May 9, 1933. J. ROTH 1,907,676

SCHOOL BAG AND BRIEF CASE

Filed Feb. 24, 1930

Fig. 1.

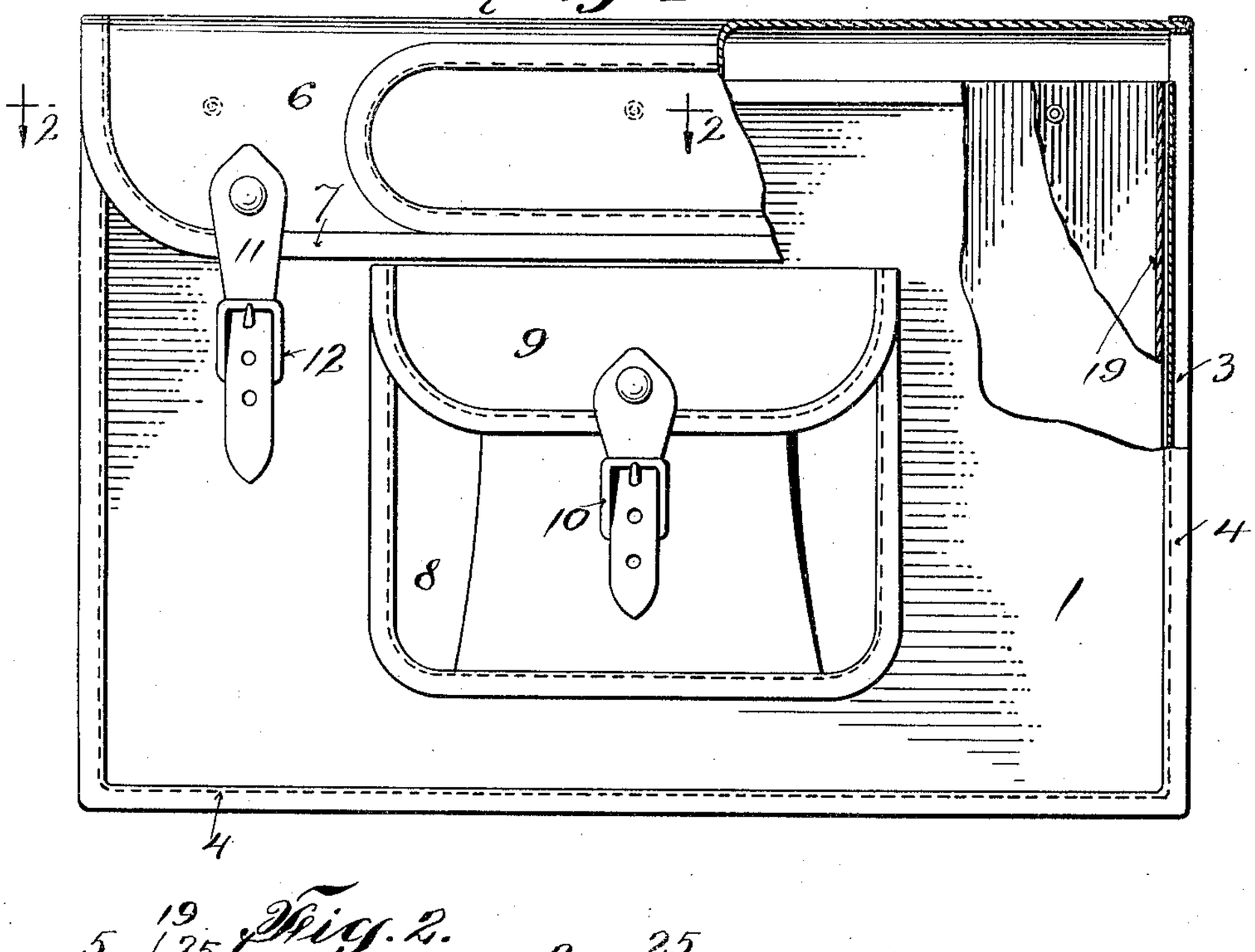


Fig. 2.

