

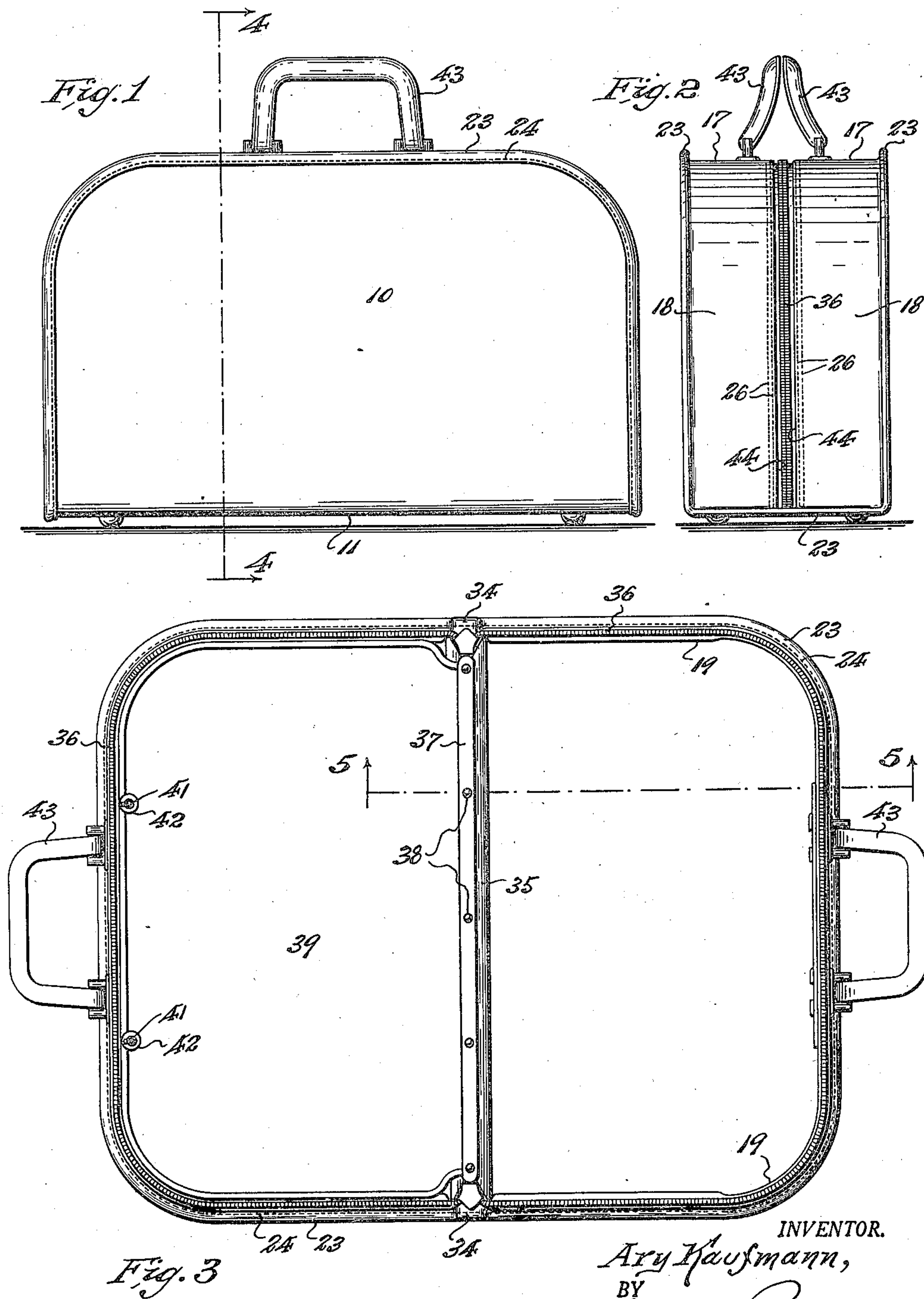
July 6, 1948.

