

Oct. 13, 1925.

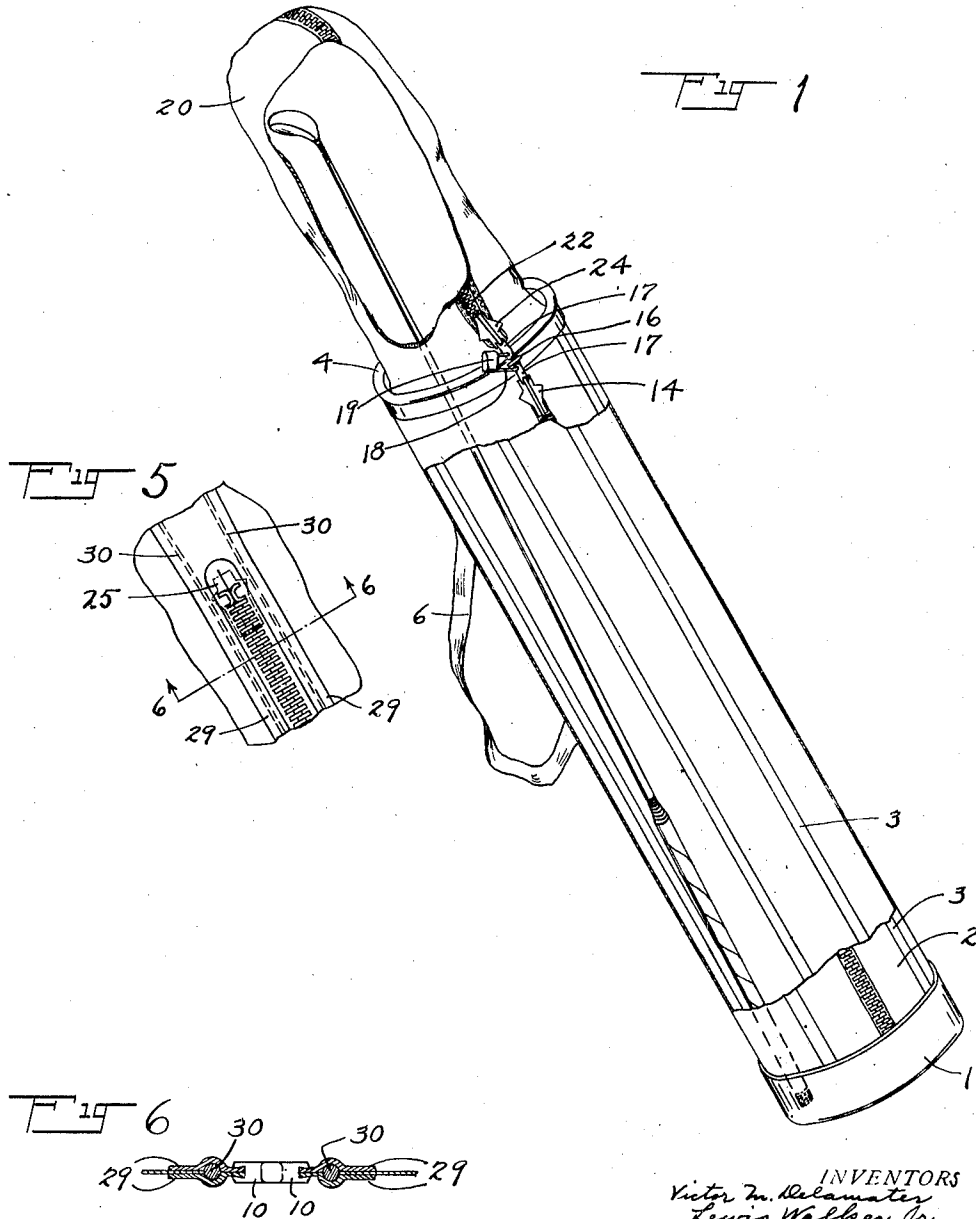
V. M. DELAMATER ET AL

1,557,433

GOLF BAG

Filed Dec. 5, 1921

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



INVENTORS
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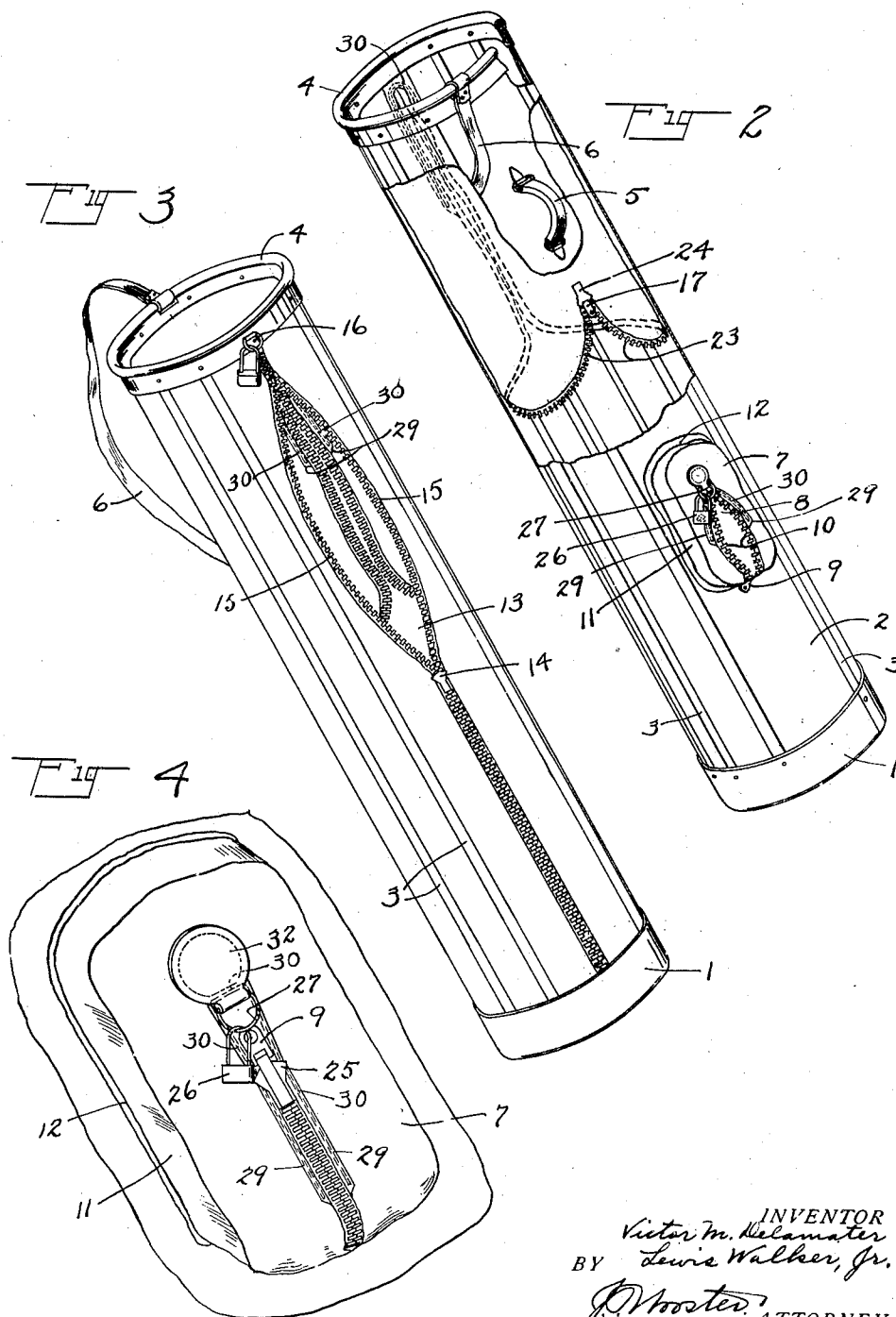
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VICTOR M. DELAMATER, OF BRONXVILLE, NEW YORK, AND LEWIS WALKER, JR., OF MEADVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNORS TO HOOKLESS FASTENER COMPANY, A CORPORATION OF PENNSYLVANIA.

GOLF BAG.

