

Jan. 27, 1948.

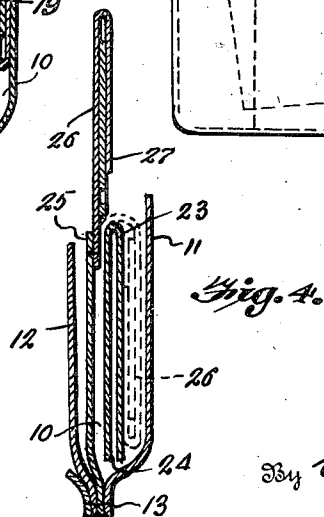
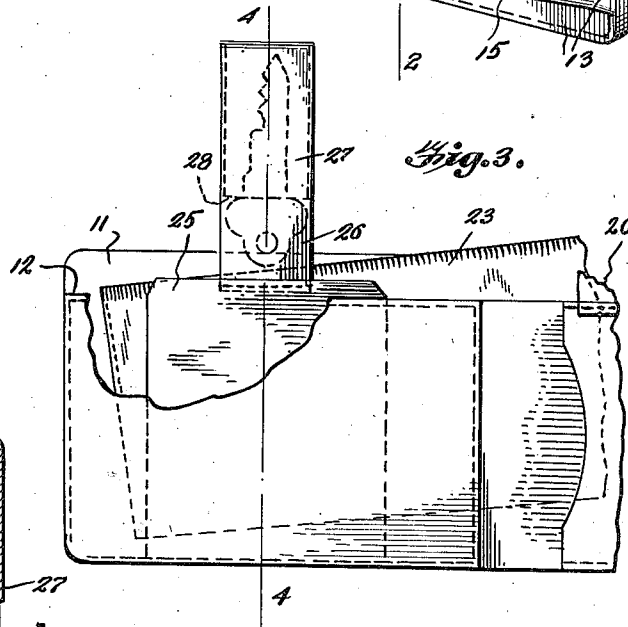
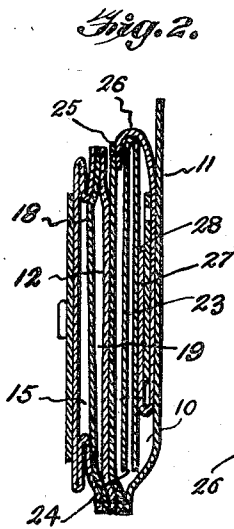
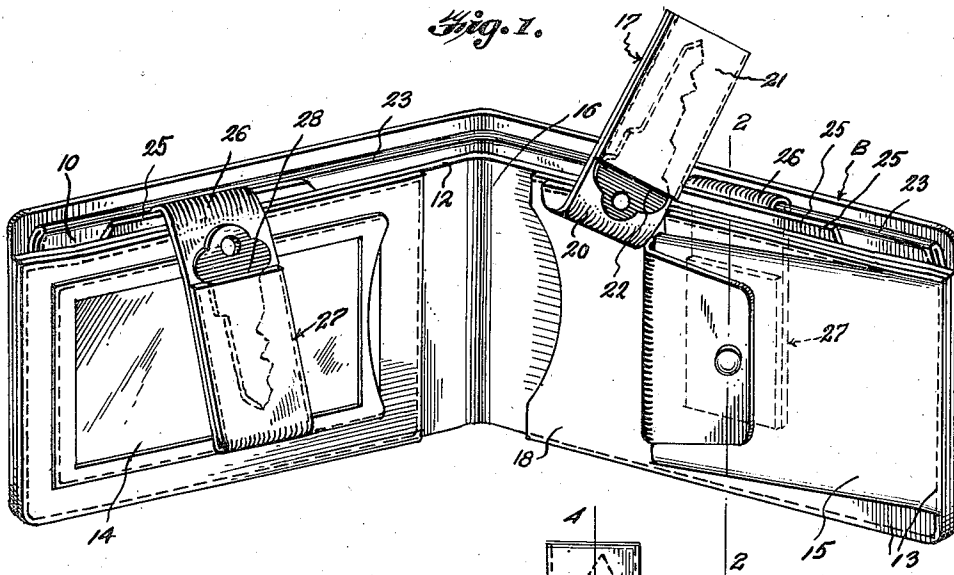
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2,435,032

