from being bent far back.

The arrangements shown in Figures 4 and 5 are cross sections on a smaller scale than the front view of the construction as shown in Figure 2. The only difference between the construction of Figure 2 and that of Figures 1 and 3 is the addition of the stiff wall member 28 which, as shown in Figure 5, is mounted on the face of the cardboard strip 20. The wall member 28 is covered over by the inner face covering 15' which extends from the inside of the cover downward over the backwall 4' to the base of the case. In back of the stiff wall member 28 are extensions 36 from the side walls 3 and 5 which are held by stitching 32 (Figure 2).

Having now described my invention, I claim:

1. A toilet case comprising a bottom wall member with surrounding side, rear and front walls and a cover member, means forming a hinge for the cover member to the rear wall, including a plurality of stiff card members in the rear wall, a stiff cardboard member in the cover member, a fabric sheet extending upwards between the card members in the rear wall and against the outer side of the stiff cardboard member in the cover member, continuous covering sheets of flexible material both on the outside and the inside of the cover member and rear wall, an interlocking fastener closure having stringer members, one extending all around the walls from one side of the hinge to the other side thereof and the other stringer extending around the cover member, and means

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attaching the stringers together at the junction of the cover member and the rear wall on both sides of the hinge at the corners where the rear wall and cover member meet.

2. A toilet case comprising a bottom wall member with surrounding side, rear and front walls and a cover member, means forming a hinge for the cover member to the rear wall including a plurality of stiff card members in the rear wall, a stiff cardboard member in the cover member, a fabric sheet extending upwards between the card members in the rear wall and against the outer side of the stiff cardboard member in the cover member, outer covering flexible members on both the outer face of the cover member and rear wall and the inner face of the same elements, an interlocking fastener closure having stringer members, one extending all around the side rear and front walls from one side of the hinge to the other side thereof and the other stringer extending around the cover member, means slidably locking the stringer members together, means permanently attaching the stringer members together at the junction of the cover member and the rear wall on both sides of the hinge at the corners where the rear wall and cover member meet, and a reinforcing flexible corner element having one corner extending against the extremity of the cover member at one side near the hinge and the other corner extending against the extremity of the rear wall near the hinge.

3. A toilet case comprising a bottom wall member with surrounding side walls and a cover member hinged at one side to one of said side walls, a plurality of flexible covering members extending over the outer and inner faces of the cover member and side wall hinged to the cover, a plurality of stiff cardboard sheets within the faces of the cover member and the side wall to which the cover is hinged, said sheets spaced from each other along the hinge except for the region near the corners where the edges come close together, an interlocking fastener closure having stringer members, one extending all around the walls from one side of the hinge to the other side thereof and the other stringer extending around the cover, and means attaching the stringers together at the junction of the cover and the side walls on both sides of the hinge at the corners where the side walls and cover meet.

4. A toilet case comprising a bottom wall member with surrounding side walls and a cover member hinged at one side to one of said side walls, a plurality of flexible covering members extending over the outer and inner faces of the cover member and side wall adjacent the cover member, a stiff cardboard sheet within the covering faces of the cover member and heavier cardboard sheets within the adjacent hinged side wall, said sheets spaced from each other along the hinge formed by the cover member and side wall except for the region near the corners where the edges come close together, an interlocking fastener closure having stringer members, one extending all around the walls from one side of the hinge to the other side thereof and the other stringer extending around the cover member, and means attaching the stringers together at the junction of the cover member and the side walls on both sides of the hinge at the corners where the side walls and cover member meet.

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