Nov. 4, 1947. D. J. BROUGHTON 2,429,979

FLEXIBLE POCKET RECEPTACLE

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Fig. 1.

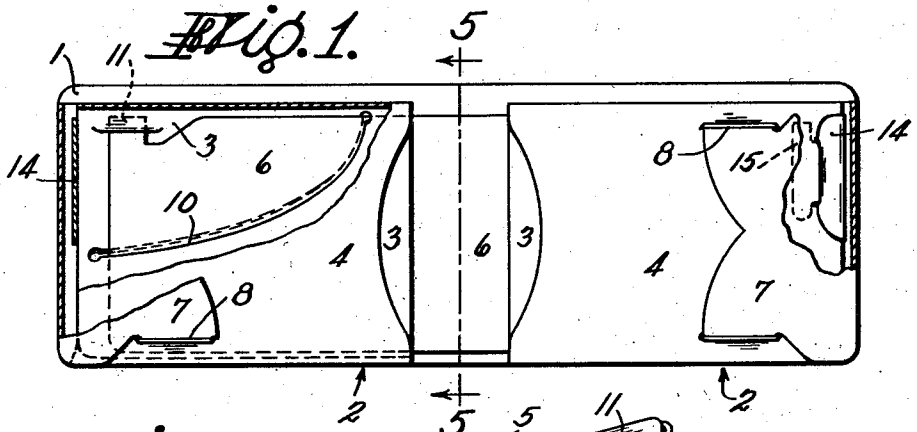


Fig. 2.

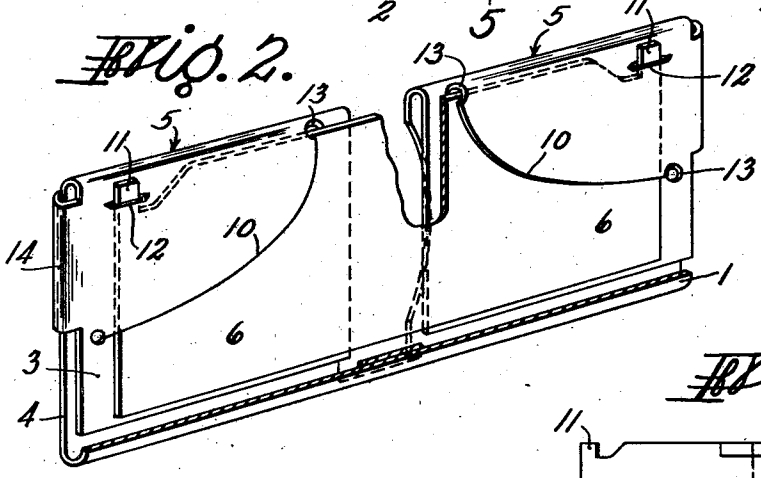


Fig. 4.

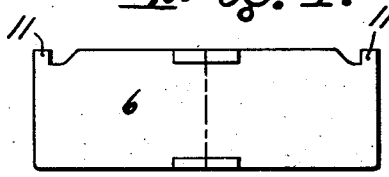


Fig. 3.

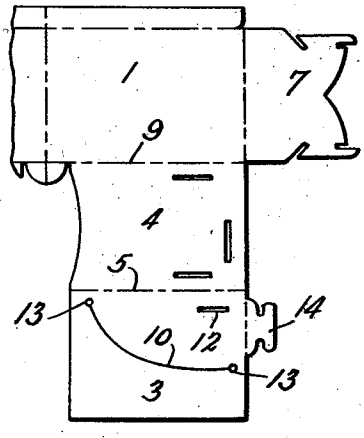
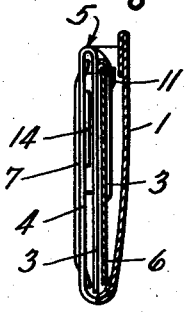


Fig. 5.



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Fig. 6.

