Sept. 24, 1929. W. R. BUXTON 1,729,152

TOBACCO POUCH

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Fig. 1.

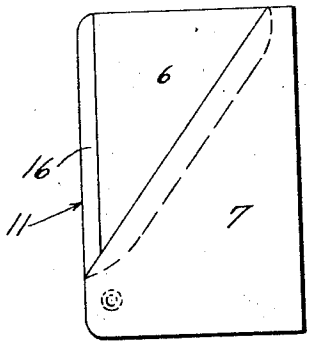

Fig. 2.

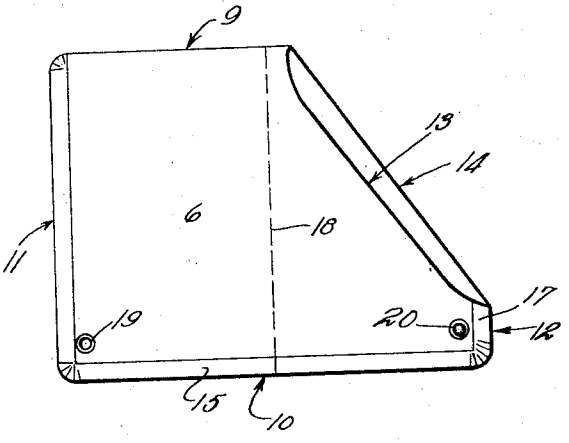

Fig. 3.

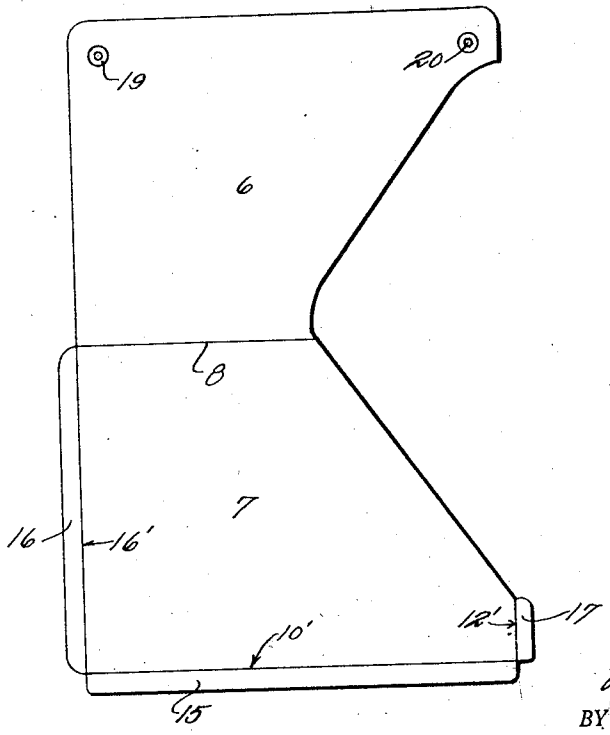

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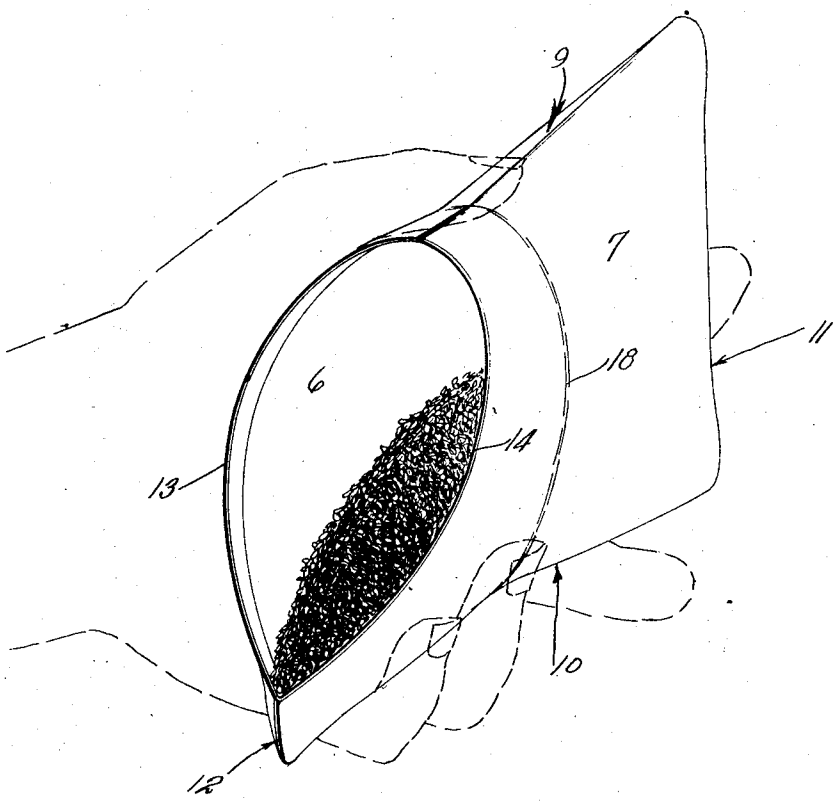
Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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TOBACCO POUCH

