

July 26, 1949.

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2,477,388

LADY'S PURSE OR POCKETBOOK

Filed Sept. 17, 1946

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

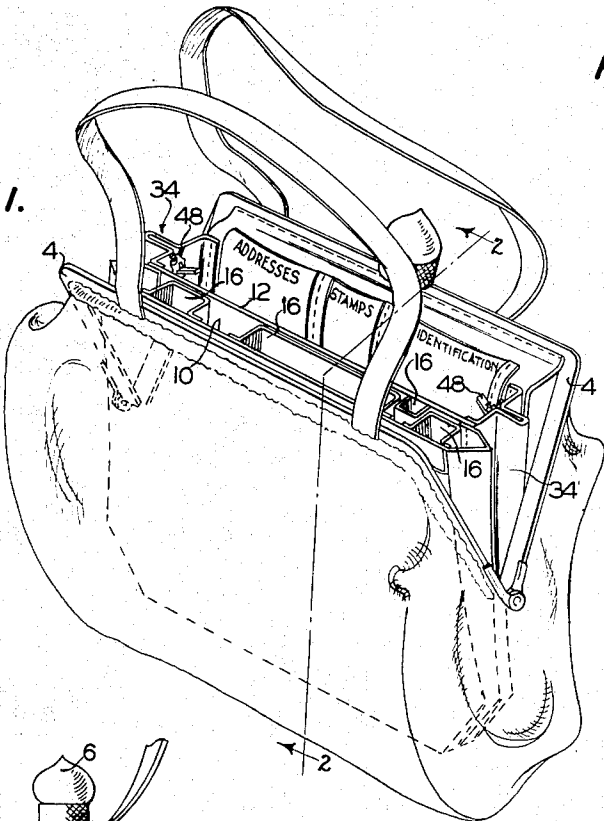


FIG. 9.

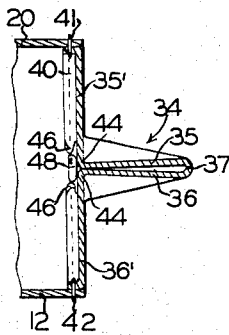


FIG. 2.

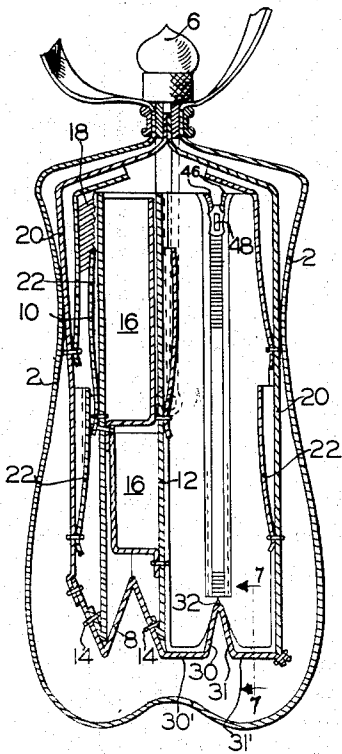


FIG. 10

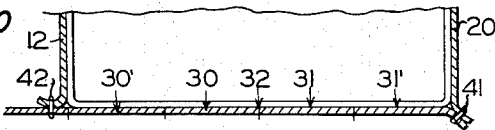


FIG. 7.

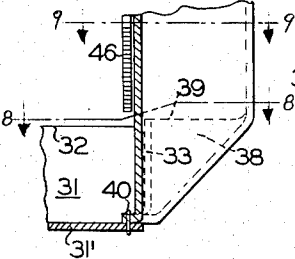
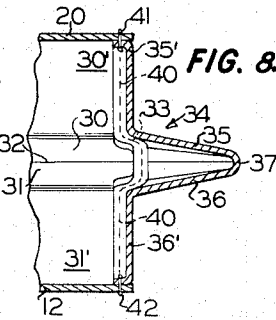


FIG. 8.



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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 3.

