July 12, 1932. W. R. BUXTON 1,866,618

FLEXIBLE POCKET RECEPTACLE

Filed July 16, 1928 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1

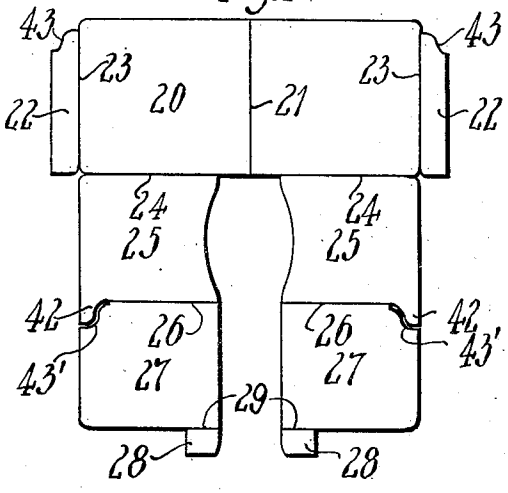

Fig. 3.

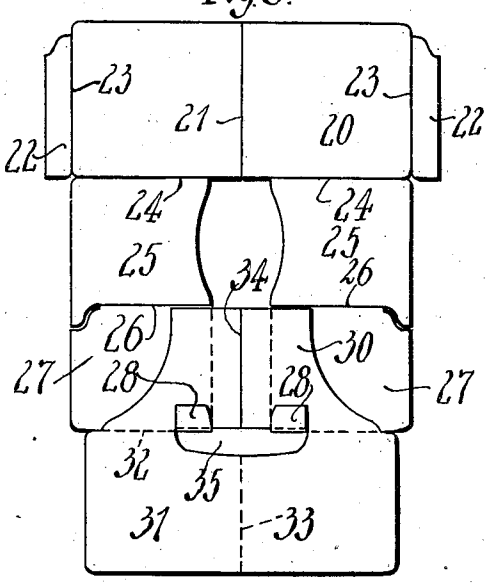

Fig. 2.

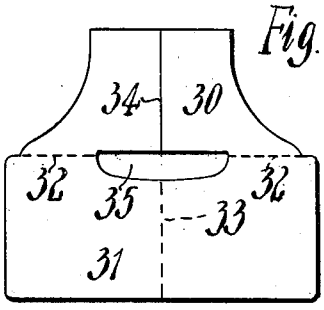

Fig. 5.

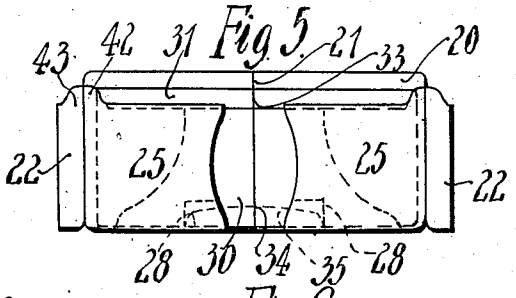

Fig. 4.

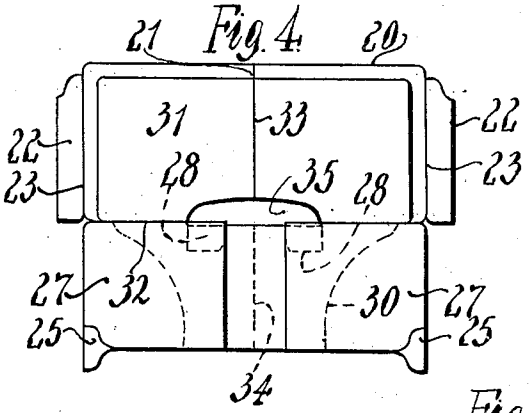

Fig. 6.

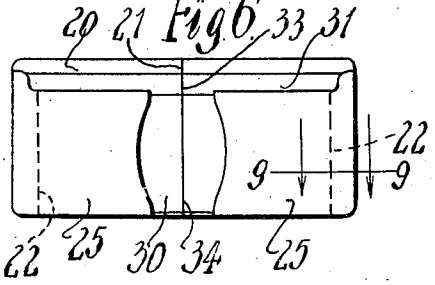

Fig. 7.

