Sept. 9, 1952 S. MEYER 2,609,897

TRAVELING CASE FOR SHOES

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FIG. 1

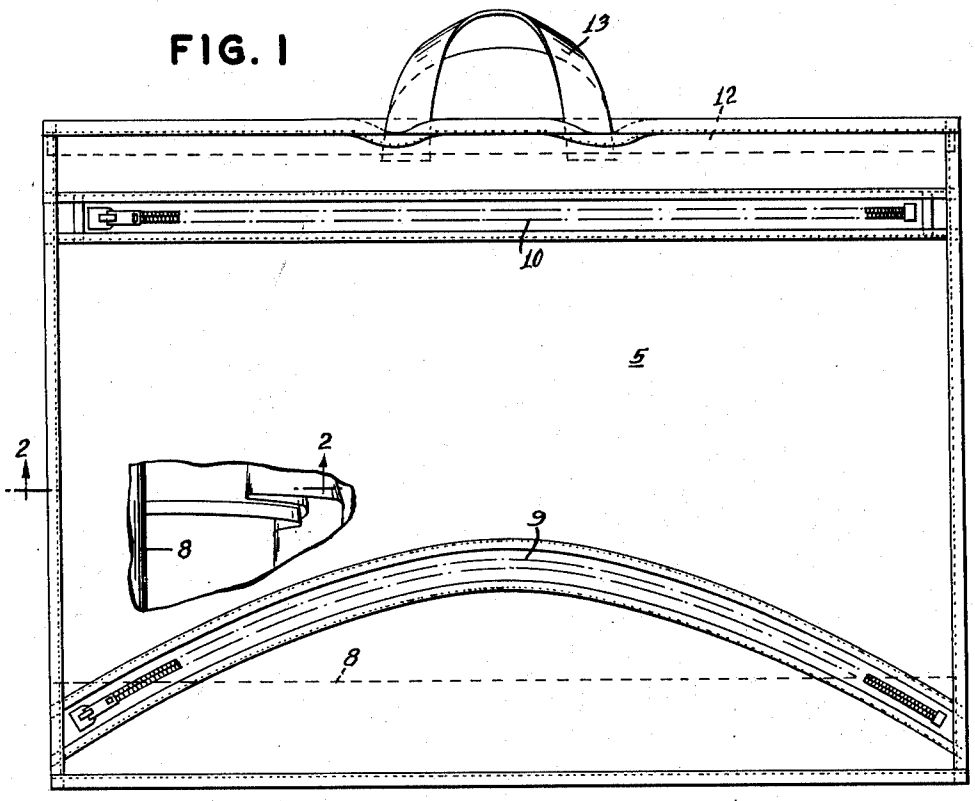


FIG. 3

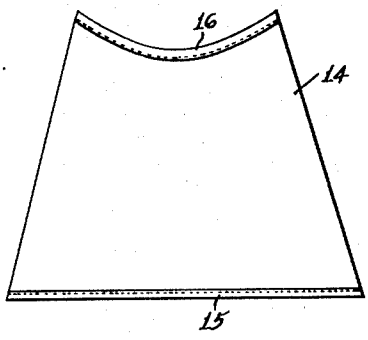
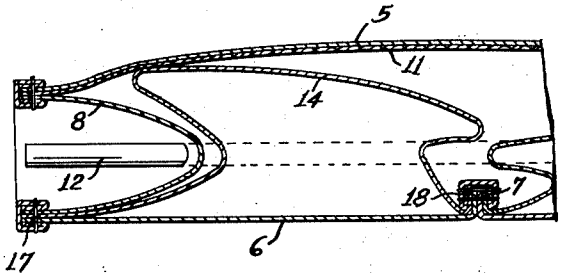


