

Sept. 1, 1942.

L. L. SHERWOOD

2,294,635

BILLFOLD

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Fig. 1.

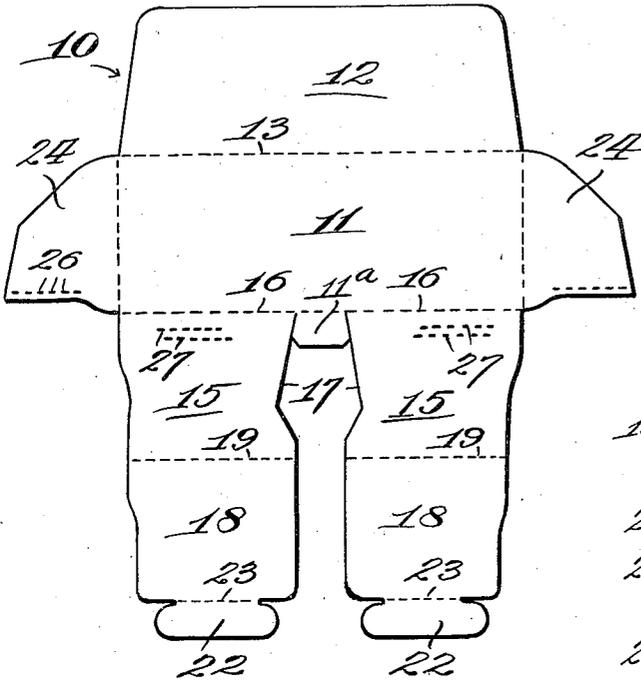


Fig. 2.

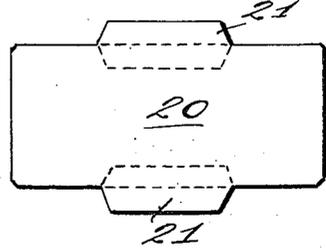


Fig. 5.

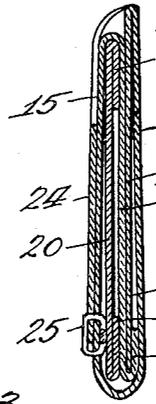


Fig. 6.

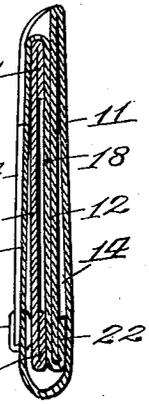


Fig. 3.

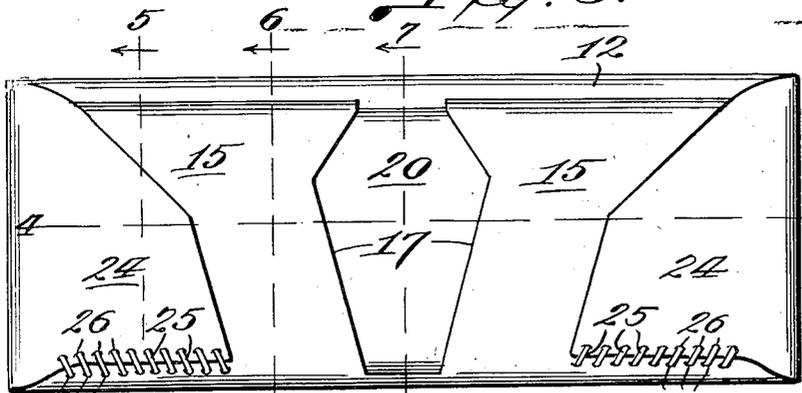


Fig. 7.

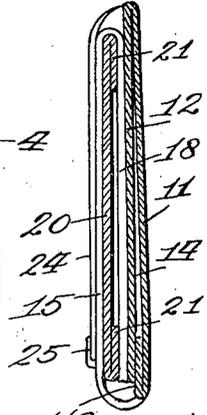
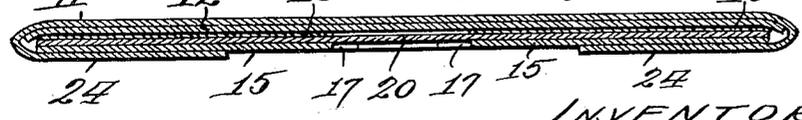


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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BILLFOLD

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2 Claims. (Cl. 150—38)

My invention relates to a billfold and has for its principal objects, to generally improve upon and simplify the construction of the existing forms of billfolds, to provide a billfold that does not require sewing or stitching in its production, thereby materially decreasing manufacturing costs, and further, to provide a relatively simple and practical billfold having a number of pockets or compartments adapted to conveniently receive paper currency, checks, business cards, stamps, and the like.

A further object of my invention is, to provide a billfold of the character referred to that comprises only two main parts and which are maintained in finished condition by two short lacings of leather or the like, and which lacings are located so that they are not subject to wear while the billfold is carried in the pocket.

A further object of my invention is, to provide a billfold having inner walls or partitions that depend from the rear and front walls of the billfold and to provide simple and efficient means for establishing a connection between the lower edges of said inner walls or partitions, thus maintaining the same in proper position at all times within the billfold.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, my invention consists in certain novel features of construction and arrangement of parts that will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the main body portion of my improved billfold as the same appears before being folded into finished form.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of a flexible wall or partition forming a part of my improved billfold.

Fig. 3 is an elevational view looking against the billfold as the same appears when open.

Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged cross section taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 6 is an enlarged cross section taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 7 is a cross section taken on the line 7—7 of Fig. 3.

Referring by numerals to the accompanying drawing, 10 designates generally the main body of the billfold, the same being formed from a single piece of thin flexible material, preferably leather, and which is cut to the desired shape by a suitable die or dies.

A rectangular section 11 of the flexible material forms the rear or outer wall of the billfold,

and formed integral with one of the longitudinal edges of said section 11 is a substantially rectangular section 12 that folds along the dotted line 13 so as to overlie the front or inner face of the back wall 12, thus functioning as a lining, and in addition the space 14 between the sections 11 and 12 provides a secret pocket for the reception of paper currency, checks, or other valuable papers.

Formed integral with the edge of section 11 opposite the edge to which the member 12 is connected are substantially rectangular sections 15 which fold along the dotted lines 16 and provide the front walls of pockets adapted to receive cards or the like. These sections or walls 15 are spaced apart longitudinally of the completed billfold and thus, when the latter is open, an opening 17 is formed between the inner edges of the sections 15 and said opening being midway between the ends of the billfold.

Formed integral with the edges of the sections 15 opposite the edges that are connected to the rear or outer wall section 11 are substantially rectangular sections 18 which fold along the dotted lines 19 so as to occupy positions immediately behind the sections 15 and directly in front of the wall or partition 12.

In order to divide the space between the wall sections 15 and 18 when properly folded into pockets, a rectangular section 20 of thin flexible material, such as leather, is inserted between the folded sections 15 and 18 with the intermediate portion of said member 20 extending across the opening 17.

Formed integral with the central portions of the longitudinal edges of the section 20 are narrow strips of material 21 that are folded downwardly and secured by suitable adhesive to the rear or inner face of the section 20, thus reinforcing the upper and lower edges of said section at the central line of fold.

Formed integral with the ends of the sections 18 opposite the ends that are connected to sections 15 are narrow flaps 22 which, when the sections 18 are folded downwardly between the end portions of the inserted section 20 and the inwardly folded wall or partition 12, are folded upwardly on the dotted lines 23 so as to occupy positions between the lower edge of section 12 and the rear or outer wall 11.

The construction just described provides an interlock or connection between the lower edges of the sections 18 and the wall or partition 12, thus holding the engaged parts of the billfold and particularly the sections 18 in proper folded posi-

tions, and at the same time enabling the wall or partition 12 to be pulled upwardly so as to give access to the secret pocket or compartment between said section 12 and the outer wall 11 of the billfold body.

Formed integral with the ends of the section 11 that forms the outer wall of the billfold are substantially triangular sections 24 that overlie the end portions of the sections 15 when the same are folded upwardly into proper position in front of the end portions of the wall or partition 12, and thus the inwardly folded members 24 close the outer ends of the pockets between the members 15 and 18 and the interposed member 20.

Formed integral with the lower edge of outer wall member 11 between the sections 15 is a short tab section 11a which is folded upwardly and secured to the inner face of the lower portion of outer wall 11 by a suitable adhesive, thereby reinforcing the lower portion of the center of outer wall 11 at the medial line on which the same is folded so as to be carried in the pocket (see Fig. 7).

When the members 24 are folded inwardly onto the end portions of members 15, the lower edges of said members 24 occupy horizontal positions above the lower edge of the billfold and these lower edges are secured to the sections 15 a short distance above the lower edges of the latter by lacings 25, preferably narrow strips of leather, and which lacings pass through perforations 26 that are formed in end members 24 just above their lower edges and through similar apertures 27 that are formed through the sections 15 adjacent the lines of fold 16.

Thus the lacings when properly positioned in the apertures are located above the lower edge of the billfold and when the same is folded on a medial line that extends through the center of insert 20 and through the members 11 and 12, the lacings are protected against wear while the billfold is carried in the pocket.

Inasmuch as my improved billfold is composed of only two main pieces of material besides the two laces, manufacturing costs are materially decreased, and due to the absence of stitching and the protection of the lacings against wear,

the life or period of service of my improved billfold is materially increased over those constructions wherein rows of stitching are utilized to maintain the various walls and partitions in assembled relation.

Thus it will be seen that I have provided a billfold that is relatively simple in construction, inexpensive of manufacture and very effective in performing the functions for which it is intended.

It will be understood that minor changes in the size, form and construction of the various parts of my improved billfold, may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described, without departing from the spirit of my invention, the scope of which is set forth in the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. A billfold formed in a single piece from thin flexible material and comprising a rectangular section that forms the outer wall of the billfold, a section formed integral with one of the longitudinal edges of said outer wall section and occupying a position directly against the inner face of said outer wall, spaced pocket forming walls integral with the opposite longitudinal edge of said outer wall section, which pocket forming walls are folded double so as to form inner and outer pocket walls, flaps formed integral with the outer ends of the pocket wall forming members, which flaps occupy positions between the back forming section and the section that forms a wall immediately in front of said back section, flaps formed integral with the ends of said back section and which overlie the outer faces of the outer walls of the pocket forming sections and lacings connecting the lower edges of said flaps with the outer walls of the pockets, which lacings are located above the lower edges of the outer walls of said pockets and the lower edge of the billfold.

2. A billfold as set forth in claim 1 and with a separately formed partition wall located between the sections of material forming the front and rear walls of the pockets.

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