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FLEXIBLE POCKET RECEPTACLE

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Fig. 8

Fig. 9

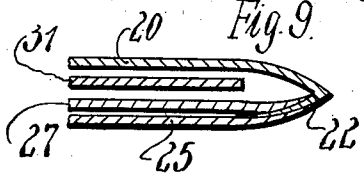


Fig. 10

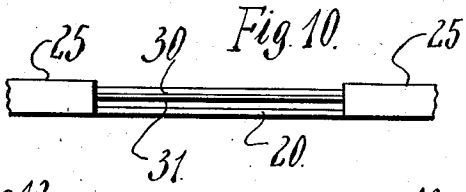


Fig. 12

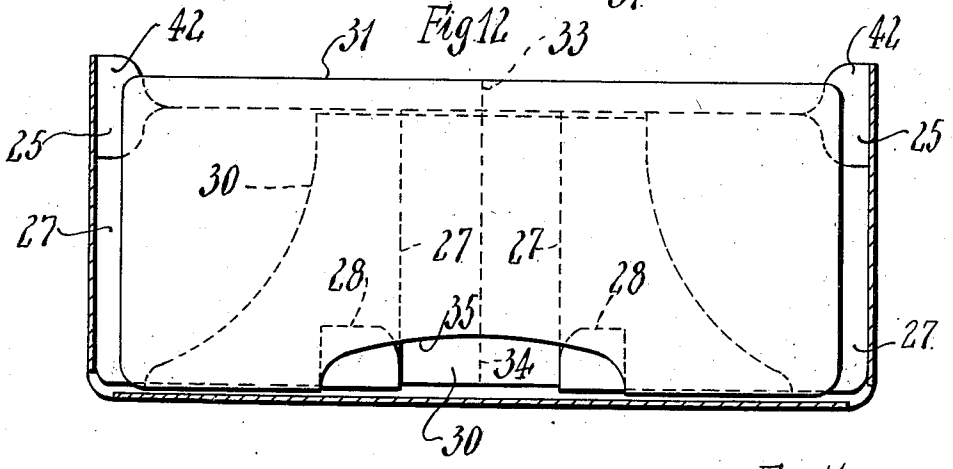


Fig. 11

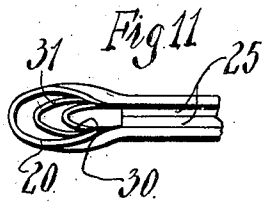
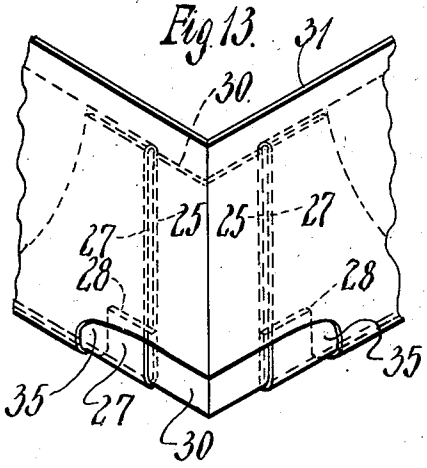


Fig. 13



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FLEXIBLE POCKET RECEPTACLE

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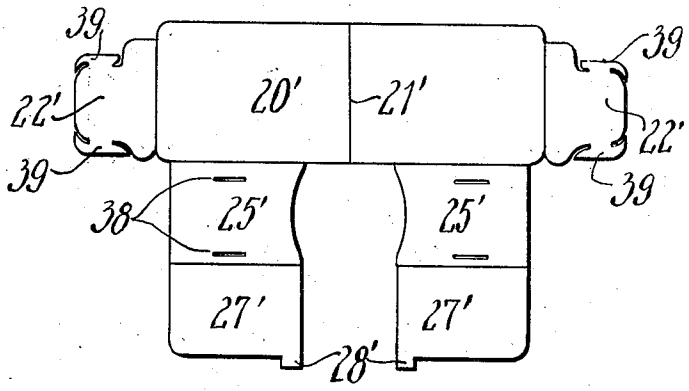

Fig. 14.

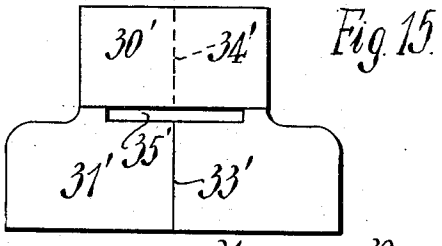

Fig. 15.