BILL DIVIDER AND KEY CONTAINER FOR BILLFOLDS

Filed Jan. 16, 1945

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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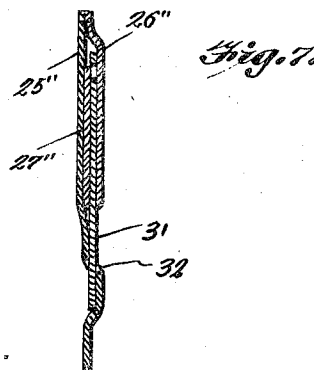
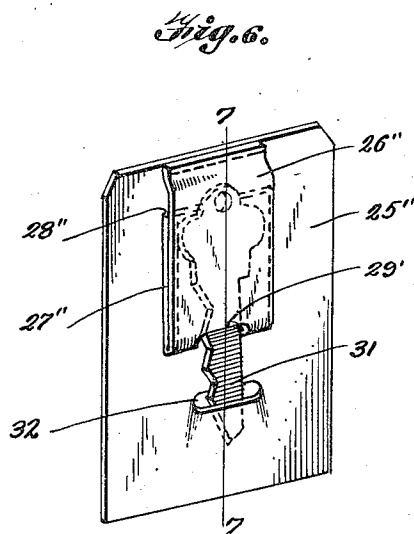
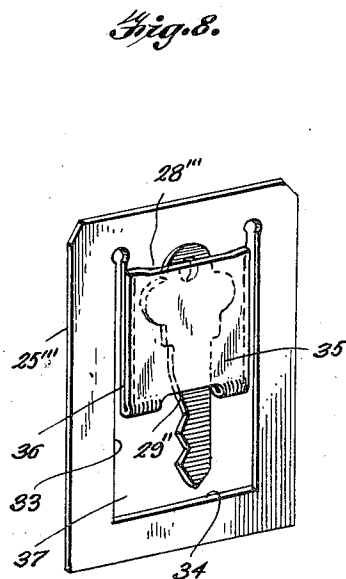
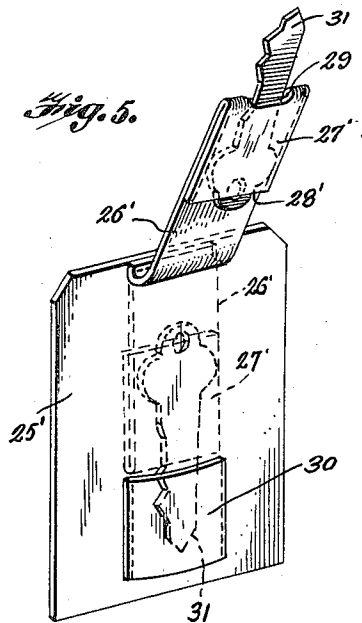
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BILL DIVIDER AND KEY CONTAINER FOR BILLFOLDS

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,435,032

BILL DIVIDER AND KEY CONTAINER
FOR BILLFOLDSCarl M. Campbell, Hagerstown, Md., assignor to
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Application January 16, 1945, Serial No. 573,007

1 Claim. (Cl. 150—36)

1

This invention relates generally to pocket receptacles and more particularly to wallets or billfolds.

A principal object of the present invention is to provide an improved wallet or billfold having combined therewith a novel key carrier and more specifically a novel combination bill divider and key carrier located in the currency pocket of the wallet, whereby means are provided for conveniently carrying keys and also for effectively keeping bills of different denominations separated in the currency pocket.

Another object of the invention is to provide in a wallet or billfold the combination with a combined bill divider and secret pocket, of a divider flap in the currency compartment having attached to the outer edge thereof a key carrier which hangs down in the currency compartment and which is designed to lie across one side of the secret pocket opposite from the flap, to maintain such secret pocket against accidental displacement from the currency pocket.

