May 7, 1946. B. STEMBER 2,399,898

HANDBAG

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Fig. 1.

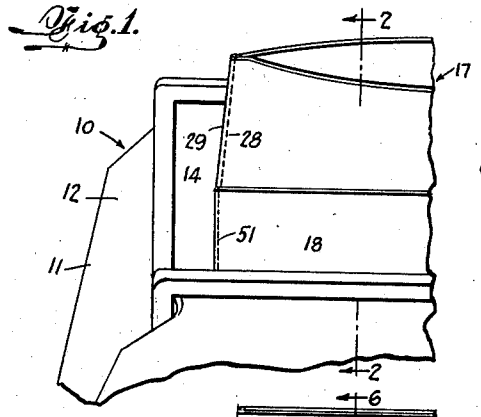


Fig. 3.

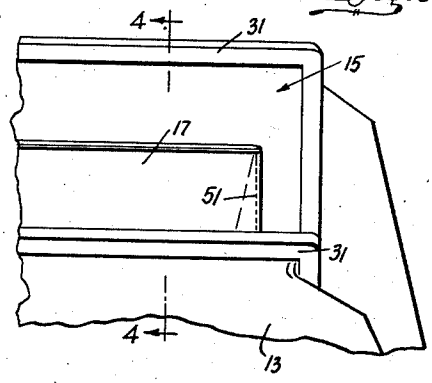


Fig. 5.

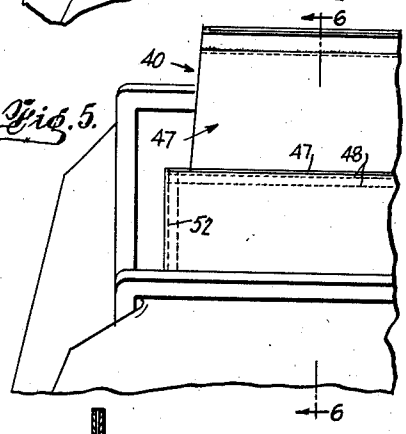
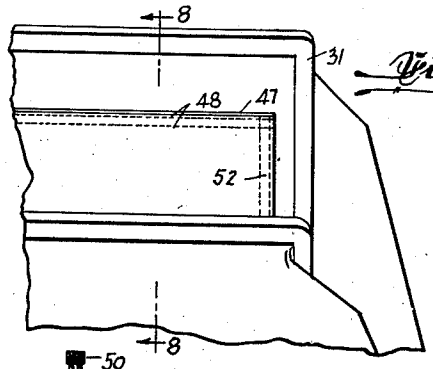


Fig. 7.



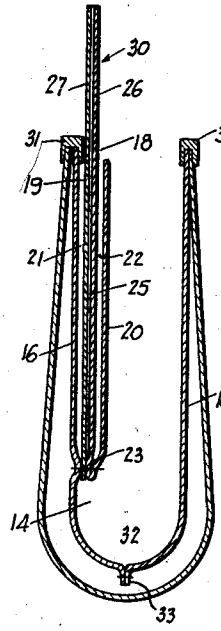


Fig. 2.

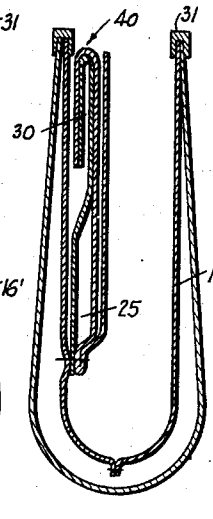


Fig. 4.

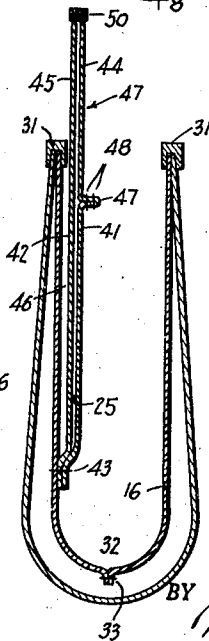


Fig. 6.

