Sept. 1, 1942. J. MORELLI 2,294,794

SUITCASE

Filed March 25, 1941

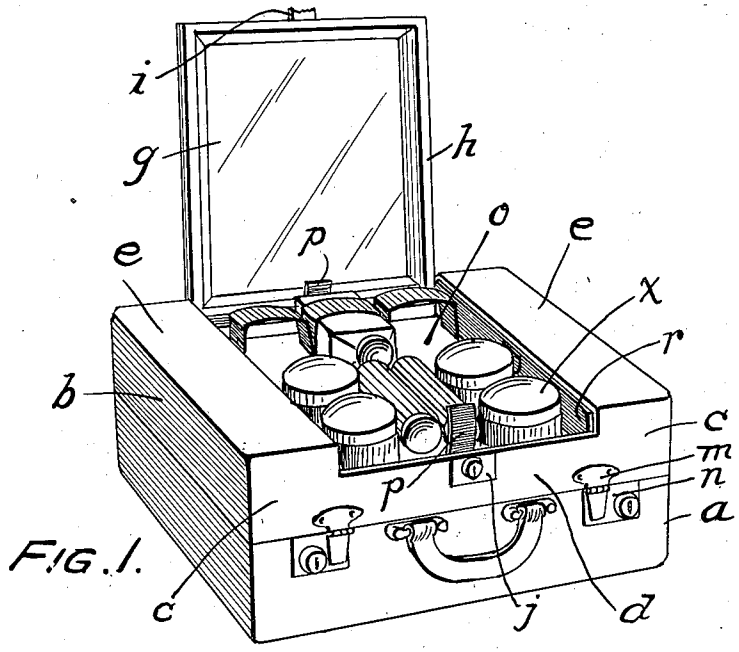


FIG. 1.

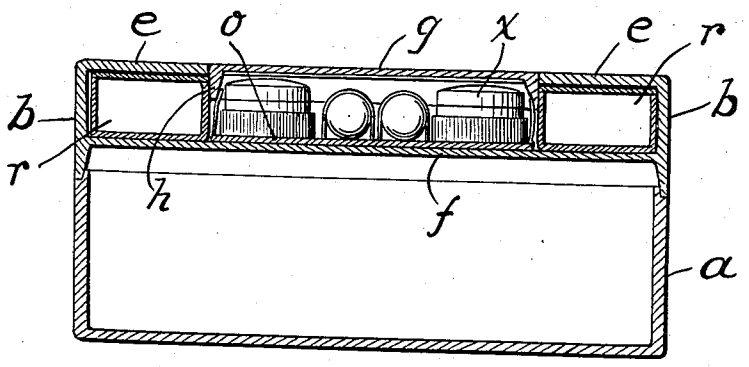


FIG. 2.

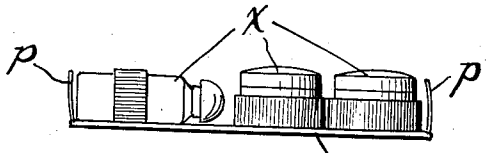


FIG. 3.

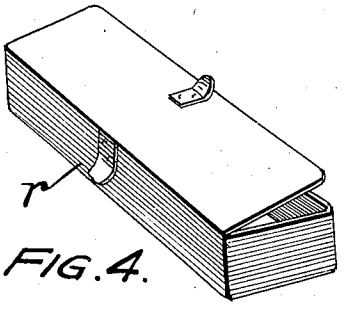


FIG. 4.

WITNESS:

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2,294,794

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,294,794

SUITCASE

John Morelli, Philadelphia, Pa., assignor to The F. H. White Company, Philadelphia, Pa., a corporation of Pennsylvania

Application March 25, 1941, Serial No. 385,069

1 Claim. (Cl. 190—51)

The object of my invention is to improve the type of suitcase shown and described in the Spiegel Patent No. 1,495,046, issued May 20, 1924. This suitcase comprises a body portion and a top portion having an outwardly facing central compartment shorter than the length of the suitcase, the ends of the top section forming a stand below which are hollow sections having open bottoms closable by flexible flaps. It is impracticable to utilize these hollow sections as containers, since when opened the contents drop out unless the suitcase is turned up-side-down. The object of my invention is to so modify this known type of suitcase as to make these compartments of practical use.

In the drawing: Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a suitcase embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical section through the suitcase from end to end. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the removable tray. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a receptacle adapted for insertion into an end compartment of the top section of the case.

The improved suitcase has an ordinary body section *a* and hinged thereto a top section, which acts as a cover for the body section *a*. The top section is provided with end walls, *b*, *b*, extending throughout its height; with front and rear walls each of which comprises end sections *c*, *c* of the same height as the end walls and a central section *d* of reduced height; with top walls *e*, *e* extending from front to rear and of the same width as the sections *c*, *c*; and a bottom *f*, extending from one end wall to the other and from the front wall to the back wall, and located some distance above the lower edges of the last named walls.

Hinged to the central section of the rear wall is a lid or cover *g* having front and end flanges *h* of a width equal to the depth of the cut-away parts of the central sections of the front and rear walls, so that, when the lid is closed, its top will lie flush with the top walls *e*, *e* of the top section.

The lid or cover *g* and the front wall of the top section are provided with complementary fastening or locking devices *i* and *j*, and the front wall of the top section and the front wall of the body section are provided with complementary fastening or locking devices *m* and *n*.

The described construction provides, in the top section of the case, a central compartment for the reception of tray *o*, for toilet articles *x*, provided with tabs *p* by means of which, when the lid or cover *g* is lifted as shown in Fig. 1, the tray may be lifted out of the compartment.

A characteristic feature of the suitcase is the provision of the end compartments, formed by the end walls *b*, the top walls *e*, and the sections *c* of the front and rear walls, with a bottom flush with, and constituting an extension of, the bottom of the central compartment, and permanently open along the side adjacent the central toilet compartment. Said end compartments are adapted to contain small receptacles *r*, each of a size adapted to about fill either of said compartments, said receptacles being removable and replaceable, by a lateral sliding movement, when the central compartment is opened and the tray *o*, with the toilet articles carried thereon, is lifted out of the central compartment.

What I claim and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:

A suitcase comprising a body section, a top section hinged thereto having end walls and front and rear walls of the top section, the central parts of the front and rear walls being of reduced height and forming the front and rear walls of a central compartment, a lid hinged to the central part of the rear wall and adapted to be swung into position to open and close the central compartment, a top wall adjacent the end walls of the top section and extending from said end walls to said central section and forming with said end walls and the sections of the front and rear walls of the top section adjacent thereto end compartments opening laterally along the ends of the central compartment, and a partition extending from end to end and from front to rear of the top section and providing a bottom for both the central compartment and the end compartments, whereby the bottoms of the end compartments are flush and continuous with the bottom of the central compartment, and a removable tray in the central compartment whereby when said tray is removed receptacles of a shape and size adapted to substantially fill the end compartments may be inserted therein and removed therefrom by sliding them into or out of the openings therein adjacent the central compartment.

JOHN MORELLI.