FIG. 2



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FIG. 4

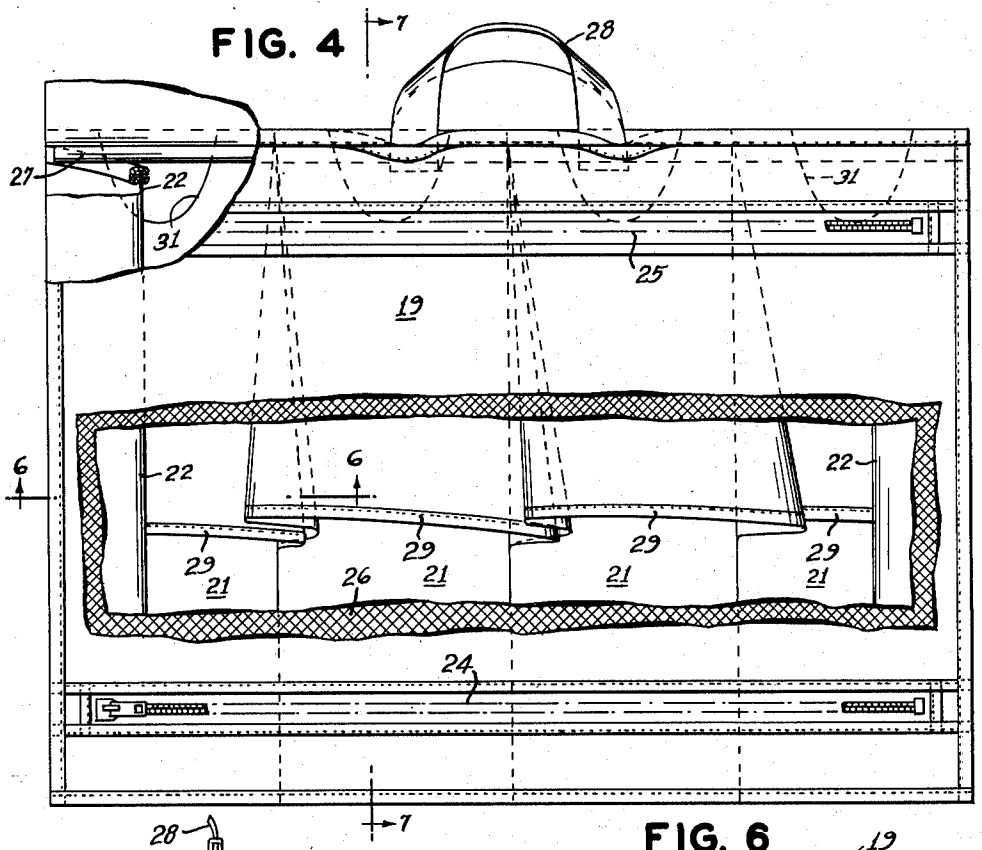


FIG. 5

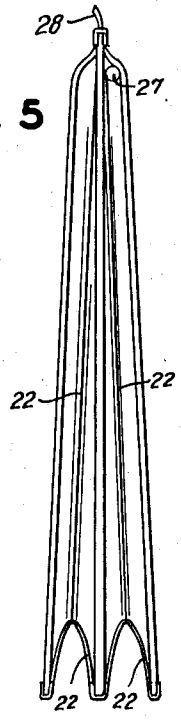
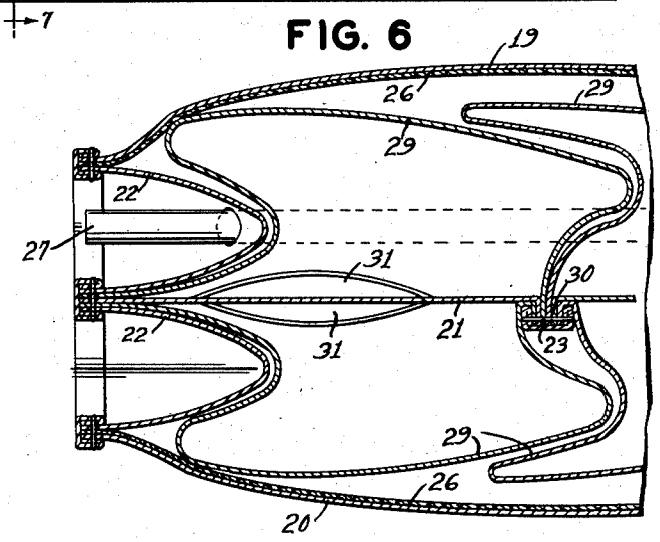


