April 14, 1964 J. K. SPECHT 3,128,854

HAND LUGGAGE

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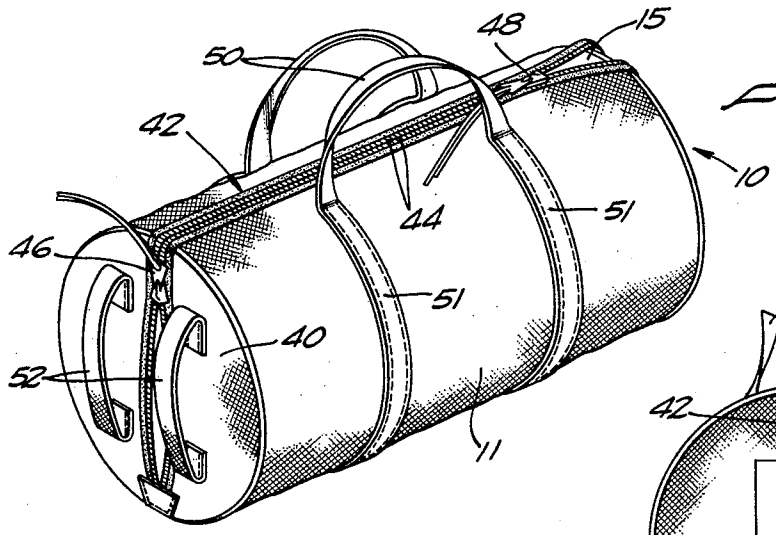


FIG. 1.

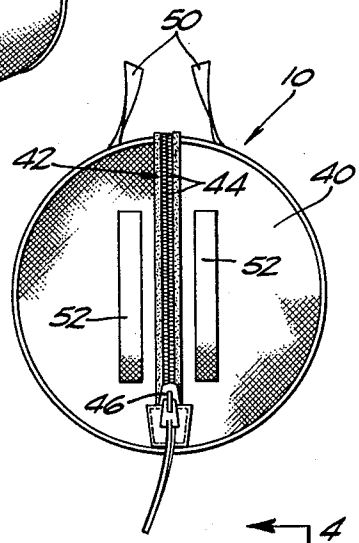


FIG. 2.

FIG. 3.

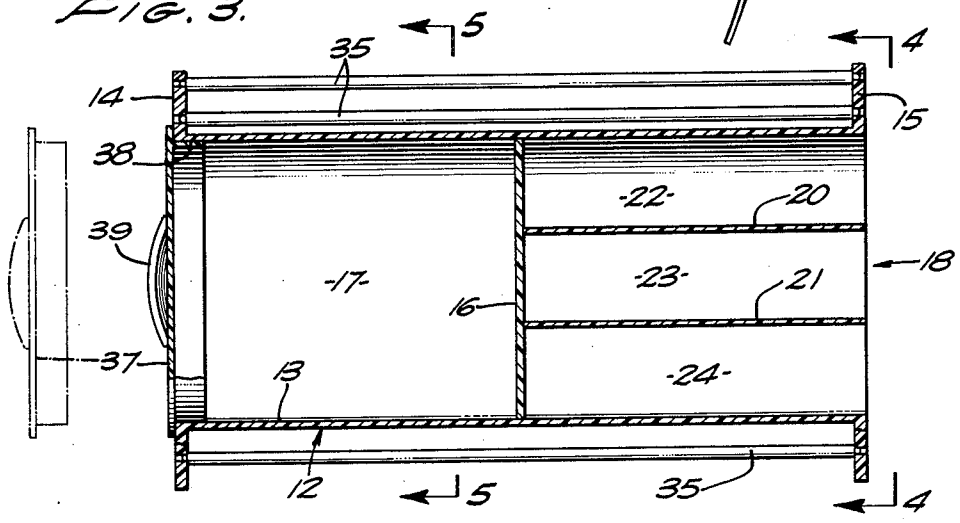
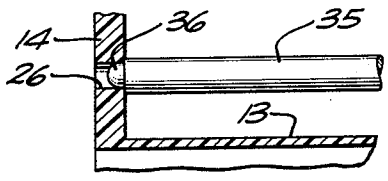


FIG. 7.



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FIG. 4.