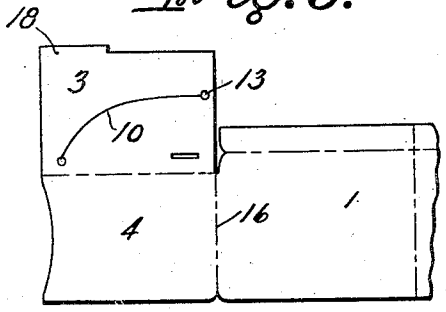


Fig. 7.

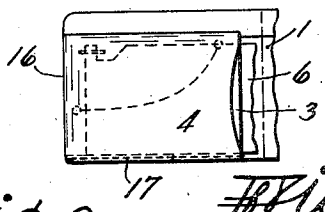


Fig. 8.

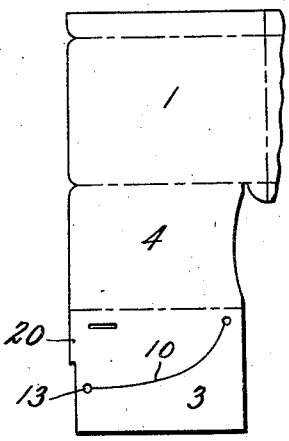


Fig. 9.

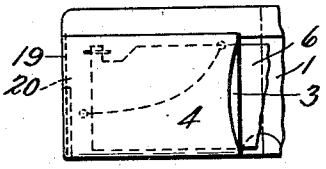


Fig. 11.

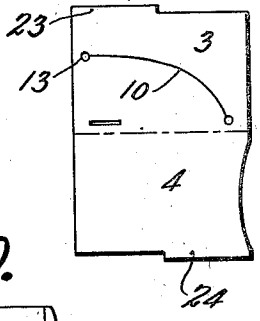


Fig. 10.

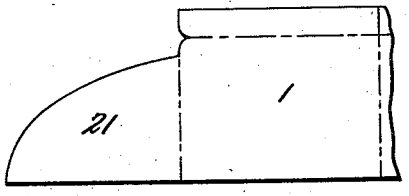


Fig. 12.

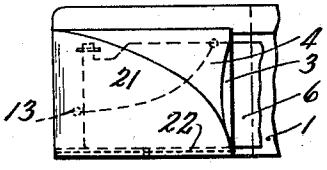


Fig. 13.

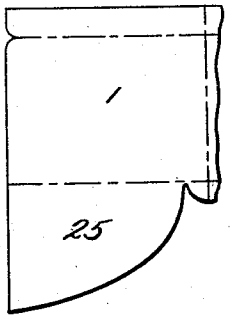


Fig. 14.

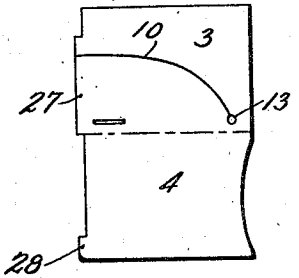
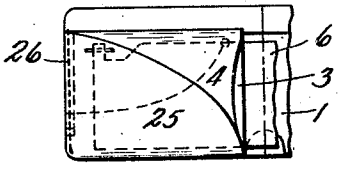


Fig. 15.



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FLEXIBLE POCKET RECEPTACLE

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Application August 9, 1945, Serial No. 609,816

2 Claims. (Cl. 150—38)

1

This invention relates to an improvement in flexible pocket receptacles such as billfolds and more particularly to an improved construction of the front wall elements which provide for expansion and contraction of the latter wall as the billfold is opened and closed.

In one form of billfold it is customary to construct the front wall with at least one two-ply, generally tubular, end section, within which at least one end of an intermediate wall member telescopes. Preferably both end sections of the billfold are so constructed, with the opposite ends of the intermediate wall member slidable in the adjacent end section. The average billfold user utilizes the space between the intermediate wall member and the outer wall of the tubular member, in which it slides, as a pocket for carrying cards and the like. To meet the increasing demand for card carrying capacity in a billfold it is customary to insert a partition wall in this space and also to add in various ways, additional wall members to the end sections to provide additional pockets. Such partitions and additional wall members result in increasing the thickness of the billfold and in a stiffer, less flexible structure.

