

July 26, 1927.

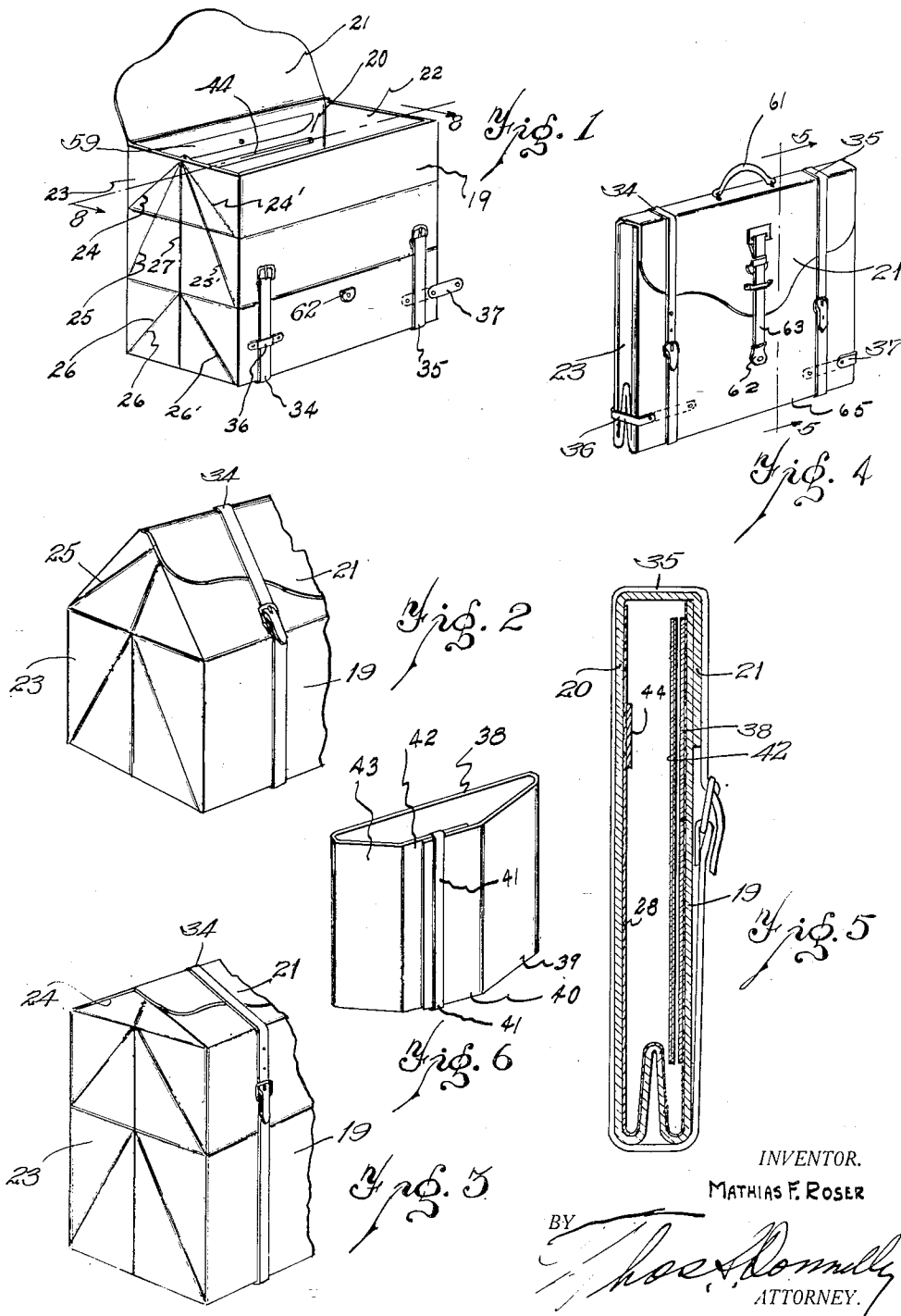
M. F. ROSER

1,636,838

COLLAPSIBLE HAND BAG

Filed April 15, 1925

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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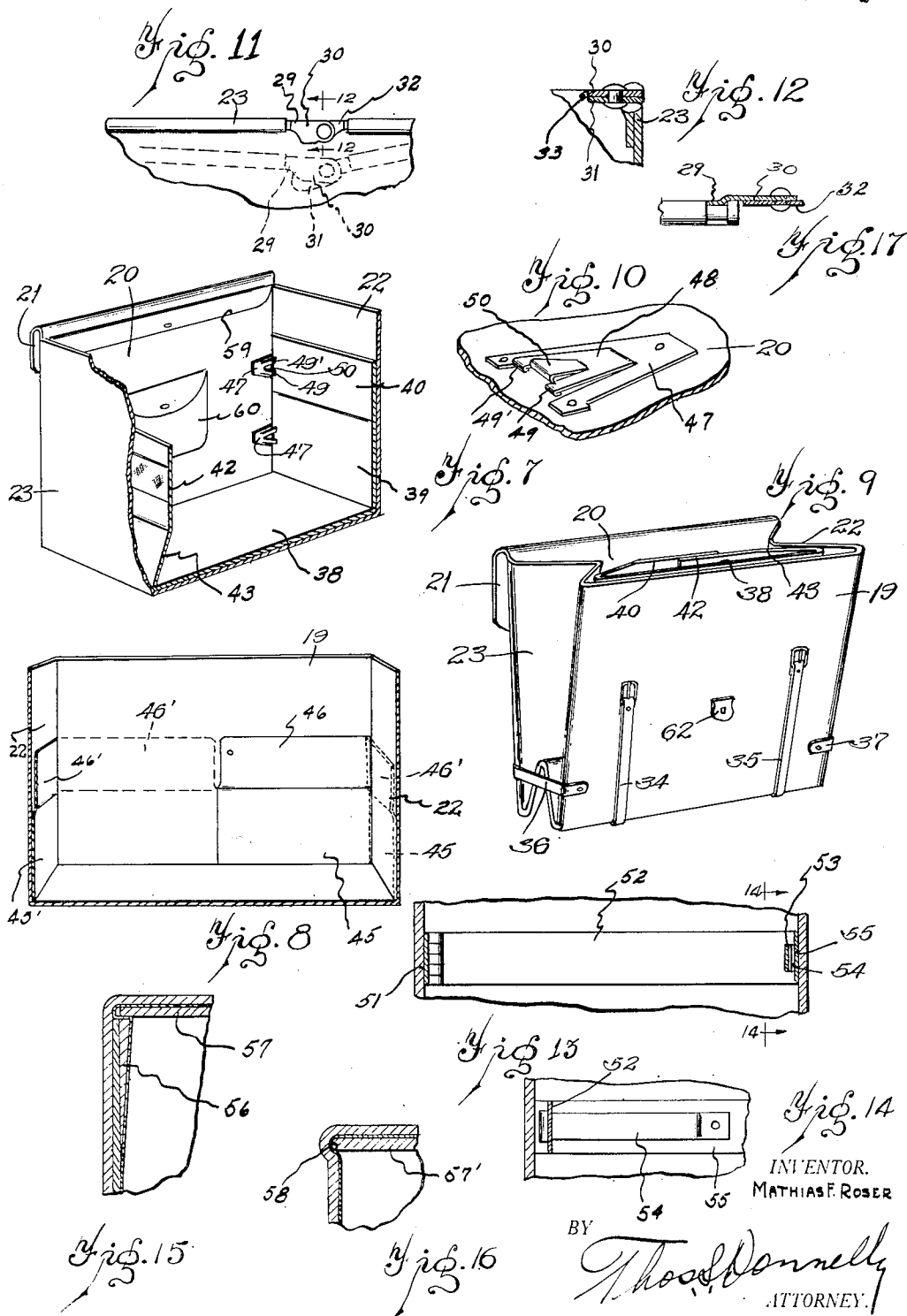
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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MATHIAS F. ROSER, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

COLLAPSIBLE HAND BAG.

Application filed April 15, 1925. Serial No. 23,231.

