United States Patent [19]

Kartiganer

[11] **3,750,869**

[45] **Aug. 7, 1973**

[54] **COMBINATION CARRYING CASE AND WIG STAND**

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[73] Assignee: **Norman Kartiganer Inc.**, Manchaug, Mass.

[22] Filed: **June 9, 1971**

[21] Appl. No.: **151,358**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **206/8**, 206/46 FC, 220/4 B, 229/52 AL

[51] **Int. Cl.** **B65d 85/18**

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 46/164, 172; 132/54; 150/33; 190/57; 206/46 FC; 220/4 E, 4 B; 223/66, 88, 98; 224/45 R, 45 C, 45 D, 45 H; 229/52 AL, 52 AC

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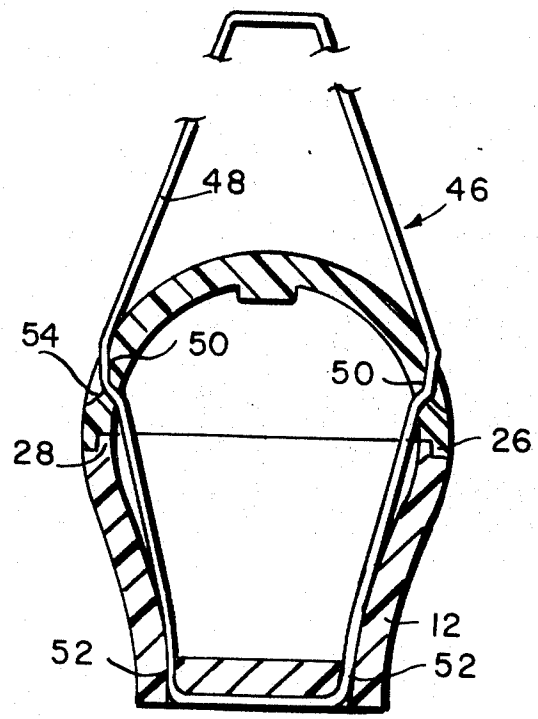
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Primary Examiner—Herbert F. Ross
Assistant Examiner—Steven E. Lipman
Attorney—Sewall P. Bronstein, John D. Woodberry, Robert T. Gammons, Donald Brown, Robert L. Goldberg and Robert F. O'Connell

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A hollow structure having an exterior crown-shaped portion for supporting a wig in its natural shape for display and/or dressing and a neck-shaped portion for holding the structure upright. The crown-shaped portion is preferably comprised of a material which permits pins to be inserted into it to enable fastening the wig thereto and has applied to its surface flock. The neck may be provided with a suction cup to fix it to a supporting structure. The interior provides a storage space for holding a wig or other article or articles and the structure is divided to provide access to the storage space. The entire structure is of such size and shape as to be imitative of a pouch and is adapted to be suspended on a sling so that it may be carried about as would a woman's handbag.

