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H. BURCHESS

WELT FOR SUITCASES OR THE LIKE

Filed June 21, 1922

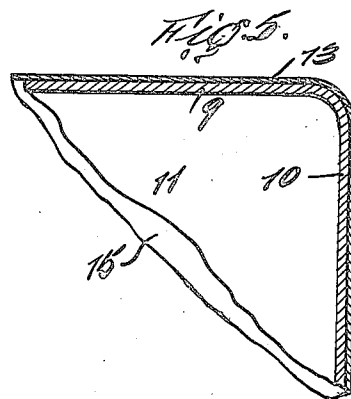
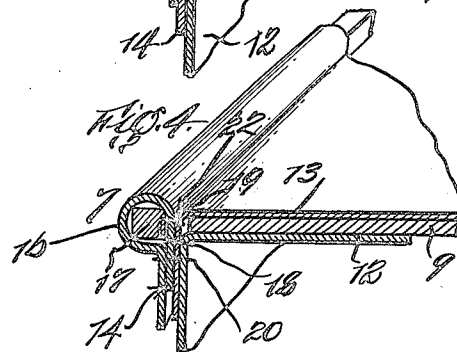
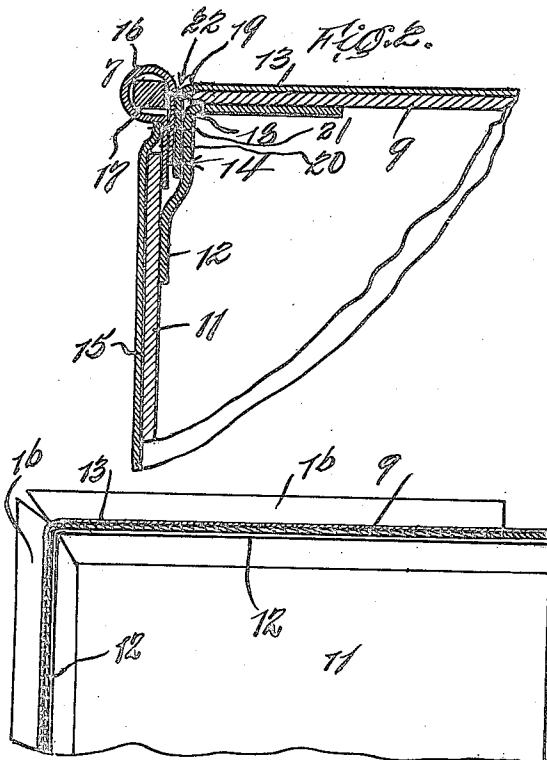
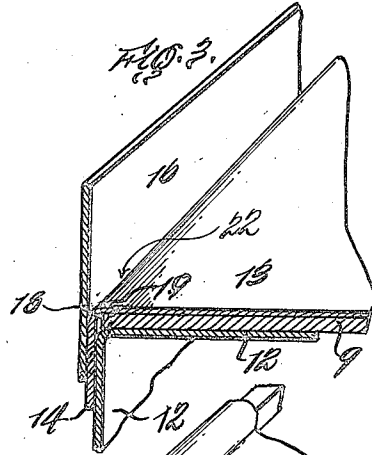
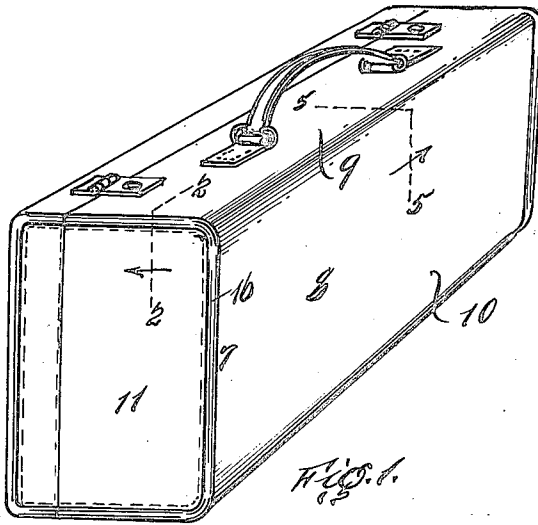


Fig. 6.