Application filed June 21, 1926. Serial No. 117,455.

This invention relates to improvements in pouches and particularly to pouches which are intended for tobacco and to be carried in the pocket.

The general object of the invention is to provide a pouch which, when closed, is relatively flat and compact to conveniently fit the pocket and which, when open, affords a tray extension of the tobacco pocket and at the same time an opening to the pocket and tray of generous dimensions, which are as great as, and may be even greater than, those of the opening of any ordinary pouch not provided with the tray.

This object is effected by a comparatively simple construction, which nevertheless distinctively differs from any other pouch of the prior art with which I am familiar. The pouch, like others of the prior art, has two sections foldable into superposed relation to close the pouch,—one of these sections forming the tobacco pocket and the other forming the closure for the pocket or the tray according to whether the pouch is closed or open, respectively. These sections, when unfolded to lie one in continuation of the other, are not of true oblong shape, as is usual but rather one corner of the tray forming section is cut off along an oblique line which extends from a point close to the other corner of the tray forming section to a point close to the line of fold which forms the division line between the two sections. The oblique line is at least equal in length to, and preferably somewhat greater than, the width of the pouch as defined by the length of said line of fold. The walls of the pouch are connected together along their coincident edges except along said oblique line. Thus, the opening to the pocket and tray is between the unsecured oblique edges, which, as described, are at least as long as the width of the pouch. Moreover, the pouch is intended to be held on edge,—that is with its flat walls substantially in a vertical plane,—and when so held the side edges may be pressed together to spread the walls of the pouch to a generous extent, such as to permit the insertion of a pipe, together with the hand by which it is held, into the tray. The result is exceptionally free access to the tray and pocket and fully as free access, and preferably more, than is had by a plain "bag type" pouch which lacks the convenient tray extension.

The invention, together with other objects and advantages, will more particularly appear from the following description taken with the illustrative disclosure of it in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig 1 is an elevational view of the pouch when folded to fit the pocket;

Fig. 2 is a similar view with the two parts of the pouch unfolded and positioned to lie one in continuation of the other;

Fig. 3 is a view of the blank from which the pouch is made; and

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the pouch showing a preferred way of using the same for the pipe filling operation.

Referring to these drawings, the pouch may, and desirably is, made up from a single piece of suitable flexible material, such as leather or the like, cut out in the form shown in Fig. 3. The blank, there shown, includes two substantially similar sections 6 and 7, which constitute the two walls of the pouch and are adapted to be folded along the line 8 into the superposed relation shown in Fig. 2. The line 8 is preferably formed by scoring in order that the upper edge of the pouch, marked 9, may be much more freely flexible than would be the case if the two walls were connected in the usual manner, as by a line of stitching along edge 9.

