July 30, 1940. M. E. TROLLEN 2,209,486

BILLFOLD

Filed May 5, 1938 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

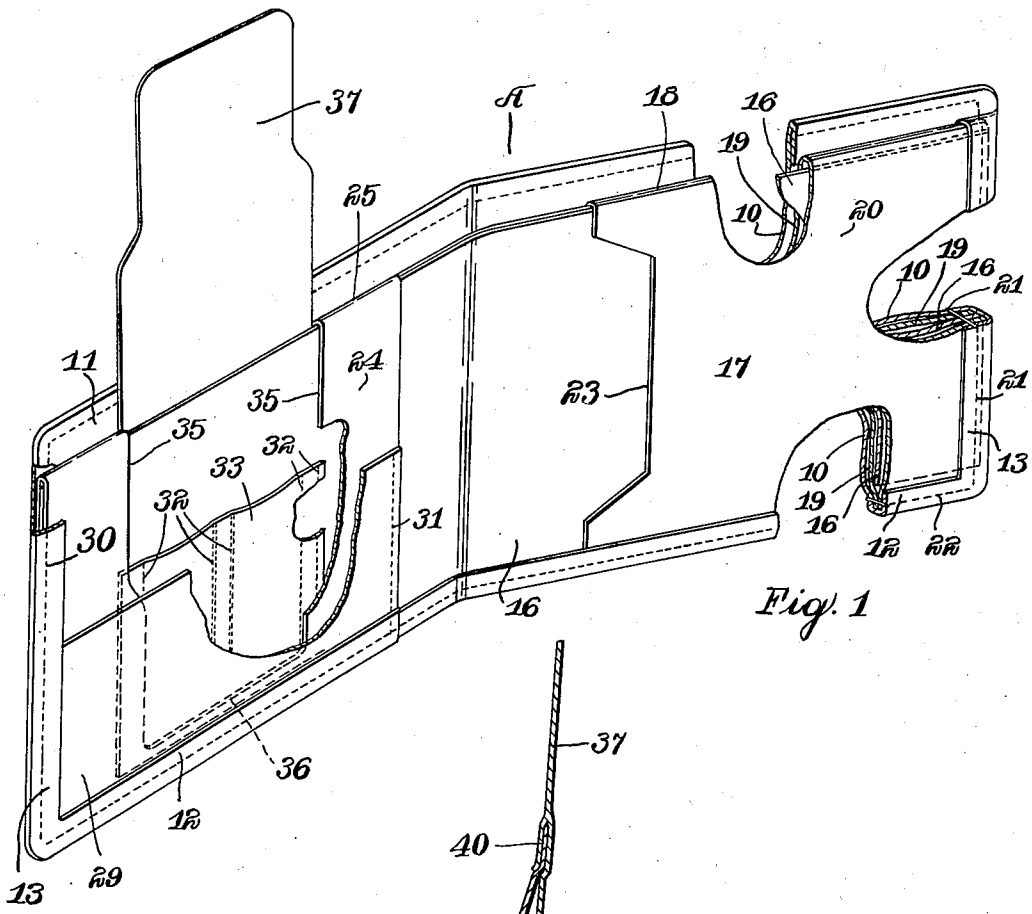


Fig. 1

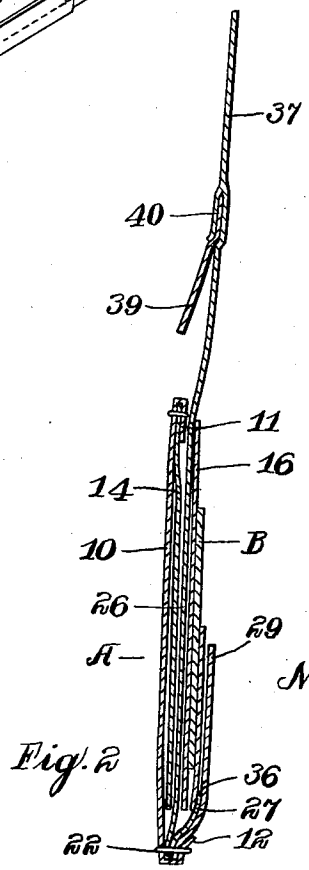


Fig. 2

Martin E. Trollen
INVENTOR.

BY Howard Fiele

ATTORNEYS.