It is the principal object of my present invention to construct the end sections, one or both of them, so that a partitioned pocket is provided in front of the intermediate wall member in a manner such that the billfold is not only not substantially thickened or stiffened but is in fact rendered more flexible and permitting additional pockets to be added with minimum adverse effect on the general flexibility of the billfold.

A further object is to secure a better distribution of the leather in the front wall so that the whole is more uniformly flexible.

A further object is to reduce the resistance to relative movement of the intermediate wall with respect to the other elements at the front wall.

Another object is to provide a construction having the above advantages which is adapted to use in a wide variety of billfold constructions both in constructions where no stitching is used and in constructions in which varying amounts of stitching are employed.

These and other objects will be made apparent in the following specification and claims.

In the accompanying drawings,

Fig. 1 is a front elevational view of a billfold of a construction in which no stitching is used and embodying my invention, parts being broken away;

Fig. 2 is a generally perspective view of the rear face of the front wall of the billfold of Fig. 1 the rear wall and end closing members and part of the intermediate wall member being broken away.

Fig. 3 is a plan view, on a smaller scale, of half of the blank from which the body of the billfold of Fig. 1 is folded up;

Fig. 4 is a detail view of the intermediate wall member;

Fig. 5 is a sectional view substantially on line 5—5 of Fig. 1; and

Figs. 6 to 15 inclusive show how the invention may be applied to illustrative types of billfolds some parts of which are stitched.

Referring to Figs. 1 to 5 inclusive the billfold is shown as including a rear wall 1 and a front wall comprising two-ply end sections generally indicated at 2 which include inner and outer plies 3 and 4 respectively which are connected together along their upper edges by a fold 5 and an intermediate wall member 6. In the form of billfold shown in these figures the ends of the rear wall are provided with flaps 7 which are folded over on and interlocked, as indicated at 8, with the outer ply 4 of the adjacent end section to thereby connect the ends of the rear and front walls to close the ends of the billfold. The particular manner in which the ends of the billfold are closed is not a feature of the present invention, and as will later be more fully shown any suitable means for closing the ends or bottom of the billfold may be employed. In the form of constructions shown in the figures under discussion the lower edges of the outer plies 4 are unitarily connected to the lower edge of the rear wall by fold 9 (Fig. 3), and the parts held in operative relation without stitching.

The inner ply of each end section is formed with a cut 10 which, as perhaps best shown in Fig. 2 extends from a point adjacent the upper inner corner of the ply downwardly and outwardly to a point adjacent the outer end of the ply between the upper and lower edges of the ply. Preferably the outer termination of the cut is substantially mid-way between the upper and lower edges of the ply. The upper outer corner portions of the intermediate wall member 6 are inserted through the cuts 10 to position said portions in the space between the plies, the remainder of the intermediate member being positioned to the rear of the inner plies 3 and in the bill compartment. As shown the intermediate wall member is formed at its upper outer corners with tabs 11 which engage in slots 12, formed in the inner plies 3, to limit the extent of sliding movement between the

intermediate wall member and the end sections. The engagement of the ends of the intermediate wall member with the outer ends of the cuts 10 may also serve to limit the movement of the intermediate wall member and in some cases it may be desirable to omit the tab and slot connection 11—12. The tab and slot arrangement has the further advantage that it holds the corner portion of the intermediate wall member flatly against the adjacent portion of the inner ply, and prevents an undesirable degree of upward movement of the end of the intermediate wall member.

The cuts 10 extend toward the end of the billfold at least as far as the ends of the intermediate wall member when the billfold is folded.

Preferably the ends of cuts 10 terminate in small cut out or punched out openings 13, particularly the upper end. The openings 13 tend to prevent the cuts from being extended by tearing of the leather or other material from which the billfold is made. Openings 13 also tend to permit the edges of the intermediate member greater freedom of movement in the ends of the cuts 10. As shown the upper edge of the intermediate member slides in the upper ends of the cuts 10 instead of in the bight of the fold connecting the plies, thus tending to decrease the frictional resistance to the movement of said member.