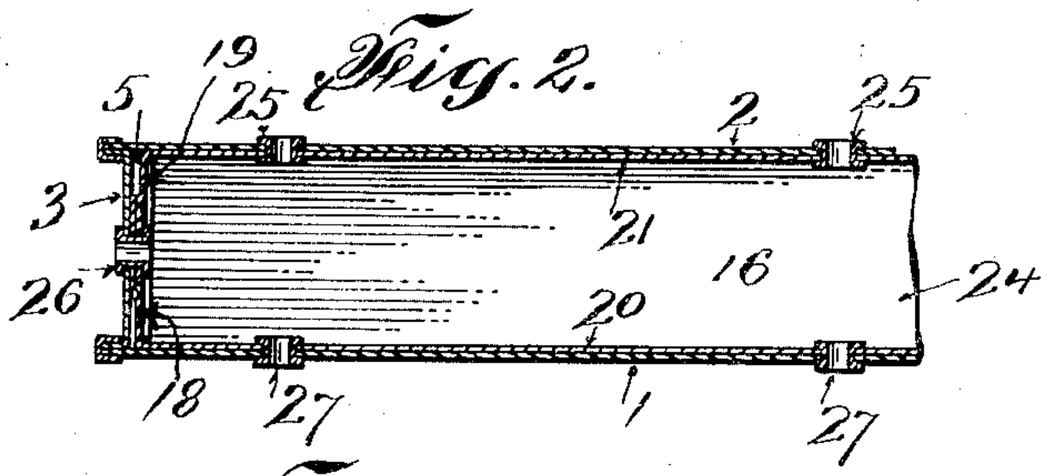


Fig. 3.

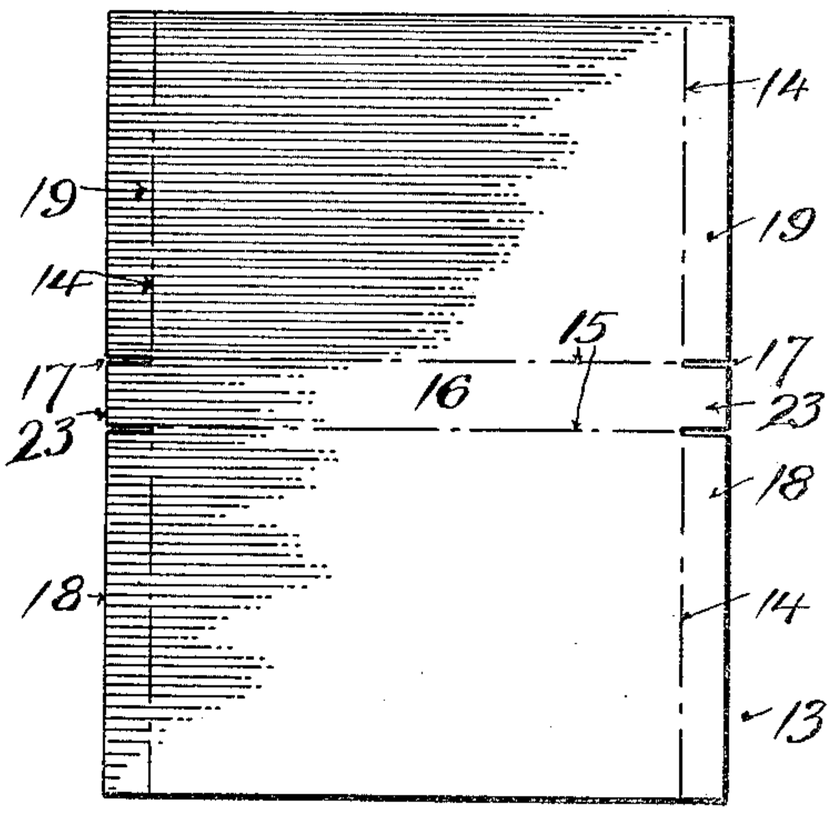
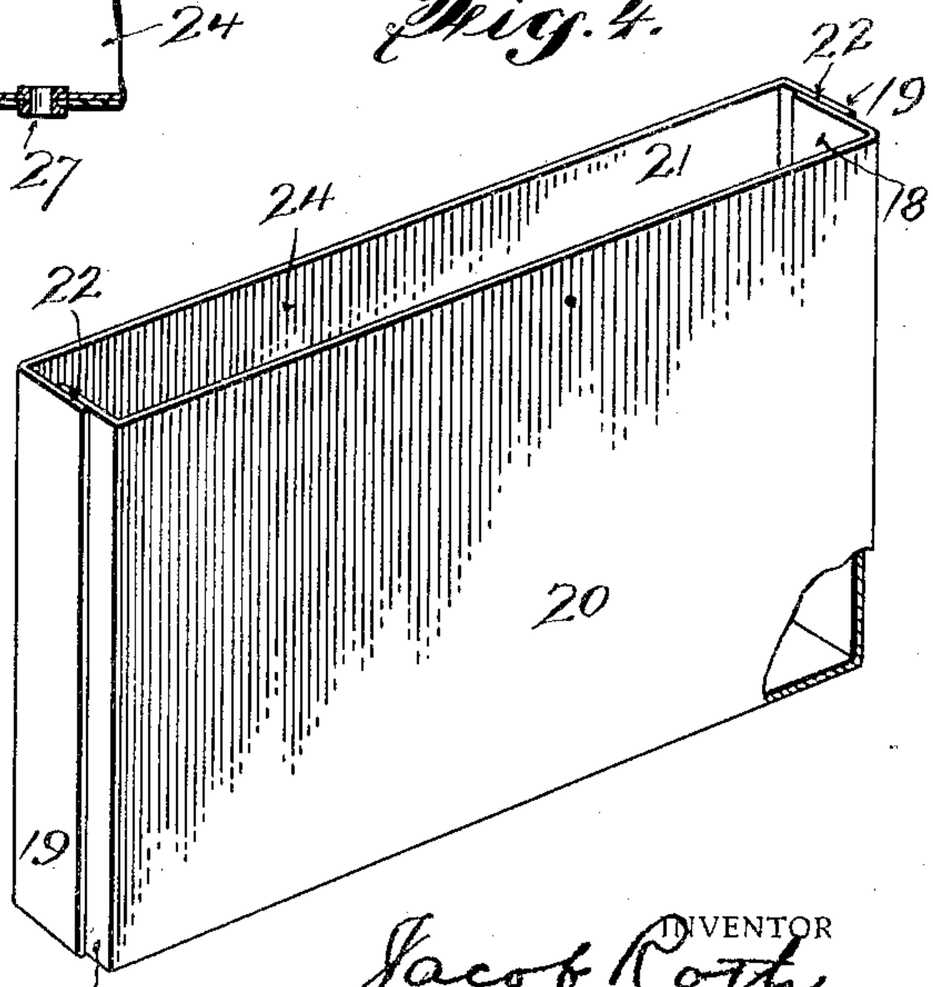


