Jan. 9, 1945. P. FLORIN 2,366,849

WALLET

Filed May 1, 1942

Fig. 1.

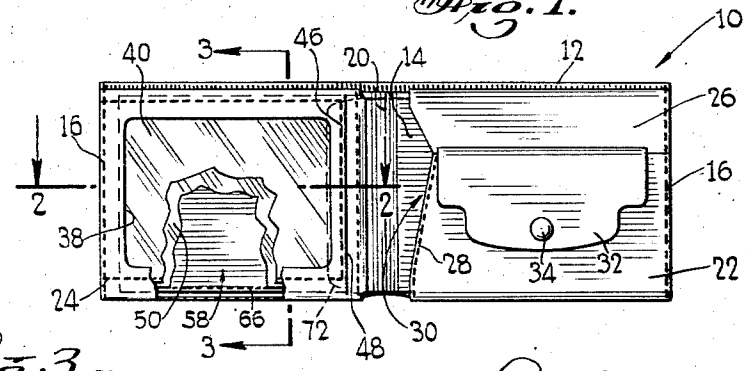


Fig. 3.

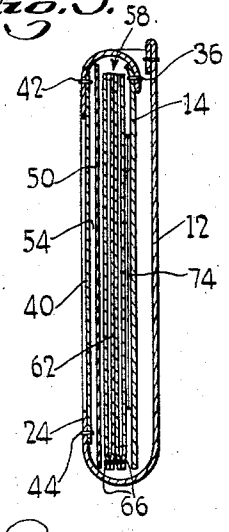


Fig. 2.

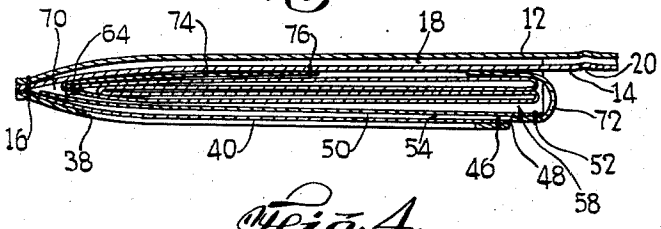


Fig. 4.

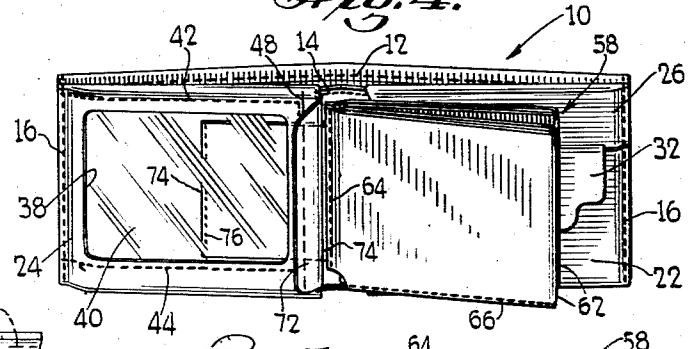


Fig. 6.

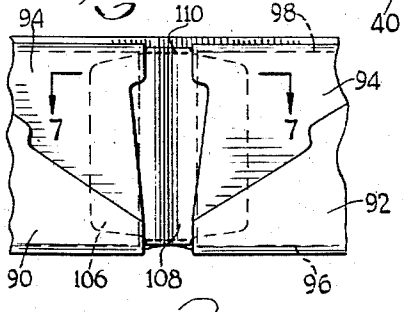


Fig. 5.

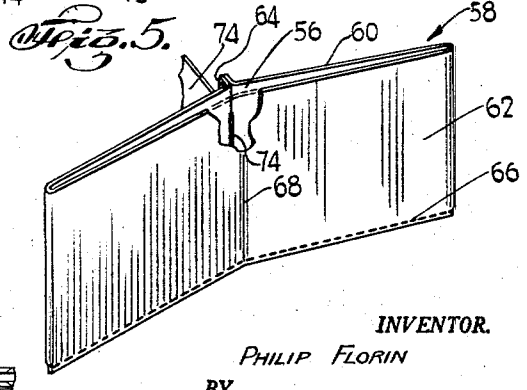
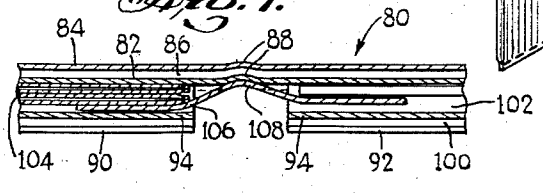


Fig. 7.



INVENTOR.
PHILIP FLORIN
BY
ATTORNEY

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2,366,849

WALLET

Philip Florin, Woodmere, N. Y.

