Sept. 4, 1934. P. A. GARDNER, JR 1,972,295

BILLFOLD

Filed Aug. 13, 1932 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

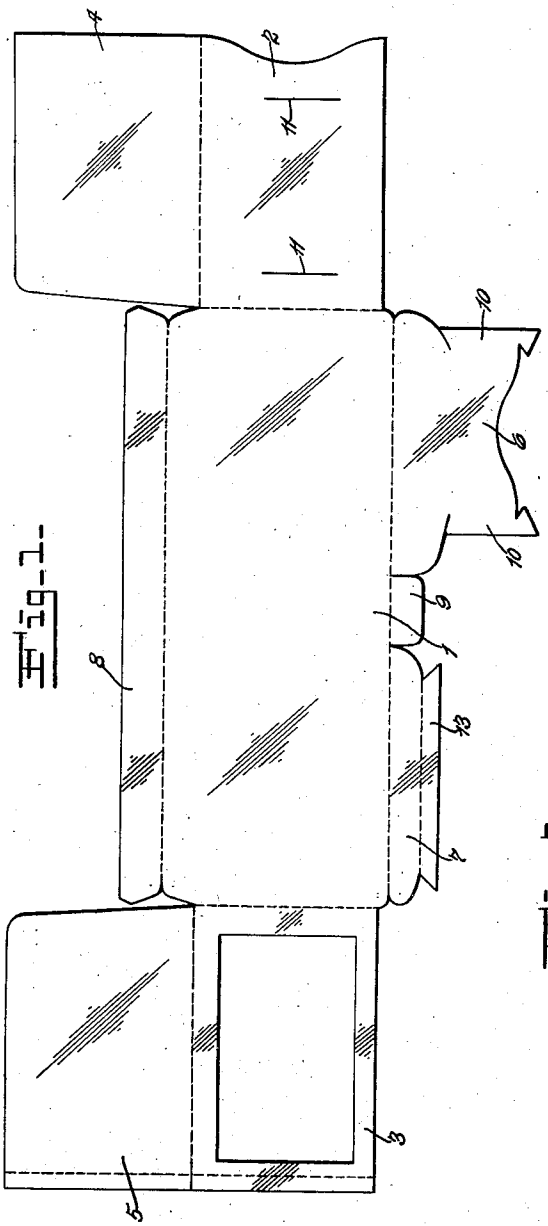


Fig. 1.

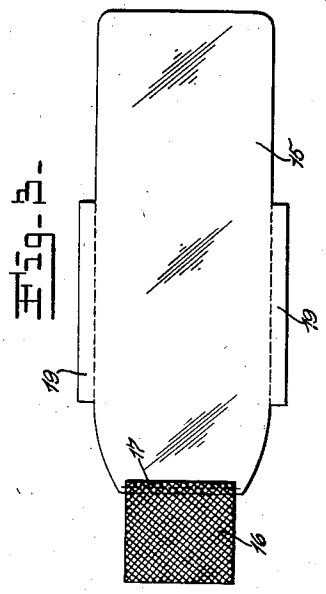


Fig. 4.

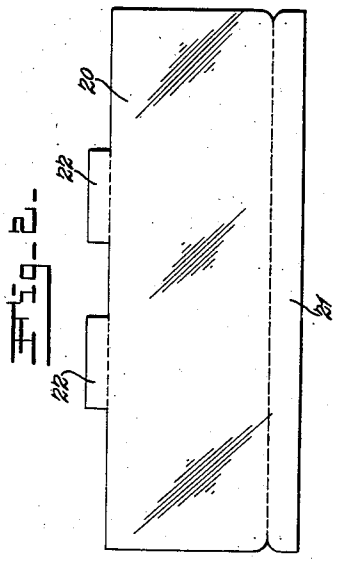


Fig. 2.

Inventor
Prince A. Gardner, Jr.
by Rippey & Kingsland
His Attorneys.

Sept. 4, 1934. P. A. GARDNER, JR 1,972,295

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Filed Aug. 13, 1932 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 4.