FIG. 6



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FIG. 7

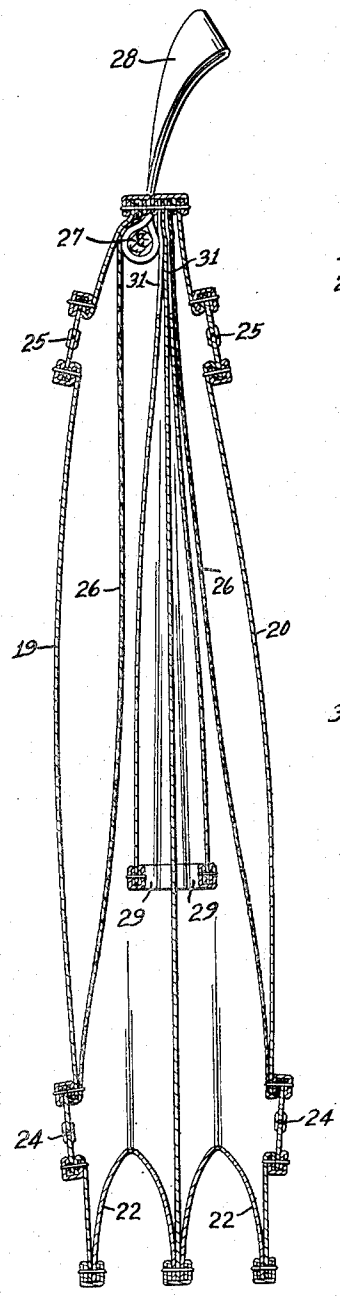
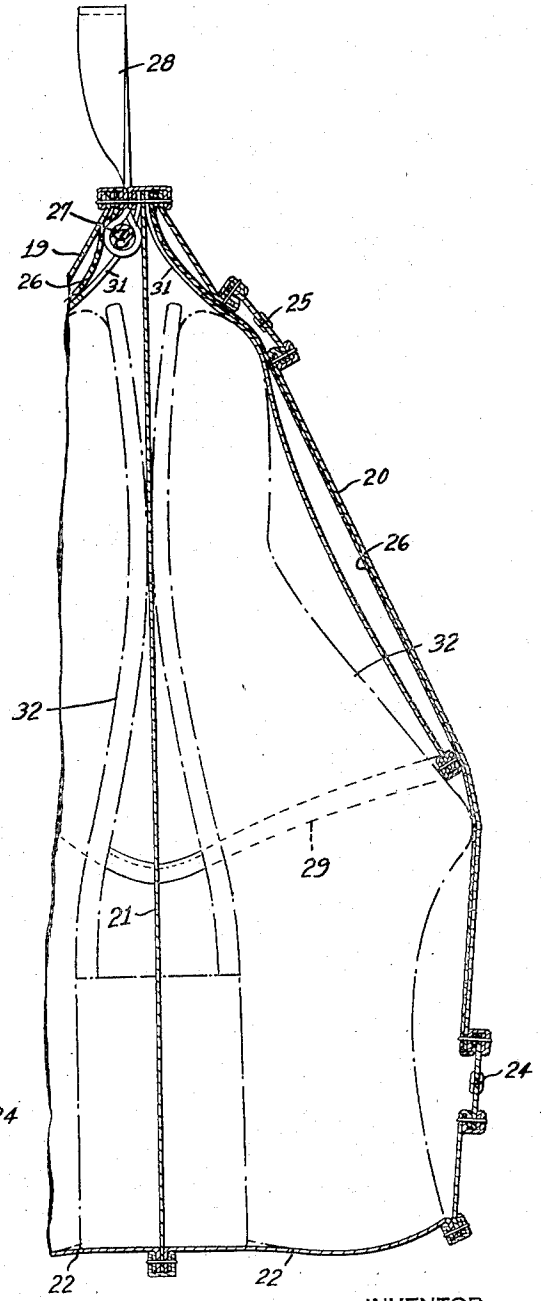


FIG. 8



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TRAVELING CASE FOR SHOES

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3 Claims. (Cl. 190—43)

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This invention relates to traveling cases for shoes, and particularly to an improved receptacle adapted to receive and to facilitate the transportation of shoes.

Shoes, because of their bulk and irregular shape, are among the most difficult of items of apparel for the traveler to pack and transport. They do not fit readily into ordinary traveling cases and consume too much space therein. Moreover, when shoes are worn, they become soiled and, if packed with other clothing, they must be separately wrapped, forming thus unwieldy bundles which further complicate packing.