Application May 1, 1942, Serial No. 441,267

6 Claims. (Cl. 150—38)

This invention relates to wallets.

One of the objects of my invention is to provide an improved pocket wallet construction having a concealed secret compartment which is effectively hidden in a novel manner.

Another object of my invention is to provide a pocket wallet of the character described wherein the secret compartment to all outward appearances comprises merely an outer wall of a compartment intended to house papers or money of little value.

A further object of my invention is to provide a pocket wallet of the character described which shall be economical to manufacture, rugged in construction, and efficient and simple in use.

Additional objects of this invention will in part be obvious and in part hereinafter pointed out.

My invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combinations of elements, and arrangement of parts which will be exemplified in the construction hereinafter described, and of which the scope of application will be indicated in the claims.

In the accompanying drawing, in which are shown various possible embodiments of my invention;

Fig. 1 is an elevational view of a pocket wallet embodying my invention shown in open position with the secret compartment concealed and with portions of the wallet broken away to disclose the location of said secret compartment;

Figs. 2 and 3 are enlarged sectional views taken substantially along the lines 2—2 and 3—3 respectively, of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a front perspective view of said pocket wallet with the secret compartment fully extracted;

Fig. 5 is a three-quartered perspective view of the secret compartment illustrated in Fig. 4 after the same has been opened for use;

Fig. 6 is an elevational fragmentary view of a pocket wallet embodying a modified form of my invention; and

Fig. 7 is an enlarged view thereof taken substantially along the line 7—7 of Fig. 6.

Referring now in detail to the drawing and more particularly to Figs. 1 through 5, 10 denotes a pocket wallet constructed in accordance with my invention and comprising generally a back wall 12 and a front wall 14, the said walls being permanently joined at the transverse end edges thereof by any suitable means, such as for example rows of stitching 16. The said walls 12 and 14 may be left unattached along their longitudinal bottom edges. The wall 14 is of lesser height than the back wall 12 so that the wallet has a compartment 18 open at the top to receive bills of small denominations. The central section of the front wall 14 is provided with a plurality of crease lines 20 to facilitate folding of the wallet.

The bottom longitudinal edge of the back wall 12 has extending therefrom a pair of integral panels 22 and 24. One of these panels 22 which runs from adjacent the creases 20 to a transverse edge of the back wall 12 is folded back over the front wall 14 and a transverse edge of this panel 22 is held to the walls 12 and 14 by the row of stitching 16. Another panel 26 partially underlies the panel 22, being secured thereto by a row of stitching 28 at one transverse edge thereof. The other transverse edge of the panel 26 is attached to the walls 12 and 14 and panel 22 by the row of stitching 16. Said panel 26 extends above the upper horizontal edge of the panel 22 and overlaps and is stitched to the upper horizontal edge of the front wall 14. One set of transverse edges of the panels 22 and 26 are left unattached to the wall 14 to provide a compartment 30 for the reception of calling cards and the like.

The upper horizontal edge of the panel 22 is unattached to the panel 26, thereby providing a compartment for the reception of small change and similar articles. This compartment is closed by a large flap 32 attached to the panel 26 and provided at its outer edge with suitable means, such as a snap fastener 34, for detachable securement to the outer surface of the panel 22.

The panel 24 which is spaced from the panel 22 by the crease lines 20 is folded back over the front wall 14 and has its horizontal upper edge turned back to lie behind a portion of the horizontal upper edge of said front wall. These edges are attached by a row of stitching 36. One transverse edge of the panel 24 is secured to the front and back walls 12 and 14 by the row of stitching 16 and the other transverse edge of said panel is left free. Said panel 24 is provided with a large aperture 38 which is backed by a layer 40 of a flexible transparent material such as Celluloid. One transverse edge of said layer 40 is attached to the wallet by the row of stitching 16. The upper and lower horizontal edges of the layer 40 are attached to the panel 24 by rows of stitching 42 and 44, and the other transverse edge of the layer 40 is attached to the panel 24 by a row of stitching 46 disposed alongside of a vertical slit 48 near a transverse edge of said panel 24.

Underlying the transparent layer 40 is a second transparent layer 50 of like material. This layer is secured in position by a row of transverse

stitching 52 running along one transverse edge of said layer and attached to the panel 24. Said row of stitching 52 is disposed on the side of the slit 48 opposite the row of stitching 46. The other three edges of the layer 50 are left free. Thus, the two transparent layers 40 and 50 together provide a compartment 54 for the reception of one or more cards or documents, such as a driver's license, etc., which should be visible upon opening of the wallet. Access to said compartment 54 is gained through the slit 48.