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BILLFOLD

Filed May 5, 1938 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

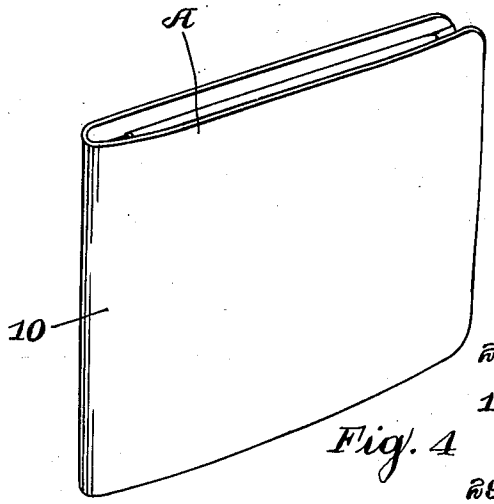


Fig. 4

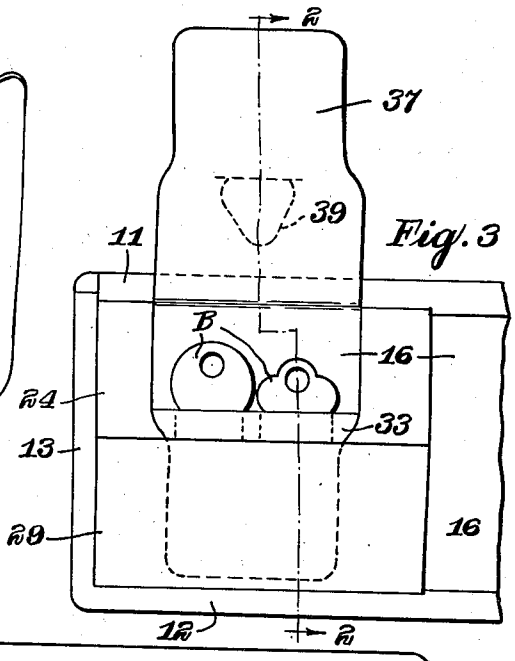


Fig. 3

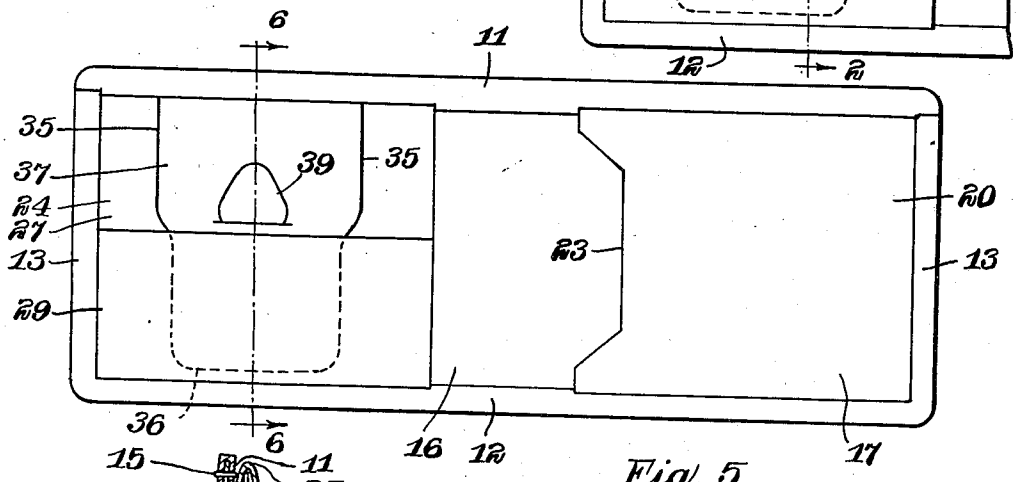


Fig. 5

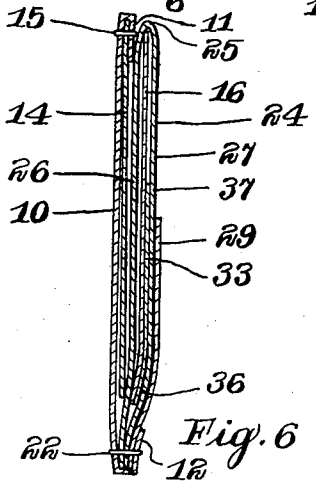


Fig. 6

Martin E. Trollen
INVENTOR.

BY Howard Fisher
ATTORNEYS.

Patented July 30, 1940 2,209,486

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,209,486

BILLFOLD

Martin E. Trollen, St. Paul, Minn., assignor to Brown & Bigelow, St. Paul, Minn., a corporation of Minnesota

Application May 5, 1938, Serial No. 206,188

6 Claims. (Cl. 150—35)

My invention relates to an improvement in billfolds, wherein it is desired to provide a billfold in which may be conveniently contained a series of keys.