Some attempts have been made to provide traveling cases for shoes, but the bags heretofore suggested are unsightly, inconvenient and generally unsatisfactory make-shifts which do not appeal to the fastidious traveler.

It is the object of the present invention to provide a shoe case of maximum capacity and rugged structure which at the same time is easily handled or carried and affords an attractive piece of luggage which the traveler will find both useful and satisfactory.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent as it is better understood by reference to the following specification and the accompanying drawing, in which

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a case embodying the invention with a portion cut away to illustrate the internal structure;

Fig. 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of the form in which the material is cut to form one of the pockets;

Fig. 4 is a side elevation of a case similar to that shown in Fig. 1, but of double capacity;

Fig. 5 is an end view of the case shown in Fig. 4;

Fig. 6 is a section on the line 6—6 of Fig. 4;

Fig. 7 is a section on the line 7—7 of Fig. 4; and

Fig. 8 is a section similar to Fig. 7 but showing the shoes in the pockets.

The case as hereinafter described may be constructed of any suitable sheet material, for example leather, textile material or sheet plastic, the latter being admirably adapted to afford a light-weight and strong case which is attractive in appearance and easily transportable. The sheet material may be colored or patterned as desired to enhance the appearance of the finished case.

The case consists preferably of front and rear walls connected by suitable gussets at the bottom and side edges to afford sufficient capacity. In cases of double capacity, the rear wall may become an intermediate or dividing wall between two outer walls, thus affording two separate compartments. The upper edge in either case is preferably provided with a stiffener of wood or metal such as a rod, to which a handle may be attached in order to facilitate transportation.

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Access to the compartment or compartments is obtained through an opening or openings adjacent to the lower edge or edges of the outer walls. The openings are fastened preferably with a slide fastener, though any other suitable fastening means may be used. The openings may be straight-edged or curved.

Adjacent the upper edge or edges of the front or outer walls, other openings may be provided with suitable closures such as slide fasteners or any other fastening devices. By inserting a lining within the outer wall or walls, pockets are formed in which articles other than shoes may be stored and transported. These latter pockets are not essential to the invention, being auxiliaries to afford additional utility.

Within the compartments formed by the front and rear walls and gussets, a plurality of shoe pockets are supported on the rear or intermediate wall, each adapted to receive and hold a shoe with the toe pointing upward and the heel, therefore, affording a relatively broad base resting on the bottom gusset when the case is in use. Thus, if the case is supported on a surface such as a floor or table, it will stand upright so that it can be easily picked up for transportation.

The shoe pockets are formed of sheet material in the form of truncated wedges so that the lower edges are somewhat longer than the upper edges. The side edges are fastened suitably as, for example, by sewing to the rear or intermediate wall of the case, and the material is folded to form side pleats so that the pockets remain flat when not in use. The pockets may be formed with closed or open upper ends, the latter being preferable since it facilitates the introduction and storage of shoes of different lengths.

The rear or intermedite wall in the case of double capacity is made of a plurality of strips of material of approximately the width of the pockets. The strips are arranged perpendicularly to the bottom edge and are sewed or otherwise fastened together along their lateral edges. This construction materially strengthens and stiffens the wall, resists tearing of the fabric and otherwise improves the wearing quality of the case.

In use, the compartment is opened by operating the slide fastener or other fastening means, and the shoes are inserted one by one into the pockets from the bottom with the toes of the shoes upwardly directed. The opening is then closed, and the case is ready for transportation. The shoes can be easily removed for use when required. The case can be transported as sim-

ply and easily as an ordinary briefcase, which it somewhat resembles in appearance.

Referring to Figs. 1–3 of the drawing, the case illustrated provides a single compartment and consists of a front wall 5 and a rear wall made up of strips of material 6 secured together at their lateral edges as indicated at 7. It will be understood that there are a plurality of such vertical strips making up the rear wall of the case. Gussets 8 are provided at the lateral and bottom edges of the case to increase the internal capacity or, in other words, to permit the front and rear walls to spread when the shoes are inserted.

The front wall 5 is provided with a slide fastener closure 9 which may be straight or curved and is disposed near the lower edge of the case. By opening the closure, access is obtained to the compartment formed by the walls 5 and 6 and the gussets 8. A second slide fastener opening 10 may be provided, and a lining 11 behind the front wall 5 affords a pocket in which articles other than shoes may be placed for transportation. A stiffening rod 12 is introduced between the front and rear walls at the top of the case, and a handle 13 is secured thereto to facilitate transportation of the case.