My invention relates to a new and useful improvement in a collapsible hand bag and has for its object, the provision of a hand-bag which may be folded into a compact form, to provide a portfolio, so arranged and constructed as to be durable in its structure, economical in its manufacture, easily moved into its various forms and securely locked in the various forms to which moved.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a hand bag of this class, having a detachable folio packet adapted for use as a reinforcing bottom, and provided with flaps for retaining the hand bag in distended position.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a hand bag collapsible in the manner described, and adapted for folding into a plurality of shapes, so as to provide a hand-bag of various sizes according to the uses of the user.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

The invention consists in the combination and arrangements of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention will be best understood from a reference to the accompanying drawings which form a part of the specification and in which,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the invention in distended form, with the cover flap open,

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary perspective view of the invention showing its use as a low hand bag,

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary perspective view of the invention in closed position, illustrating a larger hand bag,

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the invention folded into a compact form, to provide a portfolio,

Fig. 5 is a sectional view taken on substantially line 5—5 of Fig. 4,

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the detachable packet device,

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary perspective view of the bag with parts removed,

Fig. 8 is a perspective view with parts broken away, illustrating the retaining means for retaining the bag in distended form,

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of the invention folded to provide a portfolio showing it in open position,

Fig. 10 is a perspective view of a locking device used in the invention,

Fig. 11 is a fragmentary perspective view of a reinforcing locking device used in the invention,

Fig. 12 is a sectional view taken on substantially line 12—12 of Fig. 11, in inverted position,

Fig. 13 is a fragmentary side elevational view of a modified form of locking device with parts in section,

Fig. 14 is a sectional view taken on substantially line 14—14 of Fig. 13,

Fig. 15 is a fragmentary sectional view illustrating a modified form of the retaining means for the distending flaps,

Fig. 16 is a further modified form of the retaining means illustrated in Fig. 15.

Fig. 17 is a fragmentary side elevational view of the joint shown in Fig. 12 partly in section.

As shown in the drawing, the invention comprises a hand-bag having a front wall 19 and a rear wall 20, to which is attached the cover flap 21. End walls 22 and 23 are provided, each of which is adapted for folding on the lines 24, 24', 25, 25', 26, 26' and 27. The bag may be made from leather, as shown in Fig. 5 and provided with a lining 28. If desired, the lining 28 may be dispensed with, according to the tastes of the purchaser or manufacturer. As shown in Fig. 1, there is extending along the upper edge of the end wall 23, a reinforcing rod 29, having an enlargement 30 at one end thereof, which is pivotally connected to an enlargement 31, formed on the reinforcing rod 32, these rods being positioned in sleeves formed in the end wall 23. As clearly seen in Fig. 12, one end 33 of the enlargement 30 is offset, so as to form a lock for the enlargement 31, when the rods 29 and 32 are in aligning position, so that the bag will be retained in its open position.

In the form shown in Fig. 2, the side walls 19 and 20 are folded inwardly toward each other on the lines 25 and 25', so that a hand-bag is provided which is of shallow depth. In the form shown in Fig. 3, the front wall 19 and the rear wall 20 are folded upon themselves along the lines 24 and 24', the end walls 23 and 22 being flexed inwardly a little, so as to provide a hand-bag of considerably greater depth than the hand-bag illustrated in Fig. 2. This formation of the various sized hand bags from the same side and end walls is effected merely because of the position of folding.

In Fig. 4, the hand bag is illustrated as a portfolio case, the bottom being folded upwardly inwardly after the end walls 22 and 23 have been folded inwardly on the line 27.

5 Extending around the hand bag are straps 34 and 35 which pass through loops formed by the straps 36 and 37. These straps 36 and 37 are pivotally fastened at one end and adapted at their opposite end for snapping

10 into loop-forming position shown by the strap 36 in Fig. 1. When the hand bag is folded into the form shown in Fig. 4, the straps 36 and 37 may be loosened at one end, and snapped onto the rear wall 20, so as to

15 retain the bottom of the portfolio in compact form. In this way, these straps 36 and 37 serve the double function indicated. In Fig. 2, I have shown the hand bag without the straps 36 and 37, although it is apparent that

