

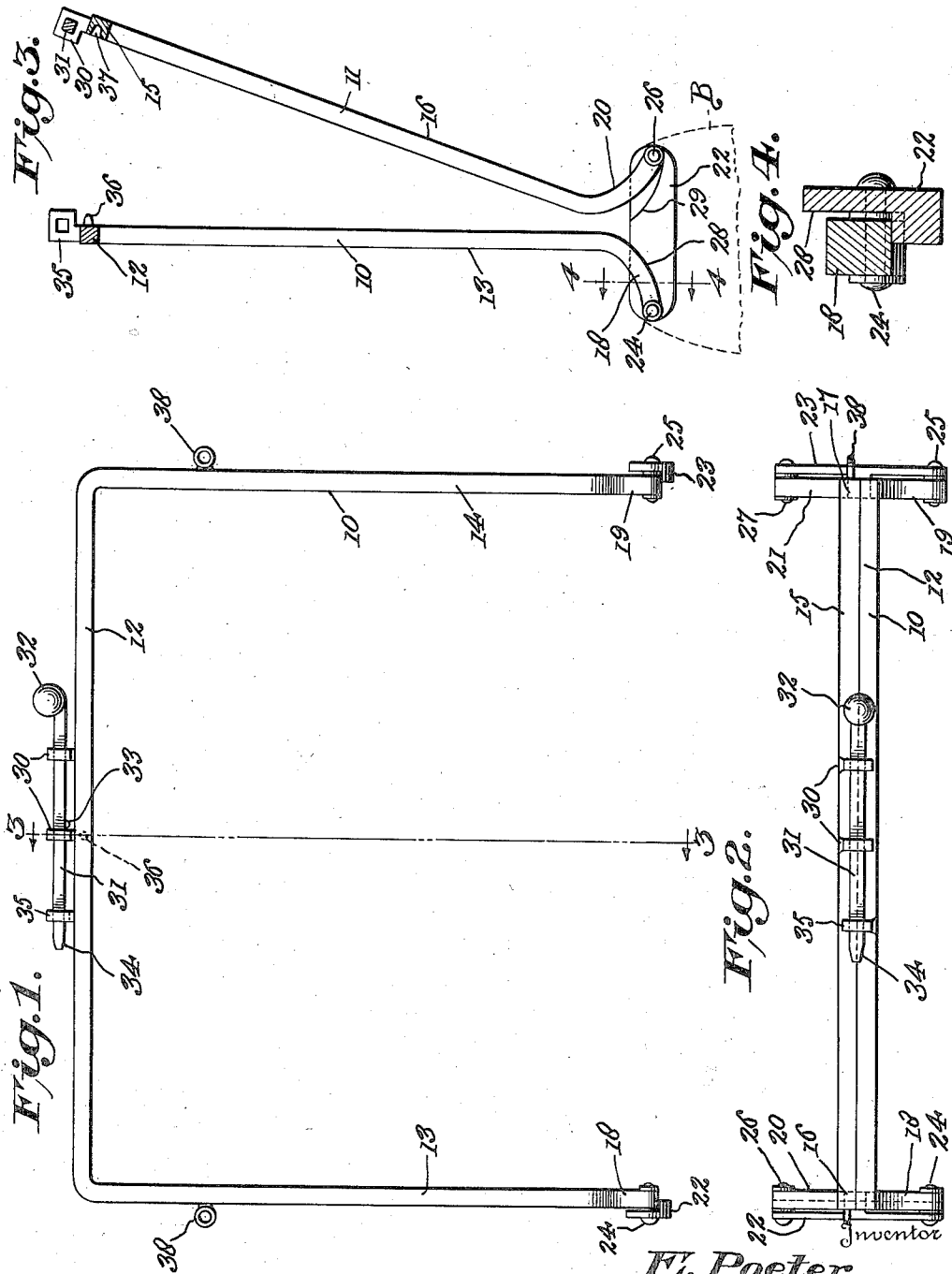
Aug. 25, 1936.