The pockets for the shoes are formed from sheet material 14, cut in the form of a truncated wedge as shown in Fig. 3, so that the lower edge 15 is wider than the upper edge 16. The edges of the pockets are secured by sewing or other suitable fastening as indicated at 17 and 18, and the material is folded as indicated in Figs. 1 and 3 so that the pockets will lie flat when the case is not in use, but will readily expand to receive the shoe. The upper ends of the pockets may be open or closed. The use of open ends ensures ample space for relatively long shoes.

In Figs. 4–8 of the drawing, a modified form of the invention is shown which provides double capacity. The outer walls 19 and 20 are connected with an intermediate wall 21 at the side edges and bottom by gussets 22 which permit the bag to spread and thus accommodate the shoes. The intermediate wall 21 is made up of strips of sheet material as in the preceding embodiment of the invention, the strips being secured along their lateral edges as indicated at 23.

The opposite walls 19 and 20 are provided with slide fastener openings 24 which may be straight or curved and afford access to the compartments on opposite sides of the intermediate wall 21. The walls 19 and 20 may be provided also with slide fastener openings 25 and linings 26 may be disposed behind the walls 19 and 20 forming pockets to which the slide fastener openings 25 afford access for the storage of articles other than shoes. A stiffening rod of wood or metal 27 is disposed at the upper edge of the case, and a handle 28 is attached thereto to facilitate carrying.

The pockets 29 are formed in the shape indicated in Fig. 3 of the drawing and are secured as indicated at 30 by sewing or otherwise and are folded to lie approximately flat when the case is not in use but to permit expansion when a shoe is inserted. The material for each pocket, being wider at the bottom than at the top, forms a pocket of tapering shape which is particularly desirable because of the tapering character of shoes. Thus the shoes are held firmly in place. The pockets at their upper ends may be open as indicated at 31 of Fig. 6, or they may be closed. Open topped pockets are preferred, since they readily accommodate shoes of extreme length.

The manner in which the shoes are inserted and held in the case is clearly shown in Fig. 8, in which the shoes 32 are disposed in the pockets on opposite sides of the intermediate wall 21. It will be noted that the heels of the shoes are downwardly directed and expand the case, forming a broad base on which it will rest on any surface. This materially facilitates handling of the case. The pockets formed by the linings 26 are also clearly shown and obviously are adapted to contain various articles which the traveler may wish to keep handy for use.

The case as described affords an extremely useful receptacle for the traveler, who may readily carry two, four or more pairs of shoes without inconvenience or any difficulty whatever in packing. The shoes are readily accessible and, even if soiled, may be disposed in the case without danger of injuring other apparel.

Various changes may be made in the form and arrangement of the receptacle as described without departing from the invention or sacrificing the advantages thereof.

I claim:

1. In a case for the transportation of shoes; front and rear walls, gussets at the lateral and bottom edges connected to the walls and forming a compartment, the front wall having an opening and a closure therefor adjacent its lower edge, and pockets within the compartment attached to the rear wall, the pockets being open at their lower ends to permit insertion of shoes with the heels directed toward the bottom gusset.

2. In a case for the transportation of shoes; a front, a rear and an intermediate wall, and gussets connected to the lateral and bottom edges of the walls and forming two separate compartments, the front and rear walls having openings and closures therefor adjacent the lower edges, and pockets within the compartments attached to the intermediate wall on opposite faces thereof, the pockets being open at their lower ends to permit insertion of shoes with the heels directed toward the bottom gusset.

3. In a case for the transportation of shoes; a front, a rear and an intermediate wall, and gussets connected to the lateral and bottom edges of the walls and forming two separate compartments, the intermediate wall being formed of a plurality of strips of sheet material secured together at their lateral edges, the front and rear walls having openings and closures therefor adjacent the lower edges, and pockets within the compartments attached to the intermediate wall on opposite faces thereof, the pockets being open at their lower ends to permit insertion of shoes with the heels directed toward the bottom gusset, the pockets being formed of sheet material cut in the shape of truncated wedges so that the pockets are of smaller cross-section at their upper ends.

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