A. KAUFMANN
TRAVELING BAG COMPRISING HINGEDLY
CONNECTED OPPOSED SECTIONS

2,444,511

Filed July 2, 1946

3 Sheets-Sheet 1



INVENTOR.
Ary Kaufmann,
BY
George S. Richards,
Attorney

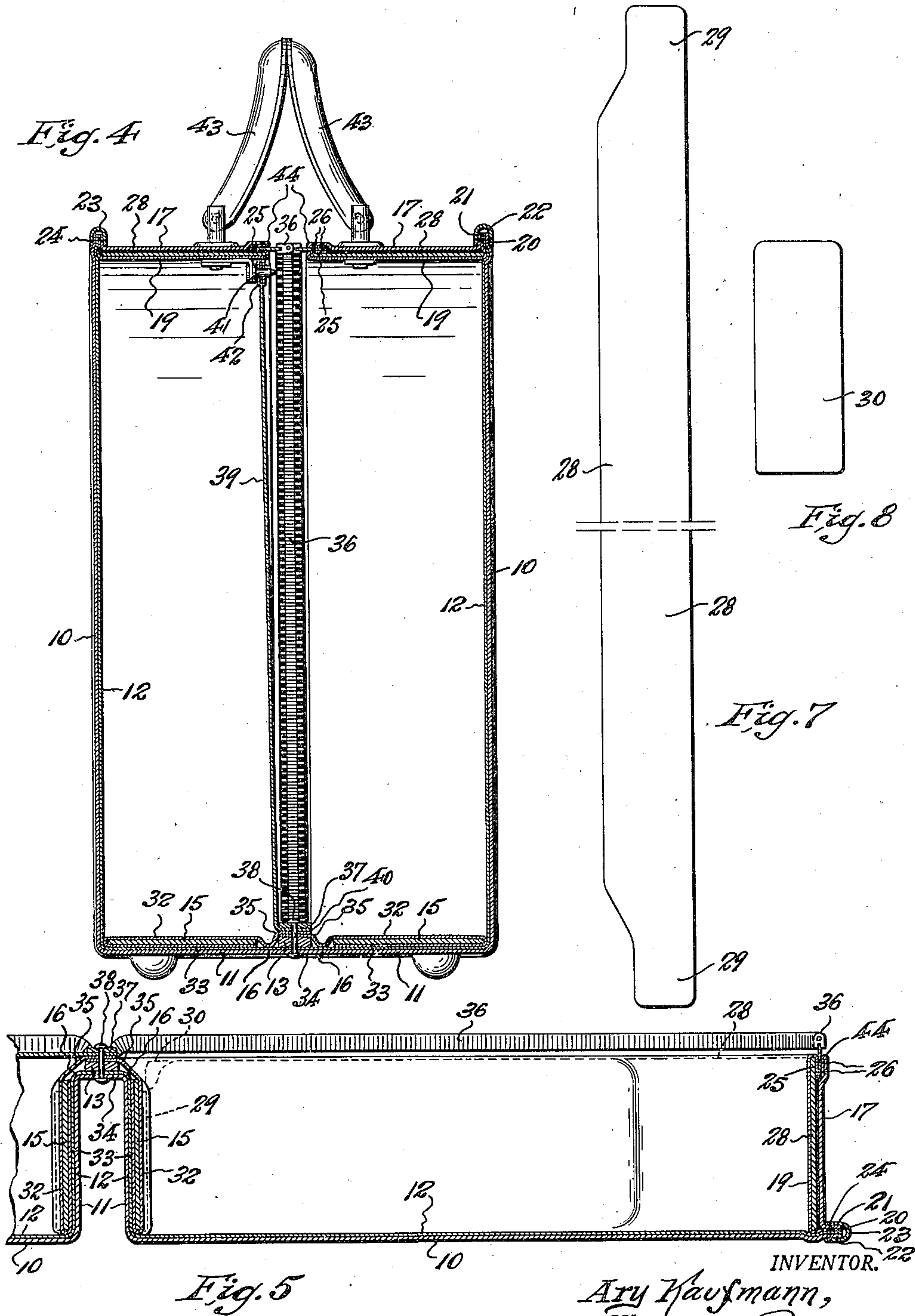
July 6, 1948.

