Sept. 18, 1928. 1,684,737

C. L'ENFANT

CARD CASE AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME

Filed Feb. 25, 1927 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

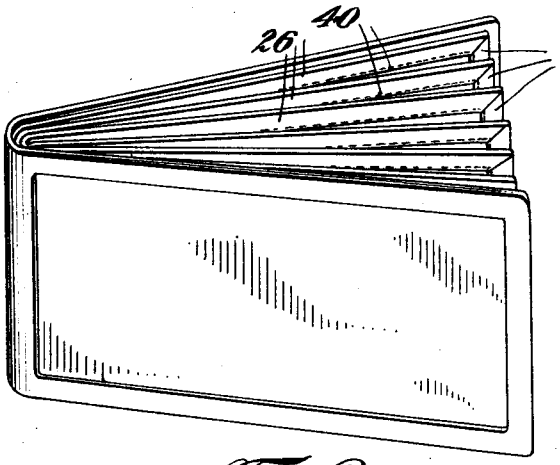


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

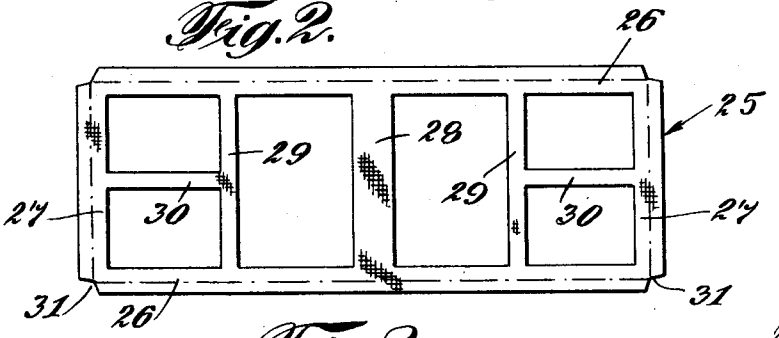


Fig. 3.

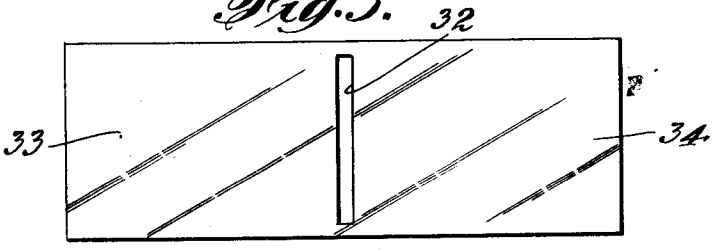
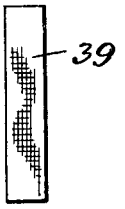


Fig. 4.



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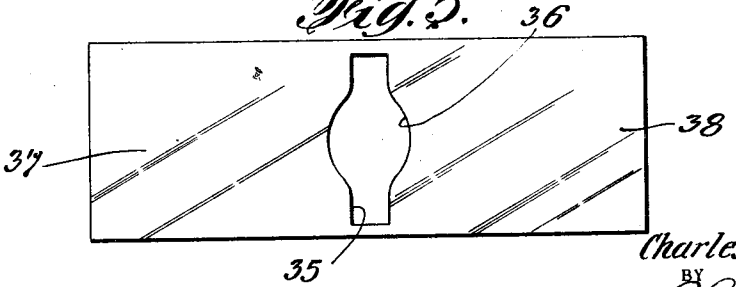

INVENTOR
Charles L'Enfant
BY
C. P. Goepel
his ATTORNEY

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C. L'ENFANT

CARD CASE AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME

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Fig. 6.

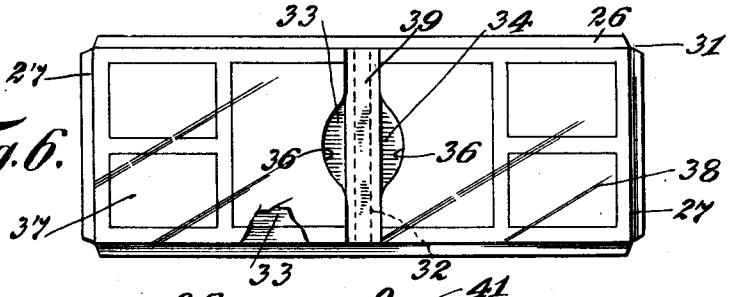


Fig. 7.

