This invention relates to pouches for holding tobacco or the like, and to a method of making the same.

It is a primary object of the present invention to provide a pouch of the above type which is fabricated from multi-ply moisture-impervious, pliable plastic sheeting in the form of a pocket, having a cover flap to close the open end of the pocket, and which has seams along all the raw edges of the pieces which are hidden from view and out of reach of a person using the pouch.

It is another primary object of the present invention to devise a method by which pouches of this type may be made expeditiously and inexpensively without requiring any special skill on the part of persons making them.

The above and other objects, features and advantages of this invention will be more fully understood from the following description, considered in connection with the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a pouch embodying the present invention;

Figs. 2 and 3 are plan views of blanks of plastic sheeting from which the pouch is fabricated;

Fig. 4 illustrates the blanks of Figs. 2 and 3 in an intermediate stage of their formation into the pouch;

Figs. 5, 6 and 7 are sections taken on the lines 5–5, 6–6 and 7–7, respectively, of Fig. 4;

Fig. 8 illustrates the blanks in another intermediate stage of their formation into the pouch;

Figs. 9, 10 and 11 are sections taken on the lines 9–9, 10–10 and 11–11, respectively, of Fig. 8;

Fig. 12 illustrates the blanks in a further intermediate stage of their formation into the pouch;

Fig. 13 is a section taken on the line 13–13 of Fig. 12;

Fig. 14 is a plan view of the finished pouch;

Fig. 15 is a section taken on the line 15–15 of Fig. 14; and

Fig. 16 is a cross section through the pouch, showing the same partly rolled up to seal the contents to all intents and purposes from the atmosphere.

Referring to the drawings, the reference numeral 20 designates a pouch which consists of the pocket section 22 and a cover flap 24 (Fig. 1). The pouch 20, which is made from double-ply moisture-impervious, pliable plastic sheeting, is to this end fabricated from two separate blanks 26 and 28 (Figs. 2 and 3) which are die-cut out from such material in sheet form.

In fabricating the blanks 26 and 28 into the pouch, the same are first folded midway of their length and the folded blank 26 is inserted between the folded blank 28 in the manner shown in Figs. 4 and 5, so that the end edges 30 and 34 of said blanks 26 and 28, respectively, lie adjacent one another. The folded blanks 26 and 28 are then joined along their side edges 32 and 36, preferably by fusing the superposed side margins thereof by the well-known application of heat or a solvent, so as to obtain the fused side seams 38 (see also Figs. 6 and 7).

Next, the folded outer blank 28 alone is turned inside out, resulting in the disposition of the folded blank 28 on the outside of the folded blank 26 (Figs. 8, 9 and 11), and in the inward extension of the fused seams 38 of said blanks between the superposed layers 40 of the folded blank 26 (Figs. 10 and 11). The blanks 26 and 28 are then joined along their edges 30 and 34 which are at this stage the only remaining raw edges of the blanks which have not yet been joined and turned into the body of the pouch formed so far. To this end, the end margins of the blanks 26 and 28 at their end edges 30 and 34, respectively, are preferably fused together to form the fused seam 42 (Figs. 12 and 13), whereupon the double-ply pocket sections 44 and 46 are turned inside out so as to leave the fused seam 42 on the inside of the pocket 40 formed by the sections 44 and 46 (Figs. 14 and 15). This completes the formation of the pouch, and the same is now ready for use.

It follows from the foregoing that the pouch is formed throughout from double-ply material, and that all the raw edges of the blanks from which the pouch is fabricated are sealed together and turned into the body of the pouch so as to be out of reach of a person using the pouch. If the plastic material used for the pouch is non-transparent, the seams of the same are also well hidden from view. Hence, the present pouch has smooth edges throughout, is strong and durable in use, yet may be made from inexpensive plastic sheeting by the simple and highly efficient method described. Since the pouch is made from pliable moisture-impervious plastic sheeting, the same may also be rolled up tightly so as to protect the contents thereof, such as pipe tobacco, for instance, from the adverse effects of atmospheric air so long as the pouch is not filled to capacity (Fig. 16).

It will be understood that various changes in
the details of construction and in the arrangement of parts may be made without departing from the underlying idea or principles of the invention within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A pouch comprising superposed sections forming a pocket open at one side and each section consisting of a sheet of pliable plastic material folded upon itself, the folds of said sheets being at the open side of said pocket, the superposed margins of said sheets along the raw edges thereof being fused together and the fused margins along the sides of the pocket being disposed inwardly between one of said folded sheets.

2. A pouch comprising superposed sections forming a pocket open at one side and each section consisting of a sheet of pliable plastic material folded upon itself, the folds of said sheets being at the open side of said pocket and the superposed margins of said sheets along the raw edges thereof being fused together, the fused margins along the sides of the pocket being disposed inwardly between one of said folded sheets and one of said sections being longer than the other and extending beyond the open end of said pocket to provide a cover for said open end.

3. A pouch comprising superposed sections forming a pocket open at the top and closed on the bottom and on the sides, each section consisting of a sheet of pliable plastic material folded upon itself with the fold disposed at the open top of the pocket, the superposed margins of said sheets along the raw edges thereof being fused together, and the fused margins along the sides and the bottom of the pocket being disposed inwardly between one of said folded sheets and between said sections, respectively.

4. Method of fabricating a pouch from pliable plastic sheet material comprising interleaving folded blanks of said material with their folds facing in the same direction, fusing together the superposed margins along the raw edges of the interleaved blanks on opposite sides of the latter to form a pocket having outer seams on opposite sides, turning the pocket inside out between two adjacent superposed portions of two different folded blanks, then fusing together the superposed margins along the remaining raw edges of the folded blanks to form a new pocket with an outer seam at the bottom.

5. Method of fabricating a pouch from pliable plastic sheet material, comprising interleaving folded blanks of said material with their folds facing in the same direction, fusing together the superposed margins along the raw edges of the interleaved blanks on opposite sides of the latter to form a pocket having outer seams on opposite sides, turning the pocket inside out between two adjacent superposed portions of two different folded blanks, then fusing together the superposed margins along the remaining raw edges of the folded blanks to form a new pocket with an outer seam at the bottom, and turning the new pocket inside out to dispose said bottom seam on the inside thereof.

6. Method of fabricating a pouch from pliable plastic sheet material, comprising interleaving two folded blanks of said material with their folds facing in the same direction, fusing together the superposed margins along the raw edges of the interleaved blanks on opposite sides of the latter to form a pocket having outer seams on opposite sides, turning the pocket inside out between two adjacent superposed portions of both folded blanks, then fusing together the superposed margins along the remaining raw edges of the folded blanks to form a new pocket with an outer seam at the bottom, and turning the new pocket inside out to dispose said bottom seam on the inside thereof.

7. Method of fabricating a pouch with a cover flap from pliable plastic sheet material, comprising interleaving two folded blanks of said material of equal width but different length so that their folds face in the same direction and their end edges opposite said folds are contiguous, fusing together the superposed margins along the opposite raw side edges of the interleaved blanks to form two pockets one within the other of which the outer pocket is deeper than the inner pocket and which have common outer seams on opposite sides, turning the outer pocket inside out to form the inner pocket, then turning the latter inside out to form a cover flap, and turning the new pocket inside out to dispose said bottom seam on the inside thereof.

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MILTON BASS.

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