6 Claims, 14 Drawing Figures



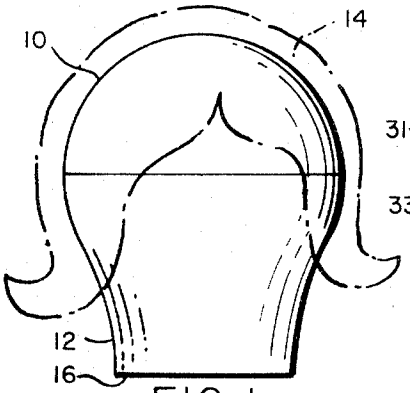


FIG. 1

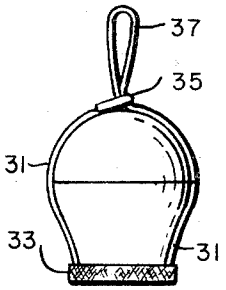


FIG. 3

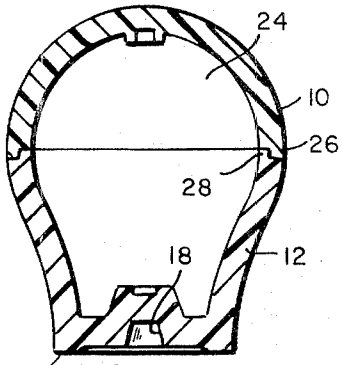


FIG. 2

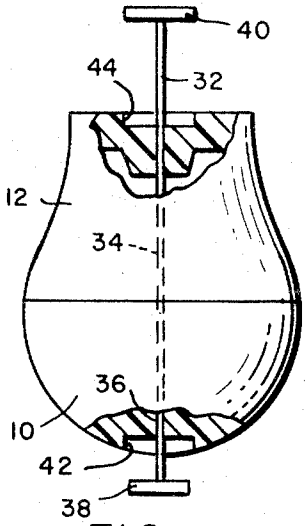


FIG. 4

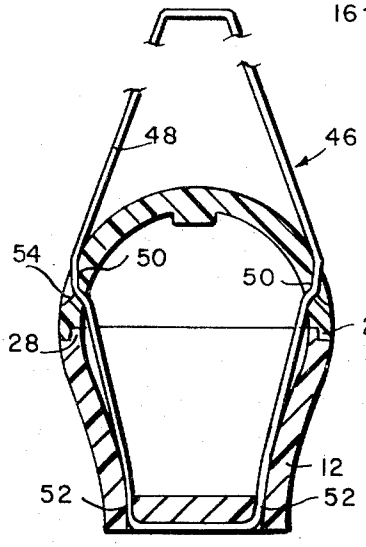


FIG. 5

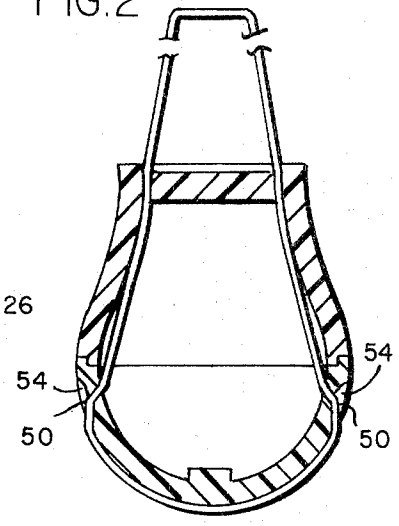


FIG. 6

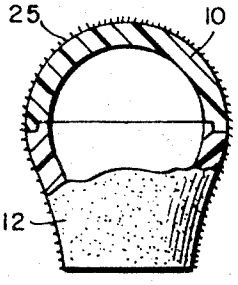


FIG. 7

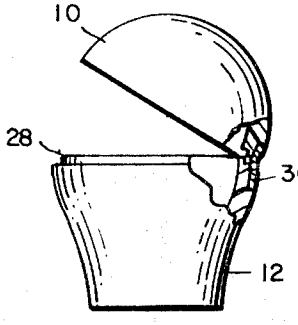


FIG. 8

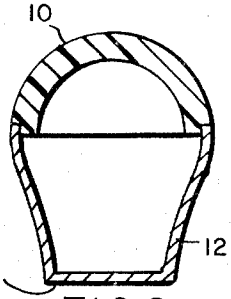


FIG. 9

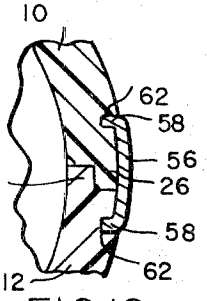


FIG. 12

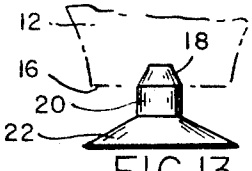


FIG. 13

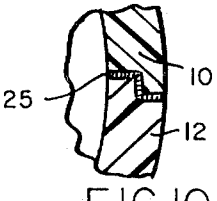


FIG. 10

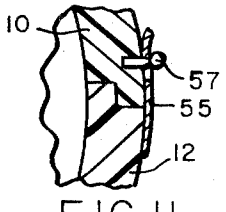


FIG. 11

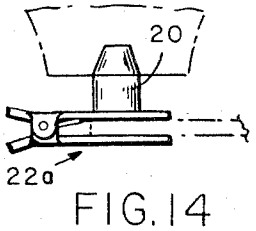


FIG. 14

COMBINATION CARRYING CASE AND WIG STAND

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Wig carrying cases of various kinds provided with Wig stands are disclosed in U.S. Pat. Nos. 3,515,318, 3,465,926, 3,433,395 and 3,257,048. Of these patents, U.S. Pat. No. 3,515,318 discloses a crown-shaped member mounted on a post provided with a base so that by collapsing the post the crown may form with the base a carrying case. The crown is comprised of Styrofoam to enable fastening the wig to the crown. A wig stand provided with a crown-like portion comprised of polystyrene for supporting a wig so that a wig may be securely fastened thereto by pins inserted into the crown is also shown in U.S. Pat. No. 3,441,182. The provision of suction cups at the base of a wig stand for securely supporting it in an upright position is shown in U.S. Pat. Nos. 3,310,267 and 3,464,150. This invention is concerned with an improved combination carrying case and wig stand which, while embodying some of the features of the aforesaid patents, comprises, on the one hand, a supporting stand on which the wig may be supported for display and/or dressing and, on the other hand, a carrying case for carrying the wig about in a folded condition. Additionally the structure may be used for such general purposes as a carrying case, tote bag and cosmetic case; display stand for jewelry and millinery; floral display bowl, candy bowl and ice bucket.

SUMMARY

As herein illustrated, the invention comprises a combination carrying case and stand for a wig comprising a hollow structure, the interior of which defines a storage space of a size to hold a folded wig and/or other articles and an exterior embodying a crown-shaped portion having a contour corresponding in configuration to the interior of the wig as when worn for supporting the wig for display in its natural shape and a neck portion adapted to support the crown-shaped portion in an upright position of stable equilibrium. The crown-shaped portion is preferably comprised of an expanded plastic or its equivalent such as to enable inserting pins into it to fasten the wig to the surface. The neck portion