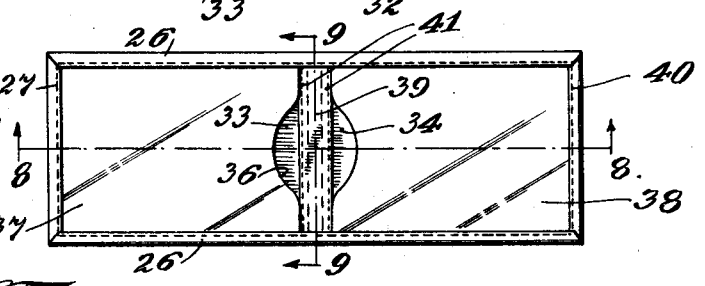


Fig. 8.

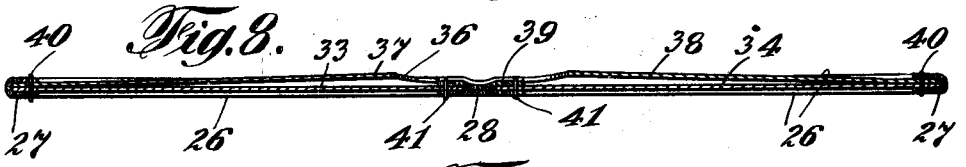


Fig. 9.

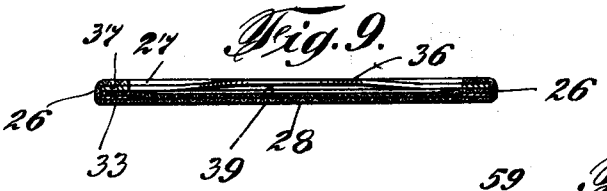


Fig. 19.

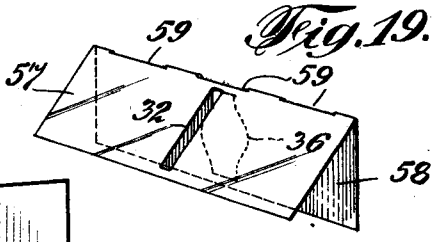
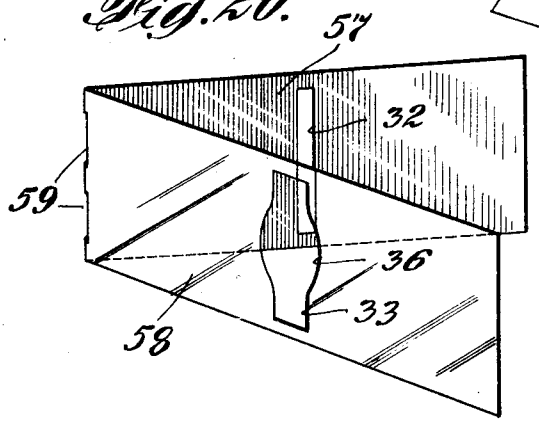


Fig. 20.



INVENTOR
Charles L'Enfant
BY
C. P. Goepel
his ATTORNEY

Sept. 18, 1928. 1,684,737

C. L'ENFANT

CARD CASE AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME

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Fig. 10.

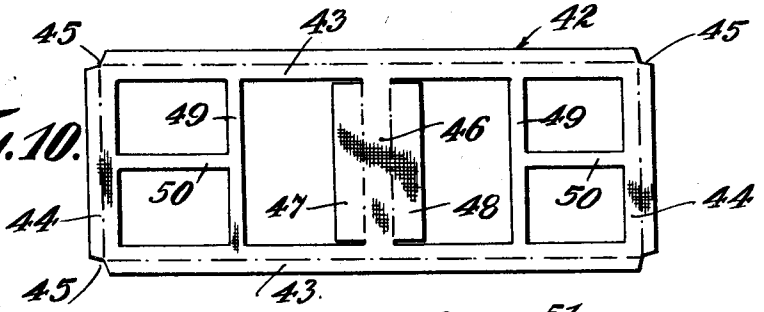

Fig. 11.

