J. FLAX.

BAG.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 15, 1914.

1,121,343. Patented Dec. 15, 1914.

Fig. 1.

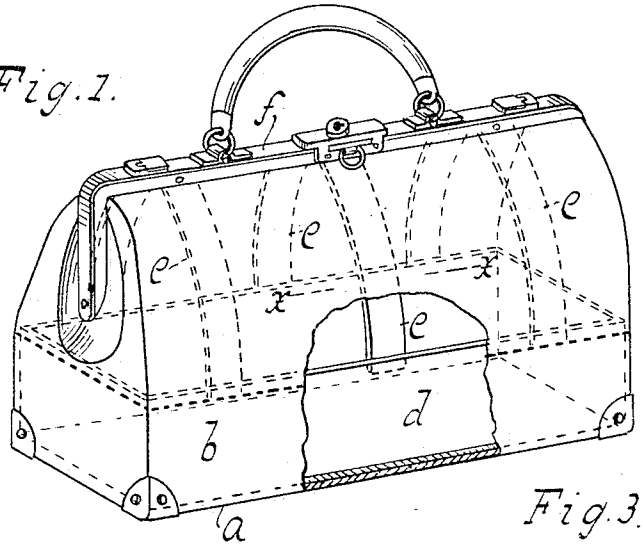


Fig. 3.

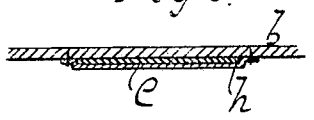


Fig. 2.

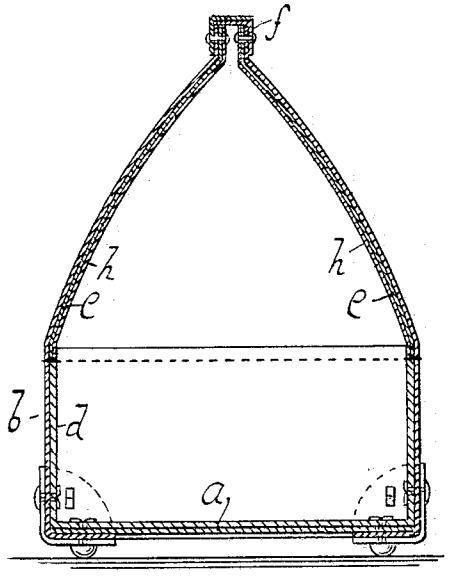
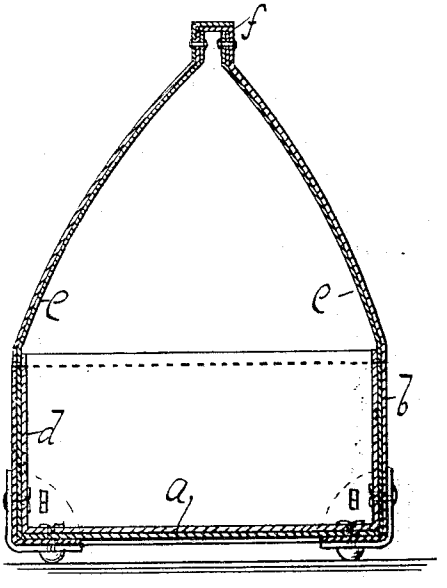


Fig. 4.



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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BAG.

1,121,343. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 15, 1914.

Application filed April 15, 1914. Serial No. 831,960.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH FLAX, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, county of New York, State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Bags, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a new and improved bag and more particularly to the method of construction thereof.

As is well known, traveling bags are subjected to very rough usage and heavy strain. This is particularly true when a bag is packed and other bags or weights are thrown upon it. In such cases, the sides of the bag in a short time become crushed in. In addition to the unsightly appearance of such a bag the pressure tends to break and crack the leather and the bag is soon rendered useless. I overcome these defects by having resilient reinforcing strips secured in the sides or top of the bag. These strips are preferably made of metal although any other springy resilient material may be used.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1 is a perspective view of a bag embodying my invention showing one side partly broken away. Fig. 2 is a cross sectional view of the bag. Fig. 3 is a sectional view in detail of one of the stiffening members taken along the line *x x* of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a view like Fig. 2 of a modification.

In the form of bag illustrated, the bag consists of a usual base *a* having sides *b* which extend for part of their distance straight up from the bottom of the bag. The upper part of the sides taper until they meet at the top or mouth of the bag.

The bag is made with a reinforcing box like member of leather or card board *d* which is placed inside the bag and extends entirely around the inside of the bag and is of the same height as the straight part of the sides and ends. This stiffening member *d* of course renders the lower part of the bag firm and rigid so that it will hold its shape. It becomes necessary however to reinforce the upper parts *c* of the sides as that is where the weight and strain comes and is the part that is usually broken. In order to accomplish this result I place a series of reinforcing strips *e* which extend from the top of the stiffening member *d* to the top of the bag, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, where they are rigidly secured to the frame or jaws *f* of the bag. These reinforcing strips *e* are preferably made of thin light resilient metal, although they may be made of bone or bamboo etc. The strips are preferably secured to the inside of the bag by means of a strip of cloth *h* sewed on each side of the metal strip *e* so as to form a sort of pocket which holds the strip in place. If desired of course the bag may have still another lining to cover both the strip *e* and the pocket *h* so that the reinforcing strips *e* are entirely invisible when the bag is opened. It will be readily seen that these resilient metallic strips hold the upper part of the bag in perfect shape and if any weight or pressure is exerted on the bag, they are sufficient to protect it and when the weight is removed the bag immediately springs back to its proper shape.

In the drawing I have shown but three reinforcing strips but of course any desired number may be used.

While I have shown the strips as starting from the stiffener *d* as indicated in Figs. 1 and 2; they may also if desired extend farther down to the bottom *a* of the bag, as indicated in Fig. 4.

I claim:—

1. A bag having a pair of frames to constitute jaws, a box secured in the lower inner portion of the bag, a series of curved reinforcing strips located along the inner sides of the bag, each strip having its upper end secured to a jaw and with its lower end terminating between the wall of the upper portion of the box and the side of the bag.

2. A bag having a pair of frames to constitute jaws, a box secured in the lower inner portion of the bag, a series of curved reinforcing strips located along the inner sides of the bag, each strip having its upper end secured to a jaw and with its lower end terminating between the wall of the upper portion of the box and the side of the bag, and a pocket to prevent shifting of the strip.

3. A bag having a pair of frames to constitute jaws, a box secured in the lower inner portion of the bag, a series of curved reinforcing strips located along the inner

sides of the bag, each strip having its upper end secured to a jaw and with its lower end terminating between the wall of the upper portion of the box and the side of the bag, and a pocket inclosing the inner portion of the strip.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH FLAX.

Witnesses:
CHRISTIAN H. ALMSTAEDT,
HAZEL V. MCELROY.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."