June 25, 1946. E. F. MILLER 2,402,764

WALLET

Filed Dec. 24, 1943

FIG. 1.

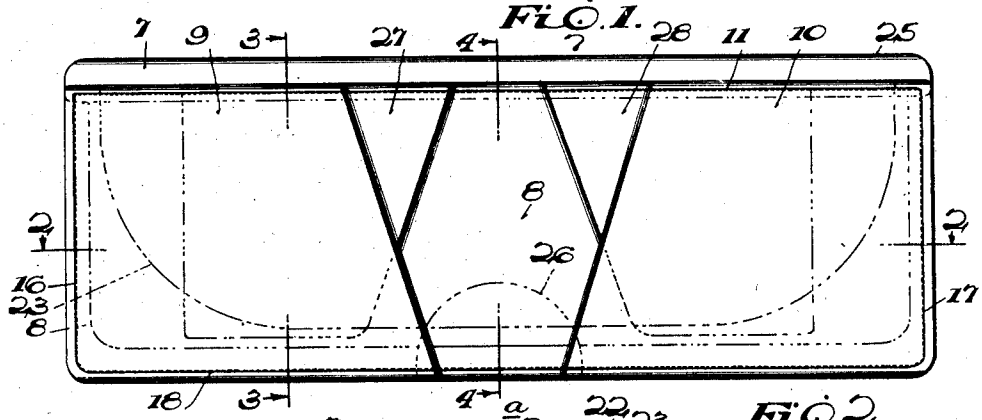


FIG. 2.

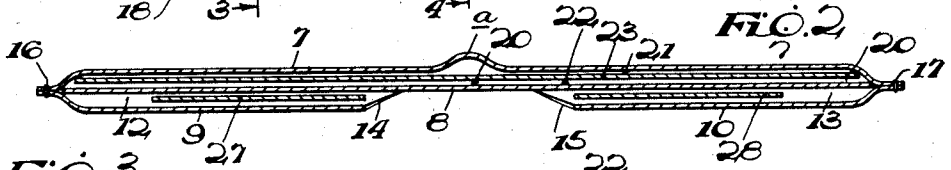


FIG. 3.

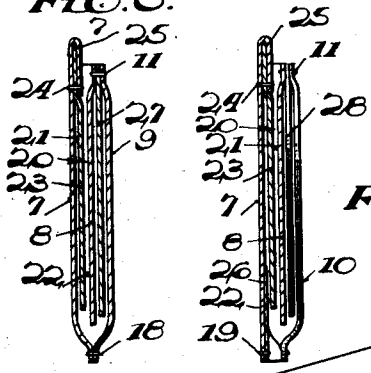


FIG. 4.

FIG. 5.

