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COMPARTED TRAVELING BAG

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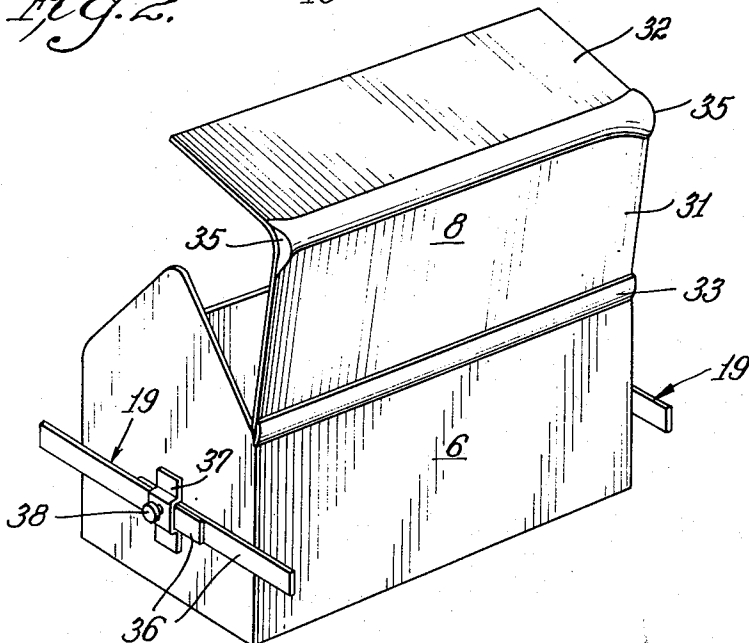
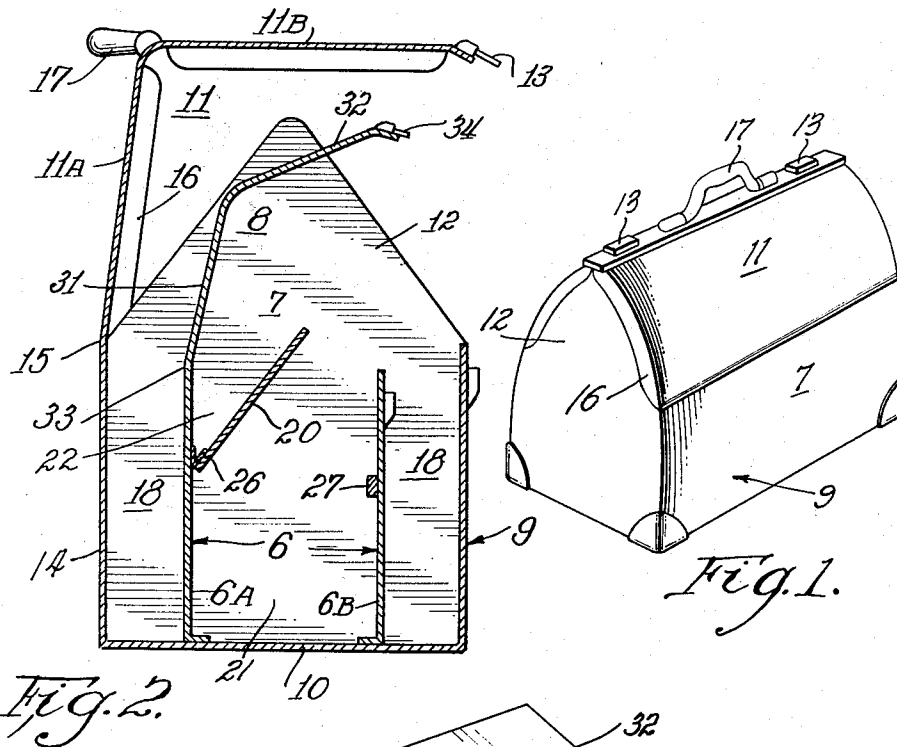


Fig. 3.

