

Dec. 8, 1942.

I. KIRSCHENBAUM

2,304,574

KNAPSACK JACKET

Filed Jan. 30, 1941

FIG. 1.

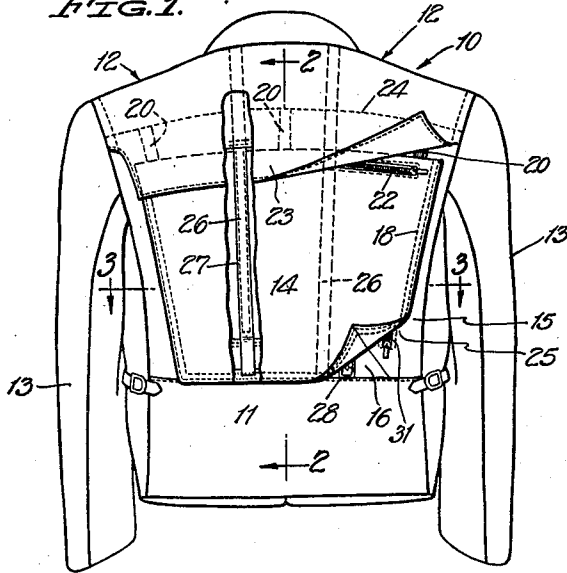


FIG. 2.

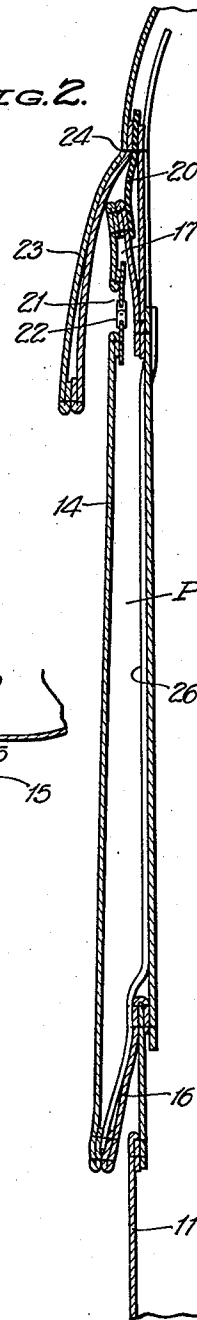


FIG. 3.

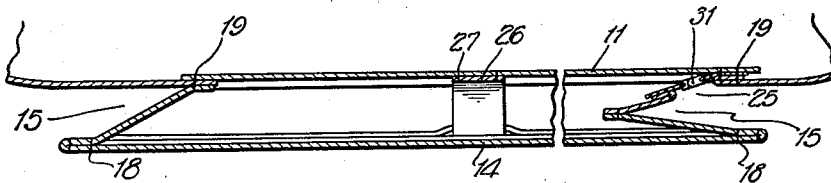
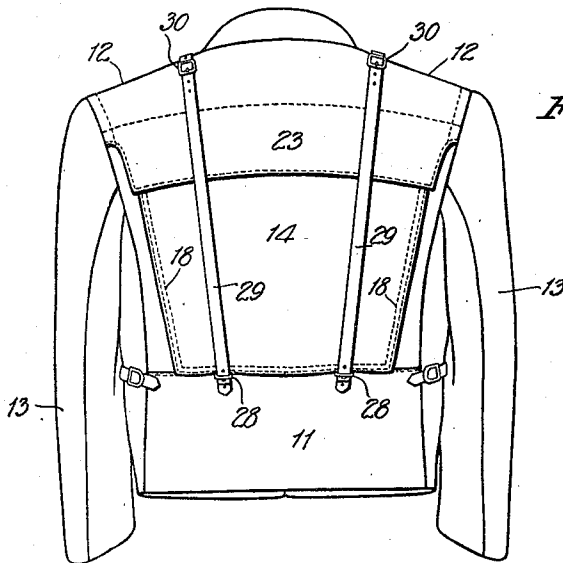


FIG. 4.



ISAAC KIRSCHENBAUM.
INVENTOR.

BY

Ely & Pattison
ATTORNEYS.

WITNESS:

E. H. H. H. H.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,304,574

KNAPSACK JACKET

Isaac Kirschenbaum, Middletown, Pa.

Application January 30, 1941, Serial No. 376,561

7 Claims. (Cl. 2—94)

This invention relates to improvements in garments and more specifically to a knapsack jacket or coat.

The main object of the invention resides in a jacket, coat, or like outer garment in which a knapsack is built in the back thereof for the carrying of light articles. A garment of this kind will be found useful by campers, motorcyclists, and hunters for the compact carrying of wearing apparel, foodstuffs, cooking utensils and the like. The invention may also be embodied in military jackets and coats for soldiers in the field, for parachutists for the carrying of parachutes and other paraphernalia, and in the uniforms of the "Boy Scouts" and like hiking and camping organizations.