A. KAUFMANN
TRAVELING BAG COMPRISING HINGEDLY
CONNECTED OPPOSED SECTIONS

2,444,511

Filed July 2, 1946

3 Sheets-Sheet 2



INVENTOR.
Ary Kaufmann,
BY
George S. Richards
Attorney—

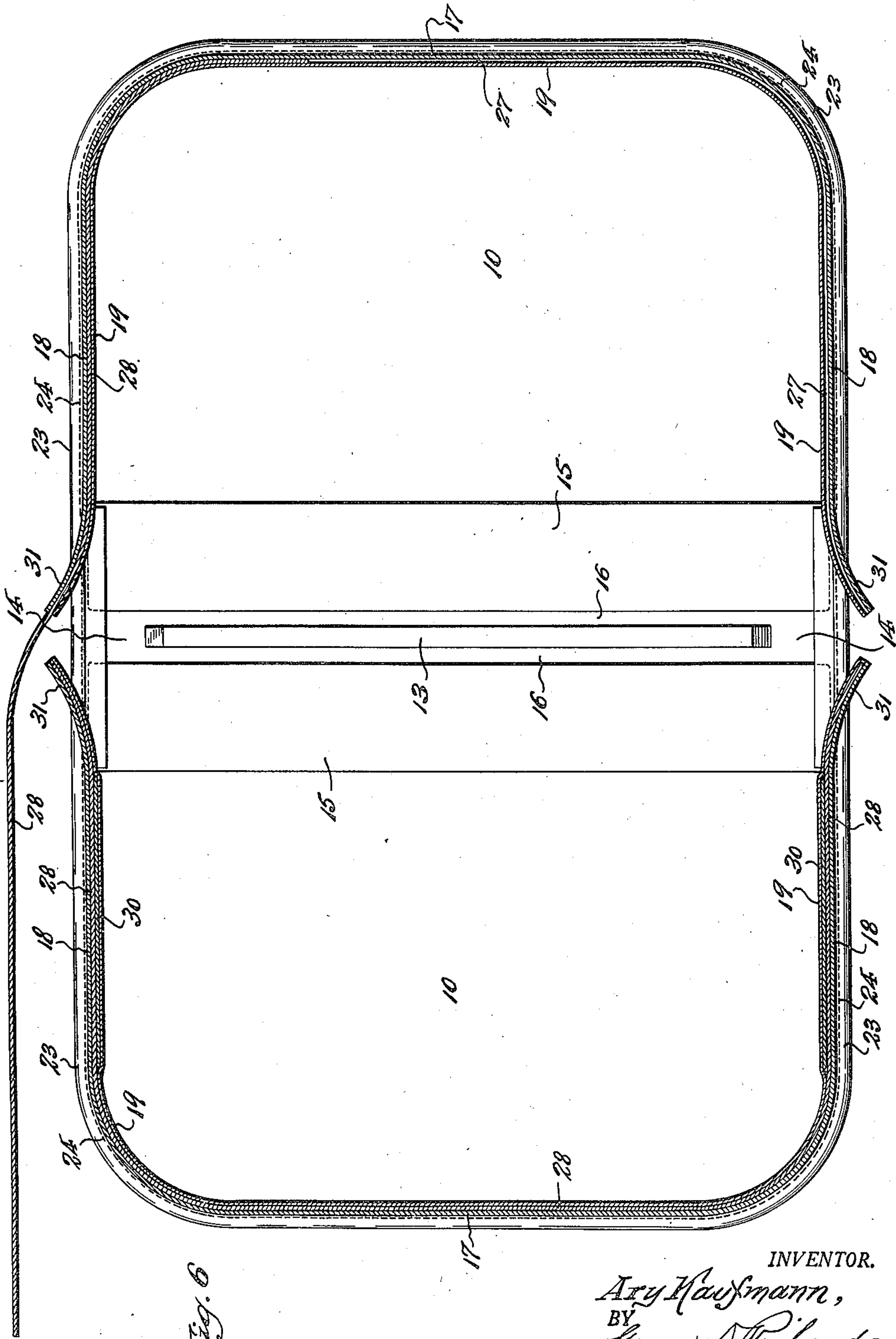
July 6, 1948.