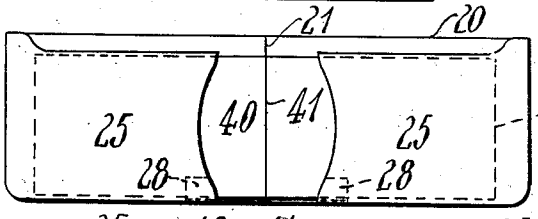

Fig. 18.

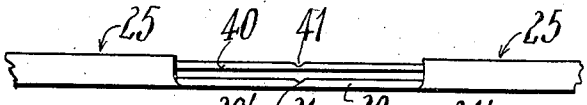

Fig. 19.

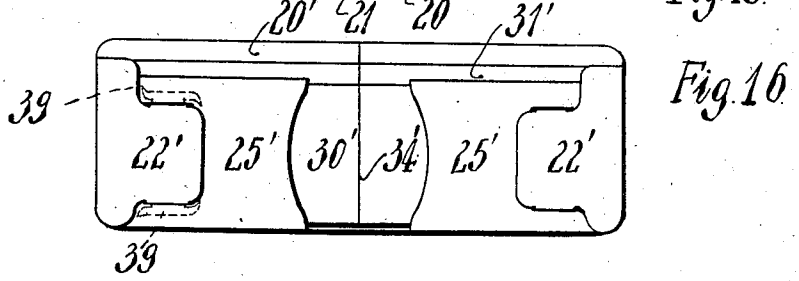

Fig. 16.

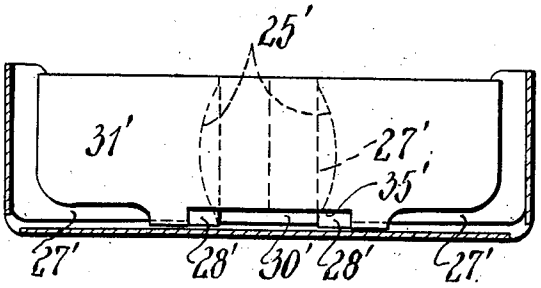

Fig. 17.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

WARNER R. BUXTON, OF LONGMEADOW, MASSACHUSETTS

FLEXIBLE POCKET RECEPTACLE

Application filed July 16, 1928. Serial No. 293,056.

This invention relates to an improved flexible pocket receptacle, adapted to carry bills, checks, cards and the like, and commonly known as a bill fold.

It is well known that, when a bill fold is doubled or otherwise folded into closed and pocket-carrying position, the inner wall has to bend about a smaller radius than the outer wall and consequently buckling of the inner wall must necessarily result unless some provision is made to prevent such action. This difficulty, of course, is accentuated when the pocket between such walls is filled with bills. Unless such buckling or cramping is prevented, the bill fold when closed, will not lie in smooth, flat and compact form, as desired.

This invention is directed to and has for its object the provision of a bill fold with improved means for avoiding buckling and cramping of the inner wall under the conditions described.

More particularly, the invention provides a construction wherein the inner wall is made in three sections, two of which are end sections secured to the outer wall and the other of which is a central or intermediate section, bridging the space between the other sections and partially overlapping the same. The characteristic feature of the arrangement is that the intermediate section is unattached to either the outer wall or to said inner wall end sections and is freely slidable relatively thereto so that, when the bill fold is closed, the end sections of the inner wall telescope with respect to the central section and prevent cramping.

Since the central inner wall section is unattached to either the outer wall or the inner wall end sections, it is desirable to provide some means for retaining such central section in its proper position and keeping it substantially centralized with respect to the end sections. The provision of such means constitutes another object of the invention.

Other objects and advantages will appear from the following description and will be pointed out in the appended claims.

The invention will be disclosed with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figs. 1 and 2 are views showing the blanks from which one form of bill fold, embodying the invention, is made;

Fig. 3 is a view showing how the two blanks are superposed preparatory to subsequent folding operations by which the parts are positioned into bill fold form and showing also the first folding operation;

Figs. 4 and 5 are similar views showing the parts as they appear after the second and third folding operations, respectively, have been performed;

Fig. 6 is a view of the completed bill fold, shown in open position;

Fig. 7 is a similar view showing the bill fold in closed or pocket-carrying position;

Fig. 8 is a top plan view drawn to a larger scale and showing the bill fold in open position;

Fig. 9 is a fragmentary sectional plan view taken on the line 9—9 of Fig. 6 and drawn to a larger scale;

Figs. 10 and 11 are fragmentary bottom plan views, drawn to a larger scale and showing the bill fold in open and closed positions, respectively;