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2,052,245

HANDBAG FRAME

Filed March 7, 1936



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,052,245

HANDBAG FRAME

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Application March 7, 1936, Serial No. 67,617

6 Claims. (Cl. 150—29)

This invention relates to handbag frames, and more particularly to a frame which is so constructed that there will not be any bulge along the sides of the frame by reason of the bag being filled.

An object of this invention is to provide a U-shaped frame construction for a handbag, the handbag being of a relatively large size, which is adapted to provide a relatively wide mouth to permit ready access to the inside of the bag.

Another object of this invention is to provide in a frame construction an improved hinge or joint structure which will make it possible to eliminate the use of gussets along the sides of the frame, and at the same time close the opposite side of the frame.

A further object of this invention is to provide in a frame construction of this kind an improved frame locking means which includes means to prevent lateral movement of the frame members relative to each other and thus eliminate any strain upon the hinge, particularly when the handbag is filled to substantial capacity.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention will be more fully described hereinafter, and will be more particularly pointed out in the claims appended hereto.

In the drawing, wherein like symbols refer to like or corresponding parts throughout the several views:

Figure 1 is a detail side elevation of a handbag frame constructed according to an embodiment of this invention.

Figure 2 is a top plan of the frame.

Figure 3 is a sectional view, partly in detail, taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Figure 4 is an enlarged sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Referring to the drawing, the numeral 10 designates generally one frame member, and the numeral 11 designates generally a second frame member, each of the frame members being of substantially U-shaped construction.

The frame member 10 comprises an upper bar 12 and parallel side bars 13 and 14, and the frame member 11 comprises an upper bar 15 and parallel side bars 16 and 17 of substantially the same size as the upper bar and side bars of the frame member 10. The lower ends of the frame member 10 are bent outwardly on a slight curvature, the side bars 13 and 14 being bent outwardly at their lower ends as at 18 and 19, respectively. The lower ends of the frame member 11 are likewise bent outwardly on a slight curvature, the side bars 16 and 17 being bent

outwardly at their lower ends as at 20 and 21, respectively.

The divergent ends of the frame members 10 and 11 are connected together by means of a pair of hinge bars or connecting links 22 and 23. The ends of the frame member 10 are pivotally secured to the hinge bars 22 and 23 by means of pivotal members 24 and 25, respectively, and the ends of the frame member 11 are pivotally secured to the hinge bars 22 and 23 by means of pivotal members 26 and 27, respectively.

These hinge bars 22 and 23 are of like construction, and each is preferably constructed of a flat and relatively heavy piece of metal which is provided with a pair of recesses 28 and 29 which open through one face of the bar, preferably the inner face, and the bottom of each recess forms a seat or stop which is engaged by the curved lower end of a frame side bar. The pivotal members for the frame members, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, are disposed adjacent the opposite ends of the hinge bars, and the hinge bars are of sufficient length as to provide a relatively large seat or stop. Through the use of these hinge bars or links 22 and 23, one frame member may be moved to open position with the other frame member in a normal closed position with the curved divergent lower ends thereof contacting with the hinge bar stops or seats.

The frame members 10 and 11 are adapted to be engaged by a suitable cover, forming the handbag proper which is shown in dotted lines in Fig. 3 and designated generally at B. The cover will be extended upwardly about the frame members and secured thereto in any suitable manner.

The frame member 11 is provided on the upper bar 15 thereof with guide members 30 which are disposed in upstanding and spaced apart relation, and a slidable locking member 31 provided with a knob or operating member 32 slidably engages the guide members 30. Movement of the locking member 31 is limited by means of a stop 33 secured to the underside thereof and disposed between the guide members 30. The end of the locking member 31 opposite from the knob 32 is preferably reduced slightly, as at 34 so as to facilitate engagement with an eye 35 which is secured to the upper bar 12 of the frame member 10.

