

April 30, 1935.

C. H. SEITZ

1,999,424

TRAVELING BAG

Filed Feb. 16, 1933

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

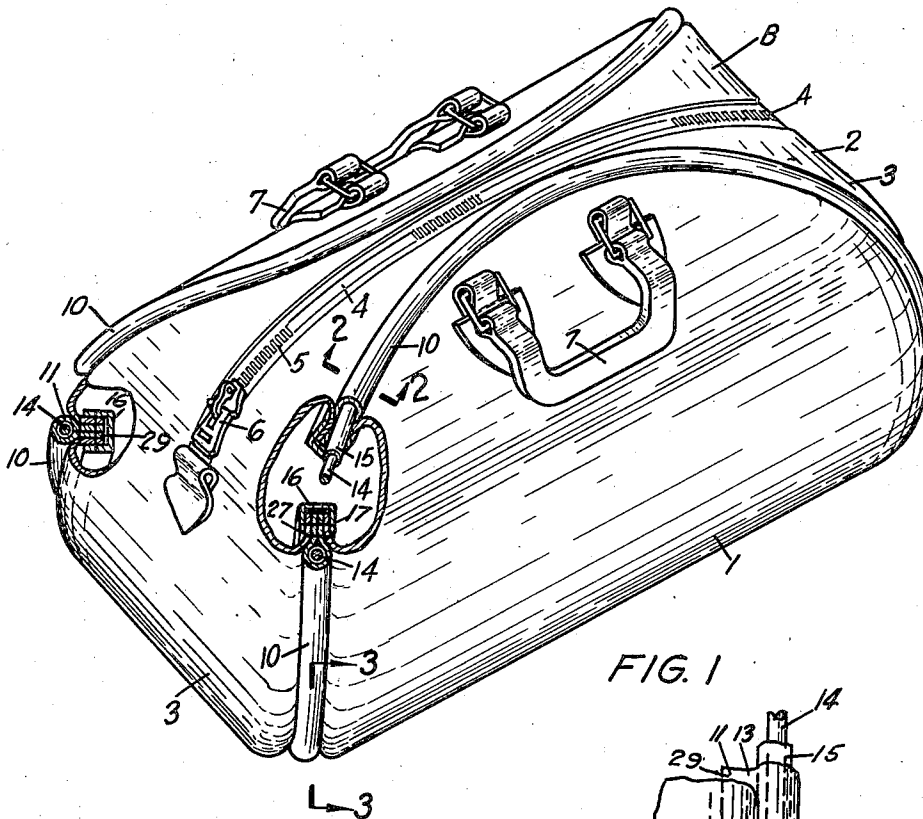


FIG. 1

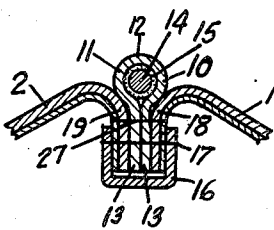


FIG. 2

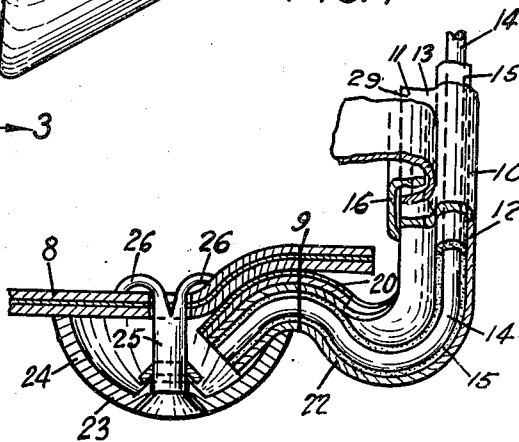


FIG. 3

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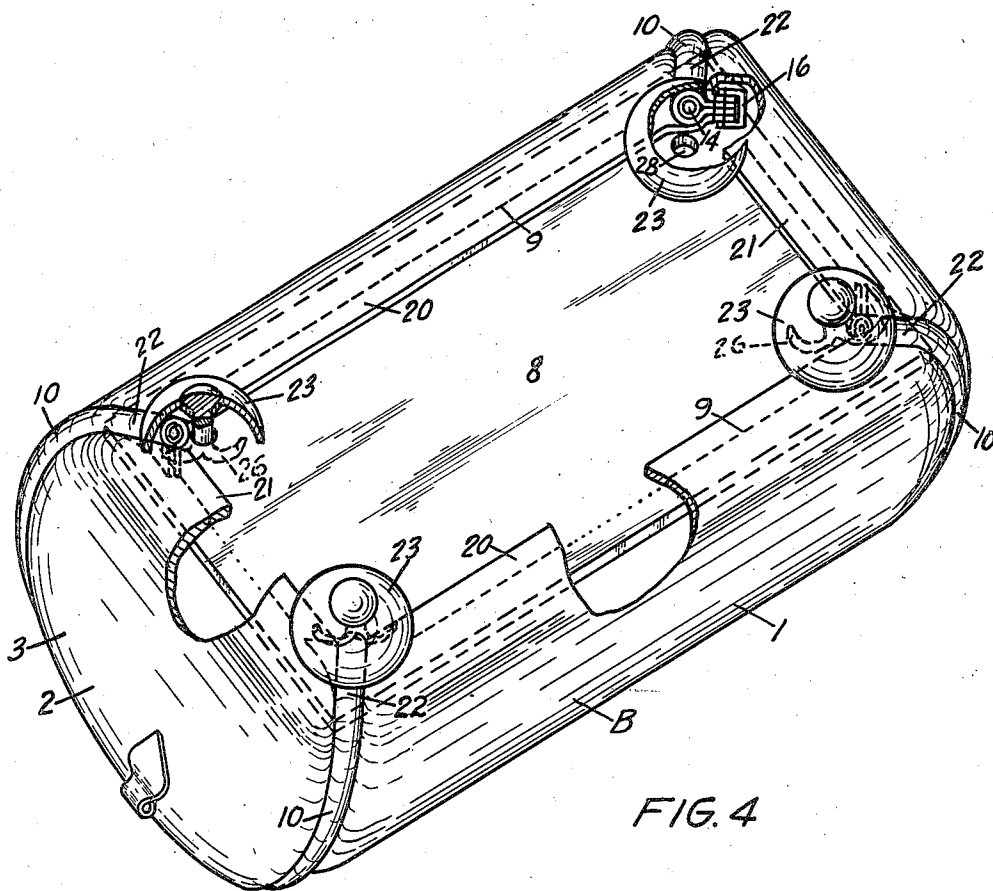


FIG. 4

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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TRAVELING BAG

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6 Claims. (Cl. 190—50)

This invention relates to traveling bags which are made of soft, or semi-soft material, which do not have a rigid frame which serves the double purpose of stiffening the bag and carrying the lock elements, and which are equipped with either a slide fastener or some other lock element and has for its object the provision of a new and improved traveling bag of this type.

Sport bags of the above described type have been found objectionable because they lack the element of rigidity and collapse. This not only detracts from the appearance of the bag but also makes it more difficult to pack the same. It is an object of this invention to provide a sport bag of this type which shall have rigidity and keep its shape at all times.

Another object of this invention is to produce a sport bag of soft or semi-rigid fabric which shall have rigidity and keep its shape at all times but which shall practically be as easy to manufacture, assemble and produce as the non-rigid, collapsible sport bags now in general use.

The above as well as other objects of this invention and the advantages arising therefrom will become apparent from the following description and the drawings which form a part thereof.

In the drawings Figure 1 is a perspective view of my novel bag when looking at the same from the top, parts of the same being broken away for the purpose of more clearly illustrating my novel structure and the relative thickness of my reinforcing bead and gusset carrying the bead being greatly exaggerated for the purpose of clearness.

Figure 2 is an enlarged section taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is an enlarged section taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of my novel bag when looking from the bottom, parts of the same being broken away for the purpose of more clearly illustrating my novel structure and the relative thickness of my reinforcing bead as well as the binding and support rivet and of the bag cloth per se being greatly exaggerated for the purpose of clearness.

