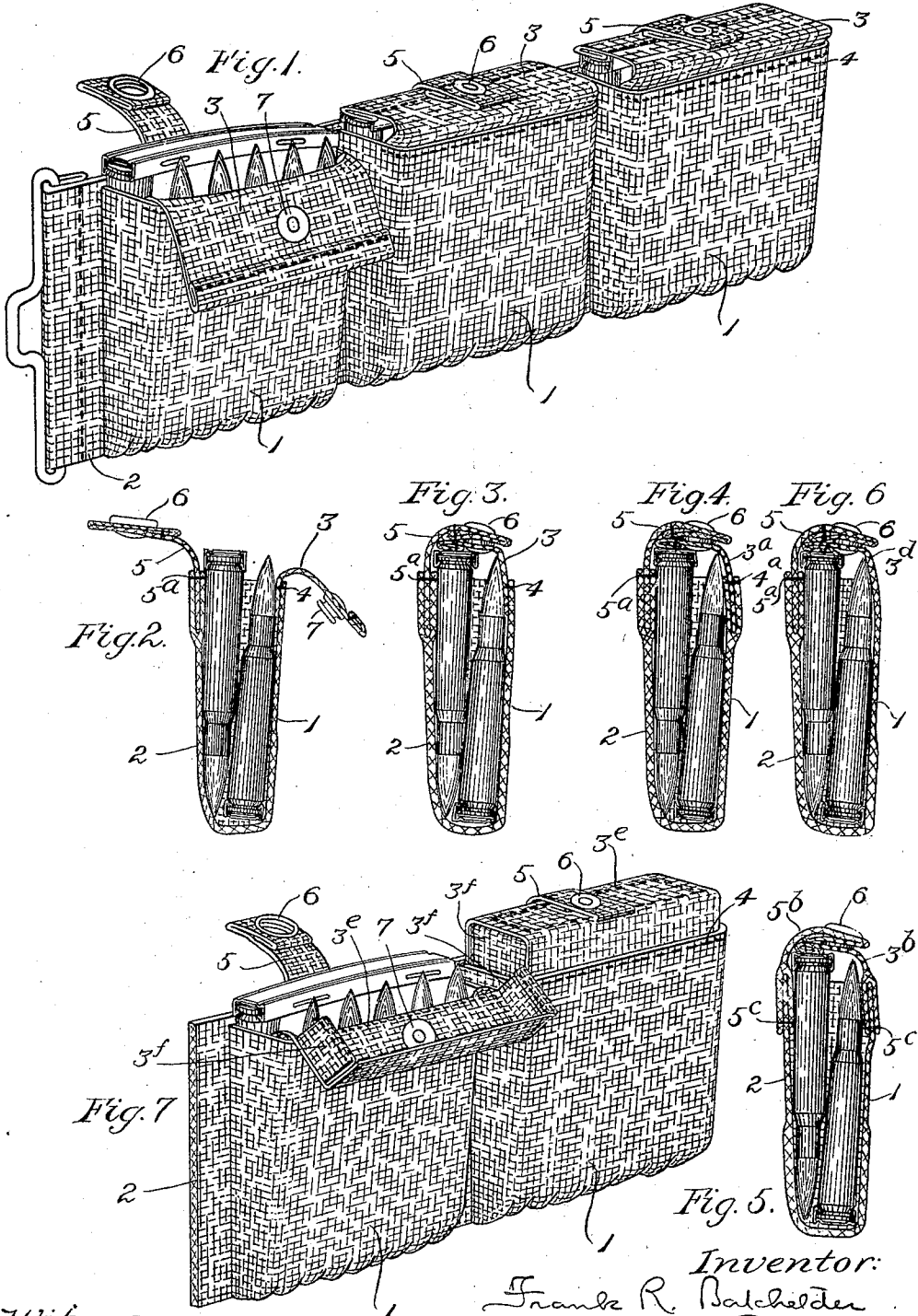


F. R. BATCHELDER.  
 POCKETED CARRIER EQUIPMENT.  
 APPLICATION FILED JULY 17, 1917.

1,326,015.