The two walls 6 and 7 are connected together along their side and end edges and it is to be noted that the parallel side edges 9 and 10 and the parallel end edges 11 and 12, which are disposed at right angles to the side edges, are of unequal length. This inequality in length is due to the cutting off of one corner of what would otherwise be a rectangular shaped pouch,—the corresponding corners of the walls 6 and 7 being cut off along substantially oblique lines 13 and 14, respectively, which are of substantial length and desirably not less in length than the width of the pouch as defined by the length of end edge 11. The edges 13 and 14 are not secured together, whereby the opening of the pouch

is formed. These edges 13 and 14 are purposely made not quite coincident in order that one wall, as 7, may project beyond the other wall, as 6, to permit convenient separation of the walls.

The walls 6 and 7, as above stated, are secured together along the edges 9, 10, 11 and 12. The connection along edge 9 has been described and the other connections are desirably made by folding flaps 15, 16 and 17, formed on wall 7, over and upon the wall 6, as clearly shown in Fig. 2. These flaps are connected to wall 7 by lines of scoring 10′, 12′, and 16′ and these flaps are secured by adhesive to wall 6.

The pouch, thus formed and as shown in Fig. 2, is adapted to be folded along a transverse line, indicated by the dotted line 18, and disposed intermediate and parallel with the end edges 11 and 12, into the form shown in Fig. 1. The arrangement is such that the section of the pouch, having the cut off corner, is superposed upon the other section of the pouch. Interengageable fastener sections 19 and 20, both secured to the wall 6 near the edge 10 and adjacent the corners, are adapted to hold the two pouch sections in superposed relation. The pouch, when folded as shown in Fig. 1, is in condition to be carried in the pocket and is adapted to fit the same.

As normally used, all of the tobacco is contained within that section of the pouch which lacks the cut off corner,—such section forming the pouch proper. The other section, when the pouch is closed, serves as a closure flap and is characterized in that it has double walls which are connected together along the coincident edges except along the oblique lines 13 and 14 which define the cut off corner. When the pouch is to be used, the fasteners 19 and 20 are disengaged and the flap closure section of the pouch is moved to lie in extended relation with, and in continuation of, the other section of the pouch, as shown in Fig. 2. The section, formerly functioning as the closure for the pouch, now forms a trough-like extension for the same into which the contents of the pouch proper may be caused to gravitate. Such extension differs from others found in the prior art in that it is closed along one side and partially along the adjacent portion of the end edge, whereas the rest of the extension, except for a very short portion along the opposite side edge, affords a wide and generous opening into which the entire hand may be inserted if desired. The length of this opening can be, and preferably is, at least as great as the width of the pouch and may, as shown, be even greater. This follows from the scheme of cutting off the corner along an oblique line, whereby the desired long opening can be obtained and at the same time the partial end closure along edge 12 can be had to prevent escape of the tobacco.

The pouch may be used like any ordinary bag pouch, using edge 11 as the bottom of the pouch. In this case, the closure along edge 12 would not be so important and could be reduced in length, even to zero, to afford an increase in length of the pouch opening. When used in this manner, a bigger opening can be had than with the usual bag pouch and at the same time a better closure for the pouch is provided. The extension of the pouch may likewise be used as a pouring trough and has the advantage over pouring spouts of the prior art, that full and easy access is afforded both to the trough and to the pouch.

It is intended, however, that the pouch should be otherwise used in order to realize all of the advantages which follow from the peculiar construction disclosed. For example, the pouch, when opened as in Fig. 2, may be held in one hand with the thumb and little finger engaging the edges 9 and 10, respectively, at a location adjacent the line of fold 18. The edge 10 then forms the bottom of the pouch and is disposed approximately horizontal, or strictly with a slight downward slope from edge 11 to edge 12. Edge 11 will lie approximately vertical. Now if pressure is applied to edges 9 and 10 and they are squeezed toward one another, the walls 6 and 7 will readily bulge outwardly in opposite directions and the edges 13 and 14 will separate, allowing an exceptional degree of freedom of access to the pouch. The condition is then somewhat as shown in Fig. 4. The extension really forms a tray with tapering side walls leading to the end closure afforded by edge 12. As much of the contents of the pouch proper, as desired, can be made to gravitate into the tray to be used for filling the pipe and the latter, with the hand by which it is held, can very readily be inserted between the bulged walls 6 and 7 through the generous opening provided by the unsecured edges 13 and 14. After the pipe is filled, the pouch can be tilted to cause the tobacco to gravitate out of the tray, after which the tray-forming extension is folded over upon the other section of the pouch to close the same.

