This invention relates to an improvement in billfolds and similar pocket receptacles. More particularly it relates to an improved end section construction.

One object of the invention is to provide a billfold in which the parts are held together without the use of stitching and in a manner to overcome certain disadvantages, later pointed out, which are found in prior art constructions of this type.

A further object is to provide a construction of the above character which is adaptable to a wider range of pocket arrangement than are the prior art constructions.

A still further object is to secure a better distribution of the operational strains between the structural connections and the material of which the billfold is made.

Other and further objects residing in the details of construction will be made apparent from the following specification and claims.

The general type of billfold to which my invention particularly relates comprises a rear wall and a front wall, the latter comprising two spaced end sections, the space between them being closed by an intermediate wall member which is slidably connected with one or both end sections. Characteristically in this type of billfold the end sections each include two flaps, extending respectively from an end edge and the adjacent end portion of the bottom edge of the rear wall. These flaps are folded on the rear wall in superposed relation, the under flap including a portion which forms the panel member of the end section, the top flap being interlocked to the surface of the panel member and providing a relatively small pocket on the panel. The prior patents to Buxton 1,824,943 and 2,011,344 illustrate the type of construction to which reference is made. In these prior art constructions the interlocking parts are required to withstand not only the strains tending toward endwise movement of the end closure flaps but also the strain placed on the pocket wall when the latter is stuffed with cards and the like. This latter strain is usually the more severe and acts in a direction in which the interlock offers the least resistance. Attempts to more firmly anchor the interlocking elements by the use of cement and the like have proved unsatisfactory as the interlock is made rigid and the highly advantageous flexibility between the parts is sacrificed. Furthermore cement does not satisfactorily withstand strain of this character. Other forms of fastening means for the flaps have been proposed such as that shown in prior Buxton patents 1,909,809 and 2,011,344 but have proved unsatisfactory. By my present invention these difficulties are overcome, the pocket strain being taken by the material of the panel of the front wall over a substantial area, and the portion of the interlock which is called on to resist the end closure strain is protected from other strain or damage in the use of the pocket.

In the accompanying drawings,

Fig. 1 is a front view of a billfold embodying the invention;
Fig. 2 is a fragmentary front view of a blank from which the billfold of Fig. 1 is folded up;
Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the position of the two aprons;
Fig. 4 is a view showing the blank partly folded up and the intermediate wall member in position;
Fig. 5 is a diagrammatic sectional view substantially on line 5—5 of Fig. 1;
Fig. 6 is a view similar to Fig. 2 but showing a modified structure;
Fig. 7 is a view showing the parts of Fig. 6 partially folded;
Fig. 8 is a fragmentary view of the billfold as completed from the blank of Fig. 6;
Fig. 9 is a diagrammatic sectional view substantially on line 8—8 of Fig. 8; and
Fig. 10 is a diagrammatic sectional view similar to that of Fig. 9 but showing a modified closure for the bottom of the outer pocket.

Referring to the drawings, the rear wall of the billfold is indicated at 18 and may be provided with the customary extensions 11 which are folded onto and cemented to the rear wall to finish the exposed edges. The front wall comprises two spaced end sections generally indicated at 12, and an intermediate wall member 13 which bridges the space between the end sections. Each end section includes a flap 14 extending from an end edge of rear wall 18 and a flap 15 extending from the adjacent end portion of the bottom edge of the rear wall. Since the construction of the end sections may be identical, except for the reversal of parts, a description of the left hand end section will suffice.

As best shown in Fig. 2 the free end portion of flap 14 is in the form of a tongue 16. Flap 15 includes a portion, forming the front wall end panel 17, and a portion 18 which in the finished billfold lies between the rear wall and the intermediate wall member 13 as shown in dotted line in Fig. 4. The panel 17 is provided with a cut 19, adjacent the connected end of flap 14, and
a second cut 20 spaced from the first cut in the direction in which flap 14 extends when folded onto the panel as shown in Fig. 7. In the drawings the cuts are shown entailing the removal of some of the material but a simple cut is satisfactory. An apron 21 formed of relatively stiff fabric, thin leather, heavy paper, or other suitable material is cemented or otherwise secured to the inner face of the panel 18 at the side of the cut 20 remote from cut 19 as indicated at 22. The apron 21 is free of attachment to the panel between the cuts and its free end 23 is inserted through the first cut to cover the panel as best shown in Fig. 4.

As shown in Fig. 3 a second apron 24 is secured to the inner face of panel 17. Preferably apron 24 is nearly commensurate in area with the panel, and is cemented or otherwise secured to the panel at its end portion remote from flap 14 as indicated at 25. The attachment of apron 24 may extend further toward the end of the billfold if desired.

The panel 17 is folded onto the rear wall as shown in Fig. 4, and portion 18 of flap 15 is folded downwardly, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 4. Portion 18 is formed with an extending end member 17 which is folded around the adjacent edge of the panel. Member 27 carries a locking tab 28 which is inserted through a cut 29 formed in the panel 17. The intermediate wall member 18 is inserted between the panel 17 and portion 18, the end of the wall member 18 having an upwardly projecting tab 29 which extends through a cut 30 at the fold between the panel 17 and portion 18, permitting a limited sliding motion of wall member 18 relative to the panel.

