April 17, 1928. 1,666,878

T. W. JOHNSON

BRIEF BAG

Filed March 12, 1927

Fig. 1.

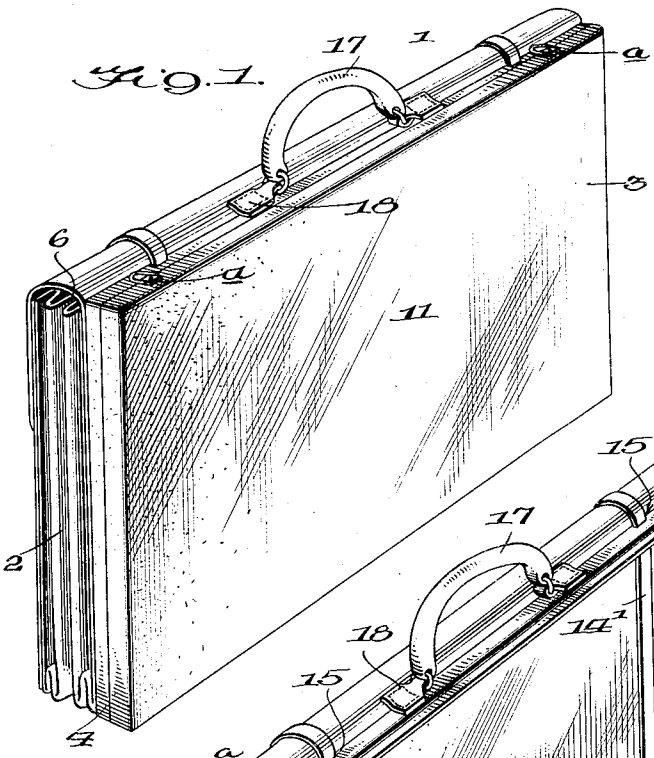


Fig. 3.

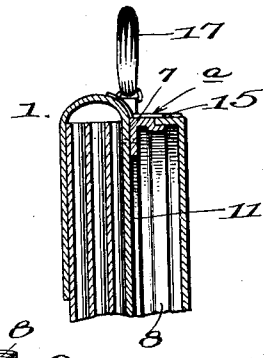


Fig. 2.

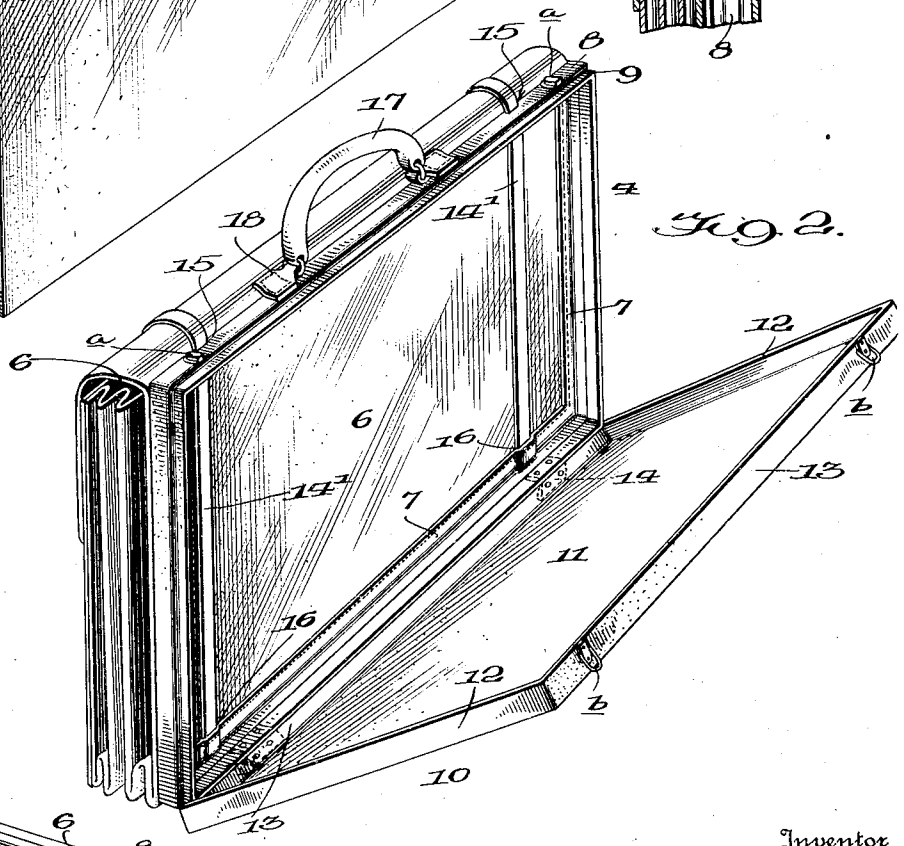
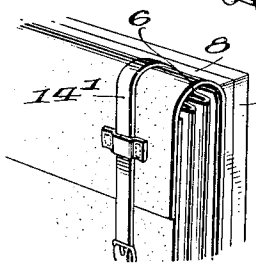