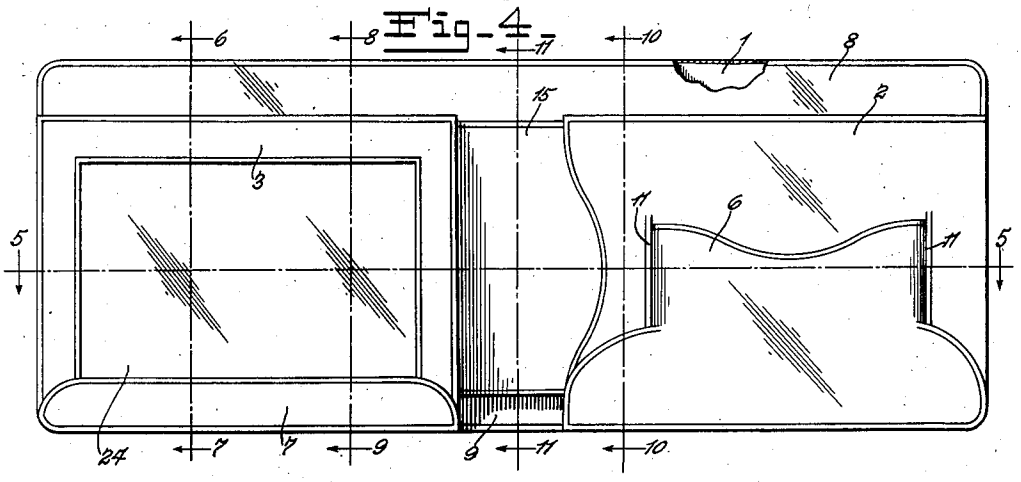


Fig. 5.

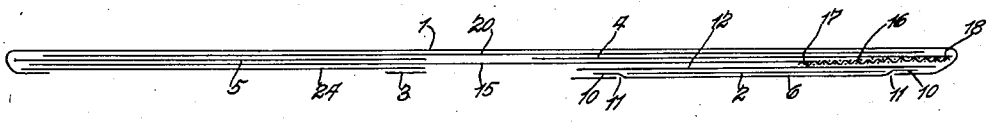


Fig. 6.

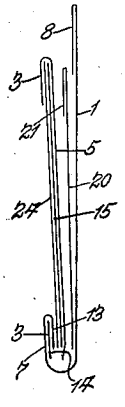


Fig. 7.

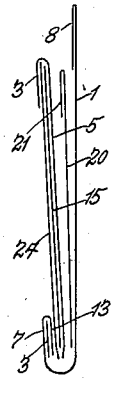


Fig. 8.

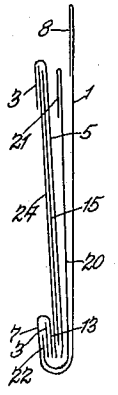


Fig. 8.

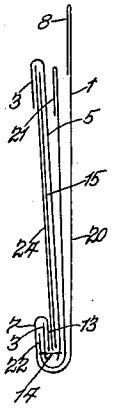


Fig. 10.

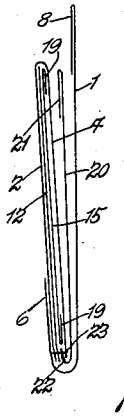
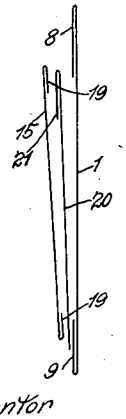


Fig. 11.



Inventor
Prince A. Gardner Jr.
by Rippey & Kingsland
His Attorneys.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,972,295

BILLFOLD

Prince A. Gardner, Jr., St. Louis, Mo.

Application August 13, 1932, Serial No. 628,628

4 Claims. (Cl. 150—38)

This invention relates to billfolds; and it has special reference to billfolds of an improved type comprising an inwardly open pocket at one end of the billfold and a frame at the opposite end of the billfold having in connection with its upper longitudinal edge a wall element extending downwardly between the frame and an outer wall, in combination with means for holding said pocket and said frame in proper cooperative relationship, and a sliding panel having one end portion extending into said pocket and the opposite end portion extending between said frame and said wall member.