Application filed December 5, 1921. Serial No. 519,891.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, VICTOR M. DELAMATER and LEWIS WALKER, Jr., citizens of the United States, and residents of Bronxville, Westchester County, N. Y., and Meadville, in the county of Crawford and State of Pennsylvania, respectively, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Golf Bags, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to golf bags, and has for its objects to simplify and improve the construction and arrangement thereof whereby greater facility may be had in locking same for shipment, storage, etc., unlocking same, and carrying accessories and personal effects besides golf clubs.

At the present time golf bags are required to be used, not only for holding the clubs during play, but are frequently used to a greater extent for storing and transporting both the clubs and other effects during trips by motor or train, and also for shipment by express. For holding clubs during play the handles are usually inserted first leaving the heads exposed for ready selection, while for shipment the heads are put in the bottom with the grips projecting, and various forms of hoods locked with straps, ropes, padlocks, grommets, etc., provided for closing the bag so that it can be checked, shipped by common carrier, or stored. While these devices are effective for their intended purpose, the difficulty with all such bags heretofore proposed, even those of large size such as 6 inch and 7 inch diameters, is that it is very difficult to utilize to the maximum the cubic contents of the bag itself plus the hood, and then to lock it up when filled. If this be done satisfactorily, there is still the difficulty that the bottom of the bag adjacent the club heads can only be packed with considerable difficulty by inserting the arm and hand down from the top of the bag. If an article at the bottom is desired, unpacking of the entire bag is necessary in order to get it. Present day golfers travel around considerably by motor and train and in addition to extra shoes and clothing for the game itself, desire to carry other articles for use at other times, with as few pieces of baggage as possible. To meet this demand we have devised the golf bag of the present

application wherein we believe we have incorporated a feature entirely new in golf bags, that is having the side capable of being opened the entire length for the insertion or removal of either the clubs or other articles stored therein. This makes the golf bag much more like a trunk or hand bag than any golf bag heretofore devised, and provides one of very great convenience to the constantly increasing public which travels and plays golf alternately.

Such a bag will preferably be provided with a hood, or possibly a telescope top, the former being in more general use today because of not substantially reducing the protection to the grips or club heads, while at the same time being capable of being turned down inside the bag during play so as not to interfere with the insertion and withdrawal of the clubs. Also during a rainstorm such flexible hood is of advantage in covering the club heads or grips.

During play the hood is loose over the club ends in a rain storm, while during travel the hood is locked, but still has the rain protecting function.

According to this invention, a golf bag having the above novel and useful advantages over bags at present on the market is provided by preferably equipping both the hood and the side of the body with a slide actuated interlocking fastener, of known type, and so arranging the slides for the hood and side that a single lock locks both. In applying a sliding type fastener for this purpose, special means is provided for stiffening one or both stringers at the locking end, in order to prevent opening thereof by pushing a flexible stringer through the slider, due to the play allowed by the lock hasp. The fastener is of such construction as to be stronger than the fabric of the bag and the hood so that the latter will yield first, (being also preferably waterproofed) and thus discouraging ordinary thefts from unlocked bags. Moreover the common carriers will not accept golf bags unless the same are locked, and in many cases insist upon the bags being sealed by the shipper, or seal them with wire and lead package seals, before accepting them. The advantage of a single lock for both hood and side is that the lock can be carried on the bag

when not in use, without inconvenience and is always ready for use when desired with a minimum of time and avoidance of threading straps through loops and then applying the lock, or of threading a lock hasp through grommets in the end of the hood.

A further feature of this invention resides in the application of a similar type of fastener to the ball pocket where the bag has a pocket, which is usually the case on bags of the type to which this invention relates, which pocket is locked by a separate lock.

The invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a golf bag in closed condition embodying the invention,

Figure 2 is a perspective view partly broken away showing the bag as used for play,

Figure 3 is a similar view showing the other side,

Figure 4 is a detail of the locking ball pocket,

Figure 5 is a detail of the locking end of the fastener as herein constructed, and

Figure 6 is a section on line 6—6 of Figure 5.