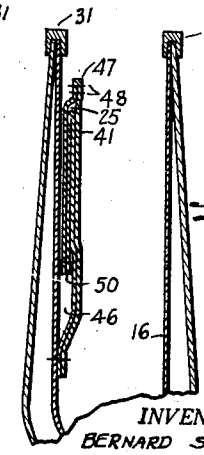


Fig. 8.

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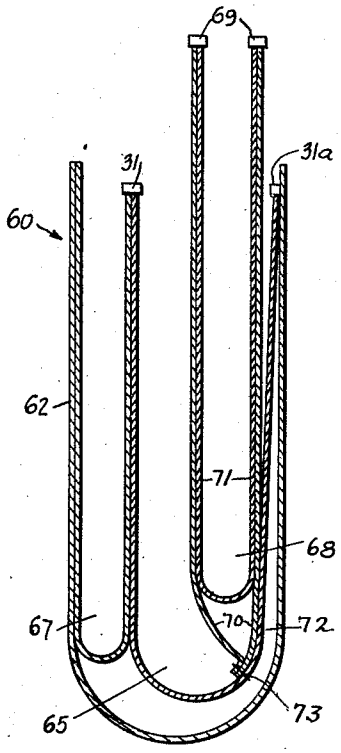


Fig. 10

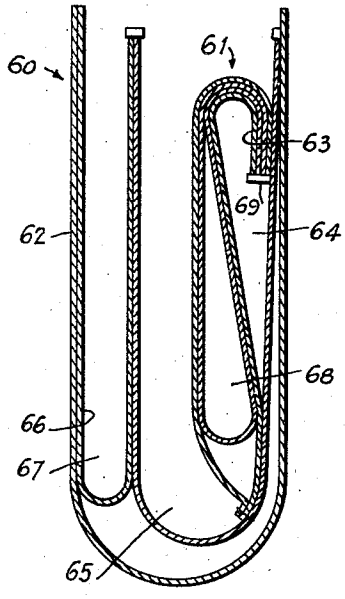


Fig. 9

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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HANDBAG

Bernard Stember, Summit, N. J.

Application January 18, 1943, Serial No. 472,675

1 Claim. (Cl. 150—36)

This invention relates to handbags, has particular reference to secret pockets therefor and constitutes improvements over Patent No. 2,270,775, dated January 20, 1942.

An object of the present invention resides in the provision of a lady's handbag having improved means affording a secret pocket, whereby the latter is more effectively concealed within the bag body than heretofore and is nevertheless readily accessible for use.

Another object of the present invention resides in the provision of a handbag having a secret pocket constructed in an improved means so as to be much more accessible than heretofore.

Still another object of the present invention is to furnish a handbag having a secret pocket means which is movable in part to a position for easier inspection of the contents thereof.

A further object of the present invention is to furnish a handbag having a secret pocket which forms a two-walled partition for another pocket to provide with other substantially parallel members two adjacent lateral pockets, said walls having extensions foldable selectively within either of said lateral pockets to conceal the mouth of the secret pocket.

Another object of the present invention resides in providing extensions of the walls forming a secret pocket in a handbag, the extensions being joined together at their ends providing an extension of the secret pocket and the extensions being tapered at their said ends or made slightly narrower to permit their easy insertion within and withdrawal from either of said lateral pockets.

Still another object of this invention is to form a folding edge at the lower extremity of at least one of said extensions by a line or lines of stitching whereby the said extensions may be easily folded within an adjacent pocket and whereby a finished edge is brought to view when the extensions are folded so that a person other than the carrier of the handbag would not be aware of the existence of the secret pocket.