The outer ends of the inner plies 3 are shown provided with tabs 14 which are folded around the adjacent edges of the outer plies and interlocked to the outer plies as shown at 15, Fig. 1. The tabs 14 are not parts of the present invention but are preferably used in the interlocked type of billfold shown.

Figs. 6 and 7 illustrate the invention as applied to a type of billfold in which the two-ply end sections are connected to the end of the rear wall by a fold 16 between the outer ends of the outer plies 4 and the ends of the rear wall 1. Ply 3 with its cut 10 is folded over onto ply 4 which then is folded on the rear wall as shown in Fig. 7. The lower edge of ply 4 is secured to the bottom edge of the rear wall 1 by stitching 17 and preferably the adjacent edge of ply 3 is provided with an extending portion 18 also engaged by the stitching 17, the corners of the intermediate member 6 are inserted in the cuts 10 as previously described.

In Figs. 8 and 9 ply 4 is connected to the bottom edge of the rear wall and the parts are folded up substantially as described in connection with Fig. 3 except that the end closure members are omitted and the outer ends of the rear wall and outer ply 4 are stitched directly together as at 19. A portion 20 of the outer edge of the inner ply may be, and preferably is, included in the stitching.

In the form of Figs. 10, 11, 12 the plies 3 and 4 are formed initially separate from the rear wall. The rear wall is provided with a pocket forming flap 21 extending from its end edge. As shown in Fig. 12 the flap 21 is folded over onto the folded plies 3—4 and its lower edge stitched to the rear wall by stitching 22, the lower edge of plies 3 and 4 having portions 23 and 24 respectively, engaged in the stitching. The member 6 is inserted through the cuts 10 as previously described.

Figs. 13, 14, and 15 show a similar application of the invention. The rear wall 1 is provided with a pocket forming flap 25 extending from its lower edge adapted to be folded onto the rear wall with and its outer edge stitched to the

end of the rear wall as indicated at 26 in Fig. 15. The end edges of the plies 3 and 4 are provided with portions 27 and 28 respectively, which are engaged by the stitching 26. As is illustrated in these figures the cut 10 may be carried to the outer edge of the inner ply if that edge is stitched or otherwise secured to one of the other wall members. The intermediate wall member is inserted through cut 10 of ply 3 as in the preceding constructions.

It will be understood that the several applications of the invention described do not exhaust the types of billfold constructions in which the invention may be used but are believed sufficient to illustrate its broad adaptability. In any case the portion of the inner ply 3 which extends over the intermediate wall member is offset from the portion forming a partition in the pocket between ply 4 and the intermediate wall member so that these elements are provided in the billfold with a single thickness of leather. The whole results in a front wall of extremely flexible and balanced construction. It will be understood that the cut 10 may be variously shaped and positioned as desired to meet the needs of various billfold constructions.

I claim:

1. In a billfold having rear and front walls, a front wall construction which includes a two-ply end section, the plies being connected along their upper edges, the inner ply of said section being formed with a cut extending downwardly and outwardly from a point adjacent the upper inner corner of said inner ply, and an intermediate wall member having an upper outer corner thereof extending through said cut to position the portion of the inner ply which is above the cut to the rear of said member and the portion of the inner ply which is below the cut forwardly of said member, said cut extending at least to the adjacent end edge of the intermediate wall member when the billfold is folded.

2. In a billfold having rear and front walls, a front wall construction which includes a two-ply end section, the plies being connected along their upper edges, the inner ply of said section being formed with a cut extending downwardly and outwardly from a point adjacent the upper inner corner of said inner ply, and an intermediate wall member having an upper outer corner thereof extending through said cut to position the portion of the inner ply which is above the cut to the rear of said member and the portion of the inner ply which is below the cut forwardly of said member, said cut extending at least to the adjacent end edge of the intermediate wall member when the billfold is folded, the upper end of the cut being enlarged and the upper edge of the intermediate wall member slidably engaging in said enlargement.

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