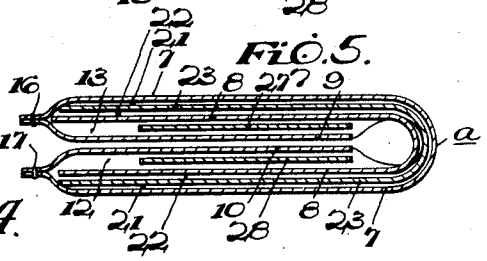
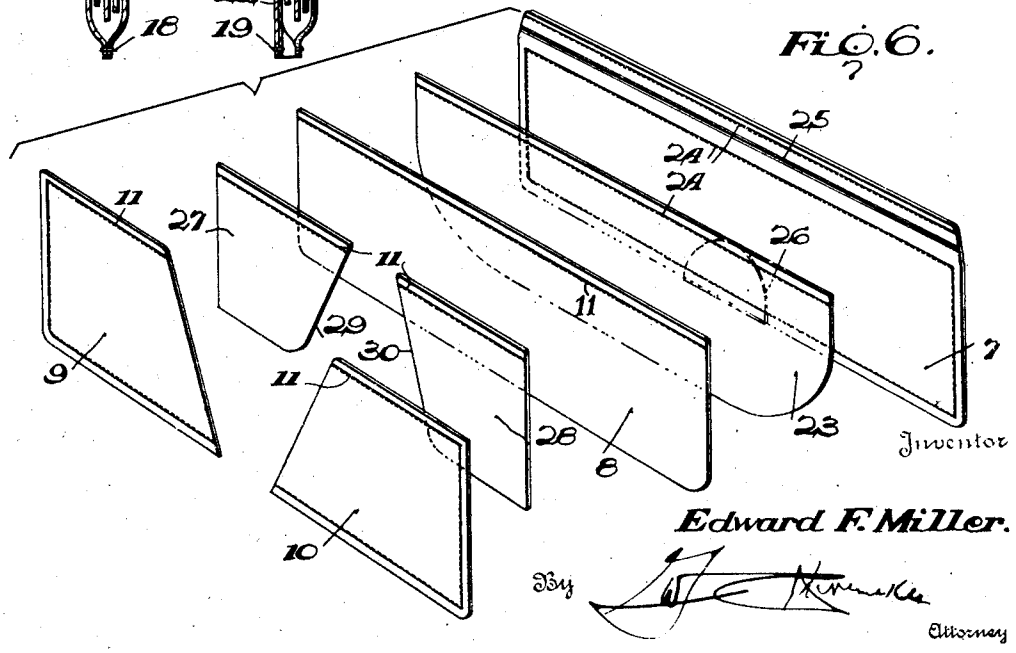


FIG. 6.



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Patented June 25, 1946

2,402,764

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,402,764

WALLET

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Application December 24, 1943, Serial No. 515,559

3 Claims. (Cl. 150—38)

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This invention relates to wallets.

One object of the invention is to provide a wallet having comparatively thin edges of uniform thickness, giving to the wallet an attractive and neat appearance, and facilitating production incident to a minimum of stitching and a minimum of labor required in the assembly of the various parts of the wallet.

Another object of the invention resides in the provision of a wallet which possesses and retains unusual flexibility and permits considerable expansibility without affecting the original appearance, shape or structural characteristics of the wallet.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a wallet having interior floating elements calculated to render the complete assembly flexible or resilient because of the floating nature of the interior pieces and due to the fact that such pieces are not tied down by stitching or otherwise on all edges as is the common practice.

It is still further proposed to provide a wallet, or pocketbook, composed of small interior pieces cooperating with the other parts of the wallet effectively and whereby scrap material may be effectively utilized for the sake of economy in production and without destroying effectiveness of use of the wallet by providing for greater flexibility or resiliency, in the use thereof.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in the novel construction, arrangement, and combination of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended, it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the accompanying drawing:

Fig. 1 is a rear view of the assembled wallet, interior parts being shown in dotted lines;

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the invention taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 is a transverse sectional view of the wallet or pocketbook in its folded condition; and

Fig. 6 is an exploded view, illustrating the various parts of the wallet in perspective and unassembled.

Referring now more particularly to the accompanying drawing, the front wall 7 of the wallet is shown as being relatively long and narrow and it is composed of relatively thin flexible leather or other suitable flexible material and foldable along the line *a* intermediate the ends thereof.

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The rear wall of the wallet is composed of a relatively long, narrow, flexible body or main piece 8, foldable with the front wall 7 along said fold line *a* and to the uuper longitudinal edge of which spaced end sections 9 and 10 are sewed or otherwise secured, as at 11, the said end sections 9 and 10 with the rear body piece 8 forming spaced card or other pockets 12 and 13 on opposite sides of and opening toward each other on opposite sides of said line of fold *a*. The inner ends of said end sections 9 and 10 are formed on divergent lines, as shown, for ornamental purposes and to facilitate insertion and removal of cards or the like into and from said pockets at their respective openings 14 and 15.

The main body piece 8 of the rear wall is narrower than the width of the front wall 7 and has its longitudinal upper and lower edges lying within the upper and lower longitudinal edges of the front wall 7. This main body piece 8 of the rear wall is slightly shorter than the length of the front wall 7 for a reason presently understood.