Flap 14 is folded over on panel 17 and tongue 15 is inserted through the first cut 19, above the projecting end portion 23 of apron 21, the end of the tongue being drawn outwardly of the panel through the second cut 20. Thus a pocket 31 is formed beneath tongue 15 the bottom of which pocket is closed by the fold at the base of flap 14. The ends of cards, or the like, inserted into the pocket 31 beneath the tongue are guided outwardly of cut 15 by portion 23 of apron 21. Two ears 32 extend, one from each side of tongue 15. The ears 32, when the tongue is drawn to its full outward position through cuts 19 and 20, extend beyond the panel 17 at and beyond the end of cut 19, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1, to lock the flap 14 in its end closing position.

As will be apparent, when the pocket 31 is stuffed with cards or the like the strain is resisted by the substantial area of the portion of the panel 17 between the cuts which overlies the intermediate portion of the tongue, and such stuffing of the pocket imposes no substantial strain on ears 32 which interlock the flap 14 to the panel.

In Figs. 6 to 9 inclusive is shown a modified form of the invention. In this modified form the central portion of cut 19 is shaped to form a small flap 33 having a locking tab 34. Apron 21 is omitted but apron 24 is cemented to the inside face of panel 17 as indicated at 25. Tongue 15 is formed with cut 35. The parts are folded up as previously described and shown in Fig. 4. The tongue 15 is inserted through cut 19 beneath flap 33 as shown in Fig. 7. The tab 34 is interlocked in cut 35. The tongue 16 is then drawn outwardly through cut 20 as previously described, drawing the flap 33 beneath the panel as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 8 thus closing the end of the space between tongue 16 and the overlying portion of panel 17 and forming a pocket 36.

After the parts are in the completed position of Fig. 8 an apron 37 (Fig. 9) is preferably inserted in pocket 31 and cemented to the free end of tongue 16 as indicated at 38. The apron 37 prevents the tabs 28 and 34 from interfering with cards being inserted in the pocket 31.

The bottom of pocket 36 may be closed by other means than a flap cut from the panel. For example, as shown in Fig. 10 an apron 39 may be secured to the underside of the panel 17 between the cuts 19 and 20, the end of the apron being provided with a flap portion 40 which is interlocked in the tongue 15 as described with reference to flap 33.

In each case the usual pocket 41 is available between the intermediate wall member 13 and the adjacent front wall structure.

I claim:

1. In a billfold having a rear wall and a front wall including two flaps respectively extending from an end edge and the adjacent end portion of the bottom edge of the rear wall, one of said flaps being folded in superposed relation on the rear wall and having a portion forming a front wall end panel, the other flap being folded in superposed relation on said panel and having its free end portion in the form of a tongue, a cut formed in the panel adjacent the connected end of the tongue forming flap, a second cut formed in the panel and spaced from the first cut, said tongue extending through said cuts with the intermediate portion of the tongue beneath the panel and forming a pocket beneath the tongue, and two ears extending one from each side of the tongue beneath the panel at, and beyond, the ends of the first cut.

2. In a billfold having a rear wall and a front wall including two flaps respectively extending from an end edge and the adjacent end portion of the bottom edge of the rear wall, one of said flaps being folded in superposed relation on the rear wall and having a portion forming a front wall end panel, the other flap being folded in superposed relation on said panel and having its free end portion in the form of a tongue, a cut formed in the panel adjacent the connected end of the tongue, a second cut formed in the panel and spaced from the first cut, said tongue extending through said cuts with the intermediate portion of the tongue beneath the panel and forming a pocket beneath the tongue, and two ears extending one from each side of the tongue beneath the panel, and said fringe extending through said cuts with the intermediate portion of the tongue between the panel and said apron, and two ears extending one from each side of the tongue beneath the panel, and beyond, the ends of the first cut.

3. In a billfold having a rear wall and a front wall including two flaps respectively extending from an end edge and the adjacent end portion of the bottom edge of the rear wall, one of said flaps being folded in superposed relation on the rear wall and having a portion forming a front wall end panel, the other flap being folded in superposed relation on said panel and having its free end portion in the form of a tongue, a cut formed in the panel adjacent the connected end of the tongue, a second cut formed in the panel and spaced from the first cut, said tongue extending through said cuts with the intermediate portion of the tongue between the panel and said apron, and two ears extending one from each side of the tongue beneath the panel.
apron and forming a pocket between the tongue and apron, and two ears extending one from each side of the tongue beneath the panel at, and beyond the ends of the first cut.

4. In a bifilid having a rear wall and a front wall, said front wall including two flaps respectively extending from an end edge and the adjacent end portion of the bottom edge of the rear wall, one of said flaps being folded in superposed relation on the rear wall and having a portion forming a front wall end panel, the other flap being folded in superposed relation on said panel and having its free end portion in the form of a tongue, a cut formed in the panel adjacent the connected end of the tongue, a second cut formed in the panel and spaced from the first cut, an apron secured at one end to the inner face of the panel on the side of the second cut remote from the first cut, said tongue extending through said cuts with the intermediate portion of the tongue between the panel and said apron and forming a pocket between the tongue and apron, the central portion of the first cut being shaped to form a small tongue with a locking tab at its free end, said small flap being folded beneath the panel, a slit formed in the tongue in which said locking tab engages, said small flap forming a closure for a pocket between the panel and tongue, and two ears extending one from each side of the tongue beneath the panel, at and beyond the ends of the first cut.

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