April 6, 1926. 1,579,668

M. SPELREIN

SUITCASE

Filed Dec. 4, 1925

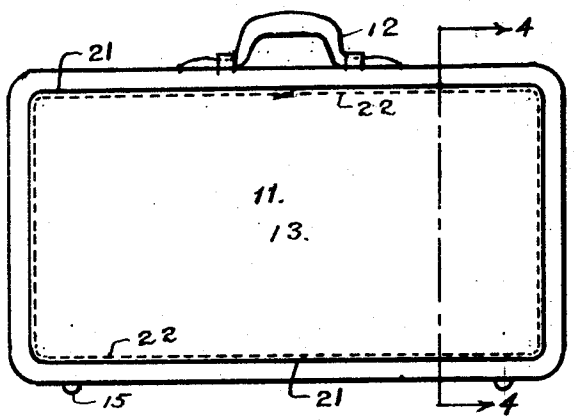


FIG. 1.

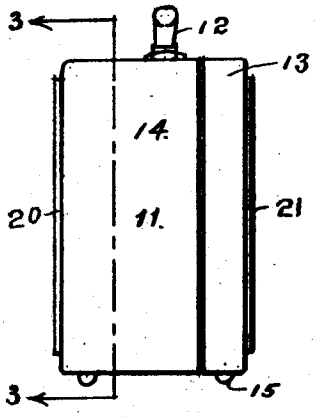


FIG. 2.

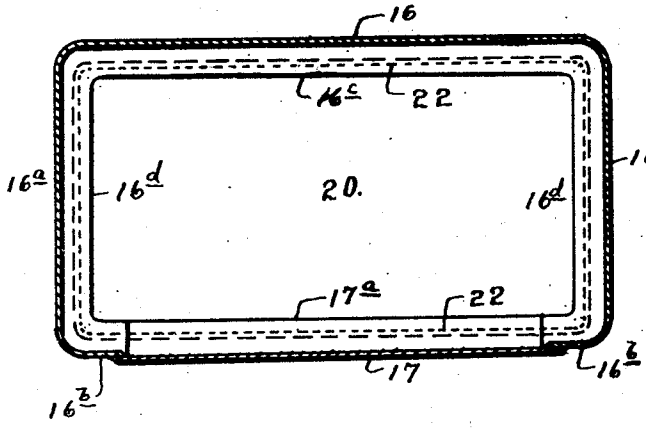


FIG. 3.

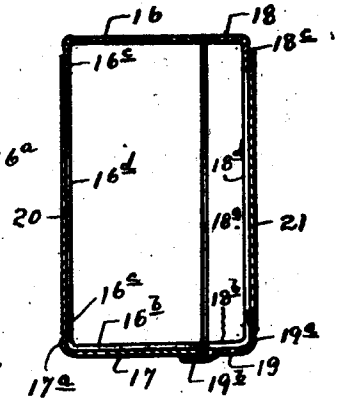


FIG. 4.

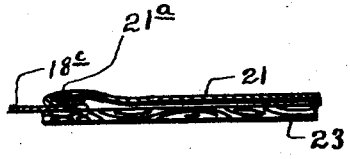


FIG. 5.

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By his Attorney
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Patented Apr. 6, 1926. 1,579,668

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MAX SPELREIN, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

SUITCASE.

Application filed December 4, 1925. Serial No. 73,225.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MAX SPELREIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Suitcase, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in suitcases, particularly to the covering of the same, and it consists in the novel features hereinafter described.

One of the main objects of my invention is to make the covering of a suitcase rainproof, especially the covering of suitcases having rounded edges at the junction of the front of the suitcase with the end faces thereof.

The covering along the rounded edges cannot be stitched on the machine, and it has been the practice heretofore to connect the covering to the wooden substructure along these edges by means of an adhesive, such as paste or glue; the joints thus formed being exposed to the rain, the adhesive would be dissolved and the covering become loosened from the substructure, thereby causing the suitcase to be either abandoned or returned to the factory.

To obviate this trouble I devised to make the covering for the front and end faces of either the main body or the lid of my suitcase of an integral strip of leather or other suitable material, as is hereinafter more fully described.

Another object of my invention is—to have the suitcase covering simple, durable, inexpensive, and attractive in appearance.

Other objects and advantages will hereinafter appear.

I attain these objects by the suitcase and the covering thereof, which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, or by any mechanical equivalent or obvious modification of the same.

In the drawings Fig. 1 is an elevation of my suitcase placed in a vertical position, as when it is to be carried; Fig. 2 is an end-view of the suitcase looking from left to right in Fig. 1; the metal locks of the suitcase are omitted in the drawings.

Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the covering of the main body of my suitcase on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2, looking in the direction of the arrows, omitting the wooden substructure of the covering and all the other parts of the suitcase.

This section is identical with a vertical section of the lid of my suitcase in a plane parallel to that of the first mentioned section.

Fig. 4 is a cross section of the covering of my suitcase on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary detail showing the turned in edge of the cover plates at the top and bottom of my suitcase covering, which is hereinafter described.

The thickness of the covering is much exaggerated in Figs. 3, 4 and 5, for the sake of clearness.

Like numerals and letters refer to like parts throughout the several views.