A. KAUFMANN
TRAVELING BAG COMPRISING HINGEDLY
CONNECTED OPPOSED SECTIONS

2,444,511

Filed July 2, 1946

3 Sheets-Sheet 3



9. 10. 11.

INVENTOR.

Ary Haufmann,
BY
Gage S. Richards
Attorney—

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,444,511

TRAVELING BAG COMPRISING HINGEDLY
CONNECTED OPPOSED SECTIONS

Ary Kaufmann, South Orange, N. J., assignor to
K. Kaufmann & Co., Inc., Newark, N. J., a cor-
poration of New Jersey

Application July 2, 1946, Serial No. 681,017

4 Claims. (Cl. 190—50)

1

This invention relates to improvements in traveling bags; and the invention has reference, more particularly, to a novel construction of traveling bag of the general utility type which is of light weight and yet strong and durable, and to a novel method of producing the same.

The invention has for an object to provide a novel construction of traveling bag of the center opening type, somewhat similar in form to the well-known "Gladstone" style of bag, but in the construction of which is incorporated novel means for shaping and reenforcing the bag body sections, the use of which means eliminates necessity for employment of heavy metallic frame structure, in consequence of which the completed bag is of light weight and yet strong and durable; said body sections being equipped with slide fastener means for releasably securing the same in closed condition.

The invention has for another object to provide a novel method of forming the bag body to provide the sides and bottom portions thereof in one piece and with attached end and top portions joined thereto by external marginal beaded joints, including, in connection with said end and top portions, lining members which are arranged to form longitudinally extending pockets into which reenforcing and shape retaining members may be inserted, the latter being also adapted to brace the aforesaid beaded joints so as to hold the same in external angularly projecting relation to said end and top portions substantially in the planes of the side and bottom portions.

Other objects of this invention, not at this time more particularly enumerated, will be understood from the following detailed description of the same.

An illustrative embodiment of the invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of the traveling bag according to this invention, the same being shown in closed condition; Fig. 2 is an end elevational view of the same in closed condition; Fig. 3 is a plan view of the bag in open condition; Fig. 4 is a transverse vertical sectional view, taken on line 4—4 in Fig. 1, but drawn on an enlarged scale; and Fig. 5 is a fragmentary cross-sectional view, taken on line 5—5 in Fig. 3, and also drawn on an enlarged scale.

Fig. 6 is a horizontal sectional view of the bag body in an initial stage of construction thereof, and showing the method of applying thereto the reenforcing and shape retaining members in connection with end and top portions of the bag body sections.

Fig. 7 is a face view of a main reenforcing and shape retaining member adapted to be assembled with end and top portions of a bag body section; and Fig. 8 is a face view of an auxiliary

2

reenforcing member for application solely to an end portion of a bag body section.

Similar characters of reference are employed in the above described views, to indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to the drawings, the novel traveling bag according to this invention comprises a sheet of flexible material, such as natural or artificial leather, textile or other fabric or the like, which is of suitable dimensions and of suitable peripheral shape, and which is adapted to form, in one piece, the side portions 10 and bottom portions 11 of the bag body sections. The interior face of said side and bottom forming sheet is faced with a coextensive lining 12, which is also made of suitable sheet material, such e. g. as a textile fabric. Said lining 12 is cemented to the side and bottom forming sheet so as to be unitary therewith.

