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POCKETBOOK WITH RESILIENT INTERENGAGEABLE EDGES FOR CLOSURE OF SAME

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This invention relates to pocket-books, and more particularly, to a pocket-book having opening edges of a novel configuration adapted to mutually interengage so as to maintain the pocket-book closed.

It is a primary object of the invention to provide a pocket-book which may be quickly and easily opened and closed and yet have a construction which is simple, durable and economical to manufacture.

The pocket-book of the present invention is provided with a longitudinal opening along its upper portion, the opening being laterally bounded by a pair of opposed upper edges movable toward and away from each other so as to close and open the pocket-book. Each of the upper edges of the particular embodiment of the invention as shown in the drawing and described hereinbelow is provided with a substantially concave surface forming a recess and a substantially convex surface forming a rounded projection extending upwardly and projecting toward and over the recess. The upper edges are resilient whereby when they are moved laterally into closed abutting position the projection on each edge will extend through recess of the other edge and abut against the exterior face of the projection of the other edge.

It will thus be seen that the two edges will be mutually interengaged or interlocked and that the abutting exterior faces of the projections will maintain the upper edges of the pocketbook in closed interengaged relation.

The resilient nature and the interengageable configuration of the opening edges are provided by a novel, economical and durable frame construction. The frame comprises a pair of pivotally mounted frame members having upper edge sections extending horizontally in side-by-side relation. The upper edge sections of the frame members are resilient and extend in a continuous integral fashion, first downwardly, then curvilinearly upwardly, and then curvilinearly downwardly so as to provide the above noted rounded projecting portions and concave recess portions. Each of the frame members is mounted within one of the flexible lateral walls of the pocket-book, the upper edges of the walls conforming to the configuration of the upper edge sections of the frame members so as to provide that the upper opening edges of the pocket-book have the desired interengageable configurations.

It is to be understood that the particular embodiment of the invention shown in the drawing

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and described in more detail hereinbelow is intended to be merely illustrative of one of the many forms that the invention may take in practice and is not to limit the scope of the invention, the latter being delineated in the appended claims.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of a pocketbook embodying the invention and shows the upper opening edges of the pocket-book in closed interengaged relation;

Fig. 2 is a side elevational view of the frame showing the latter removed from the pocket-book and its upper edge sections interengaged;

Fig. 3 is an end elevational view of the frame, the dash-dot lines illustrating the position of the frame members when pivoted outwardly to open the pocket-book;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing the upper edges of the pocket-book in open relation; and

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the upper edge sections of the frame members in open disengaged relation.

Referring first to Figs. 1 to 4 of the drawing, the pocket-book constructed in accordance with the present invention is provided with a pair of lateral walls 11, 12 secured at their opposite ends to a pair of end walls 13, 14. The latter are provided with suitable fold-lines, as at 15, whereby the lateral walls 11, 12 may be brought together into closed relationship along their upper edges indicated generally at 16, 17, respectively.

The lateral walls 11, 12 are rigidly braced by a pocket-book frame indicated generally by the reference numeral 18. As shown in Figs. 2 and 3 the frame 18 comprises a pair of frame members 19, 20 each having a horizontal upper edge section 21, 22, respectively. The opposite ends of the latter are provided with downwardly extending end sections 23, 24, 25 and 26. As best seen by the solid lines in Fig. 3, when the pocket-book is closed the end sections 23, 24, 25 and 26 extend downwardly and laterally outwardly. At their lower portions the end sections curve inwardly as at 23', 24' and are pivoted together by means of any suitable pivotal attachment indicated at 27. It will be understood that end section 23 is pivotally mounted to end section 24, whereas end section 25 is pivotally mounted to end section 26, thereby enabling the frame members 19, 20 to be pivoted laterally toward and away from each other so as to close and open the pocket-book as desired.

As shown by the broken away portions in Fig. 1 the lateral wall 11 of the pocket-book comprises

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an interior sheet of material or lining 11' and an exterior sheet of material or cover 11''. Similarly the lateral wall 12 is formed of an exterior cover 12'' and an interior lining 12'. The frame member 19 is positioned between the exterior cover 12'' and the interior lining 12' whereas the frame member 20 extends between the interior lining 11' and the exterior cover 11''. It will thus be seen that the frame member 18 is neatly positioned and concealed within the fabric or other flexible material forming the pocket-book.