Another feature of the invention is to provide a knapsack permanently built in the back of a garment in a manner to support articles placed therein without undue sagging and tearing under the weight of the carried load.

Another feature of the invention is the provision of a jacket or coat having a knapsack at the back thereof which fits flat against the back of the wearer when the knapsack is empty, and which is capable of outward expansion when articles to be carried are placed therein to increase the capacity thereof and prevent discomfort to the wearer.

A still further feature of the invention is to provide a garment having a knapsack built in the back thereof which includes a relatively wide entrance opening across the top of the knapsack pocket to facilitate easy packing of the knapsack when the garment is off the wearer, and which also has an auxiliary opening at one side which is accessible to the wearer when the garment is being worn whereby access to the knapsack pocket is possible without removing the garment, both openings being normally closed by releasable fasteners to prevent loss of the contents from the knapsack pocket.

Other features of the invention will become apparent as the following specification is read in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a rear elevation of a jacket or coat constructed in accordance with the invention, certain parts being folded back to reveal underlying parts, and a portion being broken away.

Figure 2 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical sectional view on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary horizontal sectional view on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a rear elevational view illustrating

the garment equipped with auxiliary pocket supporting straps.

Referring to the drawing by reference characters, the numeral 10 designates a jacket, coat or like outer garment constructed in accordance with my invention, and which garment includes the usual back 11, shoulder portions 12—12, and sleeves 13—14. The general construction of the front of the jacket is conventional, and the jacket may be constructed of fabric, leather, combination of fabric and leather, or may be of rainproof material. Secured to the back 11 of the garment body is a substantially rectangular shaped knapsack forming pocket piece 14 which is of a width to extend substantially the width of the back 11 and of a height to extend from a point just below the shoulders 12—12 to a point in the region of the waist of the garment. The pocket forming piece 14 may be made of the same material from which the coat is constructed, or of a contrasting material, such as canvas, duck, or the like. The opposite side edges of the pocket forming piece 14 converge downwardly so as to fit within the confines of the back 11 and the edges of the pocket forming piece 14 are secured to the back 11 by infolding plaits, the side plaits being designated 15—15, the bottom plait 16, and the top plait 17. The plaits are respectively connected to the pocket forming piece 14 by stitching 18 and to the back 11 of the garment body by stitching 19.

The top edge of the piece 14 is also secured to the back 11 by means of a pair of short elastic straps 20—20 which act to prevent the top of the piece 14 from dropping down, thus holding it close to the back 11 and which elastic strap also resiliently supports the top of the pocket forming piece 14 under the weight of articles placed in the pocket P which is formed by the piece 14, back 11, and the connecting plaits 15—15, 16, and 17.

The pocket forming piece 14 is split crosswise adjacent its top edge to provide a main pocket opening 21, which opening is normally closed by a slide fastener device 22 or other equivalent fastener. The opening 21 extends substantially the width of the pocket P adjacent the top thereof to facilitate easy access to the pocket P when the garment is off a wearer. For preventing leakage of rain water through the pocket opening 21, there is provided a protector flap 23, the same being stitched to the back 11 along the line of stitching 24. The flap 23 is of a length slightly greater than the length of the slit or opening 21 and depends below the plane of the

slit so as to completely overlap the slit and conceal the slide fastener device 22.

When the jacket or garment 10 is in position upon a wearer, it will be appreciated that the arms of the wearer could not reach rearwardly into the pocket P through the opening 21. To avoid the necessity of removing the garment, one of the side plaits 15 and in this instance I have shown the right side plait 15 as being provided with an auxiliary entrance opening 25 which extends vertically of one fold of the plait and is normally closed by a slide fastener device 31 or other equivalent fastening means. By positioning an auxiliary entrance opening at one side of the knapsack pocket P, it is possible for the wearer to reach rearwardly, actuate the slide fastener device 31 and reach into the pocket P when access thereto is desired.

In order to reinforce the knapsack pocket P to reduce the weight of the load to prevent undue sagging when the pocket is loaded, and give added comfort to the wearer, I stitch a pair of spaced non-elastic straps 26—26 to the back 11 within the pocket P, the stitching being designated 27. The top ends of the straps 26—26 terminate adjacent the shoulders 12—12 whereas the lower ends are secured at the bottom plait 16.