has a base and may be provided with a device for securing it to a supporting structure. The structure is divided to enable separating the crown-shaped portion from the neck portion for access to the interior and the parts are mounted on a sling such as to hold the parts into engagement and carry them suspended at the lower end of the sling after the fashion of a handbag while permitting their separation to provide for access to the interior. When used as a wig stand and other display purposes the sling may be unfastened and either folded back or removed.

The invention will now be described in greater detail with reference to the accompanying drawings wherein:

FIG. 1 is an elevation of the combination carrying case and wig stand supported in an upright position having a wig thereon illustrated in dashed lines;

FIG. 2 is a vertical section taken diametrically of FIG. 1 showing the combination carrying case and stand;

FIG. 3 is an elevation, to smaller scale, showing the combination carrying case and wig stand provided with a sling by means of which it may be carried in suspension after the fashion of a tote case or handbag;

FIG. 4 is an elevation of the combination wig, case and stand showing an alternative form of sling by means of which it may be carried about with either end up shown in an inverted position;

FIG. 5 is a section correspond to FIG. 2 showing still another form of sling with the structure supported in an upright position;

FIG. 6 is a section corresponding to FIG. 5 showing the structure supported by the sling in an inverted position;

FIG. 7 is an elevation, partly in section, showing the crown-shaped portion comprised of expanded plastic and the entire surface flocked.

FIG. 8 is an elevation showing the top part hinged to the bottom part;

FIG. 9 is a vertical section showing the crown-shaped portion comprised of expanded plastic and the neck comprised of rigid plastic;

FIG. 10 is a fragmentary section showing the formation of the flock in holding the parts engaged;

FIG. 11 is a fragmentary section showing latch means for holding the parts interengaged;

FIG. 12 is a fragmentary section showing a contractible band for holding the parts interengaged;

FIG. 13 is a fragmentary section at the base of the structure showing means including a suction cup for securing it to a supporting surface; and

FIG. 14 is a fragmentary section at the base of the structure showing a clamp for securing it to a supporting surface.

Referring to the drawings, the combination carrying case and wig stand is a hollow structure comprising a crown-shaped portion 10 supported in an upright position by a neck-shaped portion 12. The crown-shaped portion is generally spherically contoured to support a wig 14 in the shape it would normally have when worn for display purposes and/or dressing or for supporting it following dressing until it is to be worn.