Patented Dec. 23, 1919.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witness:  
 Oscar F. Hill

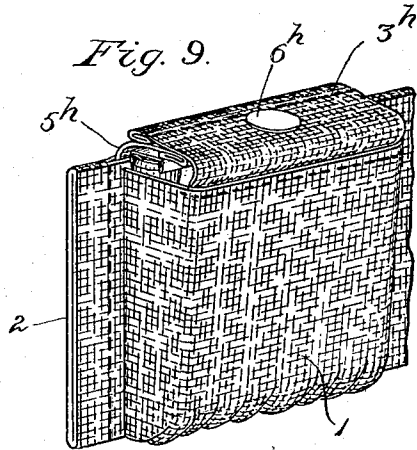
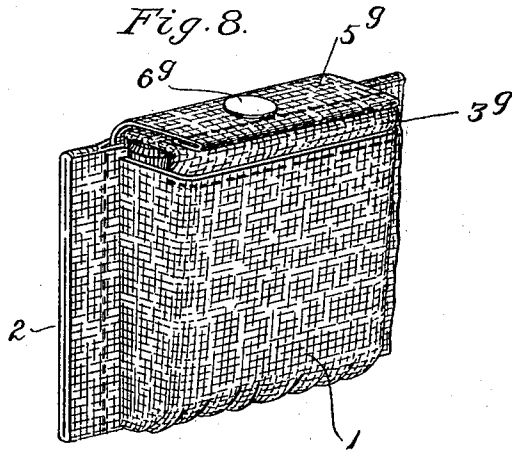
Inventor:  
 Frank R. Batchelder  
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



*Witness:*  
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

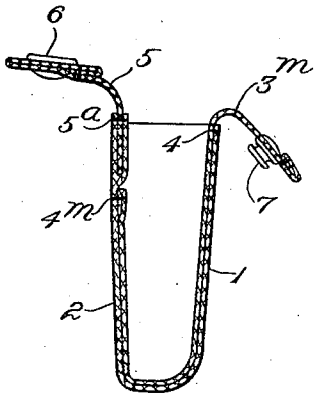


Fig. 10.

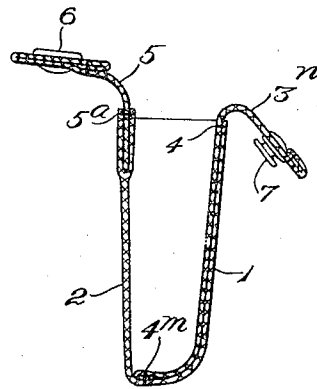


Fig. 11.

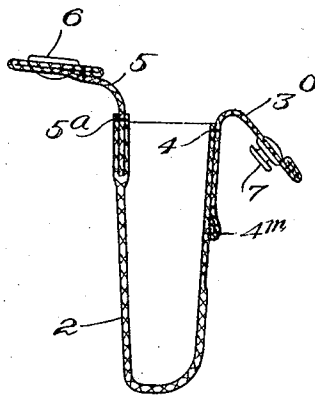


Fig. 12.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK R. BATCHELDER, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO MILLS WOVEN CARTRIDGE BELT COMPANY, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS, A CORPORATION OF MASSACHUSETTS.

## POCKETED-CARRIER EQUIPMENT.

1,326,015.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 23, 1919.

Application filed July 17, 1917. Serial No. 180,980.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANK R. BATCHELDER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Worcester, in the county of Worcester, State of Massachusetts, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Pocketed-Carrier Equipments, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

The invention comprises improvements in pocketed carriers made of woven material, of the class embracing cartridge-carriers, hospital corps belts, medical officers' belts, and various other carriers having special adaptations.

The invention relates, more particularly, to the pockets, pocket-covers or flaps, and means of securing the latter in closed condition, of carriers of the class just mentioned.

One special object of the invention is to produce carriers of woven material having pockets with smooth fronts. Another is to reduce the bulk and extent of projection of a pocket and its cover or flap when the latter is closed and fastened. Another is to so apply and locate the covers or flaps and fastener-devices that they will be less likely to become caught upon different objects in the movements of the wearer of a carrier, and pulled open. Another is to permit the use of less expensive fasteners than those heretofore found to be necessary. Another is to reduce the amount of material contained in a cover or flap, and thereby lessen cost. Another is to improve the appearance of a carrier. Another is to provide for double weather protection on top when desired.

The invention consists essentially in a carrier composed of woven material and comprising a supporting-band, one or more outstanding pouch-shaped smooth-front pockets thereon, and a flexible pocket-cover or flap attached to the pocket-front and extending freely upward above the pocket-top, and cover-fastening means which together with the cover or flap, in the closed and fastened condition of the latter, are altogether rearward of the unobstructed pocket-front and shielded, such means comprising permanently-attached separably-interengaging members.

Heretofore in usual practice the place of

attachment of a cover or flap has been at the rear of the pocket with which it has been combined, and the cover or flap has been arranged to extend forward over the top of the pocket and its contents, and down in front of the pocket. One member of the usual fastener-device has been attached to the pocket-front and the other to the cover or flap near its free end, which latter usually has had its corners turned under and stitched to give a pointed finish. This general construction has a number of material drawbacks and disadvantages to which reference is made later herein, and which are overcome by the invention.

Various embodiments of the invention are shown in the drawings, in which latter,—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing three of the pockets of a cartridge-carrier, and one of the said embodiments of the invention.

Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the open pocket of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a vertical section of one of the closed pockets of Fig. 1.