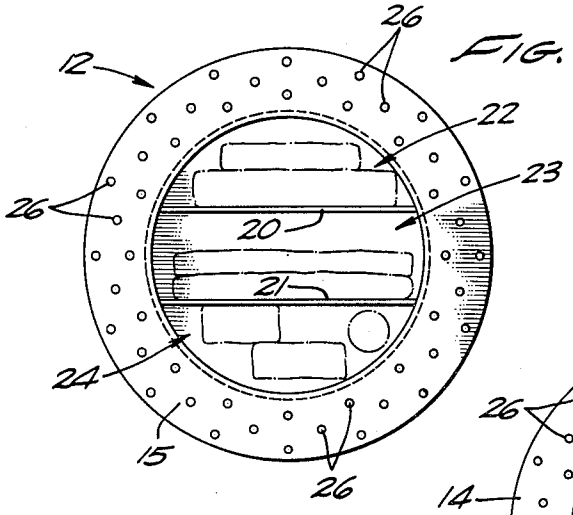


FIG. 5

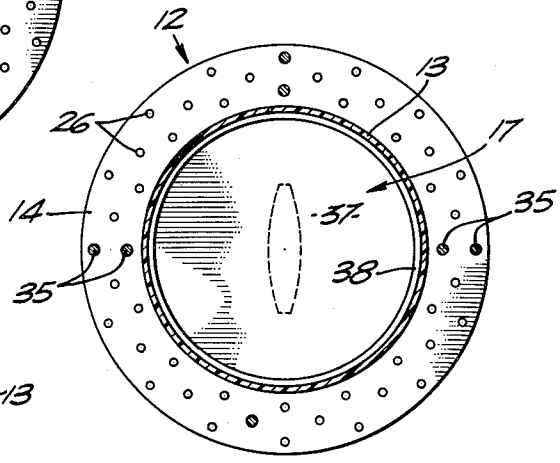
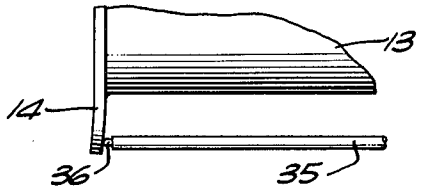


FIG. 8.



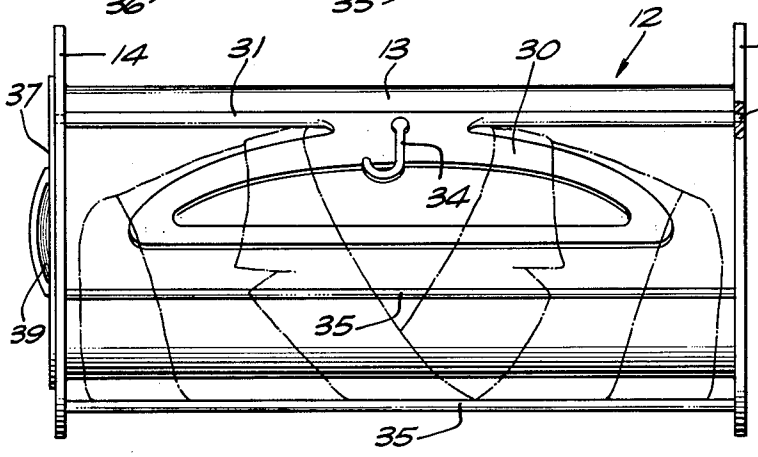


FIG. 6.

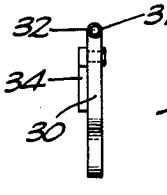


FIG. 9.

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3,128,854

HAND LUGGAGE

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6 Claims. (Cl. 190—41)

The present invention relates to lightweight hand luggage, in which garments and personal effects may be packed while traveling. The primary object of the invention is to provide an attractive piece of lightweight hand luggage that is extremely convenient to use, and in which outer garments such as suits, jackets, trousers, dresses, skirts, etc., are packed so that they are protected against being creased or wrinkled, while other clothing such as shirts, underwear, socks, handkerchiefs, and the like are separately compartmented where they are easily accessible without disturbing the packed outer garments. Thus, the more frequently used personal effects such as toilet articles, are packed separately, and are readily accessible without disturbing any of the other things.

Another object of the invention is to provide a new article of lightweight hand luggage that is inexpensive to manufacture and extremely durable.

These and other objects and advantages of the present invention will become apparent to those skilled in the art upon consideration of the following detailed description of the preferred embodiment thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of a hand bag employing the principles of my invention;

FIGURE 2 is an end view of the same;

FIGURE 3 is a cross-sectional view through the inner core, which is normally contained within the outer cover;

FIGURE 4 is an end view of the inner core, showing how certain personal effects are segregated in their own respective compartments for ready access;

FIGURE 5 is a sectional view taken at 5—5 in FIGURE 3;

FIGURE 6 is a side elevational view of the inner core, showing a hanger with a garment mounted thereon, and the said hanger secured on the end flanges with the garment wrapped around the cylindrical core;

FIGURE 7 is an enlarged fragmentary view, showing one end of the keeper bar engaged in an aperture in one of the radial flanges on the inner core;

FIGURE 8 is a fragmentary elevational view, showing one of the flanges bent outwardly to permit the keeper bar to be inserted between the flanges; and

FIGURE 9 is an end view of one of the hangers.