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COMPARTED TRAVELING BAG

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This invention relates to luggage of the type presently known as a "club" or "sports" bag. This type of bag is of comparatively small dimension as regards general-use luggage. Generally the bottom part is more or less of rectangular contour with the ends of gothic or triangular form extending above the bottom part and having a top section that swings down onto or up from the arched or triangular ends to close or open vertical access to the interior of the bag. This top section may be either a pair of parts separately hinged along the upper edges of the sides of the base part so as to swing toward and away from each other or a pair of parts flexibly or rigidly united, one of which is hinged along the upper edge of one of the sides of the bottom part. Suitable latches are provided for securing the top section in its closed position.

Bags of this type are used for carrying a relatively small number of personal items; more often than not when one is taking a short, quick journey and does not want to be greatly encumbered. The now common designation "club" or "sports" bag derives from the fact that the bags find such extensive use for brief recreational pursuits when one desires convenient means for carrying a change of apparel. On such occasions the desire is to carry either several articles of non-sportswear to which one may change after the recreation, or the sportswear itself, and which articles require packing with the least possible disarrangement or intercontact.

The main objects of this invention, therefore, are to provide an improved form of comparted club or sports bag wherein may be separately arranged in orderly manner several dissimilar articles of apparel out of contact with each other so as to keep all items in the best condition for subsequent wear; to provide an improved bag of this kind particularly adapted to afford separate compartments for such dissimilar items as a pair of shoes, one or two shirts and a pair of trousers or a skirt; to provide an improved comparting means which may be arranged in a club or sports bag of conventional construction to convert it into sectionalized form for the above purpose; and to provide an improved traveling-bag comparting means which is exceptionally simple in construction, and hence economical to manufacture, and which is exceedingly facile for a wide variety of uses involving the transport of a small number of very different, conventional articles of apparel, and especially for those engaged in various kinds of sport.

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In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of one type of "club" or "sports" bag wherewith this invention is particularly adapted for use;

Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view showing one form of my invention; and

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a modified form of the comparting means embodying this invention, the same being equipped with means for adjustably positioning the comparting means in bags of varying widths.

The essential concept of this invention involves the use of a receptacle, preferably partitioned to separately support items of apparel, which may be set in the bottom part of a conventional "club" or "sports" bag, or be formed as an integral part thereof, to form a compartment nearly coextensive with the inner face of the side walls of the bag from the base of the bag up across the top thereof and within which compartment outwardly of the receptacle may be suspended a garment.

The embodiments of this concept, shown in the accompanying drawings, each comprises a partitioned, bag-comparting receptacle 6, which may be of the type shown in Fig. 3 for insertion in a conventional bag, or which may be permanently integrated with the bag 7 as shown in Fig. 2, and with which comparting receptacle 6 is associated a garment-suspending element 8.

The bag 7, for which this comparting-receptacle 6 is particularly designed for use, is of the type, as hereinbefore noted, presently referred to as a "club" or "sports" bag. These bags are made in various sizes, smaller than luggage for more extended travel, and generally have the bottom part 9 of elongated rectangular or oval form. The bag normally sets on a base 10, and access to the interior of the bag is vertical as permitted by a closure or top section 11. The closure or top section 11 is hinged to the bottom part 9 and, in its closed position, rests on the ends 12 where it is releasably retained by latches 13.

The arched closure 11 is made of two sections, 11-A and 11-B, which may be hinged at the sides and close at the top, or they may be angularly integrated, as shown in Fig. 2, and one section hinged to one of the bag sides 14, as indicated at 15, so as to swing down onto the V-shaped ends 12. Usually flanges 16 are formed along the end edges of these sections of the closure 11 to embrace the upper edges of the bag ends 12 and prevent dust and water from readily entering the interior of the bag 7.

The latches 13 are of conventional form for

bags of this kind. A handle 17 of suitable form is attached to one of the sections 11-A or 11-B or at the juncture thereof, depending upon the form of the closure 11.

The comparting receptacle 6, partitioned to separately contain smaller articles of apparel, is designed to be placed in the bottom part 9 of the bag 7 in spaced relationship to the sides 14 of the bag 7 to constitute a compartment 18 extending from the base 10 on opposite sides of the receptacle 6 along the sides of the bag 7 up over the top of the receptacle 6 nearly coextensive with the inner faces of the sides 14 and the sections 11-A and 11-B of the closure 11. Such a compartment 18 provides space wherein a pair of trousers or a skirt may be suspended over the element 8 entirely out of contact with the other articles of apparel and with the minimum likelihood of wrinkling.