Referring more particularly to the drawings wherein similar reference numerals and reference letters denote similar parts the traveling or sport bag B is composed of two side members 1 and a center member 2 of suede (see Figure 1) the lower ends 20 and 21 respectively of which (see Figure 4) are joined to a bottom member 3 by means of a line of stitching 9 or in any other manner desired. The center member 2 con-

stitutes a portion of the top and the end members 3 of the bag B. The member 2 is slit centrally thereof for a portion of its length, as shown at 4, to provide an opening for access to the bag. The elements of the slide fastener 5 are attached to the free edges of the opening 4 thereby providing means to lock the opening in the bag. A tang 6 is associated with the elements of the slide fastener to properly actuate the same. The bag is provided with the usual handle members 7 for lifting and carrying the same. These elements of the bag including the slide-fastener locking means are in and of themselves old and well-known in the art and do not constitute a part of my invention and for that reason will not be here further described.

The bag is reinforced and stiffened on each of its sides by means of a reinforcing and stiffening bead 10 the ends 22 of each of which are anchored at the corners of the under side or bottom of the bag by means of the cap or mushroom rivets 23 the body portion 25 of which extends through a suitable aperture 28 formed in the bottom member 3 shown in Figures 3 and 4, each of said beads 10 extending upwardly from the said anchor points in a curve along the side of the bag as shown in Figures 1, 3 and 4.

Each bead 10 is composed of a gusset member 11 and a reinforcing and stiffening rod 14. Each gusset member 11 is composed of a reinforcing and stiffening rod receiving portion 12 which terminates in the material attaching flaps 13. Each reinforcing rod used in the bag herein shown is made of spring steel about one-thirty-second of an inch ($\frac{1}{32}$ " in diameter and is encased in a paper filler and cover member 15. The ensemble of the gusset 11 and the reinforcing and stiffening rod 14 is attached to the edges 18 and 19 respectively of the members 1 and 2 respectively by the line of stitching 27 or in any other manner desired, thereby uniting the members 1 and 2 at their upper edges with the gusset and with each other. The raw edge 29 formed by the jointure of the edges 18 and 19 to the member 13 is covered or "finished" by encompassing the same with the U-shaped piping member 16 and which is attached to the encompassed members by a line of stitching 17 or in any other manner desired. The cap or mushroom head rivets 23 are of the type well known in the art and are composed of a bell cap or mushroom head 24 from which extends a cylindrical body portion 25 which terminates in the prongs 26.

It is believed that the manner of assembling the novel bag structure herein disclosed is obvious

from the above disclosure and that several methods of assembly may be used to secure this result; yet, for the purpose of obviating any possible misunderstanding the following detailed description of one assembly method is here given.

The side members 1, the top and end member 2 and the bottom member 8 are cut to size. The member 2 is slit to provide the opening 4 to the respective edges of which are attached the elements of the slide fastener 5 and its manipulating tang 6. Suitable apertures 28 are punched in the bottom member 8 for the passage of the cylindrical body member 25 of the bell head, cap, or mushroom rivet 23. The gusset 11 and the reinforcing and stiffening rod 14 are also cut to the proper size, the reinforcing and stiffening rod 14 is encased in the filler and cover member 15 and the rod 14 with its cover 15 are positioned within the annular reinforcing and stiffening rod receiving member 12 of the gusset 11. Adhesive is applied to the inner faces of the flaps 11 for joining these flaps to each other before they are united to each other and to the edges 18 and 19 and the piping 16 respectively by the lines of stitching 27 and 17 respectively. The ensemble of the gusset 11 and stiffening and reinforcing rod 14 is placed between the respective edges 18 and 19 of the members 1 and 2 respectively and joined together by a line of stitching 27 thus forming the bead 10. The raw edge 29 of the united elements 18, 19 and 13 are then "bound" or covered by the U shaped piping member 16 which is united to the elements 18, 19 and 13 by the line of stitching 17. The lower edges 20 and 21 respectively of the members 1 and 2 are then joined to the bottom member 8 by means of the stitching 9 the ends 22 of the reinforcing and stiffening rod 14 being bent in the necessary direction and amount for adapting them to round the corners of the bag and to assume the proper position on the bottom of the bag as shown in Figures 1, 3 and 4. The ends 22 of the reinforcing and stiffening rod 14 are then anchored by means of the bell head or mushroom rivets 23 the cylindrical body member 25 of which is inserted through the aperture 28 in the bottom member 8, the bell or mushroom head of which is positioned to cover and grip the end 22 of the reinforcing and stiffening rod 14 and the prongs 26 of which are upset to attach the rivet firmly to the bottom member 8, all as clearly shown in Figures 3 and 4. The handle 7 and such other trimmings as are desired are now attached to the bag by stitching or in any other manner desired.