In accordance with my invention, I provide a secret compartment 56 which comprises a thin bill note receptacle 58 formed from a pair of juxtaposed coextensive walls 60 and 62 which are fabricated from a single piece of material. The latter is transversely folded about one quarter of the way in from each end, and the quarter lengths thus provided are disposed behind the front wall 62. Two ends of the quarter lengths are sewed together by a row of stitching 64. The lower horizontal edges of the walls 60 and 62 are sewed together by a line of stitching 66. The front wall 62 may be provided with a medial vertical crease line 68 to facilitate holding of the receptacle 58. Said receptacle is so proportioned that upon folding it can be completely received within the compartment 70 provided between the transparent layer 50 and the wall 14. The mouth of said compartment 70 lies adjacent the crease lines 20. The receptacle 58 when folded is sufficiently large to cover the rear of the aperture 38 in the panel 24. By virtue of this construction, when the receptacle 58 is inserted into the compartment 70, said receptacle will appear to form the back wall of the compartment 54. To further enhance this deceptive appearance, the receptacle 58 and front wall 14 may be made of the same or visually similar materials.

The transverse edges of the receptacle 58 which, when the latter is disposed in the compartment 70, lie adjacent the mouth thereof, are concealed in accordance with my invention by a flap 72 integral with the panel 24 and projecting laterally from the transverse edge of said panel adjacent the mouth of the compartment 70. The flap is of a height at least equal to the height of the receptacle 58 but need not necessarily be equal to the full height of the mouth of the compartment 70. Said flap 72 is wide enough to overlie the transverse edges of the folded receptacle 58 near the mouth of the compartment 70 and to enter into said compartment and be frictionally received between rearmost wall of the folded receptacle 58 and the front wall 14. The position of the flap 72 when it conceals the receptacle 58 is shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1 and in full lines in Fig. 2. Its position when retracted to permit access to the compartment 70 is shown in Fig. 4.

Means is also provided to secure the secret receptacle 58 to the wallet 10 in such manner that it can be withdrawn from its compartment 70 for use without being dropped or lost. Such means may comprise a ribbon 74 which is secured by a line of stitching 76 at one end thereof to approximately the center of the compartment 70. The other end of the ribbon is secured to the receptacle 58 adjacent its vertical median line by the line of stitching 64. The length of the ribbon from the line of stitching 64 to the line of stitching 76 is approximately one half of the width of the receptacle 58 when folded. This enables the receptacle to be entirely withdrawn from the compartment 70 when it is desired to secure access to the secret compartment 56 and allows the folded receptacle to be inserted far enough into the compartment 70 to fully underlie the aperture 38 and take up substantially all the slack in the ribbon 74.

A pocket wallet 80 embodying a modified form of my invention is shown in Figs. 6 and 7. Said wallet comprises a front wall 82 and back wall 84 suitably secured to each other to provide a bill compartment 86. Crease lines 88 in the front and back walls facilitate central folding of the wallet. The bottom longitudinal edge of the back wall 84 has extending integrally therefrom a pair of tapered panels 90 and 92 which are folded back against the wallet and secured along their outer transverse edges to the front and back walls by stitching (not shown). Intermediate each of the panels 90, 92 and front wall 82 there is provided a dividing panel 94 which is sewed at its lower edge to the bottom of said front wall by a row of stitching 96. The upper edge of said dividing panel is turned back to lie behind a portion of the horizontal upper edge of the front wall 84. These edges are attached by a row of stitching 98. Two compartments are thus formed, the first 100 between the dividing panel and a panel 90 or 92, and the second 102 between the dividing panel and the front wall 82.

In the second compartment 102 there is housed a secret receptacle 104 which may be constructed in the same maner as the secret receptacle 58 of the first form of my invention. Said receptacle 104 is so constructed and dimensioned that it is adapted to be received in the compartment 102 when centrally folded and it is attached to the wallet 80 by means constructed and arranged similar to the ribbon 74 above described.

The transverse edges of the secret receptacle 104, when the latter is disposed in the compartment 102, lie adjacent the mouth thereof and are concealed in accordance with my invention by a flap 106 attached to the wallet and adapted to be fully received in said compartment in such manner that it covers the transverse edges of the secret receptacle. The flap 106 extends from a narrow panel 108 secured to the front wall 82 at its upper and lower edges by rows of stitching 110. Said flap is preferably substantially of the same height as the compartment and is made of the same or similar material as that of the remaining panels and walls of the wallet, so that said flap, to the casual observer, will seem to be the wall 82 forming the back of the compartment 102. Flaps may extend from both transverse edges of the panel 108, so that flat objects may be secreted in both of the compartments 102.