The hand bag of the present invention is designated in its entirety by the reference numeral **10**, and comprises an outer cover **11**, of canvas or other fabric-like material, and an inner cylindrical core **12**. The cylindrical core **12** is preferably made of a soft resilient plastic molded in one piece, and has a hollow cylindrical center portion **13** with radial flanges **14** and **15** at opposite ends thereof. A transverse partition wall **16** extends across the inside of the cylindrical core **13** about midway between the ends, dividing the interior thereof into two end compartments **17** and **18**. The right-hand compartment **18** is further subdivided by two parallel partitions **20** and **21**, which are perpendicular to the partition member **16**, and these divide the said compartment into subcompartments **22**, **23** and **24**.

Each of the end flanges **14**, **15** is provided with a plurality of apertures **26**. As best shown in FIGURES 4 and 5, the apertures **26** are preferably arranged in three concentric circles, which are equally spaced apart from one another.

The main outer garments to be packed, which would include such items as coats, jackets, trousers, skirts, dresses, etc., are mounted on hangers **30**, one of which is shown in FIGURE 6. The hanger **30** has the usual shoulder-shaped body, and is provided with a transverse rod **31** at the top edge thereof which projects laterally in the opposite directions. The ends of the rod **31** are somewhat reduced in diameter at **32** to seat within the apertures **26**, as shown, and the flanges **14**, **15** are resilient so that they can be bent outwardly enough to insert the hanger cross-bar **31** between them, with the reduced end portions **32** seated in the apertures **26**. A swiveled hook **34** is pivotally connected to the top center portion of the hanger **30** to permit hanging the same on a closet rod, when the bag is unpacked.

One or more keeper bars **35** are provided, which also have reduced end portions **36** that fit into the apertures **26**. The purpose of the keeper bar is to hold down the bottom end of a garment supported on one of the hangers **30**, and to this end, the keeper bar is placed as shown in FIGURE 6, so that it holds the bottom end of the garment against the cylindrical core **13**.

A lid **37** is provided, which may be inserted into the end of the compartment **17** to close the same. The purpose of the lid **37** is to hold loose articles from falling out of the compartment, and to protect any fragile article, such as glass bottles filled with liquid, from being broken by sharp impact of a hard object against that end of the inner core. The lid **37** is preferably molded of plastic, and has an annular, cylindrical flange **38** which fits snugly within the interior of the cylindrical core **13**. There is also a handle **39** on the outside of the lid **37** to facilitate removing the same from the inner core.

The outer cover **11** may be made of canvas or any other suitable material, such as sheet plastic, leather or the like, and is generally cylindrical in configuration, with circular ends **40**, so that it conforms closely to the contours of the cylindrical inner core when the latter is contained within. The outer cover **11** has an opening **42** extending along the length thereof, and diametrically across both ends. The opposed edges of the opening **42** are provided with slide fasteners **44** which interlock to secure the edges together. Two slides **46** and **48** are provided, which are normally at opposite ends of the slide fastener **44**. The slides **46**, **48** are adapted to open or close the slide fastener **44** from either end thereof, so that either end of the cover **11** can be opened to provide access into the corresponding inner compartment of the inner core, without exposing the side or the other end thereof. Normally, only one of the two slides **46**, **48** would be pulled away from its corresponding end of the slide fastener at a time, but in FIGURE 1, both of the slides are shown partly opened to illustrate the manner whereby the slide fastener may be opened from either end.

The outer cover **11** is provided with two handle grips **50**, on opposite sides of the slide fastener **42**, which are preferably formed of straps **51** that pass around the circumference of the outer cover **11**. Another pair of handle grips **52** are provided on each end of the outer cover, as shown in FIGURES 1 and 2.

The manner of using the invention is believed to be more or less self-evident from the foregoing description and illustrations. Outer garments are hung on hangers **30**, which are then attached to the two flanges **14**, **15** and the garment wrapped around the cylindrical core **13**. The bottom end of the garment is held in place by means of one of the keeper rods **35**, which is also engaged at its ends in a pair of apertures **26** in the flanges **14**, **15**. Shirts may be packed in one of the sub-compartments **22**, **23** or **24**, and the other sub-compartments may be used to contain toilet articles, underwear, socks, handkerchiefs, and the like. Shoes, bottles, and other miscellaneous articles

may be packed in the other end compartment **17** where they will be protected by the lid **37**.