These and other objects of the invention and the means for their attainment will be more apparent from the following detailed description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, illustrating certain embodiments of which the invention may be realized, and in which:

Fig. 1 is a view in elevation of part of a handbag embodying the invention, with the secret pocket unfolded for access thereto;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken along line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a view in elevation of part of the handbag of Fig. 1, with the secret pocket in folded position;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view taken along line 4—4 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a view in elevation of part of a handbag embodying the invention in a modified form, with the secret pocket unfolded for access thereto;

Fig. 6 is a sectional view taken along line 6—6 of Fig. 5;

Fig. 7 is a view in elevation of part of the handbag of Fig. 5, with the secret pocket in folded position; and

Fig. 8 is a sectional view taken through line 8—8 of Fig. 7.

Figs. 9 and 10 are views illustrating the invention in a further modified form.

The advantages of the invention as here outlined are best realized when all of its features and instrumentalities are combined in one and the same structure, but, useful devices may be produced embodying less than the whole.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art to which the invention appertains, that the same may be incorporated in several different constructions. The accompanying drawings, therefore, are submitted merely as showing the preferred exemplification of the invention.

Referring now more in detail to the drawings, the numeral 10 denotes a handbag embodying the invention. The same may comprise a bag body 11 having side walls 12, 13 affording therebetween a suitable compartment or compartments including a main pocket 14 having a top opening or mouth 15 closed by any suitable means not shown. The main pocket 14 has a lining 16 forming a side wall.

Within the bag body or the main pocket 14 thereof is a pocket means 17 affording a secret pocket 25. The pocket means 17 may be formed of opposed side walls 18, 19, which are disposed between lining 16 and side wall 20, so that wall 19 together with lining 16 provides a pocket 21; and wall 18 together with wall 20 provides another pocket 22.

Wall 20 and wall 18 may be made of a single piece of material folded at 23; or walls 18 and 19 may be made of a single piece of material; or walls 19 and 20 may be made of a single piece of material with wall 18 interposed therebetween. In any event walls 19, 18 and 20 are secured together at their bottom edges to wall or lining 16 by the stitching 24, this constituting the outer auxiliary pockets 21, 22, and the secret pocket 25 defined by the walls 18 and 19 and their respective extensions 26 and 27.

The extensions 26 and 27 of the respective walls 18 and 19 are sewn at their ends by lines of stitching 28 and which are preferably tapered as indicated at 29 to facilitate their reception in either of the pockets 21, 22. These extensions 26, 27, constitute a movable arm or section 30 (Fig. 4) which when folded into either adjacent

auxiliary pocket 21 or 22, converts the secret pocket into a U-shaped pocket means.

Section or arm 30 is shorter than that part of the secret pocket means which is flush with the top edges of the auxiliary pockets 21, 22 and may project beyond the frames 31 of the handbag when the secret pocket means 17 is unfolded as indicated in Figs. 1 and 5. This secret pocket is of hand depth and is preferably above the bottom 32 of the main pocket 14.

The lining 16 of the main pocket 14 which is U-shaped may be made in one piece; or in two pieces 16, 16' joined by the line of stitching 33 as seen in Fig. 2.

In Figures 5–8 is illustrated a modification 40 of a secret pocket means, which for the sake of simplicity is shown as being fabricated in a handbag otherwise similar in construction to that shown in Figures 1–4, similar parts being indicated by identical numerals.

The walls 41, 42 of the secret pocket means are stitched to the lining 16 of the main pocket 14 by the line of stitching 43. Walls 41, 42 may be made from a single piece of material folded adjacent stitching 43, or may comprise separate pieces seamed together at their bottoms by the line of stitching 43.

Walls 41, 42 have extensions 44, 45, respectively, which when the secret pocket 49 is in unfolded position projects above the frame members 31 (Figs. 5 and 8), and when in folded position project within auxiliary pocket 46 formed by the lining 16 and wall 45 of the secret pocket means (Figs. 7 and 8).