Fig. 12 is a sectional view taken on the line 12—12 of Fig. 8;

Fig. 13 is a fragmentary perspective view showing the relative positions assumed by the parts shown in Fig. 12, when the bill fold is folded towards closed position;

Figs. 14 and 15 are views of two blanks from which a second form of bill fold is made;

Fig. 16 is a view of the completed bill fold made from the last named blanks;

Fig. 17 is a sectional view of the second form of bill fold, taken similarly to Fig. 12;

Fig. 18 is a face view of a third form of bill fold embodying the invention; and

Fig. 19 is a fragmentary bottom plan view of the bill fold shown in Fig. 18 but drawn to a larger scale.

The first form of bill fold embodying my invention is made up from two blanks of suitable flexible material, such as leather and the like, which blanks are cut out in the forms shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The blank shown in Fig. 1 comprises an outer wall section 20, of

substantially rectangular shape, having its inner face scored, grooved, creased or otherwise formed to define a central transverse line of fold 21, extending from its upper to its lower edge. Integrally connected with section 20, and disposed one at each end thereof, are flaps 22 which are marked off by suitably formed lines of fold 23. Integrally connected to the lower edge of section 20, and marked off by suitably formed lines of fold 24, are two sections 25, which are arranged in longitudinally spaced relation one on each side of the central line of fold 21 and which form part of the inner wall end sections. Integrally connected with each section 25 and foldable along a suitably formed line of fold 26 (disposed parallel to line of fold 24) is a section 27 which completes the inner wall end section. Each section 27 has integrally connected thereto a small flap 28 which is foldable along a suitably formed line of fold 29, disposed parallel with lines of fold 24 and 26. Each section 27 is adapted to be folded along line 26 over and upon the section 25, to which it is connected, thereby forming an inner wall end section of double thickness and of tubular form. The flap 28 is folded over and upon section 27 and, after such section has been folded over and upon section 25, the flap 28 is secured, as by adhesive, to section 25 to hold the sections 25 and 27 together in tubular form.

The blank shown in Fig. 2 comprises a part 30, which forms the central or intermediate section of the inner wall, and a part 31, which serves as a partition member. These two parts are foldable one upon the other along a suitably formed line of fold 32, which is formed on the back side of the blank, as viewed in Fig. 2. The section 31 on such side of the blank is also provided with a centrally-located and transversely-disposed line of fold 33. The section 30 on the front face of the blank is provided with a line of fold 34 located similarly to line of fold 33 and in alinement therewith. A longitudinally disposed slot 35 is formed in section 31 and one wall of this slot coincides, or substantially so, with the lines of fold 32.

The first step in forming the bill fold from the blanks, above described, is to lay the blank of Fig. 2 on the blank of Fig. 1 so that the section 30 rests upon and partially overlaps the two sections 27 and bridges the space between the same. This position is shown in Fig. 3, which also shows the flaps 28 as having been passed through slot 35 and folded along lines of fold 29 over and upon the section 30. The next step is to fold both sections 27 along the lines of fold 26 upwardly and over and upon the sections 25. In so folding sections 27, the part 30 is held thereto and thus becomes positioned between the pairs of walls 25 and 27, which make up the tubular inner wall end sections, while the part 31 becomes superposed on the outer wall 20 with its line of fold 33 in the same transverse plane as the line of fold 21. The flaps 28 may now be secured, as by adhesive, to the sections 25 against which they lie, thereby holding the inner and outer walls 27 and 25 of the inner wall end sections in tubular form with the central inner wall section 30 telescoped at its ends in said tubular end sections. The parts are now positioned as shown in Fig. 4. The next step is to fold the inner wall, as an entirety, upwardly along line of fold 24 and over and upon the partition member 31. This brings the parts into their relative positions shown in Fig. 5 with the several transverse lines of fold 21, 33 and 34 disposed all in the same transverse plane and so as to enable one half of the bill fold to readily fold along such lines into superposed relation with the other half. The end flaps 22 are then folded along lines of fold 23 and tucked in between the sections 25 and 27 of the inner wall and suitably secured, as by adhesive, to the sections 25. The detail of these end closures is shown in Fig. 9. The bill fold is now completed and the parts appear as shown in Fig. 6.