Fig. 4.



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Patented Apr. 17, 1928. 1,666,878

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BRIEF BAG.

Application filed March 12, 1927. Serial No. 174,855.

This invention relates to an improved brief bag.

It very frequently happens that an attempt is made to carry articles of wearing apparel and toilet articles, in brief bags of ordinary construction, when one is making a short trip, as for instance, an overnight trip, for which only a few of such articles are required and where it is not convenient or necessary to carry a large handbag or grip.

When articles of the character mentioned are stored in a brief bag, in the pockets or compartments intended solely for papers or flat articles, they cause the pockets or compartments to bulge and interfere with the proper and neat closing of the bag, and distort the shape of the bag as a whole. Furthermore, it is not desirable to display "personal" belongings in the way of toilet articles, etc., when the bag is opened to temporarily remove the papers.

The object of this invention, in view of the foregoing, is to provide a brief bag with a section, which while not adding, objectionably, to the thickness of the case as a whole, will, nevertheless provide ample space for a supply of wearing apparel, and toilet articles sufficient for a short trip, the apparel section being entirely independent of the other, or "papers" section, and closed by a closure entirely independent. By this arrangement it is feasible and convenient when desiring access only to the "papers" section to open only that section, the other section meanwhile serving as a rest for the bag.

A further object of the invention is to provide a case which will include an "apparel section" that can be opened widely, and flatwise so as to expose all of the contents of the receptacle, so that a person may readily select from the lot, such things as are required without mussing the others. Furthermore, it is an object to give to this receptacle or section, rigidity, and thereby prevent mussing of the articles of apparel when its closure is shut and the brief bag being carried.

In the drawings illustrating the invention,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the brief bag.

Figure 2 is a similar view, with the apparel section open, showing the interior of the apparel compartment.

Figure 3 is a detail sectional view of the upper portion of the bag, the straps being omitted.

Figure 4 is a detail fragmentary perspective showing the manner in which the papers compartment of the bag may be closed.

Referring to the drawings:—

The numeral 1 designates the bag as a whole; 2, the section which is provided with suitable compartments for papers, and 3, the apparel section.

The papers section may differ in no way from the interior of the ordinary brief bag and may be provided with the usual locks, straps, and buckles, by which the flap is fastened, although, as will presently appear, the mode of application of the straps which extend entirely around the ordinary brief bag, will be modified somewhat, and advantageously, by reason of the construction and mode of attachment of the apparel section, in that certain parts of said section will serve the purpose as keepers and guides for the straps. Furthermore, the straps, by reason of passing through the bottom of the apparel section may be employed to hold down, or in place, and stabilize flat articles that may be placed in the compartment.

Preferably, both sections of the bag are made of leather, or leather substitute, and heavier material will be preferably used in the construction of the apparel section so that its shape, under conditions of use, will be maintained.

Stitched to the back of the "papers" section is a rectangular member 4, formed with a short flange 5, adapted to lie flat against the back 6, of the papers section and be stitched thereto by stitches 7. Integral with the flange 5, is a flange 8, at right angles thereto, which latter flange is rabbeted as at 9.