The bag proper comprises a stiff bottom 1, fabric sides 2 with stiffening ribs 3, top ring 4, handle 5 and shoulder carrying strap 6 of usual construction. The stiffening ribs 3 serve to retain the bottom and the top ring a fixed distance apart and thereby prevent any substantial collapsing of the bag longitudinally. 7 is the ball pocket usually on the side with the handle 5, and strap 6, but the ball pocket instead of being open at the top and having a folding over flap fastened by a strap, with a padlock or lock buckle, is flat faced and slit as at 8 and closed by a sliding type fastener comprising tape stringers 29 with preferably slightly flexible stiffeners 30 at the locking end, and throughout if desired. With the slit vertical, any ball can be picked out of the pocket. In stiffening the ball pocket it is preferable to have stiffeners 30 extend to and under strap 32. 9 is the slide operating interlocking members 10, 10 on the stringer edges. The stringers are sewed to the material along opposite sides of 8.

11 is the bellows or side of the ball pocket to give the desired capacity, this being fastened as by stitching 12 to the fabric side 2. The ends of the slits 8, 13, 22 in pocket, side and hood, are permanently fastened. The ball pocket is locked by a similar slide 25 with similar actuating loop 17, except that the hasp of lock 26 goes through ring 27 on strap 32 the upper face of the ball pocket.

On the opposite side of the bag 1 the fabric is slit lengthwise as at 13 between the bottom 1 and top ring 4, and is pro-

vided with a similar fastener having slide 14 and interlocking members 15 between top and bottom, the slide closing the slit when moved from the bottom to the top, and opening the slit when moved from the top to the bottom. Any desired fastening means can be used for closing the side as we do not restrict ourselves to sliding type of fasteners, but could use straps. At the top of the bag is a stationary ring 16 in line with the actuating ring or loop 17 and slide 14, so that the hasp 18 of padlock 19 when passed through 16, 17 and locked will prevent the side of the bag from being opened, since the fastener is so constructed as not to open except as the slide is moved. Without the stiffeners 30 adjacent the locking end, a skilled manipulator might open the pocket or hood by pushing the stringers through the slide, without unlocking, which is prevented by stiffening the stringers so that they will not bend laterally.

20 is the hood composed of fabric similar to the body 1 preferably in a single piece, secured all around to the bag inside the ring 4. In line with the side slit 13 the hood is slit from the ring 4 up to the top and down on the other side as at 22 and provided with similar fastening members 23 operated by slide 24 with ring 17, similar to the slides previously mentioned, so that when the slide is at the end of the slit as seen in Figure 2 the hood can be folded down within the bag and will lie flat against the inside. This is necessary in order that the hood will not interfere with the insertion and withdrawal of clubs during play. The stiffeners 30 either swing with the hood like a hinge, or end just outside the hood stitching to the body, so that the hood will swing. Also, the hood stiffeners are short enough to swing within the bag diameter, or sufficiently flexible to do so.

When the hood is folded within the bag, neither it nor the slide on the interlocking members 23, nor the stiffeners 30 will interfere with use of the bag in normal manner.

When the hood is to be closed and locked it is brought outside as in Figure 1, and the slide 24 brought down to ring 16 so that the hood can be locked by the hasp of lock 19. Preferably, and as herein shown, the lock 19 locks both of slides 14 and 24 to ring 16, the lock hasp being so short that when once locked there is insufficient movement permitted the slides or the stringers to allow any opening to the interior of the bag.

By the foregoing invention a golf bag is provided which is much more conveniently and simply locked and unlocked than bags in present use, while at the same time being as light or lighter than locking hooded bags as previously constructed, and also having the distinctive advantage as compared

with previous bags, of opening for the entire length to permit the ready insertion and removal of any article desired. This enables the bag to be useful not only for ordinary golf bag purposes, but as a hand bag as well, giving easy access at any desired time to any part thereof, instead of requiring that the hand and arm be inserted from the top to reach articles loosely packed or requiring everything inside to be taken out to get at something in the bottom.

A fastener which we have found entirely suited for the purposes of this invention is that disclosed in patent to Sundback #1,243,458, dated October 16, 1917, which we stiffen adjacent the locking end as herein shown, to prevent tampering, but we do not restrict ourselves to this particular type of fastener except as required by the appended claims. This type of fastener is however, advantageous, because the hood opening can be other than straight as here shown, such as like a hook to provide a kind of flap, and the ball pocket opening can be on a semicircle giving a flexible flap through which to insert the band.