The bill fold, as shown in Fig. 6, is open and in position to enable the insertion or extraction of bills, checks and the like. As will be clear from Fig. 8, two compartments are formed, viz: one marked 36 located between the outer wall 20 and partition 31 and one marked 37 located between the partition 31 and the inner wall. In the form shown, the compartment 36 is of a width and length adapted to receive paper money of the present size or it is equally well adapted to receive bank checks and the like. The compartment 37, however, is not as deep and is designed to receive paper money of the new size soon to be issued. In addition to these compartments, there are pockets available for cards and the like,—one such pocket being formed in each tubular inner wall end section between sections 25 and 30. The bill fold is adapted to be closed by folding the same along its central transverse line and superposing one half upon the other into the form shown in Fig. 7. The bill fold, when thus folded, is of a form adapted to conveniently fit the pocket.

It is to be noted that the central section 30 of the inner wall is free from any connection with the tubular end sections of the inner wall. Consequently, when the bill fold is moved from open to closed position, or vice versa, the end sections are freely slidable longitudinally with relation to the central section and no buckling of the inner wall can result even though the compartments 36 and 37 are well filled with bills. A comparison of Figs. 10 and 11, which show the bill fold opened and closed respectively, will show the substantial amount of relative longitudinal

movement which can occur between the end sections of the inner wall and the central section thereof.

The member 31, which serves as a partition, is connected to the inner wall central section 30 and is therefore equally free for relative longitudinal sliding movement with respect to the inner and outer walls of the bill fold. As shown in Fig. 8, the partition 31 is shorter than the outer wall and its ends are spaced from the ends of the outer wall so as not to engage the same when the bill fold is closed, thereby avoiding any buckling of member 31. The slot 35 in this member receives the flaps 28 and, when the bill fold is open, these flaps lie at the ends of the slot as shown in Fig. 12. When the bill fold is closed and the end sections of the inner wall move inwardly and slide along the central section 30, the flaps 28 move away from the ends of slot 35, as illustrated diagrammatically in Fig. 13. Now, if the central section 30 and the attached partition 31 should become displaced longitudinally and moved out of centralized relation with the inner and outer walls of the bill fold, these elements 30 and 31 will be centralized when the bill fold is again opened by the engagement of one or the other of the flaps 28 with one end or the other of the slot 35. If the sections 30 and 31 remain centralized, both flaps 28 will abut the ends of slot 35, at the same time. Otherwise, one flap will engage one end of slot 35 before the other and cause a shifting of the sections into properly centralized position.

This same centralizing action can be obtained with the form of bill fold shown in Figs. 14 to 17. As will be seen from a comparison of Figs. 14 and 15 with Figs. 1 and 2, the bill fold is constructed in much the same manner as above described and corresponding parts have been given the same reference numerals with the addition of a prime. The principal difference is that instead of the flaps 28, stiff tongues 28′ project from the sections 27′. These tongues ride in slot 35′, as will be seen from Fig. 17, and cooperate therewith in a similar manner as above described in connection with the flaps 28. In this case, the lower edge of each wall 27′ is not attached to its companion wall 25′. Such attachment is therefore not necessary in order to secure the centralizing function, although it is desirable as positively preventing the parts 28 from riding out of slot 35. However, the result can be obtained with the tongues 28′ and such arrangement is practical and workable even though it is not as desirable as the first form described.

In Figs. 14 and 16, an alternative form of connection between the end flaps 22′ to the walls 25′ is shown. The latter are suitably slotted, as at 38, to receive tabs 39 formed on the end flaps 22′, the tabs interlocking with the walls 25′ in the usual manner as indicated in Fig. 16.

While either form of end closure may be used according to the more important features of the invention, the first form is important and preferred because it enables one to make a smoother and more attractive end closure and one in which the joint is practically invisible. As shown in Fig. 9, each flap 22 is skived down along its free edge and the end edge of the adjacent section 25 is likewise skived down. These two oppositely skived-down parts are then glued together and ironed down, with the result that the joint is smooth, thin and practically invisible,—the thin end edge of section 25 coinciding substantially with the line of fold 23.

A third form of the invention is shown in Figs. 17 and 18. The bill fold there shown is made up from a blank identical with that shown in Fig. 1 except that the central intermediate section 40 consists simply of a rectangular piece without any attached partition section as formerly. The section 40 is preferably about equal in length to the former partition section 31 or in any event long enough so that it cannot be displaced longitudinally to a sufficient extent to permit either end to pull out of its tubular inner wall end section. By forming a pronounced transverse crease 41, it is found that when the outer wall 20 is bent along its crease 21, the crease 41 will naturally work its way into the crease 21. When the bill fold is again opened, the section 40 may not always be exactly centralized but it will centralize itself when the bill fold is again closed. This arrangement is practical and workable and deemed to be within the scope of this invention, being characterized over the prior art in that the central section of the inner wall is unattached to either the outer or the inner walls of the bill fold.