Secured to the inner face of the lined side and bottom forming sheet, to extend across its medial portion between lateral margins thereof, is a rigid back-bone member 13, the respective ends of which terminate short of said lateral margins, so as to leave unobstructed spaces 14 (see Fig. 6) between said ends and lateral margins. Said back-bone member 13 may be made of any suitable rigid material, but is preferably made of wood so as to be of relatively light weight. Also cemented or otherwise suitably secured to the inner face of the lined side and bottom forming sheet are bottom portion reenforcing or stiffening members 15, which are made of substantially rigid sheet material, such e. g. as wood. Said bottom portion reenforcing and stiffening members 15 respectively lie parallel to but spaced from the sides of said back-bone member 13, whereby to form intermediate the former and the latter, by the intervening lined sheet material, flexible hinging portions 16 about which the respective bag body sections may swing when opening and closing the bag.

Secured to the margins of each side portion 10 is a U-shaped section which forms, in one piece, the top part 17 and end parts 18 of a bag body section. Each such top and end part forming section is made of flexible sheet material, preferably of the same kind as that of the side and bottom forming sheet material. Coextensive with the interior side or face of each top and end part forming section is a pocket forming member 19, which is made of textile fabric, preferably of the same kind as that from which the lining 12 is made, so as to harmonize therewith. One longitudinal edge portion 20 of said pocket forming member 19 is coincident with the outer longitudinal edge portion 21 of said top and end part forming section, and is turned therewith to overlie marginal edge portions 22 of the adjacent side portion 10, being enclosed therewith in a

binding member 23, and the whole secured by stitching 24, thus forming an external beaded or welt joint extending in the plane of said side portion 10. In this way one side of the pocket forming member is anchored to the outer margin of the top and end part forming section. The other longitudinal edge portion 25 of said pocket forming member 19 is intumed beneath the inner longitudinal marginal portion 44 of said top and end part forming section, and secured thereto by stitching 26, thus anchoring the other side of the pocket forming member.

As associated with the top and end parts 17-18, said pocket forming members 19 provide an endwise open, longitudinally extending pocket 27 coextensive with the width and length of said top and end parts 17-18. A novel form and arrangement of means is provided for holding the top and end parts 17-18 of each bag body section in extended, shaped and stiffened or reinforced condition. A preferred form of means for this purpose comprises a stiffening and reinforcing gusset member 28, which is made of a tough and rigid material which is capable, however, of being bent into the required U-shape corresponding to the conformation of said top and end parts 17-18. A material such as vulcanized paper or fiber board provides a satisfactory gusset material. Said gusset member 28 terminates at its respective ends in tongues 29 of reduced width (see Fig. 7). A gusset member 28 is inserted into an open end of each pocket 27 and pushed endwise therethrough until fully entered therein so as to extend from end to end of the top and end parts 17-18 of each bag body section (see Fig. 6). Auxiliary reinforcing members 30 (see Fig. 8) are also provided of width corresponding to the width of the respective end parts 18, and of a length adapted to be substantially coextensive with the length of the straight portions of said end parts 18, when the bag body sections of which they form a part are completed. These auxiliary reinforcing members 30 are likewise pushed endwise through the end portions of the pockets 27, until disposed in desired position side by side with contiguous portions of the inserted gusset members 28.

Each top and end part forming section and its associated pocket forming member is provided at its ends with free terminal portions 31, i. e. portions unattached to the edges of the side and bottom forming sheet, the purpose of which will be subsequently explained.

Preferably each bottom portion reinforcing or stiffening member 15 is provided with a covering 32 having inner marginal portions 33 secured to the underside of the member 15, so as to be cemented with the latter to a lined bottom portion 11 of the bag body structure, thus anchoring one side of said covering 32 in place. Said covering is also made of textile fabric, preferably of the same kind as that from which the lining 12 and pocket forming members 19 are formed, so as to harmonize therewith.