The numeral 10 designates the cover or closure of the apparel section. This comprises the flat portion 11, side flanges 12, and top and bottom flanges 13, the inner edges of said flanges being adapted to fit nicely into the rabbet 9, when the section is closed. The cover or closure may be hinged to the member 4 by hinges 14, or of course it may be secured thereto by any suitable means, as for instance, by stitching, in cases where the material of which the apparel section is made, is sufficiently pliable to permit the use

of stitching, or indeed that portion of the member 4 to which the cover is attached, and that portion of the cover itself, where stitching would occur, may be purposely made lighter to facilitate stitching. However, the means of attaching the cover to the member 4 may be varied, and those means employed, that are most suitable for the purpose, or found to be more in line with economy and the proprieties of construction.

As shown, the member 4, is of greater depth than the cover, but it will be understood that this may be made shallower, and the cover 10 deeper, as may be more expedient, since the sole purpose of the combination is to provide, in the apparel section, sufficient space to inclose and conceal articles of apparel, which lie flat, and such toilet articles as are generally used, the greatest thickness of which characterizes (among usual toilet articles) a brush.

As intimated, many brief bags are made with straps such as 14', that extend entirely around them, suitable keepers being provided to hold and guide the straps. The ends of the straps are usually fastened by buckles at the front of the bag. With the present construction these keepers, except such keepers as are required on the front of the bag, or "papers" section, may be dispensed with, since, in effect the recesses 15 in the upper flange of member 4, and the off-sets 16, in the bottom part of flange 8, will serve as keepers and prevent lateral movement of the straps. This is feasible, because the straps being thin, lie flat against the back 6, of the apparel section and will in no way interfere with packing said section.

As shown, the area of the apparel section is commensurate with the area of the papers section, thus providing ample space for including articles of wearing apparel and toilet articles sufficient for short trips.

To hold the cover in closed position there has been illustrated the ordinary type of fastening device, the respective parts of which are indicated by *a* and *b*. It will be understood however, that any fastening devices or locks, etc., in common use, which are suitable, may be employed.

The numeral 17 designates the handle of the bag. In the present instance this is preferably secured by the usual rings, to tabs 18, stitched partly to the "apparel" section and partly to the "papers" section so as to have the point of grip substantially midway (laterally) between the two sections, and thereby insure the balance of the bag when packed.

It will be noted that by reason of the angular member 4, being secured directly to the back of the papers section, the back serves not only as a back for said section, but as the bottom for the apparel section when the bag is placed (most conveniently flat) to gain access to the apparel compartment, in this section.

No attempt has been made to divide or partition the apparel section, or to provide pockets therein for the reception of toilet or other articles, but it is to be understood that this may be done as fancy or convenience may dictate.

The rectangular frame attached to the back of the papers section (which also forms the bottom of the apparel section) gives rigidity to what becomes the back wall of the rear pocket of the papers section, thereby rendering this pocket particularly adapted for storing and carrying drawings, photos, etc., without danger of breaking or injury thereto. Furthermore, the fact that the bottom of the apparel section is the back wall of the last pocket of the papers section and concealed from view, an economy in manufacture results in that this "partition" may be of material much less expensive than leather, thus saving a quantity of leather commensurate with that ordinarily constituting the back portion of the ordinary brief bag.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed as new, is:

1. A traveler's article including a brief bag and an apparel case inseparably united to form a unitary article and each having a closure affording access to the respective part when opened while the remaining closure remains shut, and straps extending through the apparel case and around the brief bag whereby articles in the apparel case may be stabilized and the brief case strapped by the same means.

2. In an article of the kind described, a papers section and an apparel section inseparably united, said sections having one wall in common and having independent closures, each of which is operable to open its section without opening the other section, the apparel section being rigid and inextensible and forming a rigid support for the papers section.