Various types of billfolds have previously been constructed in which keys have been contained. Most of these billfolds have contained a separate fold in which a series of hooks have been suspended for removably engaging the keys. The only billfold with which I am familiar which does not include such a key supporting means encloses keys in an inner pocket in such a manner that it is difficult to remove the keys without opening up the entire billfold. The use of key supporting means in a billfold of this type necessarily increases the thickness of the billfold very materially, and for this reason is disadvantageous in its construction. A key case containing such key suspending means is necessarily quite thick, and the provision of a billfold in addition makes the billfold extremely thick and undesirable.

It is a purpose of the present invention to provide a billfold embodying pockets which are adapted to contain keys and which are enclosed by a cover flap means which may be disengaged to expose the keys without opening the billfold or disturbing the contents thereof. With such a construction the contents of the billfold are not displayed when a key is being inserted or removed, and the key may be more readily inserted or removed with a minimum of effort.

It is a further purpose of my invention to provide a billfold having an outer covering and an inner covering which comprises a fold of leather or fabric material. With this design it is possible for me to cut a key covering flap from the fold of material and thus to construct the billfold with the fewest possible number of parts. By cutting the flap directly from the fold forming the inner wall of the billfold, it is possible by the mere addition of a pocket forming portion and a flap engaging portion to complete the billfold in a simple and effective manner.

It is a further purpose of my invention to provide a billfold having outer and inner walls between which currency may be contained, and to form a pocket normally concealed but opening out on the inner wall of the billfold when the same has been opened flat. Thus the pocket and cover flap for the same are normally concealed by the central fold of the billfold, but may be readily seen when the billfold is folded out into flat position without exposing any of the other contents of the billfold.

It is a further feature of my invention to provide a construction in which the keys are readily available from an external surface of the billfold when the same is in unfolded position, so that the keys may be easily and readily removed therefrom. The simplicity of the construction is a decided advantage, as if the keys are hard to insert and remove, this portion of the case will not be used and a separate key case would be used in place thereof.

These and other objects and novel features of my invention will be more clearly and fully set forth in the following specification and claims.

In the drawings forming a part of my specification:

Figure 1 illustrates my billfold and key case in open or unfolded position with parts of the same cut away to show the construction thereof.

Figure 2 is a cross-sectional view taken on a line 2—2 of Figure 3.

Figure 3 is a front elevation view of the billfold with the key receiving pocket flap open.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the billfold in closed position.

Figure 5 is a front elevation view of the billfold in unfolded position with the key pocket closed.

Figure 6 is a sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of Figure 5.

The billfold A comprises an outer cover member 10 having an upper inturned marginal edge 11, a lower inturned overlapping edge 12, and end marginal inturned edges 13. A flat sheet of leather, fabric or other material 14 is enclosed between the cover sheet 10 and the folded marginal edge 11, but does not extend beneath the inturned edges 13. A row of stitching 15 may be provided to secure the folded marginal edge 11 to the outer cover 10, and this stitching extends through an edge of the flat partition sheet 14. Accordingly, this partition sheet 14 provides a secret compartment between the sheet 14 and the outer wall 11, and currency or other papers may be inserted between the members 10 and 14 and be concealed from sight even when the billfold is open.

Extending from one end to the other of the billfold A, I provide a partition wall member 16 which is spaced from the lower edge of the outer covering 10. Extending about this partition member 16, I provide at one end of the case a fold 17, as illustrated best in Figure 1 of the drawings. This fold 17 is formed of a single sheet of material centrally folded at 18 over the upper edge of the partition wall 16, providing an inner fold portion 19 and an outer fold portion 20. The folded wall 17 is secured by a row of stitching 21 together with the partition wall 16 within the inturned marginal edge 13. In other words, the stitching 21 extends through the outer covering member 10, the inturned marginal edge 13, and through the folded portions 19 and 20 of the fold member 17 as well as through the central partition member 16. Opposite the folded edge 18, the edges of the folded sheet 17 are secured by a row of stitching 22 between the outer covering

member 10 and the inturned marginal edge 12. The partition wall 16 as has been stated, extends above the stitching 22.

The fold member 17 thus forms a pocket opening at 23 and having a similar opening on the inner side. This pocket may be used for cards, identifying indicia, or other papers.

On the opposite end of the billfold A, I provide a folded pocket sheet 24 which is centrally folded at 25 over the upper edge of the central partition 16. The lower free edges of the inner wall 26 and outer wall 27 are secured between the inturned lower marginal edge 12, and the outer covering member by the row of stitching 22. Also enclosed within the inturned marginal edge 12, is a retaining pocket flap 29 which is coextensive in width with the folded sheet 24.

One end of the inner portion 26 and outer portion 27 of the fold 24 is enclosed within the inturned edge 13 on the end of the billfold. These portions are held in proper position by a row of stitching 30 which extends through the cover 10 and the inturned marginal edge 13, as well as through the partition member 16 and opposite sides 26 and 27 of the folded sheet 24. Also enclosed within the marginal edge 13 and secured by the stitching 30 is the end of the flap 29.