A still further object of the invention is to provide in a wallet or billfold, a novel key carrying flap or tongue secured to the top edge of the inner wall of the currency compartment, to be suspended therefrom between the two halves of the wallet when the same is closed or folded.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a bill divider designed to be secured within the currency compartment or pocket of a billfold and having a tongue cut therefrom and folded on itself to provide a single key carrier, such key lying in the plane of the flap between the pieces of currency divided by the flap.

Still another object of the invention is to provide in a billfold or wallet, a pair of currency divider flaps each secured at its lower or bottom edge in the bottom of the currency pocket and each having secured to its top edge a tongue member designed to hang into the pocket and lie across a removable secret pocket forming bill divider which is disposed longitudinally in the currency pocket, to prevent such secret pocket forming bill divider from accidentally escaping from the currency pocket.

The invention will be best understood from a consideration of the following detailed description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings forming a part of the specification, with the understanding, however, that the invention is not confined to a strict conformity with the showing of the drawings but may be changed or modified so long as such changes or modifications mark no material departure from the

2

salient features of the invention as expressed in the appended claim.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a billfold 5 showing the present invention incorporated therein.

Figure 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a detailed perspective showing the 10 secret pocket forming envelope partially removed from the currency pocket and showing the relation of the currency divider and key container thereto.

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken on the line 15 4—4 of Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a view in perspective of one modification of the currency divider and key carrier.

Figure 6 is a view in perspective of a second 20 modification of the currency divider and key container.

Figure 7 is a sectional view on the line 7—7 of Figure 6.

Figure 8 is a view in perspective of a third 25 modification of the currency divider and key container.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings there is illustrated in Figure 1, a billfold or wallet constructed in accordance with the present invention and generally designated B.

The wallet, as shown, has the usual currency 30 compartment or pocket which is generally designated 10 and which comprises the outer or back wall 11 and the inner wall 12. These walls are of approximately the same length but are of different heights. Such walls may be stitched together along their bottom and end edges or only along the bottom edges, as desired, by the line of stitching 13, in the customary manner. While the preferred construction employs an inner currency compartment wall 12 of slightly less height than the outer or back wall 11, as here illustrated, it is to be understood that the present invention is not limited to use in a wallet or billfold having walls arranged in this manner as it 45 will be readily obvious that the walls may be of the same height as in a great many articles of this character.

Upon the inner side of the inner wall 12 of the currency compartment may be located any of the 50 customary auxiliary parts or units commonly found in billfolds or wallets for carrying identification cards, passes or the like as at 14 or for carrying small articles or coins as at 15. The present invention is not limited in any way with 55 regard to the character of these auxiliary parts

3

with the exception that the change pocket 15 is to be of a depth materially less than the length of the half of the wallet to which it is attached so that suitable space is provided at the inner end of the change pocket, between such end and the center line of fold for the wallet, which is designated 16, for the location of a single key container which is generally designated 17 and which extends transversely of the wallet body.

In the construction here illustrated there is shown interposed between the change pocket and the wall 12 and between the key container and such wall 12, a wall of material which is designated 18 and which is of the same width as the wall 12 and of a length slightly less than half the length of the billfold. This wall 18 is secured along two longitudinal edges and across the end of the adjacent section of the billfold, to form a card pocket 19. However, it is to be understood that in carrying out the present invention this pocket forming wall 18 may be eliminated if desired so that the key container 17 and the coin pocket 15 will co-act directly with the inner wall 12 of the currency pocket.

It will be readily seen that the card pocket wall 18 as here illustrated, forms the inner wall for the coin pocket 15 but it will be also understood that if the card pocket is not employed then the wall 12 will form the coin pocket wall as well as the inner wall for the currency pocket.

The key container 17 comprises a relatively narrow strip or band of leather, the width of which is only slightly greater than the greatest width of the top or head of a key. This strip or band of leather is designated 20 and it has a pocket forming inner wall 21, stitched thereto, which may form a turned back portion of the band or a separate piece. The opposite end of the strip of leather 20 is secured by suitable stitching, to the top edge of the currency pocket inner wall 12, in such a way that the mouth 22 of the key container pocket will lie against the adjacent wall 18, when such pocket is in normal position transversely of the wallet. It will be understood also that the full length of the key container 17 will not be greater than the width of the wallet wall to which it is attached so that when the wallet is folded in the customary manner no part of the key container will be exposed.