One of the frame members, and in the present instance the frame member 10, is provided with a projecting pin 36 which is adapted, when the frame members are in closed position, to engage in a recess 37 in the confronting side of the upper bar 15 of the frame member 11. This pin 36 will

prevent lateral shifting of the frame members relative to each other when in closed position. Eyes 38 may be secured to the side bars of one of the frame members, or if desired one eye 38 may be secured to a side bar of one frame member and another eye 38 secured to an opposite side bar of the other frame member. A suitable carrying chain or handle, not shown, may be secured to the eyes 38, but it will, of course, be understood that other means may be provided for attaching a handle to a frame member.

When the frame members 10 and 11 are in closed position the side bars thereof will be in substantially contacting relation for the entire length thereof and the locking member 31 will be engaged with the keeper or eye 35. Preferably the locking member 31 is so constructed that it will be placed under some strain or friction when engaged with the eye or keeper 35 so that it will not easily move to released position.

In use the cover of the handbag will be secured to the frame members 10 and 11 in any suitable manner, and in closed position the frame members 10 and 11 will be in the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The handbag may be partially opened by moving the locking member 31 to released position and then swinging the desired frame member outwardly and away from the other frame member, or the handbag may be completely opened by swinging both of the frame members outwardly, thus exposing the entire contents of the handbag. Through the provision of the recesses or seats 28 and 29 in the hinge bars 22 and 23, when the frame members 10 and 11 are moved to closed position the hinge bars 22 and 23 will always be disposed at right angles to the side bars of these frame members.

It is obvious that various changes and modifications may be made in the details of construction and design of the above specifically described embodiment of this invention without departing from the spirit thereof, such changes and modifications being restricted only by the scope of the following claims:

What is claimed is:

1. A handbag frame comprising a pair of U-shaped frame members, the free ends of the frame members being bent outwardly in opposed relation, a pair of hinge bars, means for pivotally securing the hinge bars to the ends of the frame members and means carried by said hinge bars for engagement with the outwardly bent portions of the frame members whereby to hold the hinge bars at substantially right angles to the sides of the frame members when the frame members are in closed position.

2. A handbag frame comprising a pair of U-shaped frame members, each frame member having the free ends thereof extended outwardly in opposed relation, a pair of hinge bars, seats carried by the hinge bars for engagement with the extended portions of the frame members to hold the hinge bars at substantially right angles

to the sides of the frame members when the frame members are in closed position, and pivotal means for pivotally securing the extended ends of the frame members to the hinge bars.

3. A handbag frame comprising a pair of U-shaped frame members, outwardly extending end portions carried by the parallel sides of the frame members, a pair of hinge bars, pivot means for securing the extended end portions of the frame members to the hinge bars, and means carried by each hinge bar to maintain the hinge bars in substantially right angular relation to the sides of the frame members when in closed position.

4. A handbag frame comprising a pair of U-shaped frame members, outwardly extending end portions carried by the parallel sides of the frame members, a pair of hinge bars, pivot means for securing the extended end portions of the frame members to the hinge bars, means carried by each hinge bar to maintain the hinge bars in substantially right angular relation to the sides of the frame members when in closed position, means for holding the frame members against lateral movement relative to each other when in closed position, and releasable locking means for locking the frame members in closed position.

5. A handbag frame comprising a pair of U-shaped frame members, outwardly extending end portions carried by the parallel sides of the frame members, a pair of hinge bars, pivot means for securing the extended end portions of the frame members to the hinge bars, means carried by each hinge bar to maintain the hinge bars in substantially right angular relation to the sides of the frame members when in closed position, a pin carried by one of the frame members and projecting in the direction of the other frame member, said other frame member having a recess to receive the pin, and releasable locking means for locking the frame members in closed position.

6. A handbag frame comprising a pair of U-shaped frame members, outwardly extending end portions carried by the parallel sides of the frame members, a pair of hinge bars, pivot means for securing the extended end portions of the frame members to the hinge bars, each hinge bar having a recess in a side thereof to receive the extended end of a frame member, the bottom of the recess maintaining the hinge bar in substantially right angular relation to the sides of the frames, one of said frame members having a recess in substantially the center of the bight thereof confronting the other frame member, a pin carried by the other frame member in the bight thereof and adapted to engage in said latter recess to hold the frame members against lateral movement relative to each other, and releasable locking means for locking the frame members in closed position.

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