It will be seen that the construction described to the present time includes a billfold having an outer covering member, an inner wall formed by the partition 16, and opposed pockets formed by the folded sheets 17 and 24. The retaining pocket flap 29 is stitched to the folded sheet 24 by the stitching 31.

Stitched to the central partition wall 16 by parallel rows of stitching 32, I provide a pocket member 33. This pocket member 33 is divided into a series of vertically extending pockets by the stitching 32. These pockets formed by the members 33 and the stitching 32 are of sufficient size to contain a series of keys B as illustrated in Figures 2 and 3 of the drawings.

In order to gain ready access to the pockets thus formed, I cut the folded sheet 24 along the vertically extending lines 35 and transversely along a line 36 spaced from the lower edge of the outer portion 27 of the sheet 24. These vertical lines 35 extend to the upper fold 25. Thus a flap 37 is formed which may normally fit in its usual position in the folded sheet from which it was cut, being retained in this position by the pocket retaining flap 29. However, when it is desired to obtain a key within the pockets formed by the member 33 or to insert a key therein, it is only necessary to unfold the flap 37 into the position illustrated in Figures 1 and 3 of the drawings, whereupon the keys B will be instantly available. When a key is not being inserted or removed, the flap 37 is held in place by the retaining flap 29.

In order to facilitate the opening of the pocket flap 37, I provide a tab 39 having an end 40 embedded within a portion of the flap 37. By engagement of this tab 39, the flap 37 may be pulled out from behind the flap retaining member 29.

It will be noted that when the billfold A is closed as in Figure 4 of the drawings, the key covering flap 37 is concealed from view. However, by merely opening the billfold A into position illustrated in Figure 5 of the drawings, the flap 37 may be pulled from behind the retaining flap 29 into the position illustrated in Figures 1, 2, and 3. The pockets are then exposed and the keys may be inserted or removed at will.

In accordance with the patent statutes, I have described the principles of construction and operation of my billfold; and while I have endeavored to set forth the best embodiment thereof, I desire to have it understood that this is only illustrative of a means of carrying out my invention, and that obvious changes may be made within the scope of the following claims without departing from the spirit of my invention.

I claim:

1. A billfold comprising an outer covering wall, an inner wall secured at both ends thereto, a sheet covering a portion of both sides of said inner wall member and secured to said outer covering wall along one edge thereof, a covering flap formed in said covering member, and pockets formed on said inner wall within said covering flap and normally concealed thereby.

2. A billfold comprising an outer covering wall, an inner wall secured at its ends to said outer wall, a folded sheet extending partially the length of said inner wall to enclose a portion of the same, said folded sheet secured at its free edges to an edge of said outer wall between said ends, a flap formed in said folded sheet, and pocket means secured to said inner wall at a point normally concealed by said flap.

3. A billfold comprising an outer covering wall, an inner wall secured at its ends to said outer wall, a folded sheet extending a portion of the length of said inner wall to enclose a portion of the same, and secured marginally to said outer covering wall to form a bill pocket therebetween, a flap formed in said folded sheet which when open will expose a part of said concealed portion of said inner wall, and key retaining means mounted on said inner wall within said flap to be exposed when said flap is in open position.

4. A billfold comprising an outer covering wall, an inner wall secured at its ends thereto, a folded sheet terminating adjacent one end of said inner wall and extending a portion of the length thereof to conceal a portion of both sides of said inner wall, means securing said folded sheet marginally to said outer covering wall to form a bill pocket therebetween, a flap cut in said folded sheet to expose a portion of the concealed portion of said inner wall, and key retaining means secured to said inner wall within said flap.

5. A billfold comprising an outer wall, an inner wall secured at its ends to said outer wall, a folded sheet enclosing a portion of said inner wall to normally conceal a portion of the same, a flap formed in said folded sheet, a retaining flap secured to said folded sheet providing a pocket and acting to retain said first named flap in closed position, and key supporting means secured to said inner wall within said first named flap adapted to contain keys.

6. A billfold comprising an outer covering member, an inner wall secured at its ends to said outer cover member, a folded sheet enclosing a portion of said inner wall, means securing the edges of said sheet opposite said fold to said outer cover member along one edge of the same, a flap formed in said folded sheet, a retaining flap secured adjacent said secured edges of said folded sheet for forming a pocket and for retaining said first named flap normally in folded position, and key supporting means secured to said inner wall within said flap and normally concealed thereby, said key supporting means positioned to expose keys supported thereby when said first named flap is in open position.

MARTIN E. TROLLEN.