11 designates a suitcase, comprising a main body 14, which is provided at the front thereof with a handle 12, and a lid 13; 15 are knobs at the rear of said body 14 and lid 13, on which knobs the suitcase 11 may rest when it is placed in a vertical position, as in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings.

The edges at the junctions of the end-faces of the suitcase 11 with the front and rear thereof, are rounded as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings.

An integral strip 16—16^a—16^b, of leather or any other suitable material, has its middle portion 16 applied to the front of the main body 14 of my suitcase 11, the outer portions 16^a extending over the end-faces of said body 14, and the ends 16^b of said outer portions are turned over the rounded edges at the junctions of said end faces with the rear of said body 14, as shown in Fig. 3; a patch strip 17 is then applied to the rear of said body 14, the ends of said strip 17 overlapping the ends 16^b of said strip 16—16^a—16^b, and the ends of said strip 17 with the ends 16^b may be stitched to the substructure of the suitcase, each in a line parallel to said rounded edges and at some distance therefrom.

The strips 16—16^a—16^b and 17 are initially wider than the front and end-faces of the main body 14 of the suitcase 11, and the extra widths thereof are formed into flanges 16^c—16^d and 17^a, which are shown in Figs. 3 and 4, by pressing the same down on the wooden substructure at the bottom of the suitcase.

A similar integral strip 18—18ª—18ᵇ has its middle portion 18 applied to the front of the lid 13, the outer portions 18ª of the strip 18—18ª—18ᵇ extending over the end faces of the lid 13 and the ends 18ᵇ of said portions 18ª are turned over the rounded edges at the junctions of said end-faces with the rear of the lid 13, in a way similar to that shown in Fig. 3.

A patch strip 19 is applied to the rear of the lid 13, the ends of the strip 19 overlapping the ends 18ᵇ of the strip 18—18ª—18ᵇ; both strips are initially wider than the front and end-faces of the lid 13; the ends of the strip 19 with the ends 18ᵇ may also be stitched to the substructure of the suitcase, each in a line parallel to said edges and at some distance therefrom.

The extra widths of the strips 18—18ª—18ᵇ and 19 are formed into flanges 18ᶜ, 18ᵈ and 19ª by pressing the same down on the wooden substructure at the top of the suitcase.

All of the above described overlapping ends are tapered off to appear as one continuous strip of material on the suitcase; the exaggeration of the thickness of the covering in the drawings, however, prevents the appearance therein of said continuity.

Substantially rectangular cover plates 20 and 21 of leather of any other suitable material are then applied over the said flanges 16ᶜ—16ᵈ—17ª and 18ᶜ—18ᵈ—19ª respectively, as shown in Fig. 4, and they are stitched to the flanges through the wood of the substructure 23 at the bottom of the main body 14 and the top of the lid 13 along the lines 22, which are shown in short dots in Figs. 1 and 3, the needle of the sewing machine with the thread passing through said wood in the same way as if it were a layer of cloth.

The strip 19 has also an extension 19ᵇ overlapping the strip 17 and is stitched thereto, thereby serving as a hinge for the lid 13 on said body 14.

The edges of the cover plates 20 and 21 are preferably turned in, as at 21ª in Fig. 5, before being stitched.

By the above construction no glued or pasted joints of any part of the covering are exposed to the rain when the suitcase is in use, and the covering formed as above described is simple, strong, durable and inexpensive, and the cover plates on the top and bottom of the suitcase are very pleasing to the eye.

The substructure of my suitcase may be of any suitable material other than wood, if desired.

Many other changes may be made in the details of my suitcase covering without departing from the main scope of my invention, and parts of my invention may be used without other parts.

I do not, therefore, restrict myself to the details as shown in the drawings; but I intend to include also all mechanical equivalents and reasonably obvious modifications of the same within the scope of my invention.

Wherever in the claims hereinafter the term "base" is employed it is meant to designate either the top or the bottom of the suitcase.

I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. In a covering for a suitcase comprising two parts, to wit: a main body and a lid, each of said parts having a substructure of rigid material with rounded edges at the junction of the front thereof with the end faces thereof, integral strips of covering material encompassing each the front and end faces of the substructure of each part, a flange formed integrally with each of said strips and extending therefrom over said substructure into the top and bottom thereof, and coverplates for said top and bottom, each plate being stitched to the corresponding flange through the material of the substructure at said top and bottom thereby securing each strip along its flange to the substructure of the corresponding part.

2. In a covering for a suitcase comprising two parts, to wit: a main body and a lid, each of said parts having a substructure of rigid material with rounded edges at the junction of the front thereof with the end faces thereof, an integral strip of covering material encompassing the front and end faces of the substructure of one of said parts, a flange, formed integrally with said strip and extending therefrom over said substructure into the plane of the base thereof, and a cover plate for said base, stitched to said flange through the material of the substructure at said base, thereby securing said strip along said flange to the substructure of said part.

3. In a covering for a suitcase having a substructure of rigid material with rounded edges at the junction of the front thereof with the end faces thereof, strips of covering for the front and end faces of said substructure, flanges on the outer edges of said strips, formed integrally therewith and extending over said substructure into the top and bottom thereof, and cover plates on said top and bottom, stitched to said flanges through the material of said substructure at said top and bottom, thereby securing said strips along said flanges to said substructure.

MAX SPELREIN.