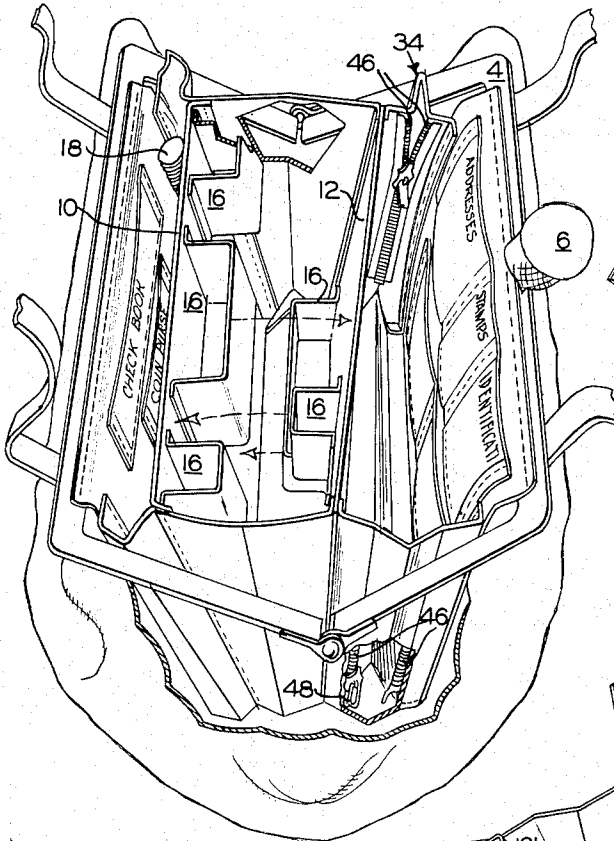


FIG. 6.

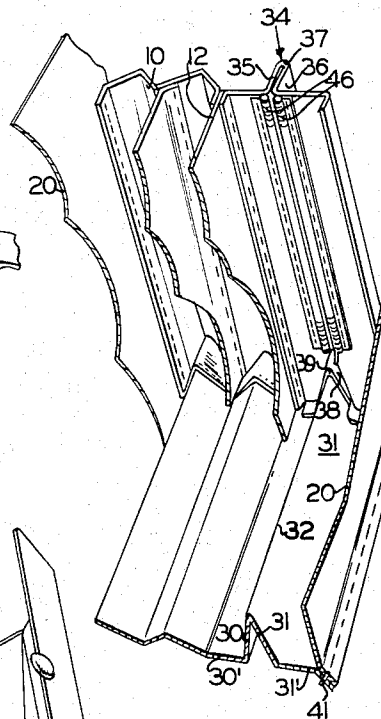


FIG. 4.

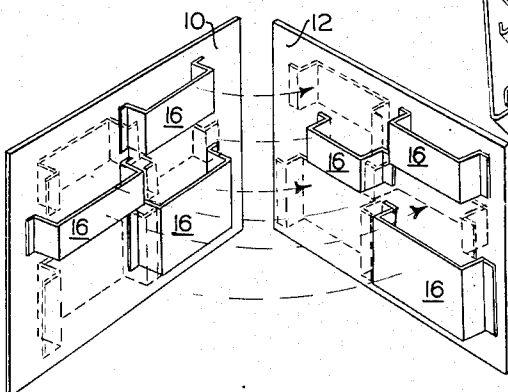
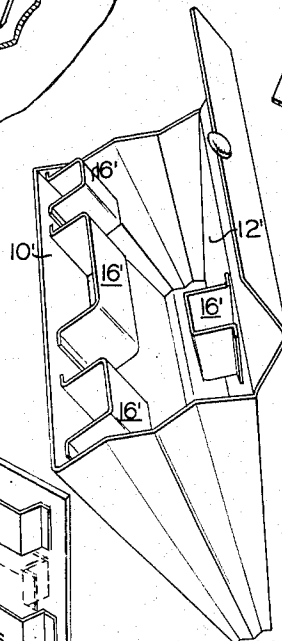


FIG. 5.



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LADY'S PURSE OR POCKETBOOK

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2 Claims. (Cl. 150—34)

1

This invention is a woman's handbag provided with a specialized series of compartments and pockets, for receiving and holding in an orderly manner and in readily accessible positions, the many miscellaneous articles usually carried by a woman in her handbag.

Among the many articles carried by women in their handbags are the following:

Coins	Cigarette cases
Car tokens	Cigarette lighters
Paper money	Fountain pens
Face powder compacts	Address books
Lipstick	Memo pads
Rouge	Check books
Stamps	Comb
Keys	Eyebrow pencil
Cigarettes	Pencils

Several types of handbags provided with a plurality of compartments for holding many of the above articles are on the market today. However, the number of pockets is usually insufficient and there is usually a disorderly mixture of articles in the bottom of the bag in which it is difficult for the user to find what she wants and which mixture creates an unsightly bulge in the bottom of the bag.

The object of the present invention is to provide a handbag containing an improved and specialized series of pockets and compartments on facing walls or facing partitions of the bag, which pockets and compartments are at spaced intervals both laterally and vertically on such facing walls, in staggered relationship, so that the pockets and compartments on one wall fit into or nest into the spaces between the compartments and pockets on the opposite wall, whereby a maximum number of pockets and compartments may be provided without objectionable bulging, due to this interfitting arrangement.