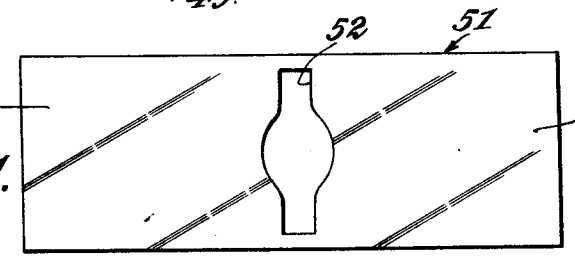

Fig. 13.

Fig. 12.

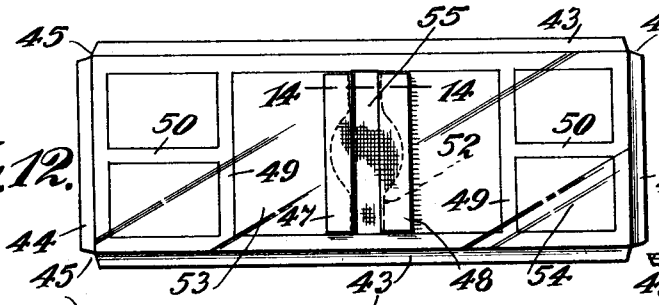

Fig. 14.

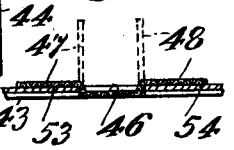

Fig. 15.

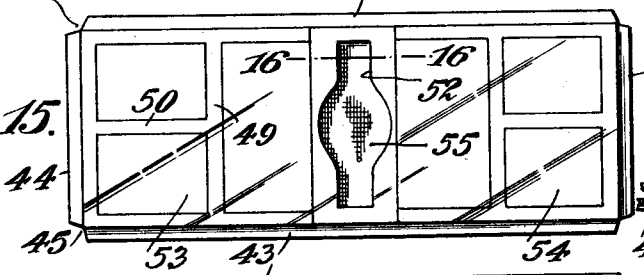

Fig. 16.

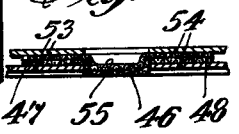

Fig. 17.

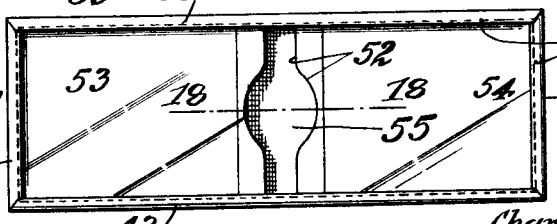

Fig. 18.

INVENTOR
Charles L'Enfant
BY
C. P. Goepel
HIS ATTORNEY

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES L'ENFANT, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

CARDCASE AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME.

Application filed February 25, 1927. Serial No. 170,759.

This invention relates to improvements in card cases and the method of making the same.

The object of the present invention is to reduce the number of parts entering into the manufacture of card cases to a minimum and thereby reduce the labor required in the manufacturing process, so that the ultimate cost of production may be lessened.

Another object of the invention is to produce a card case of extreme thinness, so that a large number of leaves may be enclosed in a small space.

A feature of the present invention is the extending of the celluloid forming the windows of the card case throughout the entire length of the device which insures a uniform thickness of material, so that the parts may be easily sewn together during assembly.

Another feature of the invention is the formation of the two celluloid windows from a single strip of material, so that the number of handling operations during assembly may be reduced to a minimum and proper registration of the parts may be assured.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts, which will be fully set forth in the following specification, claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a card case, the leaves of which are constructed in accordance with this invention,

Figure 2 is a plan view of one of the leaves showing the same in blank form and ready to receive the celluloid windows,

Figure 3 is a plan view of the celluloid window in blank form which lies next to the blank illustrated in Figure 2,

Figure 4 is a plan view of the transversely extending reinforcing strip which overlies the slotted portion of the window illustrated in Figure 3,

Figure 5 is a plan view in blank form of the celluloid windows which is last applied prior to sewing,

Figure 6 is a plan view of a pair of leaves assembled prior to sewing,

Figure 7 is a view similar to Figure 6, showing the leaves complete,

Figure 8 is an enlarged longitudinal sectional view taken on line 8—8 of Figure 7,

Figure 9 is an enlarged transverse sectional view taken on line 9—9 of Figure 7,

Figure 10 is a plan view of the blank of a modified form of leaf body, similar to Figure 2,

Figure 11 is a view similar to Figure 3, showing a modified form of window blank.