While the advantages of the invention apply particularly to golf bags, we do not restrict ourselves thereto, as there are many other bags and receptacles where a locking type of sliding fastener is desired which cannot be opened by pushing the stringers through the stationary locked slide, and these are to be included within the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. In a golf club receptacle fastener, a slit closure connected at each end, cooperating fastening members on the edges thereof, a slider and stringers, a lock, and means preventing manipulation of the stringers and slider when the lock is closed to open the slit.

2. In a golf bag, an opening closed by a sliding type interlocking fastener comprising stiffened stringers carrying interlocking members, and a slide, and means for locking the slide in closed position.

3. A golf bag provided with a slit, fastening members secured along the edges of the slit, a slider through which the fastening members are passed in controlling the same, locking means for the slider, and means to prevent movement of said fastening members through the slider when the latter is locked.

4. A golf bag provided with a slit, fastening members along the edges of the slit, a slider controlling said fastening members, and means for locking the slider in closed position including means for stiffening the edges of the slit adjacent the locking means.

5. A golf bag provided with a pocket having a slit on the outside thereof, fastening members secured along the edges of the slit,

a slider through which the fastening members are passed in controlling the same, means for locking the slider in closed position, and means to prevent movement of said fastening members through the slider when locked.

6. A golf bag provided with a stiffened top portion and a hood attached thereto having a slit longitudinally extending down the side of the hood to the stiffened top, said bag also being provided with a slit extending downwardly from the stiffened top and aligned with the slit in the hood, and a single means for locking both slits.

7. A golf bag provided with a hood attached to the upper end thereof, said hood being slit, a fastener closing said slit, the bag also having a slit in the side thereof, another fastener closing the slit in the bag, and a single locking means for the fasteners of the slits in the hood and bag.

8. A golf bag of the tubular closed bottom type having a hood attached to the upper open end, said hood being slit from adjacent the attached edge inwardly to form connected flaps capable of separating and lying flat against the inside of the bag when turned in, interlocking members on the edges of said slit, and a sliding operating device for locking and unlocking same.

9. A golf bag of the tubular closed bottom type having a hood attached to the upper open end, said hood being slit from adjacent the attached edge inwardly to form connected flaps capable of separating and lying flat against the inside of the bag when turned in, interlocking members on the edges of said slit, and a sliding operating device for locking and unlocking same, relatively so arranged that the hood flaps are closed and fastened when the operating device is adjacent the top of the bag.

10. A golf bag of the closed bottom type having a hood attached to the upper end portion thereof, said hood being slit from the top of the bag, up one side, over the top of the hood and at least part way down the other side, and a sliding fastener for closing the hood slit.

11. A golf bag having a closed bottom, stiffening ribs extending longitudinally of the bag, a ring attached to said ribs at the top, a flexible material fitting over the ribs between the top ring and the bottom, said material having a longitudinal slit therein through which access may be had to the interior of the bag, fastening members secured along the edges of said slit, a slider through which the fastening members are passed in controlling the same, and means for locking the slider in closed position to said ring, said material fitting tightly enough when closed to prevent the fastening members being moved through the slider when in locked position, said ribs maintaining said ring and

bottom a fixed distance apart, thereby cooperating with said locking means for preventing access to the bag.

12. A golf bag having a hollow reinforced
5 body of flexible material open at the upper end and closed at the lower end, a top of flexible material secured around the upper open end of the bag, an opening in the side of the body, an opening in the top substantially in
10 alignment with the first mentioned opening, separable fasteners having elements slidable toward each other for closing said openings, and means for locking said slidable elements together while said fasteners are in closed
15 position.

13. A golf bag comprising in combination, a body portion having a longitudinal opening in its side, a top portion secured to the upper end of said body portion and having
20 an opening in substantial alignment with

said body opening, closure elements slidable toward and to a position closely adjacent each other in the act of closing said openings, and means to lock said elements together.

14. A golf bag comprising a combination, a body portion, a top portion secured to the upper end of said body portion and comprising two members permanently joined
30 through a portion of their height at one side, separable means to secure said members together throughout the free portion of their margins or the end portion only of said margins whereby clubs may be removed
35 through a side of the top portion.

Signed at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, this 1st day of December A. D. 1921.

VICTOR M. DELAMATER.
LEWIS WALKER, JR.