The crown-shaped portion 10 is comprised of an expanded plastic, for example polystyrene or polyurethane, as shown in FIG. 7, so that pins may be inserted through the wig into it to secure the wig thereto. The neck-shaped portion 12 is preferably comprised of a rigid plastic, although it too may also be comprised of an expanded plastic and is provided with a flat base 16 for supporting the structure in an upright position with the crown-shaped portion uppermost. Optionally, as shown in FIG. 13, the base 16 may contain a centrally located conical aperture 18 for receiving the upper end of a post 20, to the lower end of which is fixed a vacuum cup 22 by means of which the structure may be securely fastened to a supporting structure such as the surface of a bureau, dressing table, or the like. Instead of a vacuum cup a spring clamp 22*a* may be fixed to the lower end of the post 20 as shown in FIG. 14.

Desirably, but not necessarily, the exterior surface of the crown 10, as shown in FIG. 7, may have applied to it a layer of flock fibers 25 which provide a soft plush-like surface which contributes to the attractiveness of the structure as a carrying case, as will appear hereinafter, and has the functional capacity of frictionally resisting slipping of the wig when disposed on the crown. The neck portion 12 may also be flocked. The flock may be of any suitable color and the colors on the two parts may be of the same or of contrasting kind. Prefer-

ably the flock is applied electrostatically so as to stand on end perpendicular to the surface; however, it may be sprayed on the surface so that it lies prone.

The structure comprising the crown-shaped part **10** and the neck-shaped part **12** is divided intermediate the top and base of the structure, as shown in FIG. **2**, to provide access to the interior, the parts collectively defining a storage space **24** of a size such as to accommodate a folded wig and other articles for carrying. The confronting edges of the parts **10** and **12** have telescopically interengageable shoulders **26** and **28** frictionally engaged so as normally to hold the parts together but permitting separation for access to the interior.

The parts **10** and **12** may be used collectively for purposes other than a wig stand as, for example, because of the insulated character of the structure, an ice bucket, and with the part **10** removed the part **12** may be used as a receptacle, for example, for displaying jewelry, for holding candy and for a floral display.

If desired, the part **10** may be joined to the part **12** by a hinge **30** so as to enable tilting the part **10** upwardly from the part **12**, as shown in FIG. **8**, to an open position to expose articles within the part **12**. Desirably the parts **10** and **12** are lined with an attractive lining material, for example the interior may be flocked as are the exterior surfaces.

To enable using the structure as a carrying case a sling is provided, one such sling being shown in FIG. **3**. The sling comprises straps **31—31** secured at their lower ends to the base, for example, by a peripheral band **33**. The upper end of one strap **31** has secured to it a ring or loop **35**. The other strap is longer and is threaded through the ring and has at its upper end a loop **37** by means of which the structure may be held to carry it in suspension. The engagement of the band **31—31** by constriction about the parts hold them together. When the entire surface of the structure is flocked the bands will remain securely in place without slipping on the curved surfaces. However, if the surfaces are not flocked it is desirable to provide the inner surfaces of the straps with a frictional surface, for example a rubberized coating or the like. When the structure is to be used as a wig stand the longer of the straps may be withdrawn from the ring **35** and the two straps laid back away from the crown-shaped portion.

A second form of sling is shown in FIG. **4** comprising a cord **32** on which the parts are slidably mounted, the part **10** for this purpose containing a centrally located hole **34** and the part **12** a centrally located hole **36**. The cord **32** passes through the parts, protruding from the top of the part **10** and the bottom of the part **12**, the protruding parts being provided with handles **38** and **40** which alternately may be used to support the structure in an inverted position such as shown in FIG. **4**, or in an upright position. In either position the parts are normally held interengaged on the sling by frictional engagement of the shoulders **26** and **28** so that the structure serves as a tote case or handbag, while permitting the upper part, according to its position, to be disengaged from the lower part for access to the interior. As illustrated, recesses **42** and **44** may be provided in the surfaces of the parts **10** and **12** to accommodate the handle means **38** and **40** respectively, so that when the structure is used for a wig support the handles will not interfere with disposition of the wig on the part **10** or setting of the part **12** on a supporting surface. The recesses **42** and **44** may be omitted and the sling folded back or removed when the structure is being used as a wig stand or as a container.