3. In an article of the kind described, a papers section and an apparel section, said sections having one wall in common and having independent closures each of which is operable to open its section without opening the other section, and straps extending through the apparel section and around the papers section whereby articles in the apparel section may be stabilized and the papers section simultaneously compressed.

4. In an article of the kind described, a papers section and an apparel section inseparably united, said sections having one wall in common and having independent closures each of which is operable to open its section without opening the other section, the closure for the apparel section forming a flat cover hinged at one edge to open flat-

wise and expose the contents and the closure for the papers section opening at one edge to permit access to papers therein.

5. In an article of the kind described, a papers section and an apparel section, said sections having one wall in common and having independent closures each of which is operable to open its section without opening the other section, the closure for the apparel section forming a flat cover hinged at one edge to open flatwise and expose the contents and the closure for the papers section opening at one edge to permit access to papers therein, and straps extending through the apparel section and around the papers section whereby articles in the apparel section may be stabilized and the papers section simultaneously compressed.

6. A traveler's article including a brief bag and an apparel case inseparably united to form a unitary article and each having a closure affording access to the respective part when opened while the remaining closure remains shut, the closure for the apparel case opening flatwise to expose apparel therein and the closure for the brief case opening at the edge of the case to conceal the faces of the papers therein, and straps extending through the apparel section and around the papers section whereby articles in the apparel section may be stabilized and the papers section simultaneously compressed.

7. The combination with a brief case having a back cover; of a narrow flange member permanently fixed to said back cover and extending at right angles to the cover around said back cover adjacent its periphery to form a shallow box, and a lid for the box mounted to swing and close and open said box.

8. The combination with a brief case having a back cover; of a flange member fixed to said back cover and extending at right angles to the cover around said back cover adjacent its periphery to form a shallow box, a lid for the box mounted to swing and close and open said box, said flange having portions spaced from the back to provide strap openings, and straps extending through the openings and around the brief case to form stabilizing means for articles in said box and compression means for the brief case.

9. The combination with a brief case having a back cover, a strip substantially L-shaped in cross section extending around the periphery of the back cover, one leg of the strip being secured to the back cover and the other leg projecting at right angles to the cover to form an apparel section, and a closure for said apparel section hinged to the projecting leg of the strip adjacent one edge of the back cover.

10. The combination with a brief case having a back cover, a strip substantially L-shaped in cross section extending around the periphery of the back cover, said strip being substantially L-shaped in cross section, one leg of the strip being secured to the back cover and the other leg projecting at right angles to the cover to form an apparel section, a closure for said apparel section hinged to the projecting leg of the strip adjacent one edge of the back cover, said strip being offset from the back cover at spaced points to provide strap keepers, and straps extending through said keepers and around the brief case.

11. In an article of the kind described, a papers section and an apparel section, said sections being separated from each other by a single rigid partition wall forming the side of the papers section and the bottom of the apparel section, and independent closures for said sections, the closure for the apparel section closing parallel to said wall and the closure for the papers section closing one edge of said papers section.

12. A brief case having an expansible pocket, the rear wall of which is made rigid by the permanent attachment of a stiff box-like member.

13. A brief case having a plurality of expansible pockets, the rear wall of the last pocket being made rigid by the attachment of a stiff box-like member.

14. A brief case having an expansible pocket, the rear wall of which is made rigid by the attachment of a stiff box-like member, said box-like member including a cover arranged to swing at one edge toward and from the pocket portion.

15. A brief case having a plurality of expansible pockets, the rear wall of the last pocket being made rigid by the attachment of a stiff box-like member, said box-like member including a cover arranged to swing at one edge toward and from the pocket portion.

16. A brief case including an expansible papers section having permanently associated therewith an apparel section, comprising a shallow box-like member adapted, in addition to serving as an apparel container, to brace the papers section against bodily flexure.

17. A brief case including a papers section provided with pockets and having expansible edge portions, and a stiff box-like member forming an apparel section and permanently secured to the papers section to stiffen the same against bodily flexure, said apparel section including a cover member and a body on which said cover closes.

In testimony whereof he affixes his signature.

TITIAN W. JOHNSON.