In order to facilitate folding of section 47 of the pocket means 40 within auxiliary pocket 46 and for another purpose made evident later on, the material forming wall 41 and its extension 44 is gathered, pinched or folded upon itself, that is, a fold is made projecting within the main pocket 14 as indicated at 47, and this fold is maintained by parallel lines of stitching 48. Thus, this fold line marks the separation of extension 44 from the wall proper 41, and facilitates folding and retention of section 47 within auxiliary pocket 46. Furthermore, this fold means with its lines of stitching 48 give a finished appearance at the fold line and is deceptive to a stranger when the handbag is open, giving the impression that it is the edge of only pocket 46 and not the fold line of a secret pocket.

The opening to the secret pocket 49 may be releasably closed by a marginal closure or slide fastener 50.

The lines of stitching 51 (Figs. 1 and 3) and 52 (Figs. 5 and 7), respectively, comprise means interconnecting the opposed side walls 18, 19; 41, 42, with the side wall 16 of the main pocket 14 so that the secret pocket means forms a partition providing an auxiliary pocket 46 in the form shown in Figs. 5–8; and auxiliary pockets 21, 22 in the form shown in Figs. 1–4, the partition lying wholly on the same side of the main pocket 14 as the auxiliary pocket or pockets; the said interconnecting means terminating substantially below the top opening of the secret pocket to constitute the upper portion of the secret pocket means a section foldable about a line adjacent the upper end of the interconnecting means.

In Figs. 9 and 10 is shown a modification 60 where the pocket means 61 is set somewhat lower in the bag body 62, the movable arm or section 63 of the U-shaped form being received in the adjacent auxiliary pocket 64 which may be like the pocket 21 or 46. The movable section may be projected beyond the closure 31, 31a when the pocket means 61 is unfolded as indicated at 61 in Fig. 9. The secret pocket is of hand depth and is above the bottom of the main pocket 65. Section 63 may form a rather short flaplike portion so that it may be detachably secured to an adjacent part of the device 61, but, in general, the pocket 64 will serve to hold it down snugly, especially at the opposite ends of the pocket 64. In addition the device 60 includes a lining 66 for the pocket 67 in the bag body 62. The pocket means 61 is formed of opposed walls 70 and a lining 71 therebetween folded to form the secret pocket 68 and arranged to afford an end opening which may be releasably closed by a marginal closure or slide fastener 69. The walls 70 may be secured to the lining or wall 72 in any suitable manner as by the seam or stitching 73.

It will be noted that the structures afforded by this invention is superior to those heretofore provided in respect to accessibility of the secret pocket and its concealment. Heretofore, the means assuring secrecy formed obstructions and encumbrances against access, which are wholly eliminated herein.

Having thus described my invention, what is claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is:

A handbag including a bag body having side walls defining therebetween a main pocket open at the top of the bag body, and a secret pocket means within the main pocket, the secret pocket means having opposed side walls interconnected at the side and bottom edges thereof and having a top opening, means interconnecting said opposed side walls with one side wall of the main pocket so that the secret pocket means forms a partition in the main pocket providing an auxiliary pocket with the said side wall of the main pocket, a longitudinal fold line being formed in said partition, the said interconnecting means terminating substantially below the said top opening to provide an upper secret pocket portion foldable about said longitudinal fold line to constitute with said fold line the upper portion of the secret pocket means a section foldable about said fold line substantially at the upper end of said interconnecting means, said upper portion being substantially shorter than the portion of the secret pocket below said fold line, said upper portion being downwardly folded upon said line into the auxiliary pocket with the latter retaining and confining the said folded portion and concealing the opening thereof, said fold line in said upper portion of the secret pocket means forming substantially the top edge of said partition and serving to prevent articles in the lower part of the secret pocket means from slipping into the said upper folded portion thereof in the folded position of the latter, and at least one line of stitching running through said fold line and maintaining said fold line, said stitching constituting a trimming giving the appearance of a finished edge to said fold line when said section is folded within said auxiliary pocket.

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