Figs. 4, 5, and 6 are vertical sections showing other embodiments of the invention.

Fig. 7 is a perspective view showing two of the pockets of a carrier made with another embodiment of the invention.

Figs. 8 and 9 are perspective views showing still other embodiments of the invention.

Figs. 10, 11 and 12 are sectional views showing modifications to which reference is made hereinafter.

Referring to the drawings,—

The pockets 1, 1, 1, may be woven integral with the supporting-band or backing 2, which is regarded as best in practice, or may be separately made in approved manner (either by weaving them as pockets or by stitching them into shape) and attached to the said supporting-band or backing.

The pocket-cover or flap 3 of Figs. 1, 2, 3, is a short piece of woven material which is attached by one end thereof to the pocket-front. The said piece is of a width bearing approved relations to that of the pocket with which it is combined, and is of a length to enable it to extend rearward to the desired extent over the top of the pocket and

its contents. In other words, the proportions of the cover or flap are such as to afford in practice the required protection to the pocket-contents, as at the right-hand in

5 Fig. 1. The width preferably will be such that when the cover or flap is bent backward over the tops of the clips and cartridges contained in the pocket, for example, the side-margins will tend to curve  
10 around the ends of the clips, etc. This creates a protective device, assisting to retain the clips in the pocket after the pocket has been opened. The fastening means for keeping the cover or flap closed comprises in  
15 Figs. 1, 2, and 3, a strip 5 that is attached by one end thereof to the rear of the carrier, and fastener-devices 6, 7, of the well-known glove-fastener or ball-and-socket type, the members of which are applied to the said  
20 strip 5 and the cover or flap 3, respectively.

The cover or flap 3 in Figs. 1, 2, and 3 is applied to the pocket-front by entering one end of the same into the pocket, and making the inserted portion fast to the pocket-front  
25 by stitches 4. The depth to which the inserted portion extends down within the pocket may vary in practice, and such portion, if desired, may constitute an interior reinforce for the pocket-front, pocket-bottom, and pocket-back, as in the case of front  
30 cover or flap 3<sup>m</sup> in Fig. 10, or front and bottom, as in the case of cover or flap 3<sup>n</sup> in Fig. 11, in manner which will be apparent to those skilled in the art. Other fastening  
35 means than stitches may be employed for securing the inserted portion of the cover or flap, such for instance as rivets or eyelets. In some instances the attaching portion of the cover or flap may be applied exteriorly  
40 to the pocket-front as in the case of cover or flap 3<sup>o</sup> in Fig. 12. At 4<sup>m</sup> is a line of stitches by which the inner end of the front cover or flap-member in each of Figs. 10 and 11, and the lower end of the corresponding  
45 member in Fig. 12 is fastened in place. The cover or flap 3 shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3 is a very short piece of woven web. It requires no expensive pointing. It is finished with a plain hem, as shown. If desired,  
50 even the hem may be dispensed with and the raw edge at the outer end of the cover or flap be merely whipped to prevent raveling.

The fastening-strip 5 is shown in most of  
55 the views as having the attaching end thereof inserted into a housing-slit formed in the supporting-band or backing 2, and secured therein by means of stitches 5<sup>a</sup>. The said housing-slit may be dispensed with if  
60 deemed advisable, and other fastening-means than stitches may be employed in practice, if desired, such for instance as rivets or eyelets.

Fig. 4 shows a modification in which the  
65 attaching end of a pocket-cover or flap, 3<sup>a</sup>,

is entered into a housing-slit formed in the pocket-front, and secured therein by means of stitches 4<sup>a</sup>.

Fig. 5 shows a modification in which the pocket-front and pocket-back are without  
70 housing-slits, and the attaching ends of the cover or flap 3<sup>b</sup> and fastening-strip 5<sup>b</sup>, respectively, are woven split or divided and applied so as to straddle the upper portions  
75 of the pocket-front and pocket-back, the parts being secured together by stitches 5<sup>c</sup>, (or other approved fastening means, if preferred).

Fig. 6 shows a modification in which the cover or flap, 3<sup>d</sup>, is woven integral with the  
80 the pocket-front.

Fig. 7 shows a modification in which the cover or flap, 3<sup>e</sup>, has end-pieces 3<sup>f</sup>, 3<sup>f</sup>, making a boxed cover or flap which closes the  
85 openings at opposite sides of the pocket-top.