Within the currency pocket 10 there is fitted the removable combined secret pocket and currency divider 23. This unit is in the form of a relatively long envelope having an over-all width only slightly greater than the height of the inner wall 12 of the currency pocket while its length is, of course, less than the inside length of the currency pocket in which it is designed to position. This envelope is closed along its two ends and along one longitudinal side, the full length of the opposite longitudinal side being open as indicated at 24 so that folded bills or other papers may be placed therein and the pocket 23 is placed in the currency pocket 10, with the open edge or mouth 24 toward the bottom of the currency pocket. In addition to providing a secret container, the envelope 23 may be employed for separating bills of different denominations.

Secured within the currency pocket are one, or two, or more, relatively wide flaps 25. These may be located, one adjacent to each end of the wallet, as shown, or in any other suitable positions and in any number in the pocket, and are secured at their inner edges by the stitching which secures together the longitudinal edges of the inner and

4

outer walls 11 and 12 respectively of the currency pocket.

Each of the flaps 25 is of sufficient length to project slightly above the top edge of the inner wall 12 of the currency pocket but not above the top edge of the outer wall.

Secured to the top edge of each flap 25 is a narrower piece of material in the form of a short strap 26 and a corresponding piece of such material is secured to one side face thereof as indicated at 27 and extends from the free end of the strap 26 a short distance inwardly to form a key pocket or container 28.

The strap 26 is designed to hang down in the currency pocket 10 and the material 27 is secured to that face of the strap 26 which is in opposed relation with the flap 25. Thus it will be seen that when the strap 26 is in normal position in the currency pocket the mouth of the key container will be covered or hidden when the currency pocket is open.

The width or height of the secret pocket envelope 23 is slightly less than the distance from the stitched edge of the strap 26 to the bottom of the currency pocket. When the parts are in properly assembled relation the secret pocket forming envelope 23 lies in the currency pocket 10 between the pair of flaps 25 and the straps 26 carried thereby. Thus it will be readily seen that these straps 26 not only function as a means for carrying a single key as shown but they also serve as retaining means for the secret pocket forming envelope as such envelope cannot be taken out of the currency pocket without first withdrawing the strap 26 therefrom to the positions shown in Figure 1.

The key container constituting the straps or members for retaining the secret pocket forming envelope 23 in position may either be formed of a single band of material having a portion of one end folded back upon itself and stitched to form the pocket or two separate pieces of the material may be laid together and stitched around the edges to form the desired pocket.

In each of Figures 5, 6 and 8, there is shown a modified form of the flap 25 which may be employed in the same position as the flap 25 previously described. While one only of each of these modified forms of flaps is illustrated, it is to be understood that they may be used in pairs in the billfold, as the flaps 25 are shown, or in any number.

In the first modification of the flap construction, shown in Figure 5, the piece of material forming the flap, preferably leather or leather simulating material, is designated 25'. This flap has stitched to the top edge thereof, the strap 26' and a portion of the free end of such strap is turned back as indicated at 27' to form the key pocket or container 28'. The bottom of this pocket or container is provided with a slot 29 so that the shank portion of the key can pass therethrough in the manner illustrated, the head of the key being retained in the pocket.

Means is provided for securing the key container strap 26' in intumed position within the billfold currency pocket, in the form of a short band 30 which is stitched to the side of the flap 25' against which the strap 26' positions, at the inner or bottom edge of the flap. This band of material, being secured only along those opposite edges which are parallel with the long edges of the flap 25', forms with the flap, a loop under which the free end of the key 31 may be frictionally engaged when the strap 26' is placed in posi-

5

tion within the currency pocket. It will, of course, be understood that the key carrying strap 26' in this modified construction would not be intended to assist in maintaining the secret pocket forming envelope 23 in position.

