Aug. 16, 1949. J. SCHNEIDER 2,479,269

TRAVELING CASE HAVING A COMBINED HAT-RETAINER AND PARTITION-HOLDDOWN

Filed March 29, 1946 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

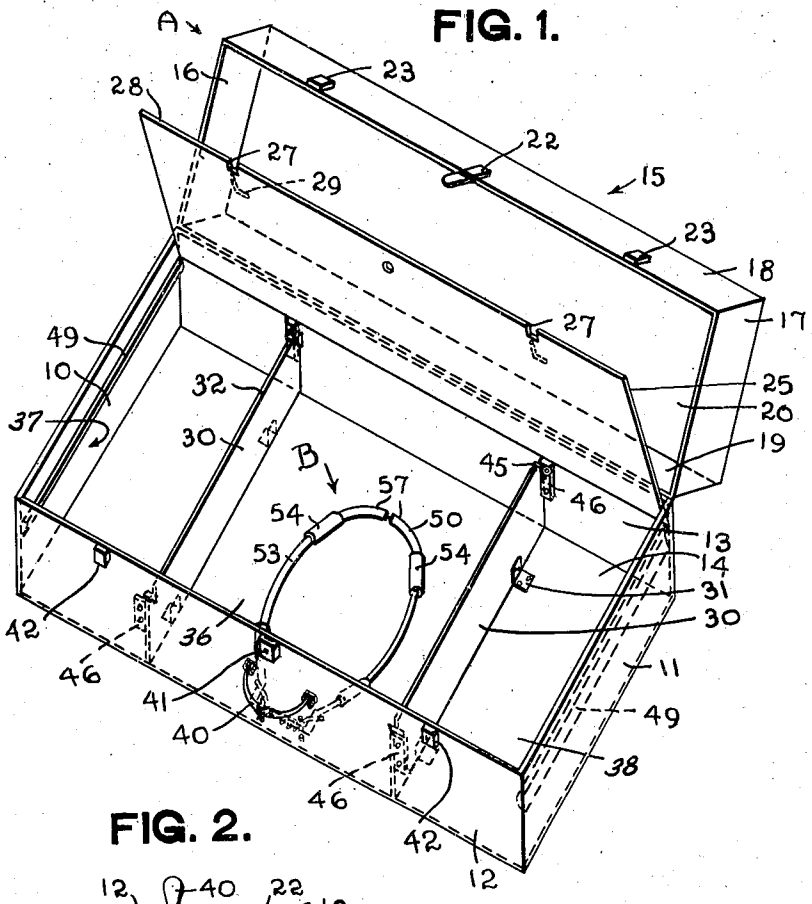
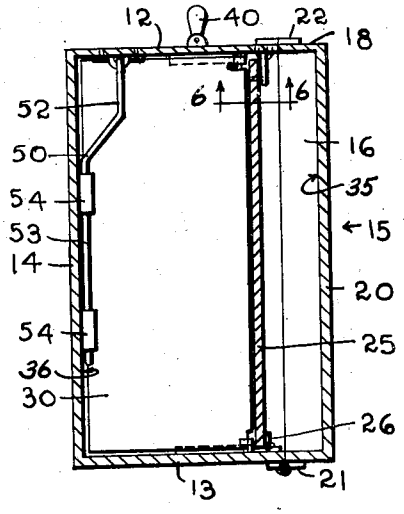


FIG. 2.



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FIG. 3.

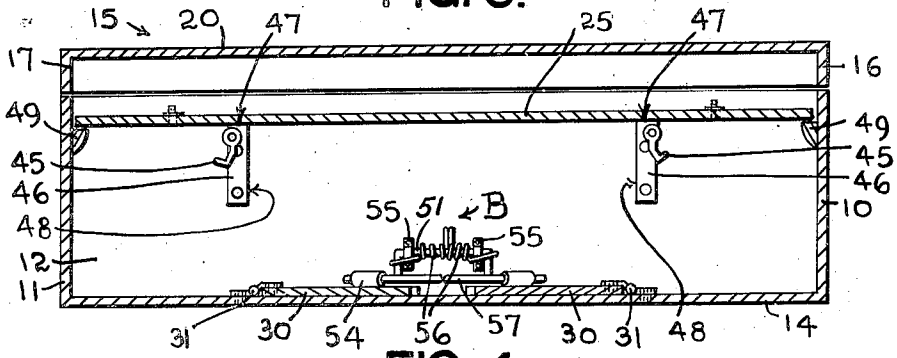


FIG. 4.