An object of the invention is to provide an improved billfold comprising a unitary section of flexible and pliable material including an outer wall, an inwardly extended wall element having connection with one end and the lower longitudinal edge of said outer wall, and a wall member having connection with the upper longitudinal edge of said wall element extending downwardly between said wall element and said outer wall, said unitary section also including a frame having connection with the opposite end and lower longitudinal edge of said outer wall and provided with a wall member in connection with the upper edge thereof extending downwardly between said frame and said outer wall, in combination with a flexible and pliable panel bridging the space between said wall element and said frame, and means connecting the lower longitudinal edges of said wall member with the lower longitudinal edges of said wall element and said frame, respectively, the said connections of said wall element and said frame with the lower longitudinal edge of said outer wall covering and protecting said connecting means.

Another object of the invention is to provide an improved billfold of the character mentioned including a partition located in the compartment between the outer wall and said wall members and having a portion of its lower longitudinal edge connected with the lower longitudinal edge of one or both of said wall members in instances where such connection is desired and omitting such connection where it is desirable to do so.

Another object of the invention is to provide an improved and novel connection for holding the frame of the billfold in proper cooperative relation to the other parts.

Various other objects and advantages of this invention will appear from the following description, reference being made to the annexed drawings, in which—

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a blank designed and adapted to be folded into proper cooperative relationship to cooperate with a sliding panel and with an elongated partition to provide the bill compartment or compartments and inwardly open spaced compartments or pockets.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of a partition member for cooperation with the blank shown in Fig. 1 when said blank is properly folded and parts thereof connected together.

Fig. 3 is a plan view of a sliding panel constructed and arranged to have its ends mounted in the longitudinally spaced pockets or compartments to cooperate with the different parts thereof and with the outer wall or with the partition as herein made apparent.

Fig. 4 is an inside plan view of a billfold constructed in accordance with this invention.

Fig. 5 is a longitudinal sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a transverse sectional view on the line 6—7 of Fig. 4 showing the lower longitudinal edges of the wall member and frame connected by fastening means.

Fig. 7 is a sectional view on the same section line showing a construction in which the fastening means is omitted.

Fig. 8 is a transverse sectional view on the line 8—9 of Fig. 4 showing an extension of the partition in the elongated bill compartment extending under the wall member and frame and secured to said frame and unattached to the wall member that cooperates with said partition to form a compartment.

Fig. 9 is a similar sectional view on the line 8—9 of Fig. 4 showing the partition attached to the cooperating wall member, to the frame and to a transparent panel mounted in cooperative relation to the frame.

Fig. 10 is a transverse sectional view on the line 10—10 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 11 is a transverse sectional view on the line 11—11 of Fig. 4.

In the embodiment shown, a unitary blank is utilized to form many of the walls of the billfold. This unitary blank, as shown in Fig. 1, is made of leather, or other appropriate flexible material.

The blank shown comprises an outer wall 1, a wall element 2 and a frame 3 integrally connected with spaced edge portions of the wall 1, wall forming members 4 and 5 integrally united with the upper longitudinal edges of the wall element 2 and the frame 3, respectively, tabs 6 and 7 connected with spaced edge portions of the wall 1 at right angles to the edge portions of said wall with which the wall element 2 and the frame

3 are united, a marginal portion 8 along the upper longitudinal edge of the wall 1, and a marginal tab 9 in connection with the middle portion of the lower longitudinal edge of the wall 1.

The wall element 2 and frame 3 are folded over toward each other parallel with the wall 1, and the wall members 4 and 5 are extended downwardly between the outer wall 1 and the wall element 2 and the frame 3, respectively, to positions to cooperate with said wall element 2 and frame 3 to form inwardly open pockets closed along their upper sides by the connections uniting the wall members 4 and 5 with the wall element 2 and frame 3, respectively.

Spaced portions of the lower side of the compartment between the outer wall 1 and the wall members 4 and 5 are closed by the tabs 6 and 7 which are extended upwardly and connected with the lower portions of the wall element 2 and the frame 3, respectively. The tab 6 has tongues 10 on its inner and outer ends which are extended through slits 11 in the wall element 2 and preferably secured therein by a lining 12 adhesively attached to the inner surface of the wall element 2 and to said tongues and covering said tongues to prevent articles from engaging or becoming entangled therewith when articles are inserted in or removed from the pocket or space between the wall element 2 and the wall member 4. If desired, the extended end portions of the tab 6 below the tongues 10 may be attached to the outer surface of the wall element 2 by glue, or other fastening means; although, if desired, the tab 6 may be unattached to the outer surface of the wall element 2.