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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SCHOOL BAG AND BRIEF CASE

Application filed February 24, 1930. Serial No. 430,734.

The present invention relates to school bags, brief cases and similar means for carrying books, papers and other objects, and it is especially advantageous when used for school bags. One object of the invention is to provide a simple and inexpensive lining or stiffening member adapted to the interior of a school bag or similar device, for the purpose of forming a lining which will stiffen the bag and hold it in distended position to facilitate the placing of books, papers and other articles within the bag and removing them from it. Heretofore, school bags have been made not only of leather but of less expensive material such as imitation leather, and on account of the low price at which the same are sold, it is not practical to provide a stiffening frame of metal because of the added cost of manufacture. On the other hand, where no stiffening frame is used, the bag is more or less flexible, easily loses its shape, and it is not convenient to place articles into and remove them from the bag. Under the present invention I provide a liner, preferably made of inherently stiff material such as fibre board, which may be formed completely independently of the bag, and of a size to correspond with the interior of the bag when distended. This liner or reinforcement may be inserted readily into the bag and then secured thereto by eyelets or any other inexpensive securing means.

The liner or reinforcement then becomes a permanent part of the bag and it serves both to line the bag and to form a stiffer construction, so that the bag will retain its shape in open or distended condition. In addition, the lining member renders the bag more durable. On the other hand, the lining member may be made on a cutting and creasing press at a very low cost so that the cost of manufacture of the bag with the improved lining member will be much less than if a metal frame were employed to hold the bag in shape. Other advantages will be set forth in the following detailed description of my invention.

In the drawing forming part of this application,

Figure 1 is a face view of the front of a school bag embodying my invention, with portions broken away to show the interior,

Figure 2 is a sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1,

Figure 3 is a face view of the blank from which the lining member is made, and

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the lining member formed into shape, ready to be applied to the interior of the bag.

In the drawing I have shown my invention embodied in a well known type of school bag, although it is to be understood that the same may be applied to brief cases and other carrying devices, the principal difference in these several articles being the quality of material of which they are made, size etc., so that a description of the invention as applied to a school bag will suffice to teach the application of the invention to other forms of carriers.

In the drawing I have shown a school bag of rectangular shape, the exterior or bag proper of which consists of a front wall 1, a rear wall 2 spaced from and parallel to the front wall, and a strip 3 extending around the ends and bottom of the bag and sewed respectively to the front and back walls 1, 2, as shown by the line of stitches 4, to form the intermediate end walls and the bottom of the bag, so that the bag, when in distended position, forms a compartment 5 to receive and hold books, papers and other objects. For convenience I have illustrated the invention as applied to a single pocket bag, that is, a bag having one receiving compartment 5, as the invention is especially advantageous when used in connection with this type of bag. There is a flap or cover 6 formed by an extension of the back wall, and preferably this is provided with a hem 7 extending around the edge thereof, although this forms no part of the present invention. I have shown a patch compartment on the front wall of the bag, composed of a sheet of material 8 stitched around three of its edges to the front wall 1 to form, with the front wall, an outer compartment for holding smaller objects, such as pencils, erasers etc., and this is provided

with a flap or cover 9 adapted to be secured in closed position by the strap and buckle 10. The exterior pocket may be used or not, as desired, as it forms no part of the present invention. I have shown one of the straps 11 with a suitable buckle 12 for securing one side of the flap or cover 6 in closed position, and it will be understood that a similar strap and buckle will be provided adjacent the opposite end of the flap or cover, but the same is not shown because the view is broken away in Figure 1.