The aforesaid end sections 9 and 10 extend longitudinally beyond the respective ends of the body piece 8 of the rear wall and the said end sections 9 and 10 are sewed or otherwise secured as at 16 and 17 respectively to the end edges of the front wall 7 beyond the ends of the body piece 8, leaving the body piece 8 unconnected and free at its ends of either of said walls either at the ends of the wallet or at the lower longitudinal portion of the wallet, providing for independent flexibility of the piece 8 and for an independent floating movement thereof in the wallet.

The lower edges of said end sections extend below the lower longitudinal edge of said flexible body piece 8 of the rear wall and are sewed or otherwise suitably secured at 18 and 19, respectively, to the lower longitudinal edge of the front wall 7, being unconnected with the lower edge of the flexible body piece 8 of the rear wall.

The front and rear walls thus formed and connected together provide a currency or bill compartment 20 to receive bills in a flat condition as usual. A secret pocket 21 is arranged in the compartment 20 by means of a floating flap 23 of a length substantially the same as the length of

the front and rear walls of the pocket. The flap **23** is sewed or otherwise secured at **24** along its upper longitudinal edge under the ornamental bead **25** at the upper longitudinal edge of the front wall **7**, as shown particularly in Figs. 3 and 4.

Aside from the securing of the flap **23** to the upper longitudinal edge of the front wall **7**, the flap is unconnected and free of connection with other parts of the wallet. Currency may be placed between the inner face of the front wall **7** and this flap **23** by first lifting the flap **23** out of the compartment **20** on the line of stitching **24** as a hinge and then folding the flap **23** back into the compartment **20**, concealing the bills as will now be well understood.

Thus, the flap **23** divides the compartment **20** into two divisions, that is, the secret pocket **21** and another bill-receiving pocket **22**.

A substantially semi-circular or other shaped leather or other flexible material **26** may be cemented and sewed or otherwise secured to the rear face of the front wall across the space between the spaced end sections **9** and **10** for ornamental or trimming purposes and preferably, although not necessarily, of a color contrasted with other colors or other materials composed in the make-up of the wallet.

Relatively small, spaced division flaps, **27** and **28**, arranged on opposite sides of the line of fold *a* are sewed or otherwise secured to the upper longitudinal edge of the main body piece **8** of the rear wall and they are otherwise free of connection with parts constituting the wallet. These flaps **27** and **28** are partly exposed to view between said pockets **12** and **13** on opposite sides of said line of fold *a* and have portions extending into said card pockets **12** and **13**, providing the pockets with separate divisions for the reception of cards or other similar material.

The inner ends of the floating flaps **27** and **28** are formed on opposite inclines, **29** and **30**, respectively, and opposite in inclination to the plane of the inclined edges of the aforesaid end sections **9** and **10** for ornamental purposes and also to facilitate the insertion of cards or the like into the pockets on either side of the division flaps **27** and **28**. As shown, the inclined edges of the inner ends of the end sections **9** and **10** converge downwardly while the inclined edges of the exposed portions of the floating division flaps **27** and **28** diverge downwardly into overlapping relation with the respective inclined edges of the end sections substantially intermediate the ends of the inclined edges of the end sections. If desired, these division flaps of said pockets may be, and preferably are of a color contrasting with the general color scheme of adjacent parts of the wallet to ornament the wallet and facilitate insertion of cards or the like in said pockets. In any event, these flaps **27** and **28** are relatively small and may be composed of flexible scrap leather or other suitable flexible material. The various parts of the wallet may be of contrasting colors for ornamental purposes and, if desired, the outer face of the front wall may be ornamented in any desired manner.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the wallet structure is such as to provide for economy of manufacture in that many parts are of small size enabling the use of scrap material and that labor steps in production are eliminated incident to interior floating parts obviating sewing along certain edges of such parts. It will also be seen that the edges of the wallet are comparatively thin and uniform as to edge thickness and all with the further result that ample expansion of the wallet is permitted in the use of the same without affecting the structural characteristics of the wallet.