Fig. 8 shows a modification in which the narrow fastening strip 5 of Figs. 1 to 5 is replaced by a strip of the full width of the pocket, forming a rear flap 5<sup>g</sup> which, in the  
90 closed and fastened condition of the pocket, makes with the front flap 3<sup>g</sup> two thicknesses over the pocket-top, giving thereby double weather protection. The rear flap, 5<sup>g</sup>, in the  
95 closed condition of the pocket overlies the front flap 3<sup>g</sup>. Socket-member 6<sup>g</sup> of the fastener-device is combined with the rear flap 5<sup>g</sup>, and the cooperating stud-member is combined with front flap 3<sup>g</sup>. In Fig. 9 the front  
100 flap 3<sup>h</sup> overlies the rear flap 5<sup>h</sup> in the closed condition of the pocket, giving thereby double weather protection, the socket-member 6<sup>h</sup> being applied to the front flap 3<sup>h</sup>, and the cooperating stud-member to the rear flap 5<sup>h</sup>.  
105 This type of cover-flap giving double weather protection is covered separately as one species of the generic invention in the divisional application filed December 28, 1917, Serial No. 209,354.

A pocket-cover or flap made in accordance  
110 with the invention does not extend down in front of the pocket, as in the case of covers or flaps heretofore provided in connection with the pockets of carriers of the class to  
115 which the invention relates. The advantages of the invention are numerous and important, namely:

- (1.) The front of the pocket is smooth. This is shown clearly by the drawings.
- (2.) The bulk and extent of projection  
120 of a pocket and its cover or flap when the latter is closed are much less than in the case of the usual cover or flap extending down in front of the pocket, as aforesaid, and having the interengaging members of  
125 the fastener-device applied to the pocket-front and the depending portion of the cover or flap, respectively. Hence the prominence of the pockets while the carrier is being worn is reduced, and the extent to which the  
130

fastener-devices are exposed to contact with other objects. Thereby, also, it is rendered possible to increase the holding capacity of the pockets, when desired, without material increase in the bulk and projection of the filled and covered or closed pockets. For instance, the present regulation cartridge belt has pockets carrying only two clips of cartridges each, as in the drawings, and if the pockets were enlarged to hold three clips would be open to the objection that the filled pockets would stand out too far from the body of the wearer. The invention renders it practicable to give the pockets capacity for holding three clips of cartridges, or a corresponding bulk of other articles.

(3.) The flap or cover and fastener-devices located upon the top of the pocket are out of the way and shielded so that they are free from liability to catch upon adjacent objects. Carriers having covers or flaps of usual character, etc., are open to the objection that in woods, brush, or jungle, the said covers or flaps are caught by twigs, thorns, etc., and pull open, resulting in loss of ammunition or other contents.

(4.) For use with covers or flaps of usual character, etc., fastener-devices of ordinary character suitable for employment in connections in general have been found wholly inadequate. It has been found necessary to develop expensive types of fastener-devices which can give reasonable promise of not being opened accidentally, in the jungle, for example. The snap-action must be exceedingly strong, and from this a difficulty arises in its being found too strong some times, and when a fastener-device having such strong snap-action is choked with dust it may be beyond the power of the soldier or other wearer of the carrier to open the cover or flap. With fastener-devices positioned over the tops of the pockets where there is almost no possibility of their being opened by accident, it is possible to use light easy-action fastener-devices of greatly-reduced cost, such as could not be used if required to be positioned at the front of a pocket on the prior form, etc., of cover or flap.

(5.) A cover or flap such as those shown in the drawings contains a much smaller amount of material than covers or flaps of

the form, etc., heretofore usual. This materially reduces the cost.

(6.) The cover or flap does not require to be pointed in the manner heretofore customary.

(7.) When the cover or flap is turned forward as in Figs. 1, 2, 7, it is out of the way at the front of the pocket and less likely to interfere with access to the contents of the pocket and withdrawal of such contents.

What is claimed as the invention is:—

1. A pocketed carrier of woven material comprising a body-supported band or backing and a plurality of pockets outstanding therefrom in exposed position, having each pocket-front provided with a cover or flap-member of woven material rising therefrom, adapted to be bent forward away from the supporting-band or backing and from over the pocket and its contents into unclosed condition and to be folded rearward over the top of the pocket and its contents into closed condition, and having also a second member connected with the supporting-band or backing at the rear of the pocket, adapted to fold forward and interlap with said front cover or flap-member, and fastening means located entirely at the top of the closed and fastened pocket.

2. A pocketed carrier of woven material comprising a body-supported band or backing and a plurality of pockets outstanding therefrom in exposed position, having each pocket-front provided with a cover or flap-member of woven material rising therefrom, adapted to be bent forward away from the supporting-band or backing and from over the pocket and to be folded rearward over the top of the pocket and its contents into closed condition, and having also a second relatively narrow member connected with the supporting-band or backing at the rear of the pocket, adapted to fold forward and interlap with said front cover or flap-member, and fastening means located entirely at the top of the closed and fastened pocket.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FRANK R. BATCHELDER.

Witnesses:

ALICE M. TISDALE,  
W. MORTIMER SISSON.