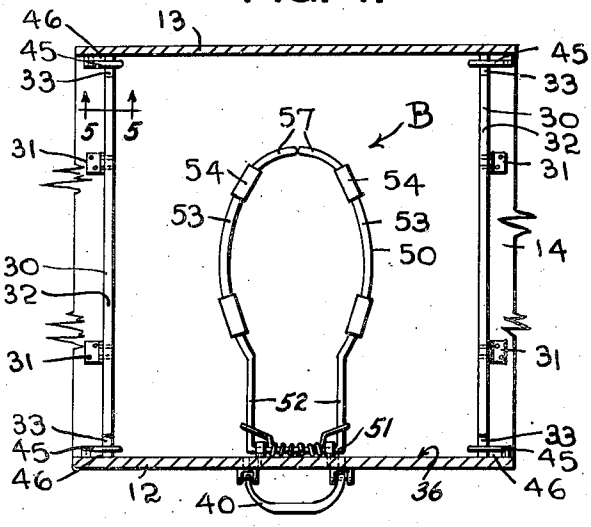


FIG. 5.

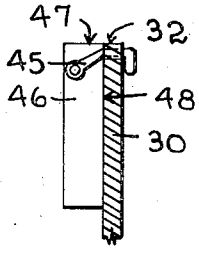
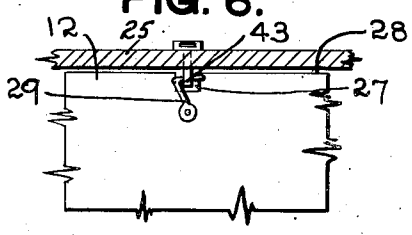


FIG. 6.



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TRAVELING CASE HAVING A COMBINED HAT RETAINER AND PARTITION HOLDDOWN

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Application March 29, 1946, Serial No. 658,140

2 Claims. (Cl. 206—8)

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This invention relates to receptacles for wearing apparel and similar articles and more particularly to receptacles for transporting and storing articles of wearing apparel and the like. Such a receptacle may be a traveling case for clothing, hats, shoes and toilet articles.

An important object of the invention is to provide a removable partitioned receptacle, which may be employed, by manipulation of certain partitions, to provide a compartment for easily crushed or damaged articles, such as hats, and protect them against crushing or damaging.

Still another important object is to provide the receptacle described above, and including hinged partitions as well as novel holddown means to prevent the moving about of a hat contained in one of the compartments described, as well as to retain two of the partitions in out-of-the-way positions when this compartment is not being used.

Another major object is to provide a receptacle as described, in which portions of the holddown means have a very desirable function when not employed in aiding in preventing moving about of a hat or the like.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent during the course of the following detailed description of the invention, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification and in which drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an opened traveling case embodying the invention and with its cover or lid raised.

Figure 2 is a transverse section through the traveling case, with the cover or lid closed and the case disposed upright.

Figure 3 is a vertical longitudinal section through the case, showing portions of the holddown means in its partition holddown position.

Figure 4 is a top plan of the holddown means and with the partitions of Figure 3 elevated.

Figures 5 and 6 are views, partly in section, of latch means associated with the several partitions and are taken on the lines 5—5 and 6—6 of Figures 4 and 2, respectively.

In the drawings, wherein for the purpose of illustration is shown a preferred embodiment of the invention and wherein similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, the letter A designates the receptacle as a whole; and B, the holddown means.

The receptacle A is shown, for illustration, as a traveling case, having end walls 10 and 11, side

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walls 12 and 13, normal to the walls 10 and 11, a wall 14, joining the walls 10 to 13, and a closure or lid 15 normally paralleling the wall 14. This closure has, preferably, end and side walls 16 to 19 and a wall 20 normal thereto, and may be hinged to the wall 13, as by the hinges 21. A suitable lock and latches for the receptacle A may have portions 22 and 23 respectively carried by the wall 18.

As for that portion of the receptacle A embraced by the walls 10 to 14, this encloses a partition 25, extending longitudinally thereof, which partition may be hinged as at 26, have one or more eye-accommodating slots 27 at its unhinged end 28 and a hook 29 associated with each slot 27, pivotally carried upon the partition's upper face.

In addition, it is preferred to provide other partitions, as the spaced-apart transversely-extending, normally paralleling partitions 30, which may be hinged as at 31 to the wall 14 and are adapted, when raised and cooperating with the partition 25 to provide a hat-accommodating compartment as well as two compartments one to one side of each partition 30. Preferably, each partition 30 is so hinged that it will be disposed upon the inner face of the wall 14 as in Figure 3, i. e., with their free ends 32 extending toward each other. When raised, these ends are adapted to extend to the partition 25. Each free end 32 is provided with a pair of hook-accommodating slots 33, as may be seen in Figure 4.

When the partitions 30 and 25 are in use (as in Figures 1, 2 and 4), the receptacle A provides four compartments 35, 36, 37 and 38.

Compartment 35 is defined by the walls 16 to 20 of the closure 15 and the partition 25, while compartment 36, which may be called the hat-accommodating compartment, is defined by the central portions of the partition 25 and walls 12, 13 and 14. The compartment 37 is defined by the wall 10, one partition 30 and portions of the walls 12, 13 and 14 and partition 25, and the compartment 38 by the wall 11, one partition 30 and portions of the walls 12, 13 and 14 and partition 25.