While, as above stated, the walls of the pouch may be secured together along the described edges in any suitable manner, the particular method described for this purpose is considered preferable and desirable even though it may not be essential for all purposes. As distinguished from a stitched seam closure, the described closure is much more freely flexible. It is such that the walls tend to separate rather than to draw together. Also, there is no sharply constricted V-shaped groove in which the tobacco can lodge. The construction along edges 9 and 10 is most important because by a slight pressure on these edges, it is desired to have the walls 6 and 7 spread apart readily and to a wide degree,

and this result is effected because of the natural tendency of the walls to separate rather than to close. From Fig. 4, it will be readily apparent that the connections along edges 9 and 10 are freely flexible and lack the constricting effect of the usual stitched seam.

The pouch of this invention is preferably constructed, as shown, in the form of a tube, flattened down and completely closed at one end and also the other end may be partially closed in so far as the cut off corner of the otherwise oblong pouch will permit,—such corner being cut off along an oblique line to form the pouch opening. While this construction is most desirable, if all of the benefits of the invention are to be fully realized in the best manner, nevertheless, many of the benefits may be derived from other constructions, which differ specifically in detail from the preferred construction described. Accordingly, it is desired that the scope of the invention be defined by the appended claims rather than by the foregoing description.

I claim:

1. A pouch, comprising, two substantially flat walls of flexible material of approximately rectangular form except for one corner which is cut off along an oblique line forming substantially oblique edges, said walls being connected together along the coincident side and end edges but being unsecured along said oblique edges whereby to form the pouch opening, said pouch being foldable intermediate its ends so that the section having the cut off corner may be superposed upon the other section, and releasable means for securing said sections in superposed relation.

2. A pouch, comprising, two substantially flat walls of flexible material of approximately rectangular form except for one corner which is cut off along an oblique line forming substantially oblique edges, said walls being connected together along the coincident side and end edges but being unsecured along said oblique edges whereby to form the pouch opening, said pouch being foldable intermediate its ends so that the section having the cut off corner may be superposed upon the other section, and releasable means for securing said sections in superposed relation, the length of said oblique line being not less than the width of the pouch.

3. A pouch, comprising, two substantially flat walls of flexible material, arranged in superposed relation, each of said walls having parallel side edges of unequal length and parallel end edges disposed at right angles to said side edges and also of unequal length and an oblique edge connecting the short side edge and short end edge, the side and end edges of one wall being coincident with the corresponding edges of the other wall, said walls being connected together along said coincident end and side edges but unsecured along said oblique edges, said pouch being foldable along a line intermediate the end edges and parallel thereto so that one section may be superposed upon the other.

4. A pouch, comprising, two substantially flat walls of flexible material, arranged in superposed relation, each of said walls having parallel side edges of unequal length and parallel end edges disposed at right angles to said side edges and also of unequal length and an oblique edge connecting the short side edge and short end edge, the side and end edges of one wall being coincident with the corresponding edges of the other wall, said walls being connected together along said coincident end and side edges but unsecured along said oblique edges, said pouch being foldable along a line intermediate the end edges and parallel thereto so that one section may be superposed upon the other, and releasable means for fastening said sections together in superposed relation, the length of said oblique edge being not less than the length of the longest end edge.

5. A pouch, comprising, two substantially flat and superposed walls of flexible material of approximately rectangular form except that one corner of at least one wall is cut off along an approximately oblique line forming a substantially oblique edge, said walls being connected together along coincident side and end edges but being unsecured along said oblique edge, whereby to form a relatively large and unobstructed opening into the pouch, said pouch being foldable along a transverse line intermediate its ends so that the section having the cut off corner may be superposed upon the other section, and releasable means for securing said sections in superposed relation, said oblique line extending from a point in one side edge near said transverse line to a point in one end edge near the opposite side edge.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

WARNER R. BUXTON.