An important refinement in the bill fold construction consists of the ears 42 (Fig. 12) which upstand, one from each section 25 near the outer end thereof, for the purpose of hiding the ends of the partition 31. Since the latter stops short of each end of the bill fold, it would detract from the appearance of the article if such ends were not concealed, as shown, by the ears 42. Also these ears protect the ends of partition 31 and prevent them from catching on anything. It will be noted from Fig. 1 that these ears 42 are cut out from the section 27 by the cuts 43 and that the lines of fold 26 do not cross the ears, wherefore the latter upstand from sections 25 and are adapted to be secured to corresponding ears 43 formed on flaps 22.

The invention affords a bill fold with improved and simplified means for preventing buckling or cramping of the inner wall, when the bill fold is moved from open to closed position. The construction of the article

from two blanks of leather or the like, formed by folding without the use of stitched seams, is also important because it is economical to manufacture and at the same time makes a neat and attractive article and one which functions properly under all practical conditions. The construction permits the bill fold to be made thin, flat and compact, and at the same time to have a large carrying capacity. The bill fold, when stuffed to capacity with bills and moved into closed position, still folds smoothly and into remarkably flat and compact form.

The invention has been disclosed herein for illustrative purposes, but the scope of the invention is defined by the appended claims rather than by the foregoing description.

What I claim is:

1. A bill fold, comprising, an outer wall, an inner wall consisting of two longitudinally spaced end sections attached along one end and one side edge to the outer wall and an intermediate section unattached to either the outer wall or the inner wall end sections and bridging the space between and partially overlapping the inner wall end sections, and a member connected to each inner wall end section along the opposite side edge thereof and extending between such section and the outer wall toward and adjacent to the first named side edge, the ends of said intermediate section being slidably received between said end sections and members.

2. A bill fold, comprising, an outer wall, an inner wall consisting of two longitudinally spaced end sections attached along one end and one side edge to the outer wall and an intermediate section unattached to either the outer wall or the inner wall end sections and bridging the space between and partially overlapping the inner wall end sections, and a member connected to each inner wall end section along the opposite side edge thereof and extending between such section and the outer wall toward and adjacent to the first named side edge, the ends of said intermediate section being slidably received between said end sections and members, and means for maintaining said intermediate section substantially centralized with respect to said end sections.

3. A bill fold, comprising, an outer wall, an inner wall consisting of two longitudinally spaced end sections attached along one end and one side edge to the outer wall and an intermediate section unattached to either the outer wall or the inner wall end sections and bridging the space between and partially overlapping the inner wall end sections, a flap connected to each end section along the opposite side edge thereof and folded downwardly to lie between said section and the outer wall and terminating with a free edge disposed adjacent to the first named side edge, the ends of said intermediate section being slidably received between said flaps and end sections, and a member foldably connected to one edge of said intermediate section and extending around the free edge of each of said flaps and received between the latter and the outer wall, said member extending longitudinally along the inner face of the outer wall towards but terminating short of the ends of the latter.

4. A bill fold, comprising, an outer wall, an inner wall consisting of two longitudinally spaced end sections attached along one end and one side edge to the outer wall and an intermediate section unattached to either the outer wall or the inner wall end sections and bridging the space between and partially overlapping the inner wall end sections, a flap connected to each end section along the opposite side edge thereof and folded downwardly to lie between said section and the outer wall and terminating with a free edge disposed adjacent to the first named side edge, the ends of said intermediate section being slidably received between said flaps and end sections, and a member foldably connected to one edge of said intermediate section and extending around the free edge of each of said flaps and received between the latter and the outer wall, said intermediate section and its connected member having a tongue and slot connection with each of said flaps permitting relative sliding movement therebetween when the outer wall is folded to superpose the inner walls one upon the other and close the bill fold and serving to centralize said intermediate section when the bill fold is again opened.