20 they may be utilized on the hand bags shown in Fig. 2 and Fig. 3, if desired. For use with the hand bag, I have provided a packet which has a main body portion 38 provided with the flap 39 having a swingable extension 40, which is adapted to engage between

25 a band 41 and an extension 42 formed on the flap 43, which projects from the opposite end of the main body 38. As shown in Fig. 9, this packet may be placed in the portfolio and as shown in Fig. 5, its width is less than

30 the height of the front and rear walls 19 and 20, so that it may be, when positioned in the hand bag, extended into the form shown in Fig. 6, as is clearly seen in Fig. 5, to provide a holder for papers and other documents. I have also provided in the interior

35 of the bag, as shown in Fig. 5 and Fig. 1, an elastic band 44, which may be used for retaining papers in upright position in the bag, or in the portfolio.

As already described, the rods 29 and 32 will serve to retain the bag 20 in its distended or open position, as shown in Fig. 1. In order to retain the front and rear wall in extended position, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and

45 3, I have provided retaining means, which are variously constructed, although operating in substantially the same manner. In Fig. 8, I have shown a flap 45, which is hingedly connected at one end to the rear wall 20 of the hand bag in any desired manner. This flap 45 is provided with an extension 46, which is foldable upon the flap 45 and so arranged that, when extended

50 transversely of the hand bag, it lies in engagement with the wall 22, to retain the front and rear walls in separate position. A similarly constructed and mounted flap 45' is provided with the foldable extension 46' adapted to extend transversely of the bag and in engagement with the end wall 23. In this way, the flaps 45' and 45 may be swung to either the transversely extending position, as shown by 45' in Fig. 8, or to the longitudi-

55 nally extending position, as shown by 45 in

Fig. 8. When moved to the longitudinally extended position, the bag may be folded, adapted for use as a portfolio case, as shown in Fig. 4 and the flaps 45' and 45, with their extensions, are closely positioned against the rear wall, so as to render no obstruction.

When folded into the transversely extending position, the extensions 46 and 46' may be folded upon the flap portions 45 and 45', in which case the hand bag shown in Fig. 2 may be constructed. When the extensions 46 and 46' are in upright position, as shown in Fig. 8, a form of the hand bag shown in Fig. 3 becomes possible. With the swingingly mounted flaps 45 and 45', I have provided a locking means which comprises a blank 47, having a tongue 48 pressed therefrom and provided, at its ends, with bifurcations 49 and 49' which are struck so as to lie slightly out of the plane of the main body of the

85 strip 47. Struck from the tongue 48, at its outer end, is another tongue 50, which is slightly displaced relatively to the bifurcations 49 and 49', so that the tongue 50 lies in a separate plane from the bifurcations 49' and 49. These fastening means are mounted on the front or rear walls, so that, when the flaps 45 and 45' are swung into transversely extending position, they will engage behind the bifurcations 49 and 49', these bifurcations serving to retain the flaps in operative position to maintain the bag in distended position. One of these fasteners is fastened to engage the flaps 45 and 45' and another is positioned slightly above, as shown in Fig. 7, to engage the extensions 46 and 46'. When, however, the extensions are folded upon the flaps and swung to transversely extending position to retain the hand bag in distended form, the flaps 45 and 45' will engage behind the bifurcations 49 and 49' and the extensions will engage the tongue 50. These extensions, as shown in the drawings being of slightly less width than the flaps 45 and 45'. In order to release the flaps and their extensions from their operative position, it is but necessary to press the tongue 50 inwardly to permit the disengagement.

In Fig. 13 and Fig. 14, I have shown a modified form of distending means, comprising a metal strip 51, which is connected to either the rear or front wall of the hand bag and has swingingly connected to its end, so as to lie in engagement with one of the end walls of the bag, a metallic strip 52, which has an opening 53 formed in one end, to ride over the tongue 54 mounted upon a metal strip 55, which is mounted upon either the front or rear wall, opposite to the wall upon which the strip 51 is mounted. The construction is such that, when the metal strip 52 is swung into position at right angles to the strip 51, the front and rear walls will be held in distended position, as shown in Fig. 1, the strip 52 being rigid and extend-

ing between the front and rear walls. When the strip 52 is swung into parallel position relatively to the strip 51, the collapsing of the bag may take place.