To avoid the interior obstruction caused by disposition of the sling centrally of the structure, as shown in FIG. **4**, a sling **46** may be employed, as shown in FIGS. **5** and **6**, comprising cords **48—48** threaded through openings **50—50** in the part **10** and openings **52—52** in the part **12**. The protruding ends of the cords **48—48** at the upper end and at the lower end are connected and the parts are adapted to slide along the cords so as to be supported at either end in an upright position as shown in FIG. **5**, or in an inverted position as shown in FIG. **6**. Finger recesses **54—54** may be provided in the part **10** where the cords **48—48** enter the part **10** to facilitate grasping the part **10** for the purpose of disengaging it from the part **12**. In either position the uppermost part may be disengaged from the lower part to provide easy access to the interior.

The slings as shown, FIGS. **3**, **4** and **5**, may comprise straps, ropes or other suitable flexible material or may comprise chains.

In order to enhance the frictional interengagement of the parts to hold them together the interengaging surfaces may be roughened. An especially effective means for providing frictional interengagement of the parts is to flock the interengaging surfaces as shown in the greatly enlarged fragmentary section of FIG. **10**. Application of flock **25** to these surfaces electrostatically provides upstanding fibers which intermesh with each other and provide a very effective holding power between the parts. Fibers applied by spraying so that they lie prone would also provide a degree of frictional interengagement.

Other means may be provided for holding the parts together, for example, as shown in FIG. **11**, flexible latch members **55** comprised, for example, of plastic secured at their lower ends to the part **12** and pressed over small knobs **57** of the upper part at diametrically disposed sides of the structure may be employed. Still another form of holding means is shown in FIG. **12** comprising a flexible band **56** adapted to be placed about the parts astride the shoulders **26** and **28**, the ends of which are adapted to be drawn together by a conventional toggle linkage. To secure the band **56** in this position its opposite edges are provided with ribs **58—58** adapted to be engaged with grooves **62—62** provided in the parts **10** and **12** respectively.

If desired, as shown in FIG. **9**, the part **12** may be comprised of a rigid plastic which is of lesser thickness than the part **10**. It is also within the scope of the invention to make the parts **10** and **12** of any plastic material suitable for the purpose, expanded or unexpanded, and decorated interiorly and/or exteriorly.

The structure as thus described is comparatively small, being comparable in size with the current handbags, is pouch-shaped and accordingly of an acceptable configuration for use as a tote case, handbag, or the like, and yet is adapted for use as a wig stand.

It should be understood that the present disclosure is for the purpose of illustration only and that this invention includes all modifications and equivalents falling within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A combination carrying case and display stand comprising hollow parts having open sides which when mutually engaged define a structure having an interior storage space for an article of manufacture, one of said

parts providing an exterior display surface of a predetermined configuration such as to be complementary to the article to be displayed and the other a base having a flat surface upon which the structure is adapted to rest in an upright position for supporting the structure with the display surface uppermost when used as a stand, telescopically interengageable shoulder portions at the open sides of the parts which are roughened to frictionally hold the parts interengaged, and means comprising a sling fastened to one of the parts slidingly engaged with the other of said parts for supporting the parts interengaged when carrying the case in suspension while permitting one part to be separated from the other to afford access to the interior.

2. A combination according to claim 1, wherein a flock layer is applied to the surface of the part providing the display surface.

3. A combination according to claim 1, wherein a flock layer is applied to the surface of the part providing the display surface with the fibers of the flock standing perpendicular to said surface.

4. A combination according to claim 1, wherein the part providing the base contains in its flat surface a centrally located socket, and a spindle is adapted to be engaged at one end within the socket, said spindle being provided at its other end with a clamp by means of which the structure is adapted to be fastened to a support.

5. A combination carrying case and display stand comprising hollow parts having open sides which when interengaged define a structure having an interior storage space for an article of manufacture, one of said parts providing an exterior display surface of a predetermined configuration such as to be complementary to the article to be displayed and the other a base having a flat surface upon which the structure is adapted to rest in an upright position for supporting the structure with the display surface uppermost when used as a stand, telescopically interengageable shoulder portions at the open sides of the two parts, flock adhered to the interengaging surface portions of said shoulders for frictionally holding the parts interengaged, and means comprising a sling fastened to one of the parts and slidably engaged with the other of said parts for supporting the parts interengaged when carrying the case in suspension while permitting one part to be separated from the other to afford access to the interior.

6. A combination according to claim 1, wherein the interiors of the parts are covered with a flock layer.

* * * * *