What is claimed is:

1. A wallet comprising a relatively long front wall of flexible material and a rear wall composed of a relatively long main body section and spaced apart end sections and which extend slightly beyond the ends of said main section of the rear wall and secured at their outer ends to the ends of the front wall and secured at their upper edges to the upper longitudinal edge of said main body section of the rear wall and at their lower edges secured to the lower longitudinal edge of the front wall, the facing edges of said end sections converging downwardly, said front wall and main body section forming a currency compartment, said front and rear walls being foldable along a line of fold intermediate the ends thereof and between the inner ends of the said spaced sections of the rear wall, the said main rear wall section being unattached to the front wall except for the connection of the outer ends of said end sections of the rear wall with the ends of the front wall and the inner ends of said end sections being unattached to the main body section of the rear wall and with said main body section forming oppositely disposed card-re-ceiving pockets opening toward said line of fold, spaced flaps secured at their upper edges to the upper longitudinal edge of said main body section of the rear wall and otherwise free of the wallet walls and partly exposed to view between said card pockets on opposite sides of said line of fold and extending for the most part into the respective card pockets to divide the latter into separate divisions.

2. A wallet comprising a relatively long front wall of flexible material and a rear wall composed of a relatively long flexible main body section of a width less than the width of said front wall and spaced apart end sections which extend slightly beyond the ends of said main body section of the rear wall and secured at their outer ends to the ends of the front wall and secured at their upper edges to the upper longitudinal edge of said main section of the rear wall and at their lower edges extending downwardly below the lower longitudinal edge of said main section of the rear wall and secured to the lower longitudinal edge of the front wall, said front wall and main body section providing a currency compartment, said front and rear walls being foldable along a line of fold intermediate the ends thereof and between the inner ends of said spaced sections of the rear wall, the said main rear wall section being unattached to the front wall except for the connection of the outer ends of said end sections of the rear wall with the ends of the front wall and the inner ends of said end sections being unattached to the main body section of the rear wall and with said main body section providing oppositely disposed card-receiving pockets opening toward said line of fold, spaced floating flaps secured to the upper longitudinal edge of said main body section of the rear wall and otherwise free of the said walls and partly exposed to view between said card pockets on opposite sides of said line of fold and extending for the most part into the respective card pockets to divide the latter into separate divisions, and a relatively long, thin, flexible flap secured at its upper edge to the

upper longitudinal edge of the front wall and disposed normally in the aforesaid currency compartment to cooperate with said front wall to form a secret currency pocket in said compartment.

3. A wallet comprising a relatively long front wall of flexible material and a rear wall composed of a relatively long main body section and spaced apart end sections of a width less than the width of the front wall and which extend slightly beyond the ends of said main section of the rear wall and secured at their outer ends to the ends of the front wall and secured at their upper edges to the upper longitudinal edge of said main body section of the rear wall and at their lower edges secured to the lower longitudinal edge of the front wall, the facing edges of said end sections converging downwardly, said front wall and main body section forming a currency compartment, said front and rear walls being foldable along a line of fold intermediate the ends thereof and between the inner ends of the said spaced sections of the rear wall, the said main rear wall section being unattached to the front wall except for the connection of the outer

ends of said end sections of the rear wall with the ends of the front wall and the inner ends of said end sections being unattached to the main body section of the rear wall and with said main body section forming oppositely disposed card-receiving pockets opening toward said line of fold, spaced flaps secured at their upper edges to the upper longitudinal edge of said main body section of the rear wall and otherwise free of the wallet walls and partly exposed to view between said card pockets on opposite sides of said line of fold and extending for the most part into and remaining constantly in the respective card pockets to divide the latter into separate divisions, the ends of said flaps adjacent said line of fold being inclined and diverging downwardly into overlapping relation with the aforesaid downwardly converging inclined edges of the aforesaid rear wall end sections and intersecting said converging edges substantially intermediate the ends of the inclined edges of the latter to facilitate insertion and removal of cards into and out of the card pockets on either side of the respective flaps.

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