When the inner core **12** has been packed with all of the clothing and other personal effects that are to be taken along on a trip, the core is placed inside the outer cover **11** and the slide fastener **44** is closed. The hand bag is then ready to travel. If it is desired to get at the toilet articles or other personal effects while en route, for the purpose of freshening up, shaving, etc., it is necessary only to open the slide closure **44** from one end so as to expose the sub-compartment **22**, **23** or **24** in which the desired article is packed.

The hand bag of the present invention is particularly useful for airplane travel, where weight is an important consideration, but it is also a great convenience when traveling by any other form of transportation, as it provides an orderly arrangement for carrying a considerable quantity of clothing and personal effects, all of which is readily accessible with a minimum of disturbance to the other articles packed with it. Outer garments, being wrapped loosely around the outside of the large-diameter cylindrical core **13**, are not creased or crushed, and can be unpacked after days or weeks of traveling, in almost exactly the same condition that they were packed.

While I have shown and described in considerable detail what I believe to be the preferred form of my invention, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that various changes may be made in the shape and arrangement of the several parts without departing from the broad scope of the invention as defined in the following claims.

I claim:

1. A lightweight travel bag for containing garments and other personal effects, comprising:
- a generally cylindrical inner core, having radial flanges at opposite ends thereof, each of said flanges having a plurality of spaced apertures which are aligned with corresponding apertures in the other flange;
- a hanger adapted to receive and hold a garment at one end thereof, said garment being wrapped around said cylindrical core;
- means at opposite ends of said hanger engageable in one pair of said apertures in said flanges;
- a keeper bar having means at opposite ends thereof engageable in another pair of said apertures, said keeper bar overlying the other end of said garment and holding it against said core;
- means within said cylindrical core forming compartments to receive personal effects;
- a resilient, fabric-like cover enclosing said inner core, said cover being generally cylindrical in configuration to conform to said core, and having an opening extending the length thereof along one side and diametrically across both ends theerof, said opening having slide closure means along the opposed edges thereof; and

handle means on said cover.

2. A lightweight travel bag as defined in claim 1, wherein said inner core has a transverse partition intermediate its ends, dividing the interior of said inner core into two separate end compartments, each of which is accessible from the corresponding end of the core.

3. A lightweight travel bag as defined in claim 2, wherein one of said end compartments is further divided by at least one additional partition extending crosswise within said one end compartment perpendicular to said transverse partition, thereby providing at least two separate sub-compartments within said one end compartment, to receive certain personal effects which are to be kept separate from the other personal effects packed within said core.

4. A lightweight travel bag as defined in claim 1, wherein said inner core is formed of resilient plastic, whereby said end flanges can be bent outwardly to permit engagement of said means at opposite ends of said hanger and said keeper bar in said apertures.

5. A lightweight travel bag as defined in claim 1, wherein said slide closure means on said cover has slide openers at either end, whereby access can be had to the compartments at either end of said inner core without exposing the side or other end of said core.

6. A lightweight travel bag for containing garments and other personal effects, comprising:
- a generally cylindrical inner core of resilient plastic, having radial flanges at opposite ends thereof, each of said flanges having a plurality of spaced apertures provided therein which are aligned with corresponding apertures in the other flange;
- a hanger adapted to receive and hold a garment at one end thereof, said garment being wrapped around said cylindrical core between said flanges;
- projections at opposite ends of said hanger engageable in one pair of said apertures in said flanges, said flanges being bendable outwardly to permit engagement of said projections in said apertures;
- a keeper bar having projections at opposite ends engageable in another pair of said apertures, said keeper bar overlying the other end of said garment and holding it against said core;
- a transverse partition within said inner core intermediate the ends thereof, said partition dividing the interior of said core into two separate end compartments, each of which is accessible from the corresponding end of the core;
- an additional pair of parallel partitions extending crosswise within one of said end compartments to divide the same into three sub-compartments to receive certain personal effects which are to be kept separate from one another;
- a resilient, fabric-like cover enclosing said inner core, said cover being generally cylindrical in configuration to conform to said core, and having an opening extending the length thereof along one side and diametrically across both ends thereof;
- a slide closure along the opposed edges of said opening, said slide closure having a pair of slides at opposite ends thereof, each of which is operable to open or close the slide closure independent of the other, whereby access can be had to the compartments at either end of said inner core without exposing the side or other end of said core; and

handle means on said cover.

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