5. A bill fold comprising, an outer wall, a pair of inner wall end sections connected in longitudinally spaced relation to one longitudinal edge of the outer wall one near each end thereof and superposed upon the outer wall, each end edge of the outer wall being connected to the adjacent end edge of an end section, a second section connected to each of said first sections along the opposite longitudinal edge thereof and extending between said sections and the outer wall and terminating with a free edge having a projecting tongue, and a member doubled upon itself to form two parts and slotted along the division line between said parts, said member having one part received between the outer wall and said second sections and the other between the second and first named end sections and extending around said free edge of the second sections with the tongue of each passing through said slot, said member being unattached to said outer wall and end sections and being freely slidable relatively thereto when the outer wall is folded to superpose said end sections and close the bill fold, said tongues arranged to restrain such relative sliding movement when the bill fold is open.

6. A bill fold comprising, an outer wall, a pair of inner wall end sections connected in

longitudinally spaced relation to one longitudinal edge of the outer wall one near each end thereof and superposed upon the outer wall, each end edge of the outer wall being connected to the adjacent end edge of an end section, a second section connected to each of said first sections along the opposite longitudinal edge thereof and extending between said sections and the outer wall and terminating with a free edge, and a member doubled upon itself to form two parts, said member having one part received between the outer wall and said second sections and the other between the second and first named end sections and extending around said free edge of the second sections, said member being unattached to said outer wall and end sections and being freely slidable relatively thereto when the outer wall is folded to superpose said end sections and close the bill fold.

7. A bill fold comprising, an outer wall, a pair of inner wall end sections connected in longitudinally spaced relation to one longitudinal edge of the outer wall one near each end thereof and superposed upon the outer wall, each end edge of the outer wall being connected to the adjacent end edge of an end section, a second section connected to each of said first sections along the opposite longitudinal edge thereof and extending between said sections and the outer wall and terminating with a free edge having a projecting flap, and a member doubled upon itself to form two parts and slotted along the division line between said parts, said member having one part received between the outer wall and said second sections and the other between the second and first named end sections and extending around said free edge of the second sections with the flap of each passing through said slot, said member being unattached to said outer wall and end sections and being freely slidable relatively thereto when the outer wall is folded to superpose said end sections and close the bill fold, said flaps arranged to restrain such relative sliding movement when the bill fold is open and having their ends secured to the first named end sections.

8. A bill fold, comprising, an outer wall, an inner wall including end sections made up of two superposed parts, the outer of which is foldably connected along one edge to the lower edge of the outer wall and along the other edge to the inner part, said sections being of less width than the outer wall, a partition of less width than the outer wall and of greater width than the inner wall and terminating with its ends in spaced relation with the adjacent ends of the outer wall, upstanding ears on said outer parts cut out from the inner parts and serving to conceal and protect the ends of said partition, and means for connecting each of said outer parts to the adjacent end of the outer wall to close the ends thereof.

9. A bill fold, comprising, an outer wall, an inner wall including end sections made up of two superposed parts, the outer of which is foldably connected along one edge to the lower edge of the outer wall and along the other edge to the inner part, said sections being of less width than the outer wall, a partition of less width than the outer wall and of greater width than the inner wall and terminating with its ends in spaced relation with the adjacent ends of the outer wall, upstanding ears on said outer parts cut out from the inner parts and serving to conceal and protect the ends of said partition, and end flaps on said outer wall one inserted between each pair of superposed parts and adhesively secured to the outer parts to close the ends of the bill fold.

10. A bill fold, comprising, an outer wall, an inner wall consisting of two longitudinally spaced end sections connected along one end edge and one side edge to the outer wall, an intermediate section bridging the space between and partially overlapping the inner wall end sections, a flap connected to each end section along the opposite side edge thereof and extending between said intermediate section and the outer wall terminating with a free edge disposed adjacent to the first named side edge, said intermediate section being slidable relatively to at least one of said end sections and its connected flap, and a member connected to one edge of said intermediate section and extending around the free edge of at least one of said flaps and disposed between such flaps and the outer wall to partition the bill compartment formed therebetween, said member extending longitudinally along the inner face of the outer walls towards but terminating short of the ends of the latter.

11. A bill fold, comprising, an outer wall, an inner wall consisting of two longitudinally spaced end sections connected along one end edge and one side edge to the outer wall, an intermediate section bridging the space between and partially overlapping the inner wall end sections, and a member connected to each inner wall end section along the opposite side edge thereof and tucked in between such section and the outer wall and extending toward and adjacent to the first named side edge but terminating short of such edge, said intermediate section being received between said end sections and members and slidable relatively to at least one of such sections and members, said walls, sections and members being of leather or the like and said members being of material stiff enough to remain in their tucked in positions and being unsecured at their ends to the ends of the outer or inner walls, said members and the portion of the intermediate section ex-

posed therebetween forming a continuous wall substantially coextensive in length with said outer wall.