Before the coverings 32 are finally secured in place, the bag section bottom portions 11 are swung about the flexible hinging portions 16 and relative to an intermediate back-bone section 34, of which said back-bone member 13 forms a part, to extend perpendicular to the bag section side portions 10, whereupon said free terminal portions 31 of the top and end parts 17-18, together with the terminal tongues 29 of the gusset members 28 enclosed therein, are intumed, superposed upon and cemented or otherwise firmly

secured to the adjacent end portions of the reinforcing or stiffening members 15 of the bottom portions 11 in the plane thereof, thus affixing the inner ends of the bag section end portions 18 in place, and thereby effecting completion of formation of the respective bag body sections. After this is done, the coverings 32 are laid over and secured to such assemblies, and the outer marginal portions 35 of said coverings 32 are thereupon extended to and lapped over and upon the back-bone member 13 in suitably secured relation thereto.

The widths of the main body portions of the gusset members 28 are so proportioned relative to the widths of the pockets 27 in which they are contained as to be slightly in excess of the latter, whereby when said gusset members 28 are in place their outer edges will be strongly thrust in abutment against the marginal parts of the bag section side portions 10 adjacently beneath the beaded or welt joints provided between the latter and the top and end parts 17-18 of said bag sections. The effect of this is to so brace said beaded or welt joints as to cause the same to be constantly urged to and maintained in upstanding, externally projected position substantially in the plane of said bag section side portions 10 and right angular to the planes of said top and end parts 17-18 of said bag sections.

Secured to the inner margins of the top and end parts 17-18 of the respective bag sections are the cooperative components of slide fastener means 36, by which the bag sections, when swung together in meeting bag closing condition, may be releasably secured in such condition. The terminals of said slide fastener means are entered in the unobstructed spaces 14 provided beyond the respective ends of the back-bone member 13 at the ends of the back-bone section 34.

While slide-fastener means has been shown and above described as a preferred means for releasably securing the bag sections in closed condition, it will be obvious that, in the broader aspects of this invention, any other suitable form of fastening means may be optionally employed.

The back-bone section 34 is reinforced by means of a metallic keeper and reinforcing strip 37 which is disposed to overlie the interior top thereof, and which is secured to the back-bone section by rivets 38 engaged through the back-bone structure, or by other suitable fastening means. Said keeper and reinforcing strip 37 also serves to bind down the outer marginal portions 35 of said coverings 32 of the reinforcing and stiffening members 15 of the bag section bottom portions 11.

If desired, the bag body interior may be provided with a releasable partition member 39 adapted to extend between the interiors of the bag body sections. The base 40 of said partition member 39 is engaged and secured beneath the keeper and reinforcing strip 37, whereby to hingedly anchor said partition member to the back-bone section 34. Suitable means is provided for releasably fastening the free end of the partition member in closed relation to the interior of one of the bag body sections. Illustratively, such fastening means may comprise manipulatable latching posts 41 which are suitably anchored to the inner side of the top part 17 of the latter bag body section. Said latching posts 41 are adapted to be releasably engaged by marginal grommets 42 with which the free end of the partition member is provided (see Figs. 3 and 4).

Cooperative carrying handle members 43 are

suitably mounted and secured to the top parts 17 of the respective bag body sections, thus completing the bag structure.

Having now described my invention, I claim:

1. A traveling bag the body of which is formed by opposed sections adapted to be closed together in meeting relation, a single sheet of pliable material divided medially by a rigid back-bone section to provide oppositely extending parts respectively including side and bottom portions of the respective body sections, a continuous top and end forming member of pliable material for each body section, said top and end forming members being respectively joined to the peripheries of the respective body section side portions to extend perpendicular thereto, said top and end forming members having facing means affixed by their longitudinal margins to the margins of said members, whereby to provide longitudinal pockets coextensive with the inner sides of said members, substantially rigid gusset means contained in and coextensive with said pockets, whereby to reinforce, shape and support said top and end forming members in extended condition, means to stiffen and reinforce said bottom portions, said bottom portions of the respective body sections being respectively hingedly related to said back-bone section by intermediate freely flexible parts of said pliable sheet material from which said side and bottom portions are formed, said bottom portions being disposed perpendicular to the side portions, said top and end forming members having free terminal portions inturned, superimposed upon and secured to said stiffened and reinforced bottom portions, and means to releasably secure the body sections thus formed in closed together meeting relation.