In the second modified form of the flap shown in Figure 6, the piece of material forming the body of the flap is designated 25''. To the top edge of this piece of material is secured an end of a strap 26'' and, as in the case of the strap 26', a portion of the other end is turned back upon itself as indicated at 27'' to form a pocket 28'' into which may be inserted the key 31. The lower edge of this pocket is open or slit as indicated at 29' so that the shank of the key may extend from the lower part of the pocket. In this modified construction the key carrier strap 26' is held in position by providing the flap 25' with a slot 32, adjacent to the inner or secured end edge of the flap. The extended or shank portion of the key 31 is inserted through this slot 32 so that the key container will be held in position.

In the third modification of the flap, shown in Figure 8, the piece of material forming the flap is generally designated 25'''. The key container carried by this flap is not formed from a separate piece of material secured to the flap but is formed directly from the material of the flap itself. As shown the material of the flap is cut along the spaced parallel lines 33 from a point adjacent to the top edge of the flap to points adjacent to the lower or secured bottom edge thereof and the material is then cut transversely of the flap between the lines 33, along the line 34. This produces a strap-like tongue 35 which has a portion of the free end bent back upon itself as indicated at 36 and such bent back portion is stitched only along the side edges and is left unattached across its free end thus forming the pocket 28''' into which the head portion of a key is located. The lower part or edge of the pocket is cut or slit as indicated at 29'' so that the shank of the key may extend therethrough but the head of the key cannot escape. Thus it will be seen that when a key is placed in the key container of this flap 25''' the shank portion of the key will hang down in the open space 37 formed in cutting out the piece 35, and will lie in the plane of the flap.

It will be understood that in each of the cases where reference has been made to turning back a portion of a strap and fitting such portion to the main body portion along opposite longitudinal edges to form a pocket or container, it is intended that the invention also cover the application of a separate piece of material to a strap to form such a pocket and that there is no intention of limiting the invention to the specific feature of turning back a portion of a piece of the material for the formation of a key pocket or any other pocket. In addition to providing a novel means of retaining the secret pocket forming envelope 23 in position in the currency pocket, the combination of flap 25 and a key container may function as a bill divider as it will be readily apparent that bills of one denomination may be placed upon one side of the flaps

6

25 between the same and the inner wall 12 while bills of another denomination may be inserted between the flaps 25 and the secret pocket forming envelope 23. When the bills are disposed between the flaps 25 and the envelope 23 it will be readily apparent that they will be safely retained in position by the key container strap 26, like the envelope 23.

In the modified forms of flaps, such flaps and key carriers serve only the two functions of providing means for carrying keys and dividing bills of two denominations in the currency pocket since, due to the fact that the keys in the key containers are, in two of the modified forms, attached to the flap, such key containers cannot function to retain the secret pocket forming envelope 23 in place.

In the third modification shown in Figure 8, the key and key carrier might be employed in the same capacity as the key carrier 26 to function both as a bill retainer and as a retaining means for the envelope 23 by securing the bottom edge of the flap 25''' to the bottom of the billfold and hanging the key carrying tongue over the envelope on the opposite side from the flap.

From the foregoing, it will be readily apparent that there is provided in the present invention a novel billfold construction combining means for safely carrying single keys of the type used for actuating tumbler locks, a means for dividing a number of bills in separate groups in the currency compartment of a billfold, and means for securing in position in a currency pocket of a billfold, a combined bill divider and secret pocket forming envelope, such as that illustrated and described.

I claim:

The combination in a billfold having a currency pocket, of a pair of relatively wide flaps, each secured along one edge in the bottom of the pocket and adjacent to an end thereof, each of said flaps extending substantially the full depth of the pocket, a relatively long bill divider designed to be disposed longitudinally in said pocket and having the form of an envelope open along one longitudinal edge, said envelope being disposed in the pocket with the open edge thereof directed toward the bottom of the pocket to form a secret pocket, and a strap-like member secured at the outer edge of each flap and designed to extend into the currency pocket across said envelope to maintain the envelope in position in the currency pocket.

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