12. A bill fold, comprising, an outer wall, an inner wall consisting of two longitudinally spaced end sections connected along one end edge and one side edge to the outer wall, an intermediate section bridging the space between and partially overlapping the inner wall end sections, and a member connected to each inner wall end section along the opposite side edge thereof and extending between such section and the outer wall toward and terminating adjacent to the first named side edge with a free edge, said intermediate section being received between said end sections and members and slidable relatively to at least one of such sections and members, said walls, sections and members being of leather or the like, the adjacent corners only of said members being connected along said free edge to the adjacent end sections.

13. A bill fold, comprising, an outer wall having intermediate its ends a well-defined transversely-disposed crease forming a line of fold causing the outer wall when folded to bend along a predetermined line, an inner wall consisting of end sections disposed one on each side of said line of fold and presenting confronting pockets, and an intermediate section bridging the space between the end sections and having its ends received one in each of said pockets, said intermediate section bridging the space between the end sections and having its ends received one in each of said pockets, said intermediate section being unattached either to the outer wall or to said end sections and freely slidable in a longitudinal direction relatively thereto said intermediate section also having a well-defined transversely-disposed crease forming a line of fold causing said section when folded to bend along a predetermined line and being stiff enough to enable it to be pushed into said pockets without crumpling and without bending except along said line of fold, the crease in the intermediate section being normally positioned in overlying alignment with the crease in the outer wall and the intermediate section when displaced from such position being again restored to such position when said outer wall is folded by the crease in the intermediate section working its way into the crease in the outer wall.

14. A bill fold, comprising, outer and inner walls affording between them a bill receiving compartment, said inner wall consisting of two longitudinally spaced end sections secured to and movable with the outer wall and presenting opposed and substantially tubular confronting ends and an intermediate section having its ends slidably received one in each of said tubular ends and bridging the space therebetween, and a member partitioning the bill receiving compartment and extending substantially from end to end thereof, said member and said intermediate section being unattached either to the outer wall or to said end sections and being interconnected to move in unison and slide freely back and forth in a longitudinal direction relatively to said outer wall and to said end sections.

15. A bill fold, comprising, outer and inner walls affording between them a bill receiving compartment, said inner wall consisting of two longitudinally spaced end sections secured to and movable with the outer wall and presenting opposed and substantially tubular confronting ends and an intermediate section having its ends slidably received one in each of said tubular ends and bridging the space therebetween, a member partitioning the bill receiving compartment and extending substantially from end to end thereof, said member and said intermediate section being unattached either to the outer wall or to said end sections and being interconnected to move in unison and slide freely back and forth in a longitudinal direction relatively to said outer wall and to said end sections, said member being of slightly less length than the compartment and of a width greater than that of the inner wall, and upstanding ears on said inner wall one at each end thereof for covering, concealing and protecting the corners of said member which project beyond the inner wall.

16. A bill fold, comprising, an outer wall having intermediate its ends a transversely disposed line of fold, an inner wall comprising two longitudinally spaced end sections disposed on opposite sides of said line of fold and an intermediate section bridging the gap between said end sections and partially overlapping and slidable relatively to at least one of said end sections, each end section being integrally and foldably connected along one side edge to a side edge of the outer wall, and at least one of said end sections having a flap section integrally and foldably connected to its opposite side edge and extending between said outer wall and intermediate section toward and terminating adjacent to the first named side edge to form with the end section to which it is attached a packet to slidably receive one end of said intermediate section, and means connecting the outer and non-adjacent ends of each end section to the ends of the outer wall.

17. A bill fold, comprising, outer and inner walls affording between them a bill receiving compartent, said inner wall consisting of two longitudinally spaced end sections secured to and movable with the outer wall and an intermediate section extending across the gap between the spaced end sections and partially overlapping and slidable in a longitudinal direction relatively to at least one of said sections, at least one of said end sections being tubular to telescopically and slidably receive

the overlapping part of said intermediate section, and a member partitioning the bill receiving compartment and extending substantially from end to end thereof, said member free to slide longitudinally in said compartment relatively to at least one of said end sections and secured to said intermediate section to move therewith.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

WARNER R. BUXTON.