In making the lining member, a blank 13 of inherently stiff material is formed, as shown in Figure 3, of cardboard or similar material, and for this purpose I prefer to use fibre board because of its inherently stiff and tough character. The blank is formed with the several score or crease lines 14 extending parallel with the several edges of the sheet and with longitudinal scoring or crease lines 15 extending between the lines 14 so that these several lines form three sides of two rectangles separated from each other by the intermediate section or member 16. In line with the score lines 15 I have provided four slots or cuts 17 extending inwardly from the opposite edges of the sheet and terminating in line with the end scorings 14. In forming the sheet into the lining member shown in Figure 4, it is bent on the several score lines 14, so that the sections 18, 19 extend at right angles to the front and back walls 20, 21 of the lining member and overlap each other, as shown at 22 in Figure 4. The small tabs 23 in line with the section 16 are preferably turned up at right angles to the latter and lie within the end walls. It will be understood also that the blank is bent on the score lines 15 so that the section 16 becomes the bottom member as shown in Figure 4. There is thus formed a rectangular compartment 24 of the lining member having a front and back wall, end walls, and a bottom wall with an open top.

The flap or cover 6 of the bag is swung open and the lining member shown in Figure 4 is inserted through the open top of the bag and forced downwardly until the bottom wall 16 of the lining member rests on the bottom wall of the bag.

The lining member is then attached, preferably permanently, to the bag, so that it becomes an integral part thereof, and the attaching means also serves to attach the overlapping members 18, 19 forming the end walls of the lining member to each other. For this purpose I have shown eyelets 25 passing respectively through the back wall 21 of the lining member and the back wall 2 of the bag, and these eyelets are upset or flattened to secure the back walls of both the lining member and the bag together. Preferably these eyelets are attached adjacent the upper portion of the lining member and the bag and the holes for the eyelets are preferably formed after the lining member has been inserted into the bag, so that there will be no difficulty in having the apertures register for the eyelets to be inserted. In like manner eyelets 26 are passed through the overlapping sections 18, 19 of the end wall of the lining member, and through the end wall 3 of the bag, and then flattened or riveted. Preferably, the apertures for these eyelets are arranged adjacent the top of the lining member and bag and the apertures are preferably formed after the lining member has been inserted, to insure their registering and to facilitate the application of the eyelets. Other eyelets 27 are passed through the front wall 20 of the lining member and the front wall 1 of the bag to secure these together. While I have described the securing members as eyelets, it will be obvious that rivets, staples or other securing means may be employed if desired.

The lining member fits snugly against the front and back walls of the bag, as well as against the end and bottom walls thereof, and serves to hold the bag distended to its full size and it also stiffens the bag throughout, except for the flap or cover 6 which is advantageously left pliable.

The eyelets 26 which pass through the end sections of the lining member serve not only to unite these portions of the lining member to the end walls of the bag, but they also limit the overlapping of these sections 18, 19 and therefore prevent the lining member from collapsing beyond the position shown in Figure 2. In other words, these eyelets hold the lining member distended in the position necessary to support the bag in proper condition.

The cost of manufacture of the bag containing the improved lining member described herein is but slightly greater than the cost of the bag without such lining, but its retail price and stability are substantially enhanced.

Having described my invention, what I claim is:

In a device of the class described, the combination of a bag comprising parallel front and rear walls connected by bottom and end walls to form a receptacle of the character described, and having an open top adapted to be closed by a flap formed on said bag and a separately formed lining member of relatively stiffer material than said bag member, said lining member having front and rear walls, a bottom wall and end walls, said end walls consisting of overlapping sections, said lining member being adapted to be inserted into the open end of said bag after the latter has been formed, to provide stiffening means for the several walls of said bag member, and means passing through the

adjacent walls of said lining member and said bag member to secure said walls together, some of said securing means passing through the overlapping end walls of said lining member and the adjacent walls of said bag member.

Signed at the city, county and State of New York the 8th day of February 1930.

JACOB ROTH.