Oct. 17, 1939. L. P. BLAKEY 2,176,387

RECEPTACLE WITH SAFETY DEVICES

Filed June 25, 1938

FIG. 1.

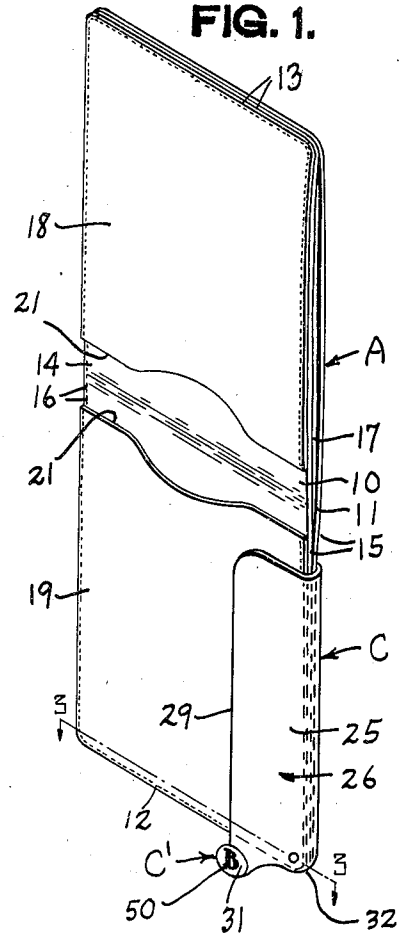


FIG. 2.

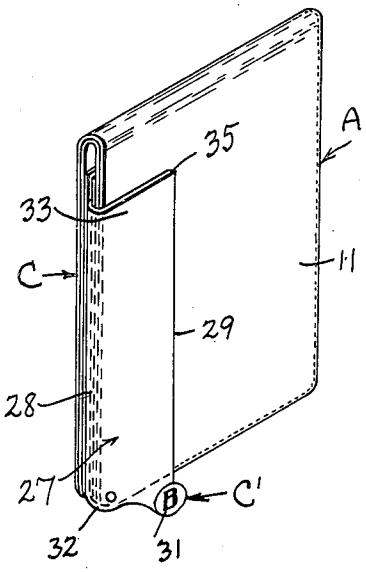


FIG. 3.

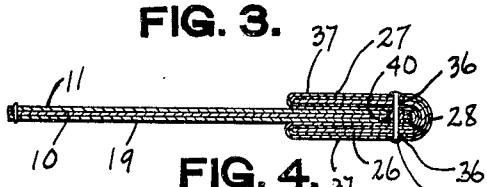


FIG. 4.

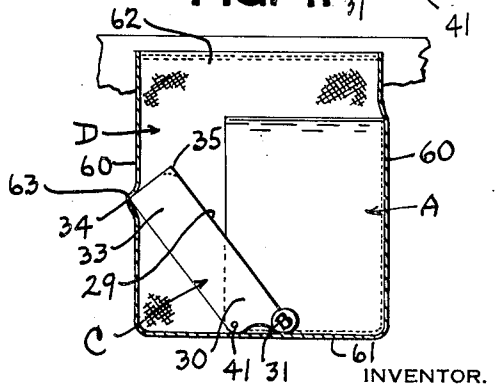
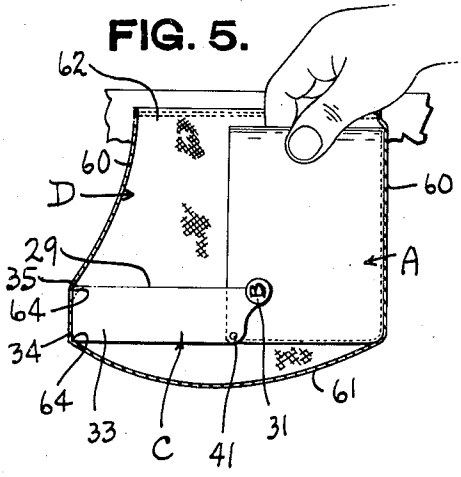


FIG. 5.



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RECEPTACLE WITH SAFETY DEVICES

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2 Claims. (Cl. 150—47)

This invention relates to receptacles provided with safety devices adapted to prevent dropping from or unauthorized removal of the receptacle from a pocket or the like.

As a practical example, the receptacle may be a wallet and an important object of the invention is to provide a safety device associated therewith, which safety device functions without the employment of springs, links, clasps or the like.