The bag is relatively thin, and it is an important object of the invention to provide a thin handbag, yet which will carry a large number of articles in orderly manner without bulging.

Another important advantage achieved is this: The pockets have a space above them for receiving the pocket on the opposite wall. When a pocket on one wall is in a space on the opposite wall, as it would be when the bag is closed, that pocket will be directly above the pocket on the opposite wall and will serve to a substantial extent as a closure for such opposite pocket, so that the article therein will not readily drop out.

Another feature of the invention is to provide

2

a handbag with bellows or folded bottom and bellows or folded sides, wherein two adjacent edges of one of the vertical bellows sides are normally held together by a detachable fastening device, such as a slide fastener, whereby when the fastener is closed, the side bellows is closed and the corresponding bellows section in the bottom is contracted; when the fastener is released to allow the side section to expand or spread, the corresponding bottom section will expand or spread, thereby increasing the size of the bag and providing a substantial additional carrying capacity whenever that is desired.

The invention will now be described by reference to the accompanying drawings illustrating the invention in more detail, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the handbag of this invention, partly open.

Fig. 2 is a cross section, on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, but with the bag closed.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the bag, opened wide.

Fig. 4 is a diagrammatic view to show the staggered pocket arrangement.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a handbag showing a simplified construction.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary perspective view, showing an expansible compartment.

Fig. 7 is a vertical cross-section to show details of the expansible compartment.

Fig. 8 is a horizontal cross-section, taken on the line 8—8 of Fig. 7.

Fig. 9 is a horizontal cross-section, taken on the line 9—9 of Fig. 7.

Fig. 10 is a diagrammatic sectional view showing a compartment in expanded position.

Referring now to these drawings, the outside portion of the bag is conventional, comprising outside walls 2, frame members 4 pivoted together and a usual releasable catch 6. The bag includes a bellows bottom 8 and a pair of inner walls or partitions 10 and 12, conveniently secured to the bottom at 14.

As shown more particularly in Figs. 4 and 5, the facing walls of partitions 10 and 12 are provided with a plurality of pockets or compartments indicated generally at 16 which are spaced apart laterally and vertically, as shown in Fig. 4, and are staggered, that a particular projecting pocket will fit above or below, as the case may be, the pocket on the other side. Pockets 16 may be of any desired shape and size and number, being tailored to hold specific articles, such, for example, as cigarettes, a lighter, coins, a compact, rouge, lipstick, etc. They may be of flexible ma-

3

terial or stiff material, as desired. When the bag is in closed position, as shown in Fig. 2, the walls 10 and 12 would be spaced apart a distance approximately an amount equal to the thickness of the pockets, due to their interlocking or inter-fitting arrangement. Therefore, the center compartment, between the walls 10 and 12 is relatively thin, reducing the bulk of the bag. It will be evident that an article in a lower pocket 16, Figs. 2 or 4, would be more or less held in its pocket by the presence directly above it of another pocket carried by the opposite wall and so a partial closure of the several pockets is achieved.

As mentioned, the pocket compartments 16 could be of flexible material, such as cloth or leather, or of stiffened material, such as plastic, cloth stiffened with plastic, Celluloid or similar synthetic materials.

On the upper outside or inside portion of one of the walls 10 or 12, one or more coin or token holders 18 is provided, preferably of the type wherein the coins or tokens are held in diagonal overlapping relation, for quick and ready access, particularly in getting out car, bus, and subway fares. Many types of such coin and token holders are known and any convenient style could be used.

Both outside surfaces of walls 10 and 12 are preferably provided with any desired number of pockets, particularly for holding relatively thin, flat articles, such as check books, memo pads, wallets for flat paper money and the like. Such types of pockets are commonly used and for convenience are not illustrated on the drawings.

The handbag is also provided with inner walls 20, the inner surfaces of which are preferably covered with a plurality of relatively flat pockets, as shown at 22, Fig. 2.

However, one or both of the outer walls of 10 and 12, may if desired be provided with laterally and vertically spaced pockets of stiffened material in staggered arrangement, as in Fig. 4; and the inwardly facing walls of walls 20 could be provided with staggered pockets, interfitting with opposite pockets; as in Fig. 4, or with flat pockets, as desired.

Fig. 5 shows a simplified construction, where the handbag consists essentially of two walls 10' and 12' corresponding to the walls 10 and 12 of Fig. 4, provided with laterally and vertically spaced pockets 16' corresponding to pockets 16 of Fig. 4. Pockets 16' are spaced laterally and vertically and are in staggered relation so as to interfit with each other as described in connection with the other figures, particularly Fig. 4.