2. A traveling bag the body of which is formed by opposed sections adapted to be closed together in meeting relation, a single sheet of pliable material divided medially by a rigid back-bone section to provide oppositely extending parts respectively including side and bottom portions of the respective body sections, a continuous top and end forming member of pliable material for each body section, said top and end forming members being respectively joined to the peripheries of the respective body section side portions to extend perpendicular thereto, said top and end forming members having facing means affixed by their longitudinal margins to the margins of said members, whereby to provide longitudinal pockets coextensive with the inner sides of said members, substantially rigid gusset means contained in and coextensive with said pockets, whereby to reinforce, shape and support said top and end forming members in extended condition, means to stiffen and reinforce said bottom portions, said bottom portions of the respective body sections being respectively hingedly related to said back-bone section by intermediate freely flexible parts of said pliable sheet material from which said side and bottom portions are formed, said bottom portions being disposed perpendicular to the side portions, said top and end forming members having free terminal portions inturned, superimposed upon and secured to said stiffened and reinforced bottom portions, and means to releasably secure the body sections thus formed in closed together meeting relation, said latter means comprising a slide fastener structure, the cooperative component parts of which are secured

to the free edge portions of the respective top and end forming members of said body sections.

3. A traveling bag the body of which is formed by opposed sections adapted to close together in meeting relation, a single sheet of pliable material divided medially by a rigid back-bone section to provide oppositely extending parts respectively including side and bottom portions of the respective body sections, a continuous top and end forming member of pliable material for each body section disposed perpendicular to the side portions of the latter, facing portions coextensive with the interior sides of said top and end forming members, contiguous longitudinal edges of said members and their facing portions being stitched and bound respectively to the peripheral edges of the respective body section side portions so as to form exteriorly projecting beaded joint elements in the planes of said body section side portions, opposite contiguous longitudinal edges of said members and their facing portions being stitched together, whereby said facing portions form with said members, longitudinal pockets coextensive with the latter, substantially rigid gusset members engaged within and coextensive with said pockets, whereby to reinforce, shape and support said top and end forming members in extended condition, edges of said gusset members being adapted to thrustingly abut margins of said body section side portions, whereby to brace and urge said beaded joint elements to upstanding condition in the plane of said side portions, means to stiffen and reinforce said bottom portions, said bottom portions of the respective body sections being respectively hingedly related to said back-bone section by intermediate freely flexible parts of said pliable sheet material from which said side and bottom portions are formed, said bottom portions being disposed perpendicular to the side portions, said top and end forming members having free terminal portions inturned, superimposed upon and secured to said stiffened and reinforced bottom portions, and means to releasably secure the body sections thus formed in closed together meeting relation.

4. A traveling bag as defined by claim 3 wherein the means to releasably secure the body sections in closed together meeting relation comprises a slide fastener structure, the cooperative component parts of which are secured to the free edge portions of the respective top and end forming members of said body sections.

ARY KAUFMANN.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
1,676,229	Grossman et al. _____	July 3, 1928
2,244,091	Wein _____	June 3, 1941
2,272,716	Lowe _____	Feb. 10, 1942
2,346,563	Doppelt _____	Apr. 11, 1944
2,420,150	Riess _____	May 6, 1947

FOREIGN PATENTS

Number	Country	Date
117,830	Australia _____	Sept. 17, 1943
397,567	Great Britain _____	Aug. 31, 1933