The above disclosure is to be understood as being by the way of illustration only and not by the way of limitation since many changes may be made in the structure here disclosed without departing from the spirit of my invention which consists in either making as an integral part of a traveling bag of soft or semi-rigid material and not normally provided with a rigid frame, a stiffening member of rigid material for reinforcing and stiffening the same, and/or in incorporating, as an integral part of a traveling bag made of soft or semi-rigid material and not provided with a rigid frame, a bead of rigid material for reinforcing and stiffening the same during one of the steps now followed in the production of the said bag without making any substantial changes in the steps now followed in the production of the same, and/or in incorporating, as an integral part of a traveling bag made of soft or semi-rigid material and not provided with a rigid frame, a stiffening and reinforcing member of

rigid material without, however, making any substantial changes in the construction of the said bags. For instance, instead of producing a bag having all of the above principles a bag may be made in accordance with any one or any two of the said principles: Or for any of the elements herein disclosed equivalents may be substituted as, for instance, the substitution of other locking means for the slide fastener 5, or the substitution of cloth, soft or semi-rigid leather, or composition (artificial) fabric and leathers for the suede herein disclosed, or the substitution of any suitable material for the base member 8, or the substitution of pliable wood or some metal other than spring steel as material for the member 14, it being preferable although not absolutely necessary that the material substituted for the spring steel have the quality of resiliency as well as that of rigidity, or the substitution of some other suitable material for the filler and cover member 15: Or a change of shape and proportion in the bag and any of its parts including the reinforcing bead may be made: Or the means of attaching the different component elements of the bag may be varied as by the substitution of pasting or stapling for stitching wherever necessary or advisable, or the use of some other means such as sewing or stapling for the bell, cap or mushroom rivets used in anchoring the ends 22 of the bead 10. It is to be noted that my structure herein disclosed enables me to impart the qualities of shape and rigidity to a bag made of soft or semi-rigid material and not having rigid frames by the use of a comparatively thin and light element thereby not adding materially to the weight of the bag. The principle here disclosed may, therefore, be adopted in all types of bags and the comparatively heavy frames eliminated therefrom. Bags made in accordance with my disclosure have the element of flexibility in addition to that of shapeliness and rigidity.

In the light of my disclosure the above as well as other changes will readily suggest themselves to those skilled in the art and it is for this reason that the claims which I have hereunto appended for the purpose of describing my invention should be limited only by the prior art.

The word "non-rigid" as used in the specification and claims is used to denote material which is either soft or semi-rigid.

Having described my invention what I claim as new and useful is:—

1. As an article of manufacture a traveling bag consisting of a base member and three members of non-rigid material attached thereto, two of the said three members being attached to the said base member along one of their respective edges, and extending upwardly from the said base member to form the two sides of the said traveling bag, the third of the said three members being attached to the said base member along two of its edges, extending upwardly from the said base member to form the ends and the top of the said traveling bag and terminating on each of its sides in a curved edge, the said third member having an aperture formed therein for giving access to the inside of the said traveling bag, the said third member further having the elements of a slide fastener attached thereto along the edges of the said aperture for closing the said aperture, the free edge of each of the said two side wall members being curved to complement and fit one of the curved edges of the said top and end wall member, a bead having a resilient and rigid member as a component part thereof positioned be-

tween the said top and end wall member and each of the said side wall members along the said curved edges, means uniting each of the said edges of the said top and end wall members and the curved edge of each of the said side wall members to the bead contiguous thereto, and means attaching the ends of the said resilient and rigid member to the said base member.