Referring now to Figs. 2 and 5, the upper edge sections 21, 22 of the frame members 19, 20 are of such a configuration as to enable them to resiliently interengage so as to maintain the pocket-book closed. In more detail, the upper edge section 21 is rounded at its portion 28 continuous with the downwardly extending end section 25. The upper edge section 21 then extends downwardly as at 29, then curvilinearly as at 30, then upwardly as at 31, then curvilinearly at 32 and downwardly as at 33 to the opposite end vertical section 23. It will thus be seen that the portions 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33 of the upper edge sections 21 form a concave recess 34 and a rounded upwardly extending projection 35 extending above and somewhat over the recess 34. The upper edge section 22 is similarly shaped so as to provide a rounded upwardly extending projection 35 and a concave recess portion 37. It will be noted that the configurations of the upper edge sections 21, 22 are identical except that they are reversed; that is, the projections 35 and 36 are on opposite sides of the recess 34, 37 and face or project toward each other. Since the upper edges 16, 17 of the lateral walls 11, 12 conform to the configurations of the upper edge sections 21, 22, it will be seen that the upper edges 16, 17 are of substantially the same configuration as described above with respect to the upper edge section 21 and are each provided with rounded projecting portion 36', 35' extending above and somewhat over the concaved recessed portions 37', 34' respectively.

When the pocket-book is closed, as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3, each of the rounded projections 35', 36' extends through the recess 37' or 34' of the other edge in such manner that the exterior surfaces of the projections abut so as to maintain the upper edges 16, 17 of the pocket-book in a locked or interengaged relation. Since the frame members 19, 20 are formed of resilient material, the upper edge sections 16, 17 may be quickly and easily engaged or disengaged as may be desired by a simple manipulation on the part of the operator. As best seen in Fig. 3, the rounded projecting portions 35 are preferably bent laterally inwardly so as to facilitate the interengagement and disengagement of the upper edges 16, 17.

Having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is as follows:

1. A pocket-book comprising a pair of resilient frame members each having a longitudinal upper edge, said upper edges extending in side-by-side relationship, means mounting said frame members for relative lateral movement of said upper edges toward and away from each other, each of said upper edges being resilient and having an upwardly extending arcuate portion integral and continuous therewith, said arcuate portions being interengageable so as to restrain said edges

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against lateral movement away from each other and to maintain the pocket-book closed, and a pair of flexible pocket-book walls each secured to a respective one of said frame members, each of said walls having an upper edge having an upwardly extending arcuate portion and conforming with and covering the upper edge of the respective frame member.

2. A pocket-book frame comprising a pair of resilient frame members each having a longitudinal upper edge section and a pair of downwardly extending end sections integral therewith, said upper edge sections extending in side-by-side relationship, means pivotally securing said frame members to each other for relative lateral movement of said upper edge sections toward and away from each other, each of said upper edge sections comprising a longitudinal strip of material of uniform cross-section throughout its length and extending continuously integral for a portion of its length first downwardly, then curvilinearly upwardly, then curvilinearly downwardly so as to provide a rounded upwardly-projecting portion adjacent a concave recessed portion, said upper edge sections being yieldable and the projecting portion of each edge being interengageable with the recess and the projecting portion of the other edge.

3. In combination, a pocket-book frame comprising a pair of resilient frame members each having a longitudinal upper edge, said upper edges extending in side-by-side relationship, means pivotally securing said frame members for relative lateral movement of said upper edges toward and away from each other, each of said upper edges having a substantially concave surface forming a recess and a substantially convex surface forming a projection extending upwardly and projecting toward and over said recess, said projections projecting longitudinally of the pocket-book in opposite directions toward each other, said upper edges being resilient whereby when the latter are moved laterally into closed position the projection on each edge may be positioned so as to extend through the recess of the other edge and abut against the exterior face of the projection of said other edge, the abutting exterior faces of the projections maintaining the upper edges of the pocket-book in closed interengaged relation, and a covering for the frame comprising a pair of walls each having an upper edge with concave and convex portions conforming with the configuration of a respective one of said frame member upper edges.

4. A pocket-book frame as set forth in claim 3 wherein each of said projections extends laterally inwardly so as to facilitate the interengagement of the edges.

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