In Figure 4 of the drawing, I have illustrated auxiliary supporting straps which may be employed if desired for holding the knapsack pocket close to the garment back 11. For this purpose, buckles 28 are concealed within the bottom plait 16 and have one end of supporting straps 29—29 respectively secured thereto. The straps 29—29 extend upwardly in diverging relation and have their upper ends respectively connected to buckles 30—30 secured to the garment adjacent the shoulders 12. The straps 29—29 are detachable from the buckles 28 and 30 when they are not needed. The straps 29—29 overlie the pocket forming piece 14 and also confine this piece together with the flap 23 close to the body of the garment in addition to serving in an auxiliary capacity for supporting the load placed in the knapsack pocket P. Also, apparel such as blankets, raincoats and other like articles may be secured against the pocket by means of the straps 29—29.

From the foregoing description, it will be seen that I have provided a jacket, coat, or like outer garment, in which a knapsack pocket is built in the back of the garment, the same being strongly constructed to withstand the weight of articles such as camping equipment, cooking utensils, articles of food or the like which are generally carried by hikers, campers, motorcyclists, and other outdoor enthusiasts, as well as by soldiers and parachutists.

While I have shown and described what I consider to be the most practical embodiments of my invention, I wish it to be understood that such changes in construction, design, and material, as come within the scope of the appended claims may be resorted to if desired.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A jacket or like garment having a body portion, a pocket member, plaits connecting all the edges of the pocket member to the exterior of the back of the body portion by stitching, said pocket member having an opening extending across the top thereof, and releasable closure means for closing said opening.

2. A jacket or like garment having a body por-

tion, a substantially rectangular shaped pocket forming piece of flexible material of a width substantially equal to that of the back of the body portion and of a height to extend from below the shoulders to substantially the waist portion thereof, plaits connecting the top, bottom, and opposed side edges of the pocket forming piece to the back of the body by stitching to provide a pocket, said pocket having an opening therein for access to the interior thereof, and means yieldingly connecting the transverse mid-portion of the top plait to the rear of the body portion.

3. A jacket or like garment as set forth in claim 2, in which the aforementioned means includes elastic straps having their ends respectively stitched to the top plait and to the rear of the body to normally hold the plait at the top of the pocket in folded position and to yieldably support the top of the pocket from the body.

4. A jacket or like garment having a body portion, a substantially rectangular shaped pocket forming piece of flexible material of a width and length to fit over the back of the body portion from a point just below the shoulders to a point adjacent the waist portion thereof, plaits connecting all the edges of the pocket forming piece to the exterior of the back of the body portion and cooperating therewith to provide a pocket, a slit extending horizontally across the pocket forming piece adjacent the top thereof to provide an entrance opening to the interior of the pocket, one of the side plaits having a vertical slit therein constituting an auxiliary entrance opening, each of the entrance openings having a slide fastener device associated therewith for closing the same.

5. A jacket or like garment having a body portion, a substantially rectangular shaped pocket forming piece of flexible material of a width and length to fit over the back of the body portion from a point just below the shoulders to a point adjacent the waist portion thereof, plaits connecting all the edges of the pocket forming piece to the exterior of the back of the body portion and cooperating therewith to provide a pocket, a slit extending horizontally across the pocket forming piece adjacent the top thereof to provide an entrance opening to the interior of the pocket, a slide fastener device for closing said slit, a protector flap secured to the back of said body above the pocket forming piece and overlapping the entire length of said slit to conceal the slide fastener device and protect the entrance opening from the entry of rain water, and a pair of spaced supporting straps having their lower ends fastened within the plait at the bottom of the pocket and extending upwardly over the pocket and flap, and releasable fastening means for securing the top ends of the straps to the body portion adjacent the shoulders thereof.

6. A jacket or like garment having a body portion, a substantially rectangular shaped pocket forming piece of flexible material of a width substantially equal to that of the back of the body portion and of a height to extend from below the shoulders to substantially the waist portion thereof, plaits connecting the edges of the pocket forming piece to the back of the body by stitching to provide a pocket, said pocket having an opening therein for access to the interior thereof, vertical suspension straps stitched to the back of the body portion within the pocket and extending the length thereof with the lower ends stitched to the inner portion of the plait at the

bottom of the pocket to support the pocket against the weight of the articles carried therein.

7. A jacket or like garment having a body portion, a substantially rectangular shaped pocket forming piece of flexible material of a width and length to fit over the back of the body portion from a point just below the shoulder to a point adjacent the waist portion thereof, plaits connecting the edges of the pocket forming piece to the exterior of the back of the body portion and cooperating therewith to provide a pocket, a slit

extending horizontally across the pocket forming piece adjacent the top thereof to provide an entrance opening to the interior of the pocket, releasable fastening means for closing said slit, a pair of spaced supporting straps having their lower ends fastened within the plait at the bottom of the pocket and extending upwardly over the pocket, and releasable fastening means for securing the top ends of the straps to the body portion adjacent the shoulders thereof.

ISAAC KIRSCHENBAUM.