The comparting receptacle 6 obviously may be made of various materials, and in somewhat different shapes, depending upon the character of the bag wherewith it is to be used. It may be either definitely integrated with the bag structure itself, as best shown in Fig. 2, or separately formed as a unit and set in the bag, where it is held in place by adjustable spacers 19, mounted on the ends of the comparting receptacle 6 (see Fig. 3).

The comparting receptacle 6 is provided with a partition 20 so as to constitute separate compartments 21 and 22 for smaller articles of apparel. For example, shoes and socks may be conveniently arranged in the lower compartment 21, where they would be completely isolated from contact with other apparel. Shirts and underwear or similar articles could be laid on the partition 20.

In the form of the invention shown in Fig. 2, the receptacle 6 is made by anchoring two separate pieces of suitable material 6-A and 6-B to the base 10 and the ends 12 of the bag 7, in the desired spaced relationship, to form compartments 18, 21 and 22. The partition 20 is here shown as a more or less rigid piece of material hinged at 26 on the inner face of the receptacle side piece 6-A so as to be swung down onto and up away from a stop or ledge 27 on the inner face of the receptacle side piece 6-B.

Two pieces of material 31 and 32 are angularly arranged to serve as an arched closure for the receptacle 6, being suitably hinged thereto at 33. Latches 34 may be provided for releasably holding the element 8 in its closed garment-suspending position. Preferably the angular junction of the pieces 31 and 32 might well have their ends slightly enlarged and heightened with shoulders 35, which would tend to keep the garment—trousers or skirt—from too easily shifting along the element during transport.

On occasion it may be desirable to have a removable comparting receptacle 6 so that a previously-produced bag 7 could be appropriately comparted for the herein described purposes. To accomplish this, a separately formed comparting receptacle 6, with integral ends, and an integral garment-suspending element 8, and with a suitable inner partition may be equipped with adjustable spacers 19 adapted to accommodate the comparting receptacle 6 to and properly position it in bags of varying widths.

The spacers 19, fixed at the ends of the receptacle 6, each comprise a pair of overlapping bars or rods 36 slidably supported in a bracket

37 secured to the end of the receptacle 6 and mounting a tightening screw 38. Although these spacers 19 are herein shown on the outside of the comparting receptacle 6, whereby the spacers might require adjustment prior to inserting the receptacle 6 in the bag 7, it will be obvious that the spacers 19 could be arranged on the inside of the receptacle ends and extend through slots in the side walls whereupon adjustment of the spacers 19 could be made after the comparting receptacle 6 had been inserted in the bag 7.

It will be noted that when the arched closure 8 is folded all the way back, such closure constitutes a tray upon which articles may be laid prior to being packed in the comparting-receptacle 6, of which the closure forms a part.

Although the emphasis herein has been on the provision of a comparted "club" or "sports" bag, it will be understood that such a bag would be found to be highly practical for other uses.

Variations and modifications in the details of structure and arrangement, other than those herein illustrated, may be resorted to within the spirit and coverage of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A traveling or sports bag comprising an outer case having side and end walls and a closable arched top therefor, said arched top including inwardly sloped converging top walls, an inner case substantially coextensive in length with the outer case and centered therein, and having side walls spaced from the side walls of the outer case to form an inner compartment within the inner case and an outer compartment exteriorly thereof, an arched closable top for the inner case, said latter top conforming generally in shape to the arched top of the outer case and being spaced from the first-named top when both are closed, whereby the arched top of the inner case may be used as a hanger for clothing with the clothing extending on both sides of the inner case within said outer compartment.

2. A traveling or sports bag as set forth in claim 1 in which the inner case has bottom and end walls in addition to said side walls, whereby the inner case is removable as a unit from the outer case.

3. A traveling or sports bag as set forth in claim 2 in which adjustable means engageable with the side walls of the outer case are provided on the inner case for centrally locating and holding the inner case within the outer case.

4. A traveling or sports bag as set forth in claim 1 in which the inner case is divided into upper and lower compartments by a hinged partition.

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