Figure 12 is a plan view, illustrating the first step in the assembly of the blanks illustrated in Figures 10 and 11,

Figure 13 is a plan view similar to Figure 4 of the transversely extending reinforcing strip used in connection with the modified form.

Figure 14 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken on line 14—14 of Figure 12,

Figure 15 is a plan view illustrating the second step in the assembly of the modified form of the device,

Figure 16 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional taken on line 16—16 of Figure 15,

Figure 17 is a plan view of the completed device made in accordance with the modified form,

Figure 18 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken on line 18—18 of Figure 17,

Figure 19 is a perspective view of a modified form of window and,

Figure 20 is a perspective view of a further modified form of window.

Referring to the drawings in detail, the body of the device designated generally by the numeral 25 comprises a sheet of flexible material, stamped out in blank form to provide side members 26 and end members 27. These side members are connected midway of their length by an integral web 28 for a purpose to be more fully hereinafter described. Connecting the side members 26 at a point intermediate, the web 28 and the end members 27 is a bar 29 connected intermediate its ends by means of a bar 30 to its respective end wall. Each side and end member is provided along its outer marginal edge with a flap or extension, the corners of which are cut out as at 31, so that when the flaps are folded over into planes parallel with the members 26 and 27, their corners will miter together rather than lie in overlapping engagement.

Cooperating with the body 25 is a blank of sheet material, such as celluloid or the like, which is of an external dimension to register with the outer edges of the side and end members 26 and 27. This blank as illustrated in Figure 3 is provided with a cen-

tral transversely extending slot 32, dividing the same into two separate windows 33 and 34 which are connected together at opposite ends of the slot, so that both windows may be handled as a single piece.

The second blank of transparent material, such as celluloid, is provided with a central transversely extending slot 35, which is of greater width than the slot 32 and which has an enlarged intermediate portion as at 36 for an obvious purpose. The slot 35 divides the second transparent blank into two separate windows 37 and 38, and the dimensions of this blank are substantially equal to those of the blank illustrated in 33.

In the assembly of the card case, the blank shown in Figure 3 is placed upon that illustrated in Figure 2 and fabric strip 39, illustrated in Figure 4, is then secured over the slot 32 by a suitable adhesive, so that the blank shown in Figure 3 is attached to that shown in Figure 2 and held against accidental displacement. The blank illustrated in Figure 5 is then laid over the parts thus far assembled, so that its side and end edges mate with the side and end edges of the blank shown in Figure 3. The flaps are then folded over and secured by a row of stitching 40 which extends through the side and end portions 26 and 27, the side and end edges of the windows 33 and 34 and 37 and 38. The side edges of the fabric strip 39 are also stitched as at 41 to the web 28 through the windows 33 and 34 adjacent the edges of the slot 32. After the parts have been stitched and the pass case completed, the bars 29 and 30 are cut transversely adjacent the inner edges of the side members 26 and 27, so that the sight opening on the back of the device is freed from obstruction, and cards inserted in the leaves thus formed may be examined on either side without removal from the card case.

In the modification illustrated in Figures 10 to 18 inclusive, the body 42 comprises side and end members 43 and 44, which like the side and end members 25 and 26, are provided with outwardly extending flaps, the corners of which are notched as at 45 for the purpose previously described. Connecting the side members 43 at a point midway of their length is a web 46, which is provided with integral extensions or wings 47 and 48, which lie between the side members 43 to form guides for insuring proper registration of the celluloid windows during the process of assembly. Like the body blank 25, the body 42 is provided with the transverse bars 49 which connect the side members 43 intermediate the web and the end members 44 and the bars 50 which connect the bars 49 with the end members 44 intermediate the side members 43.

The blank body 51 of transparent material, such as celluloid is cut to register with the outer edges of the side and end members 43 and 44 and is provided with a centrally located transversely extending slot 52 of a width equal to the width of the web 46. This slot 52 divides body 51 into windows 53 and 54, as will be clearly seen upon reference to Figure 11.