The tab 7, as shown, is provided with an extension 13 designed and adapted to be extended through the frame 3 and thence downwardly against and attached to the lower portion of said frame by glue, or other appropriate fastening means.

As indicated, the wall members 4 and 5 extend downwardly between the outer wall 1 and the wall element 2 and frame 3, respectively. In this folded and assembled relationship, the wall element 2 and frame 3 are separated by an intervening space. The lower marginal portion of the inner side of the wall 1 in this intervening space is covered by the tab 9 which is folded upwardly against and attached to the inner surface of the wall 1 to provide an ornamental finish. The marginal portion 8 is folded downwardly along the inner side of the upper marginal portion of the wall 1 and secured thereto by glue, or other fastening means, to provide an ornamental finish, although the tab 9 and the marginal portion 8 may well be omitted, if desired.

As shown in Fig. 6, the lower longitudinal marginal portions of the wall member 5 and the frame 3 may be attached together by a row of stitches 14, or other appropriate fastening means. Or, as shown in Fig. 7, the lower longitudinal marginal portions of the wall member 5 and frame 3 may be left unattached, the lower side of the pocket between said wall member 5 and frame 3 being closed by the tab 7. Thus, it is optional whether the lower longitudinal edges of the frame 3 and wall member 5 are connected or not.

A panel 15 of flexible and pliable material bridges the space between the inwardly open pockets and has its ends extending into said pockets. As shown, a section 16 of flexible and pliable material is attached to one end of said panel 15 by a row of stitches 17 and the opposite end of said panel is attached to the end of the wall member 4 by stitches 18. However, if desired, this connecting section 16 may be omitted and the panel 15 may be otherwise connected with the wall member 4, or not as desired. The opposite end of the panel 15 extends into the pocket between the frame 3 and the wall member 5 and, if desired, may be attached to said wall member 5 by glue, or other appropriate fastening means. Whether the panel 15 be attached to the wall member 5 or not, the flexible and pliable section 16 permits free sliding movements of the panel 15, so that said panel will not buckle when the billfold is folded transversely between the inwardly open pockets, irrespective of the amount of contents of the billfold. The upper and lower marginal edges of the panel 15 may be provided with flanges 19 to be folded against and secured to the inner surface of said panel that is toward the wall members 4 and 5. However, these flanges may be omitted, if desired, without departure from the principle of the invention.

A billfold thus constructed is complete and will comprise an elongated compartment formed by the outer wall 1, and by the wall members 4 and 5 in cooperation with the panel 15. However, in some instances I prefer to embody in the billfold a partition 20 made of flexible and pliable material. The blank of this partition is shown in Fig. 2 and may be provided along its upper longitudinal edge with a flange 21 designed and adapted to be folded downwardly against the unfinished side thereof to form an ornamental upper margin. In connection with its lower longitudinal edge this partition is provided with spaced extensions 22. One of these extensions 22 is designed and adapted to extend under the lower longitudinal edge of the wall member 4 and upwardly between said wall member 4 and the wall element 2, or elsewhere as desired, and engaged by stitches 23, or other appropriate fastening means, employed to connect the lower longitudinal edges of the wall element 2 and wall member 4. These stitches do not extend through the wall 1 nor through the sliding panel 15 and preferably do not extend through the partition 20, but only extend through the extension 22 and through the wall element 2 and wall member 4. These stitches are covered and concealed and protected by the tab 6 when the billfold is complete.

The other extension 22 of the partition 20 may extend below the wall member 5, panel 15, frame 3 and attached to the outer portion of said frame, as shown in Fig. 8. This attachment of the extension 22 to the lower portion of the frame 3 may be by glue, or other suitable fastening means. Or the stitches 14 may pass through the extension 22, frame 3, and wall member 5 and below the panel 15, as shown in Fig. 9. Thus, the attachment of the lower longitudinal edges of the partition 20 with the lower longitudinal edges of the inwardly open pocket forming means may be obtained in optional ways.