Another important object is to provide a device of this kind which requires no manual operation in order to put it into operation. Instead, the mere sliding or dropping of the receptacle, equipped with this novel device, into a pocket, will put the device into operation.

Still another important object is to provide a safety device of this kind which does away with the employment of knobs or other bulky projecting parts or parts which add materially to the thickness of the receptacle.

Another object is to provide a receptacle, such as a wallet, having a safety device associated therewith, which safety device is not bulky, nor of unusual shape or otherwise conspicuous. Instead, the device herein disclosed, is pleasing in appearance and gives the impression of being nothing more than a clasp, ornament or name or monogram plate, associated with the wallet.

Yet another object is to provide a safety device, as will be more fully described, which safety device functions additionally as a name or monogram plate and as a temporary clasp.

Other objects of the invention will be apparent during the course of the following detailed description of the invention, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification, and in which drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a receptacle, such as a wallet, with the latter unfolded and the novel safety device, associated therewith, in an inoperative position.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the wallet of Figure 1, folded and with the safety device in its inoperative position, in position for insertion into a pocket.

Figure 3 is a sectional view thru the wallet and safety device, substantially upon the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a plan view of the wallet and safety device in one operative position in a pocket, the latter being in section.

Figure 5 is a plan view and section, as in Figure 4 but showing the operative position taken by the safety device when an unauthorized attempt is made to remove the wallet.

In the drawing, wherein for the purpose of illustration is shown a preferred embodiment of the invention, and wherein similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, the letter A may designate generally the receptacle, the letter C the novel safety device, the letter C' an indicia-carrying member which may be secured to the safety device C, and the letter D, a conventional pocket.

The receptacle A is shown, by way of example, as a conventional wallet, having a pair of walls 10 and 11, each having opposite end edges 12 and 13 and opposite side edges 14 and 15, preferably secured together along the end edges 12 and 13 and two side edges 14, as by stitches 16, thus forming a pocket 17 open at the side edges 15. If desired, additional short lengths 18 and 19 of suitable material may be secured to one outer face of one of the walls 10 or 11, to form additional pockets, as is well known in the art, with the mouths 20 of the pockets preferably facing each other and these mouths being spaced apart, to either side of the transverse medial line of the wallet, this transverse medial line being the fold line of the wallet.

Now as for the novel safety device C, the same comprises a rigid member 25, which may be a suitable sheet of material formed into the member 25 so that said member is substantially U-shaped in transverse section, has a length somewhat less than the length of the folded wallet A and a width which may vary but is preferably considerably less than the width of the wallet A. Thus there will be provided, in the safety device C, two overlapping portions 26 and 27, connected at one longitudinal edge of each by the bight portion 28, but with the opposite longitudinal edges 29 separated.

Extending from one extremity 30 of at least one portion such as the portion 26, and forming a continuation in the same plane as the plane of the portion 26, is a projection 31, having an important function. Preferably, this projection is rounded so that it defines a portion of a circle. The projection 31 extends from that part of the extremity 30 nearest the longitudinal edge 29 thereof while that part of the extremity 30 farthest from the longitudinal edge 29 may be rounded, as at 32. It will be noted that while this rounded edge 32 is provided at one extremity, the opposite extremity 33 of at least one portion, such as 26, extends straight, so that corners 34 and 35 are formed. This extremity 33 may be termed the free end of the safety device C. Extending through both portions 26 and 27 are aligning perforations 36, through which may extend a pivot pin, later described. The member 25 is preferably of sheet metal and may be covered with leather 37 matching the material of the wallet. However, this covering is not essential. Other rigid material, instead of metal, may be employed and the member 25 may be embossed, enameled, engraved or otherwise treated. It provides a desirable space upon which the owner's

name, initials or other indicia, may be placed. In fact, the portion 26 provides a desirable place where a disc may be secured bearing the owner's monogram.

Means to pivot the safety device C to the wallet may comprise a bushing 40 inserted through the walls 10 and 11 of the wallet, preferably adjacent the juncture of the end edges 12 and side edges 14. A suitable pivot pin 41 may now be inserted throughout the perforations 36 and bushing 40 when the wallet A and device C are disposed as shown particularly in Figure 3. Thus, the safety device C may be swung into a number of operative positions as shown in Figures 4 and 5 or swung into the inoperative position shown in Figures 1 and 2. In the inoperative position, the projection 31 always extends below the end edges 12 of the wallet, but in the operative positions, it lies within the plane of the edges of the wallet, as is clearly shown in Figures 4 and 5.