The arrangement for increasing the carrying capacity of the bag, when desirable or necessary, will now be described, reference being made particularly to Figs. 2-6, and 8. This is accomplished essentially by providing a bellows fold in the bag bottom, which is straddled by and held in closed or folded position by an end bellows action, the end bellows being held in closed position by detachably securing together the edges which straddle the bottom section, thereby holding the bottom fold in the folded or contracted position. For increased carrying capacity, the straddling edges are released, allowing them to separate and expand, and this allows the bottom fold to flatten out and expand, thereby enlarging the bag. This arrangement is optional, and may or may not be used, as desired.

The above-described expandible compartment is shown in association with the compartment to

4

the right of wall 12, Figs. 2 and 3. Such compartment has a bottom fold formed of panels 30 and 31, joining along ridge 32. Panel 30 merges into a flat bottom panel 30', and panel 31 merges into a flat bottom panel 31', connected to the respective bordering vertical walls 12 and 20. This bottom fold is held in folded position by an end bellows section shown generally at 34 and comprising vertical panels 35 and 36 joining at ridge 37. These panels 35 and 36 have their inner, bottom edges folded inwardly and upwardly to form an inverted V gusset 38, the upper edge 39 of which fits over ridge 32 so that the gusset straddles 30 and 31, and may be stitched thereto at 33.

Panel 35 merges into end wall 35', stitched at 40 to bottom 30' and at 41 to wall 20. Panel 36 similarly merges into end wall 36', stitched at 40 to bottom 31', and at 42 to wall 12.

Each of the two adjacent edges 44 of folded member 34 is provided with slide fastener hooks 46, cooperating with the usual slider 48 of the well known slide fastener type. When the slide fastener is closed, as in Figs. 2, 3, and 6, bottom bellows 30, 31 and end bellows 34 are both folded or contracted. To enlarge the bag, the slider of the zipper is moved down to disengage the edges 44, 44 of the end bellows, and the bottom and end bellows expand and flatten out as in Fig. 10, enlarging that portion of the bag by the combined widths of 30 and 31. The opposite end of the expansible compartment is similarly fitted. The opposite or left hand side of the bag, Fig. 3, could be of course be provided with such an expansible compartment if desired. The expansible feature is, however, entirely optional and could be omitted entirely. The entire expansible arrangement could also be reversed, by putting the slide fastener on a bottom bellows section, arranged to straddle an end bellows section.

While the invention has been described in some detail, it should be understood that the invention is not to be limited to the particular details shown, but may be carried out in other ways; the size, number and arrangement of the several compartments or pockets may be varied widely in accordance with the number and size of the various articles the bag is designed to carry. The particular expansible compartment construction could be carried out in other ways.

I claim as my invention:

1. A lady's handbag, comprising a pair of rigid frame members pivoted together to swing on a horizontal axis, latch means at the top of said frame members for latching them together, flexible outer walls secured to said frame members, a pair of vertical inner walls operatively connected to said frame members to move therewith, toward and away from each other, said inner walls, on the surfaces facing each other, being provided with upwardly opening pockets positioned at various levels, with the pockets on one wall in staggered relation with the pockets on the opposite wall, so that when the rigid frame members are latched together in abutting relation, said pockets on the two walls interfit and overlap, with certain pockets on the upper level of one wall directly over other pockets at a lower level on the opposite wall and aiding in closing said lower level pockets, a second pair of inner walls, vertically positioned between said flexible outer walls and said first mentioned pair of inner walls, and pockets at different levels carried by the inner faces of said second set of vertical walls.

5

2. A lady's handbag, comprising a pair of rigid frame members pivoted together to swing on a horizontal axis, latch means at the top of said frame members for latching them together, flexible outer walls secured to said frame members, a pair of vertical inner walls operatively connected to said frame members to move therewith, toward and away from each other, said inner walls, on the surfaces facing each other, being provided with upwardly opening pockets positioned at various levels, with the pockets on one wall in staggered relation with the pockets on the opposite wall, so that when the rigid frame members are latched together in abutting relation, said pockets on the two walls interfit and overlap, with certain pockets on the upper level of one wall directly over other pockets at a lower level on the opposite wall and aiding in closing said lower level pockets, a second pair of inner walls, vertically positioned between said flexible outer walls and said first mentioned pair of inner walls, pockets at different levels carried by the inner faces of said second set of vertical walls, an expansible bellows connection between said

6.

first and second pair of inner walls, and slide fastener means for holding said bellows connection in contracted position.

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