The case A may be provided with a handle 40 and the portions 41 and 42 respectively of lock and latch means, to cooperate with the portions 22 and 23 of the wall 18. The handle 40 and portions 41 and 42 are carried by the wall 12, which also carries a suitable eyed member 43 to cooperate with the hooks 29 as is shown in Figure 6, where one of the hooks 29 and eyed members 43 are shown.

There is provided also latch means for the partitions 30, preferably comprising suitable hook

members **45** pivotally carried by preferably plate or block-like members **46** secured to the inner faces of the walls **12** and **13**, as may be seen in Figures 3 and 4. These hook members **45** are adapted to enter into the slots **33** and engage the inner faces of the partitions **30**, as in Figures 4 and 5. It will be noted, particularly in Figure 3, that the members **46** have their upper edges **47** so disposed that the partition **25** rests thereupon and they thus limit or stop downward swinging of the partition on its hinges **26**, and they have their inner facing edges **48** so disposed that they function as stops, limiting swinging of the partitions **30** outwardly, as is apparent in Figures 1 and 4.

In order to support the extreme end portions of the partition **25**, a pair of conventional stops, compressing narrow lengths **49** of suitable material, may be secured to the inner faces of the walls **10** and **11**, as shown in Figures 1 and 3.

The holddown means B for a hat or the like in the compartment **36** preferably comprises a hat retaining member **50**, which may be a length of wire including a substantially straight spring-and-bearing-engaging or pivot portion **51**, arms **52** extending therefrom and arcuate hat brim-engaging portions **53** extending from the arms **52**, shaped to extend about a hat crown. These arcuate portions **53** may be provided with spaced apart sleeves **54** of rubber or other resilient material to provide cushioning means to protect a hat held by the means B and the portions **53** and sleeves **54** may be termed the arcuate portion assembly. The pivot portion **51** is carried by perforated bearings **55** fixed to the wall **12** which is the same wall carrying the handle **40**. This portion **51** also carries a pair of coil springs **56** as in Figure 4 with one of the free ends of each bearing upon the upper face of an arm **52** and the other free end of each bearing against the inner face of the wall **12**, thus forcing the member **50** toward the wall **14**. It is now obvious that the springs **56** may be threaded upon the length of wire and the latter then inserted in the bearings **55**, the length bent or formed to shape and the bearings **55** secured to the wall **12** in any approved way.

It should be noted that the free ends **57** of the length of wire meet, as in Figure 4. This prevents a hat from moving toward the wall **13** when the receptacle A is upended, with the handle **40** uppermost. By grasping the member **50** adjacent the free end **57** and swinging it away from the wall **14**, against the tension of the springs **56**, a hat may be inserted, with its brim upon the inner face of the wall **14** and, when the crown is clear of the arcuate portions **53**, allowing the member **50** to again swing toward the wall **14**, the hat will be retained in position and held down by the means B.

When the means B is not employed and the partitions **30** not raised, this means B may be employed to retain the partition **30** against flapping, as is clear from Figure 3.

The holddown means B and partitions **30** when not in use, occupy but little room, and the bearings **55** and springs **56** are out of the way as may be seen in Figure 4. Thus, little space is sacrificed.

Various changes may be made to the form of the invention herein shown and described without departing from the spirit of the invention or scope of the claims.

What is claimed is:

1. In a receptacle for wearing apparel, including a hat, said receptacle having a hinged closure, outer walls, including a hat-supporting wall substantially paralleling said closure when the latter is in a closed position, at least one partition, means hinging said partition to said hat-supporting wall to lie flat upon said hat-supporting wall when in one position and to extend normal to said hat-supporting wall and closure when in another position, and means disposed upon said wall to retain a hat against shifting, said means including a spring-pressed hat-retaining member pivoted to one of said walls, and either contacting said hat, when said partition is in said normal position, or contacting said partition, when said partition is flat upon said hat-supporting wall.

2. In a receptacle for wearing apparel, including a hat, said receptacle having a hinged closure, outer walls, including a hat-supporting wall substantially paralleling said closure when the latter is in a closed position, at least one partition, means hinging said partition to said hat-supporting wall to lie flat upon said hat-supporting wall when in one position and to extend normal to said hat-supporting wall and closure when in another position, and means disposed upon said wall to retain a hat against shifting, said means including a swingable clamping member, having an arcuate portion assembly and a pivot portion, said arcuate portion assembly either contacting said hat, when said partition is in said normal position, or contacting said partition, when said partition is flat upon said hat-supporting wall, said pivot portion being operatively connected with one of said outer walls normal to said hat-supporting wall and including a spring to bias said member to a clamping position.

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