The indicia-carrying member C' may be a disc or button of suitable material provided on one face with a monogram 50 and secured, at its opposite face, to the safety device C at the projection 31, with any approved medium such as solder. Thus, the projection 31 provides both an essential part of the safety device C but it also provides a desirable place for a monogram button or disc C'.

For the purpose of a better understanding of the operation of the novel device C as associated with a receptacle A, a pocket D is shown in section. The pocket D has opposite, generally paralleling sides 60, a bottom 61 and mouth 62, opposite the bottom 61. Such sides 60, give or yield somewhat, as shown by way of example, at 63 in Figure 4 and at 64 in Figure 5.

With the safety device C in inoperative position and the wallet A folded, as in Figure 2, they may be inserted into a pocket, with the projection 31 lowermost. Insertion may be made by sliding or dropping the wallet or other receptacle into the pocket D and from that point the safety device C is set automatically in an operative position simply by gravity and contact of the projection 31 with the bottom 61 of the pocket, for as soon as the lowermost extremity of the projection 31 touches the pocket bottom 61 and the receptacle A continues to descend, the safety device C will swing outwardly into the position shown in Figure 4 until the corner 34 causes the pocket material to yield as shown at 63 in Figure 4. From this Figure 4, it will be seen that when the novel device C is in this operative position, a horizontal line, extending from the corner 34 of the free end of the device C to the side edges 15 (farthest removed from the safety device C) will be greater in length than is the normal width of the pocket D, and the same holds true when the device C is in the operative position shown in Figure 5.

With the device C in the operative position shown in Figure 4, if attempts are made to withdraw the receptacle A, movement of the receptacle toward the mouth 62 of the pocket D, will cause the safety device C to swing into the position shown in Figure 5 and withdrawal of the receptacle A will be prevented. Of course, the device C cannot swing farther than shown in Figure 5, since the bight portion 28 now contacts the end edges 12 of the wallet or receptacle A. This operation will take place even if the receptacle A accidentally slides toward the mouth 62 of the pocket, as when the pocket is tilted or inverted, so that accidental removal of the receptacle will not take place.

However, the owner of the receptacle A may readily remove it from a pocket, even when the safety device is in the position shown in Figure 4, simply by inserting the fingers into the pocket and drawing the free end of the safety device toward the receptacle A until both can clear the mouth 62.

In fact, the movement of the safety device from the operative position shown in Figure 4, to the operative position shown in Figure 5, will be apt to both apprise the owner that attempts are being made to remove the receptacle and will also indicate to the person attempting to remove the receptacle, that some agent is preventing its removal.

As will be seen in Figure 1, the safety device C provides a clasp for drawing a portion of the mouth of the wallet together, to the extent that bills cannot drop from the extended wallet. However, by simply swinging the safety device C away from the mouth, the contents of the wallet may be readily removed.

The projection 31 does not, of course, contact the sides 60 of the pocket but it is essential to the automatic operation of the device, as described.

Various changes may be made to the form of the invention herein shown and described, without departing from the spirit of the invention and scope of the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. In combination with a wallet having an end edge, said edge being the edge first inserted into a pocket, a side edge and a mouth opposite said side edge; a safety device including a rigid member, substantially U-shaped in transverse section and having a projecting portion at one end; and means pivoting said device to said wallet at adjacent said end edge with said portion extending outwardly from said end edge when said member is in an inoperative position with the bight portion of said substantially U-shaped member closing a portion of said mouth, the horizontal distance measured from the free end of said member, when said member is in an operative position, to said side edge being greater than the normal width of a conventional pocket into which said wallet is inserted.

2. In combination with a wallet having an end edge, said edge being the edge first inserted into a pocket, a side edge, and a mouth opposite said side edge; a safety device including a rigid member, substantially U-shaped in transverse section and having a projecting portion at one end; and means pivoting said device to said wallet at adjacent said end edge and said mouth with said portion extending outwardly from said end edge when said member is in an inoperative position with the bight portion of said substantially U-shaped member closing a portion of said mouth, the horizontal distance measured from the free end of said member, when said member is in an operative position, to said side edge being greater than the normal width of a conventional pocket into which said wallet is inserted.

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