5 In Fig. 15, I have shown a modified form of structure for retaining the distending flaps in position. In this form, the side wall of the bag is built up as at 56, to provide with the end wall of the bag, a channel for engaging the end of the flap 57, the flaps being positioned behind the built up portion 56 at their ends.

10 In Fig. 16, I have shown a further modified form in which a hand bag, itself, is provided with a pocket 58, extending vertically to the bottom in which the flap 57' may engage.

As shown in Fig. 7, the main body 38 of the packet may be used as a false bottom for the bag, the flaps 39 and 43, with their respective extensions 40 and 42 serving to act as the distending flaps, to retain the bag in the position shown in Fig. 7 and Fig. 1. These flaps are fastened by the fasteners already described, and shown in Figs. 10, 15 and 16 and may serve the function of the flaps previously described.

It will be noted in Fig. 1 and Fig. 7, that I have provided a pocket 59 which may be dispensed with, if desired. This pocket 59 is further provided with a pocket 60 for the reception of small articles.

The device is, of course, provided with a handle 61, which may be of any desired structure, and with the lock 62, which is fastened to a co-operating part mounted on the adjustable strap 63, so that, when the bag is distended, the locking device may be utilized as well as when it is in the compact form shown in Fig. 4.

40 It is thus seen that I have provided a handbag which is adaptable for performing various functions and which is equipped with distending means which are efficient for the purpose and require a minimum of space in the handbag, so as to permit the carrying of a maximum amount of material in a handbag or traveling case. It is apparent that many modifications may be made in the invention, particularly relating to the method of holding the fold in compact form, as shown in Fig. 4.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

55 1. A hand bag of the class described, comprising a foldable bottom and foldable side and end walls, for permitting the folding of the bag into a form to provide a portfolio; a separable member having a main body portion substantially the same size as the bottom of said hand bag and adapted to lie in engagement therewith, when placed in said hand bag; flaps swingably mounted on opposite sides of said main body portion, said

flaps being jointly of greater length than said main body portion and foldable upon themselves, said flaps being adapted for raising into an upright position, when positioned in said hand bag for retaining the end walls of said hand bag in distended form, and for permitting the cover of said hand bag to be closed, said flaps being foldable upon themselves, to permit the closing of said hand bag to provide a hand bag of different sizes; clips mounted on said side walls for engaging said flaps when extended to upright position, said clips being adapted for engaging a double thickness of said flaps, when said flaps are folded upon themselves.

2. A hand bag of the class described having a foldable bottom and foldable side and end walls, to permit the folding of said hand bag into compact form to provide a portfolio case; a separable member having a main body portion substantially the same size as the interior of the bottom portion of said hand bag, and adapted for lying in engagement therewith, when placed therein; a joint flap mounted on each side of said main body portion in swingable relation, and adapted for folding upon itself, said flaps being adapted for extending at right angles to the bottom of said hand bag for maintaining the side walls in distended form, said flaps when folded upon themselves, while projected at right angles to the bottom, permitting the closing of said hand bag to form a smaller hand bag than when said flaps are extended throughout their length.

3. A hand bag of the class described having a foldable bottom and foldable side and end walls, to permit the folding of said hand bag into compact form to provide a portfolio case; a separable member having a main body portion substantially the same size as the interior of the bottom portion of said hand bag, and adapted for lying in engagement therewith, when placed therein; a joint flap mounted on each side of said main body portion in swingable relation, and adapted for folding upon itself, said flaps being adapted for extending at right angles to the bottom of said hand bag for maintaining the side walls in distended form, said flaps, when folded upon themselves, while projected at right angles to the bottom, permitting the closing of said hand bag to form a smaller hand bag than when said flaps are extended throughout their length, the flaps being adapted for overlapping, when folded inwardly toward each other, and adapted for positioning in a portfolio provided to form a separate compartment therein.

In testimony whereof, I have signed the foregoing specification at Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan.

MATHIAS F. ROSER.