2. As an article of manufacture a traveling bag consisting of a base member and three members of non-rigid material attached thereto, two of the said three members being attached to the said base member along one of their respective edges and extending upwardly from the said base member to form the two sides of the said traveling bag, the third of the said three members being attached to the said base member along two of its edges, extending upwardly from its said base member to form the ends and the top of the said traveling bag and terminating on each of its sides in a curved edge, the said third member having an aperture formed therein for giving access to the inside of the said traveling bag, the said third member further having the elements of a slide fastener attached thereto along the edges of the said aperture for closing the said aperture, the free edge of each of the said two side wall members being curved to complement and fit the curved edges of the said top and end member, a bead having a resilient and rigid member positioned therein positioned between the said top and end member and each of the said side wall members along the said curved edges, means for uniting each of the said curved edges of the said top and end wall member and the curved edge of each of the said side wall members to the bead member contiguous thereto, and a bell cap rivet anchoring the free end of the said bead to the said base member.

3. As an article of manufacture a traveling bag consisting of a base member and three members of non-rigid material attached to and extending upwardly from the said base member to form two pairs of oppositely disposed walls and a top member for the said traveling bag; one of the said three members being curved along two of its edges and each of the other of the said wall members being curved along one of their edges to complement and fit one of the curved edges of the said member having two curved edges; a reinforcing and stiffening bead, having a resilient and rigid member as a component part thereof, positioned intermediate each of the said members having one curved edge and the said member having two curved edges along the said line of curvature, means attaching the curved edge of each of the said members having one curved edge and one of the curved edges of the said member having two curved edges to the reinforcing and

stiffening bead contiguous thereto, and means attaching the ends of the said reinforcing and stiffening bead member to the said base member.

4. As an article of manufacture a traveling bag consisting of a base member and three members of non-rigid material attached to and extending upwardly from the said base member to form two pairs of oppositely disposed walls and a top member for the said traveling bag; one of the said three members being curved along two of its edges and each of the other of the said wall members being curved along one of their edges to complement and fit one of the curved edges of the said member having two curved edges; a reinforcing and stiffening bead, consisting of a flexible attaching member encasing a core of resilient and rigid material within a flexible sheath, positioned intermediate each of the said members having one curved edge and the said member having two curved edges along the said line of curvature; means attaching the curved edge of each of the said members having one curved edge and one of the curved edges of the said member having two curved edges to the reinforcing and stiffening bead contiguous thereto; and means attaching the ends of the said reinforcing and stiffening bead member to the said base member.

5. As an article of manufacture a traveling bag consisting of a base member; three members of non-rigid material attached to and extending upwardly from said base member to form two pairs of oppositely disposed walls and a top member for said bag, one of the said pair of walls being longer than the other and the said top member having an aperture formed therein to provide access to the inside of said traveling bag; locking elements positioned upon the edges of said aperture for closing the said opening; and a reinforcing and stiffening member of resilient and rigid material attached at its free ends to the said base member and extending upwardly therefrom in a curved line along each of the walls of the said longer pair of walls.

6. A traveling bag consisting of a base member; two pairs of oppositely disposed walls of non-rigid material extending upwardly from the said base member, one of the said pair of walls being longer than the other; a top member, the said top member having an aperture formed therein to provide access to the inside of said traveling bag; locking elements positioned upon the edges of said aperture for closing the said opening; and a reinforcing and stiffening member of resilient and rigid material attached at its free ends to the said base member and extending upwardly therefrom in a curved line along each of the walls of the said longer pair of oppositely disposed walls.

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