If desired, a panel 24 of transparent material may be placed at the inner side of the frame 3 to close the opening in said frame. This panel may be attached to the inner side of the frame 3 by glue, or other appropriate fastening means, or may be unattached to said frame for convenient withdrawal and replacement, or for other purposes as desired.

The billfold may be made with other variations than those specifically indicated without departure from the nature and principle of the invention. And the stitches, or other fastening means,

uniting co-operating parts of the billfold may be concealed and protected otherwise than in the specific manner shown and described. I contemplate such variations as are within the scope of the invention and, without restricting myself in any unessential particulars, I claim:

1. A billfold comprising a unitary section of flexible and pliable material folded to provide an outer wall and inwardly extending wall portions in connection with one end and the adjacent portion of a lower longitudinal edge of the outer wall forming an inwardly open pocket and an inwardly extended frame in connection with the opposite end and adjacent lower longitudinal edge portion of the outer wall and a wall member in connection with the upper longitudinal edge of said frame extending downwardly between said frame and said outer wall, said frame and said wall member being spaced from the adjacent end of said pocket; fastening means attaching the lower longitudinal marginal portions of said wall member and said frame covered and concealed by said connection uniting the lower longitudinal edge of said outer wall with said frame, and a flexible and pliable panel bridging the space between said pocket and said wall member and having one end extending into said pocket and the opposite end extending between said frame and said wall member.

2. A billfold comprising a unitary section of flexible and pliable material having an outer wall provided with an inwardly extended wall element at one end and an inwardly extended frame at the other end spaced from said wall element and wall members in connection with the upper longitudinal edges of and extending downwardly between said wall element and said frame respectively and said outer wall and having their outer ends unattached to any portion of said unitary section; fastening means attaching the lower longitudinal marginal portions of said wall members to said wall element and said frame respectively, tabs in connection with the lower longitudinal edge of said outer wall attached to said wall element and said frame respectively and covering and protecting said respective fastening means, a flexible and pliable panel overlapping said wall members and cooperating therewith and with said outer wall to form an elongated bill compartment, the ends of said panel being connected with said wall members and otherwise unattached to the billfold, and a partition in said compartment connected with said fastening means.

3. A billfold comprising a unitary section of flexible and pliable material having an outer wall provided with an inwardly extended wall element at one end and an inwardly extended frame at the other end spaced from said wall element and wall members in connection with the upper longitudinal edges of and extending downwardly between said wall element and said frame respectively and said outer wall and having their outer ends unattached to any portion of said unitary section; fastening means attaching the lower longitudinal marginal portions of said wall members to said wall element and said frame respectively, tabs in connection with the lower longitudinal edge of said outer wall attached to said wall element and said frame respectively and covering and protecting said respective fastening means, a flexible and pliable panel overlapping said wall members and cooperating therewith and with said outer wall to form an elongated bill compartment, the ends of said panel being connected with said wall members and otherwise unattached to the billfold, and a partition in said compartment having portions inwardly from the ends thereof connected with said fastening means, the end portions of said partition being unattached to any portion of the billfold.

4. A billfold comprising a unitary section of flexible and pliable material including an outer wall and an inwardly extended frame at one end portion of said outer wall and an inwardly extended wall element at the other end of said outer wall spaced from said frame and wall members in connection with the upper longitudinal edges of and extending downwardly between said outer wall and said frame and said wall element respectively; fastening means connecting the lower longitudinal edges of said wall members with said frame and said wall element respectively and leaving the ends of said wall members unattached to any part of said unitary section, said unitary section also including tabs in connection with said outer wall attached to said frame and said wall element respectively and covering and protecting said fastening means, a flexible and pliable panel extending from connection with one of said wall members and bridging the space between them and overlapping the other wall member, a transparent window located between said frame and the wall member that is in connection therewith, and a partition between said outer wall and said wall members having its ends unattached to any portion of the billfold and having portions spaced from its ends engaging said fastening means.

PRINCE A. GARDNER, JR.