In the assembly of the modified construction of the card case, illustrated in Figures 10 to 18 inclusive, the wings 47 and 48 are bent upwardly as indicated in the dotted line position in Figure 14, so that they may be entered through the slot 52. After entry through the slot 52, it will be seen that the extensions or wings 47 and 48 will partially overlie the windows 53 and 54, which in turn are superimposed upon the body 42 and thus proper registration of the celluloid blank 51 with the body 42 is assured. The fabric strip 55 is then adhesively secured to the exposed sides of the extensions 47 and 48 as illustrated in Figures 15 and 16, and a celluloid blank identical with that shown in Figure 11 is then laid upon the parts thus far assembled, so as to register with the edges of the blank 51 after which the flaps formed on the side and end members 43 are folded over and stitched as at 56, as will be clearly seen upon reference to Figure 17. In this manner, it will be appreciated that proper registration of the celluloid blanks forming the windows is assured and the parts retained in position, so that the sewing may be readily accomplished. After completion of the sewing the bars 49 and 50 are cut away as previously described to clear the sight openings through the windows.

In the modifications illustrated in Figures 19 and 20, the celluloid blanks 57 and 58 which may conform in shape, size and perforations to either of the forms above described, are joined either longitudinally as in Figure 19 or transversely as in Figure 20, so that the number of handling operations may be reduced. It is preferable that the joined edges be perforated as at 59 to facilitate the folding of the parts into proper position. Obviously, such construction will eliminate one handling operation and proper registration of the celluloid parts with each other is also assured.

After the leaves are constructed, as previously described, they are folded upon themselves and any number may be assembled to form a book in which cards, passes and the like may be inserted. It is obvious that where a multiplicity of such leaves is used, it is desirable that they be made in varying lengths, so that the outer free edges may be made to align and the appearance of the unit may be enhanced.

While in the foregoing there has been shown and described the preferred embodiment of this invention it is to be understood that minor changes in the details and con-

struction, combination and arrangement of parts, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed is:—

1. A card case including a unit of uniform thickness throughout its entire length comprising a single strip of material foldable intermediate its ends to form leaves, each leaf having an opening, a pair of transversely slotted strips of transparent material superimposed thereon and foldable therewith, and means to secure the parts together at their edges.

2. A card case including a unit of uniform thickness throughout its entire length comprising a frame formed of a single strip of material foldable intermediate its ends, a transversely slotted strip of transparent material, superimposed on said frame and foldable therewith, a second transversely slotted strip of transparent material superimposed on the first named slotted strip and cooperating therewith in forming pockets in opposite ends of said unit, and means to secure the parts together at their edges.

3. A card case including a unit of uniform thickness throughout its entire length comprising a frame formed of a single strip of material, a web connecting the side bars of said frame intermediate its ends, the frame being foldable on the longitudinal axis of the web, a transversely slotted strip of transparent material superimposed on the frame, the slot in said transparent strip registering with the web so that a portion of the transparent strip overlies a portion of the web, means to secure the transparent strip to the web, a second transversely slotted strip of transparent material superimposed on the first mentioned strip of transparent material, the side walls of the slot in the second transparent strip registering with the side edges of the web, and means to secure the parts together at their edges.

4. A card case comprising a single piece of material, foldable intermediate its ends, said material being cut out between its fold and its ends to provide a web, transparent windows slotted intermediate their ends in such a manner that the slots register with the web, said windows being foldable along the fold line of the frame and a strip of material between the windows covering the web and a portion of one of said windows at each side of its slot.

5. A pass case comprising a frame, formed of a single piece of material and foldable intermediate its ends, a web connecting the side members of the frame along the fold line, a sheet of transparent material adapted to fit the frame, said transparent sheet having a relatively narrow transverse slot in axial alignment with the fold line of the frame and a strip of material overlying the transparent material adjacent the slot, a second piece of transparent material of substantially the same dimensions as the first piece of transparent material, said second piece of transparent material having a transverse slot intermediate its ends of a width substantially equal to the width of the web and means to secure the parts together at their edges.

6. A card case unit comprising a strip of sheet material having window openings therein separated by a transverse web, a pair of transversely slotted strips of transparent material superimposed thereon with their slots overlying said web, the edge portions of the sheet material being folded over and secured to said transparent strips, and a transverse strip overlying said web and having its edge portions disposed between the transparent sheets adjacent the slotted portions thereof.

CHARLES L'ENFANT.