It will thus be seen that there is provided a device in which the several objects of this invention are achieved, and which is well adapted to meet the conditions of practical use.

As various possible embodiments might be made of the above invention, and as various changes might be made in the embodiments set forth, it is to be understood that all matter herein set forth or shown in the accompanying drawing are to be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A two-section billfold-article holder combination, the billfold thereof having its two sections foldable about a central hinge and one section thereof having an interior pocket open-

ing toward the hinge, the article holder consisting of two panels foldable about a central hinge and with means to hold articles, the article holder being sufficiently smaller than the billfold in both width and length so that when closed it may be inserted hinge first within such billfold pocket and will there wholly clear the billfold hinge and so permit closing of the billfold; a tether rendering captive the article holder and consisting of a flexible means attached at one of its ends to the article holder halves at their hinge portion and at its other end to the interior of the billfold pocket, said tether being of such structure and extent of play as to permit the article holder to be drawn out wholly from the billfold pocket thereby to free the article holder hinge from the pocket and so permit opening of the article holder, but to stop such extraction at a point with the article holder hinge located close to the billfold hinge; whereby when the article holder is extracted to such position it may be there opened out in a condition for its hinge to lie adjacent the billfold hinge and its two panels to overlie flatly the two sections of the billfold, and whereby the billfold may be closed either with the article holder returned within the pocket or with the article holder remaining out of the pocket but nested captively in position between the two billfold sections.

2. A multiple-section billfold-article holder combination, the billfold thereof having adjacent sections foldable about hinges and one section thereof having an interior pocket opening toward said hinge, the article holder comprising at least two panels secured to each other so as to form a hinge and adapted to hold articles, the article holder being sufficiently smaller than the billfold in both width and length so that when closed it may be inserted hinge first within such billfold pocket and will there wholly clear said billfold hinge and so permit closing of the billfold; a tether rendering captive the article holder and consisting of a flexible means attached at one of its ends to the article holder panels at the hinge and at its other end to the interior of the billfold pocket, said tether being of such structure and extent of play as to permit the article holder to be drawn out wholly from the billfold pocket thereby to free the article holder hinge from the pocket and so permit opening of the article holder, but to stop such extraction at a point with the article holder hinge located close to said billfold hinge; whereby when the article holder is extracted to such position it may be there opened out in a condition for its hinge to lie adjacent said billfold hinge and the panels thereof to overlie the two sections of the billfold adjacent said billfold hinge, and whereby the billfold may be closed either with the article holder returned within the pocket or with the article holder remaining out of the pocket but nested captively in position between said two billfold sections.

3. A multiple-section billfold-article holder combination, the billfold thereof having adjacent sections foldable about hinges and one section thereof having an interior pocket opening toward said hinge, the article holder comprising at least two panels secured to each other so as to form a hinge and adapted to hold articles, the article holder being sufficiently smaller than the billfold in both width and length so that when closed it may be inserted hinge first within such billfold pocket and will there wholly clear said billfold hinge and so permit closing of the billfold; a tether rendering captive the article holder and consisting of a flexible means attached at one of its ends to the article holder panels at the hinge and at its other end to the interior of the billfold pocket, said tether being of such structure and extent of play as to permit the article holder to be drawn out wholly from the billfold pocket thereby to free the article holder hinge from the pocket and so permit opening of the article holder, but to stop such extraction at a point with the article holder hinge located close to said billfold hinge; whereby when the article holder is extracted to such position it may be there opened out in a condition for its hinge to lie adjacent said billfold hinge and the panels thereof to overlie the two sections of the billfold adjacent said billfold hinge, and whereby the billfold may be closed either with the article holder returned within the pocket or with the article holder remaining out of the pocket but nested captively in position between said two billfold sections; and a flap secured at one end to said billfold at said hinge outside the mouth of said pocket, the other end of said flap extending a short distance into said pocket whereby to conceal said article holder when the same is disposed within said pocket.

4. A billfold-article holder combination as set forth in claim 3 wherein the flap is an integral part of a wall of the pocket.

5. A billfold-article holder combination as set forth in claim 3 wherein one wall of the pocket is exposed when the billfold is opened, said wall being apertured and provided with a layer of transparent material covering said aperture, the other wall of said pocket and said article holder being fabricated from visually similar opaque materials, the tether being secured to said other wall.

6. A billfold-article holder combination as set forth in claim 3 wherein the article holder comprises a wallet-like member including a front wall and an integral rear wall, said rear wall including two sections which are stitched together at the center of the article holder, the bottom edges of said front and rear walls being secured together by stitching, and wherein the tether is secured to the article holder where the two sections comprising the rear wall are joined together.

PHILIP FLORIN.