BY *his* *Herman* INVENTOR *Burchess*
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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WELT FOR SUITCASES OR THE LIKE.

Application filed June 21, 1922. Serial No. 569,955.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERMAN BURCHESS, a subject of the King of Roumania, residing at New York city, borough of the Bronx, State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Welts for Suitcases or the like, of which the following in a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to improvements in the construction of suit cases, bags or the like, one of the objects being to provide an improved welt edge for the corners of suit cases or bags, arranged to provide a stiffening element for certain of the edges thereof. While I am aware that welt edges are at present used, these welt edges are not as stiff as my improved welt edge, owing to my special manner of applying the containers for supporting the stiffening element.

I will now proceed to describe my invention in detail, the novel features of which I will point out in the claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, wherein:—

Fig. 1 illustrates in perspective a suit case embodying my improvement;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken on a line 2—2 in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a similar view illustrating the welt that is shaped to contain the stiffening element;

Fig. 4 is a detail perspective sectional view, illustrating the welt and stiffening element assembled;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary sectional view, the section being taken on line 5—5 in Fig. 1; and

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary sectional view looking toward the left in Fig. 3.

My improvement is comprised of a welt 7 applied to the end edges of a suit case 8 or the like. The suit case in this instance is made up of material such as fibre board, the sides and bottom 9 and 10 being in one piece, the ends 11, one only being shown, being separate pieces. The ends are secured to the body member or sides and bottom by means of a gusset 12 secured to the inner surface of the ends, sides and bottom adjacent the meeting point of same. The sides 9 and bottom 10 are covered with a facing 13 of leather or other suitable material, said facing overlapping the ends of the body of the case, as indicated by 14.

The ends 11 are connected to the gussets 12, and are faced as at 15 with leather or the like. My improvement consists of a welt strip 16 containing a stiffening element 17 of metal or any other suitable material, but preferably steel. My improvement resides largely in the manner of applying the welt 16 to the corners of the case. To form the welt 16, I apply a strip of suitable material such as leather or any other pliable material to the gusset 12 and portion 14 of the facing 13 which overlaps the ends of the case by means of stitching 18, as indicated in Fig. 3, the stitching being applied as close to the corner 19 of the gusset 12 as possible. After said strip has been applied, I fold same over the insert 17 and secure the folded overportion of the gusset to the said gusset 12 and overlapping portion 14 of the facing 13 by stitching 20. After the welt has been applied, I place the ends 11 in position by securing same to the gusset 12 usually by gluing. After the ends have been placed in position I apply the facing 15 and stitch same, as at 21, to the welt and gusset, as indicated in Fig. 2. It will be obvious that the stitching 18 will hold the welt closely to the body of the case and the joint 22 will be closed, that is to say, the welt cannot be sprung away from same. The lines of stitching 20 and 21 still further securely bind the welt to the suit case as the stiffening element or insert is held by the gusset which cannot be sprung away from the body of the case, owing particularly to the line of stitching 18. The welt as a hold will add rigidity to the suit case structure. My invention relates more particularly to the special gusset arrangement, or particular manner of securing same to the side, bottom and end members of the case. When constructing the case, I stitch the strip 16 to the gusset or brace 12, as indicated in Fig. 3. I then fold the strip over the insert or stiffening element 16 and stitch same to the brace 12, as indicated in Fig. 4. I then apply the ends 11, usually by securing same to brace 11 and finally apply the facing 15 thereto and stitch same to the case, at its edges, by the stitching 21, as indicated in Fig. 2.

What I desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. In a container, a body member, a facing therefor of pliable material, said fac-

ing extending beyond the ends of the body member and turned downwardly over said ends, a corner brace carried by the body member, the turned down ends of the facing being secured to said brace, a container secured to said brace, a stiffening element carried by said container, end members secured to said brace, and a facing for the end members secured to said container and said
10 brace.

2. In combination with a container composed of a body member and end members, a

welt extending along the meeting edges of the body and end members, consisting of a container composed of a strip of pliable
15 material and a stiffening element within same, said container being secured to said body member at a point close to said stiffening element and also at a point removed from the stiffening element whereby said
20 welt will be rendered rigid enough to resist being bent away from the body member.

HERMAN BURCHESS.