Aug. 23, 1927. 1,640,195

H. E. KONDOLF

TAG AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME

Filed July 27, 1926

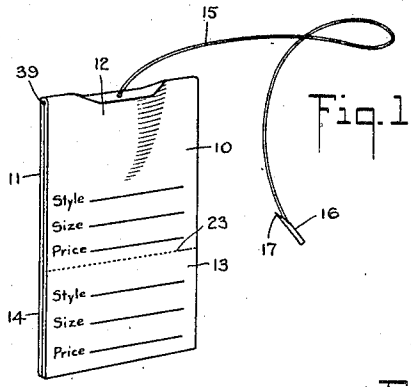


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

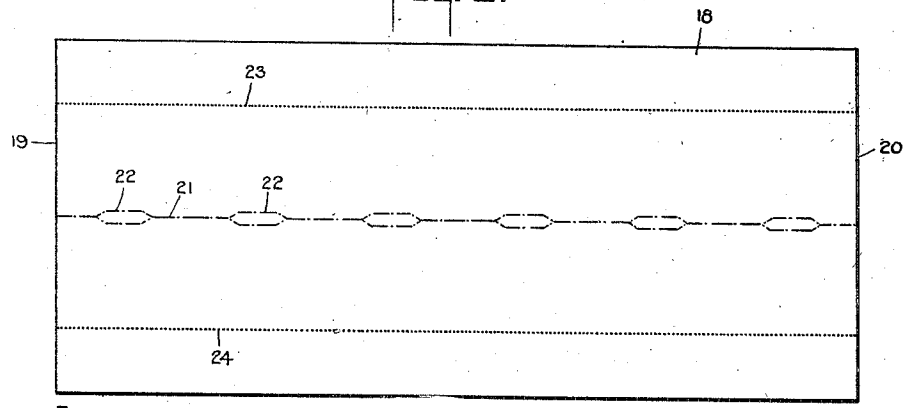


Fig. 3.

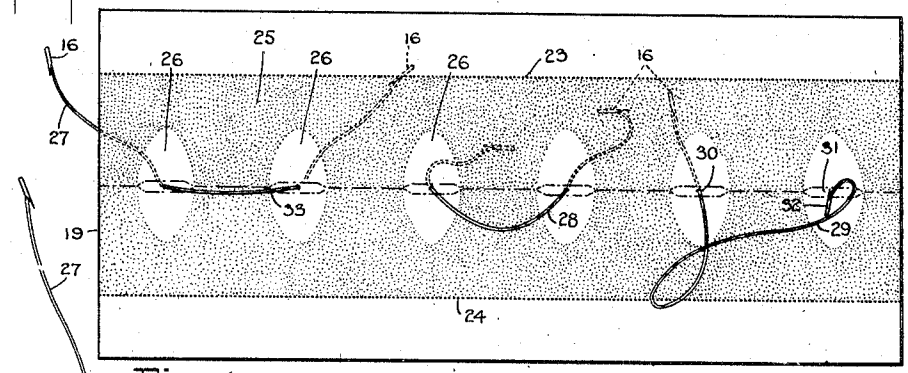
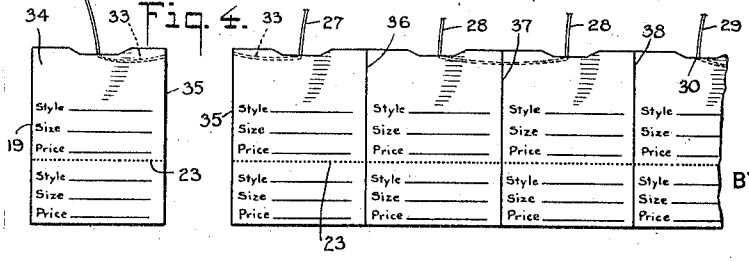


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TAG AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME.

Application filed July 27, 1926. Serial No. 125,257.

My present invention relates to tags, and has particular reference to a tag of the type which is designed primarily for inseparable association with an article of merchandise.

In the employment of price tags or similar tickets upon articles of merchandise, the vendor is often confronted with the difficulty of having defrauding patrons remove or inter-change the tags. For example, a purchaser may desire to remove the tag, subject the article to unauthorized usage or wear, and then, after replacing the tag, seek to have the article changed or credited.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a tag which is so constructed and arranged as to permit its inseparable association with an article of merchandise, the tag being so constructed that its removal from an article of merchandise cannot be effected except by mutilation thereof.

More particularly, my present invention relates to tags having the general characteristics of the device disclosed in the patent to Behrman, #1359951, issued November 23, 1920.

Before proceeding to describe my present invention in detail, I will premise that tags of this general character are constituted of superposed layers of material so arranged and constructed as to provide a pocket or locking chamber therebetween, the layers being so connected as to render the pocket totally inaccessible except through a preformed or eyeletted opening, where the provision of such an opening is desirable. Such a tag is provided with a binding element or tie having one end irremovably positioned within the pocket, and having the other end free for threading through a portion of the article of merchandise, it being contemplated that the free end will thereafter be similarly positioned in an irremovable manner within the pocket. More particularly, the binding tie or element may be provided with adjustable locking tips whose normal positions are transverse with respect to the tie, whereby they may be inserted through small preformed openings giving access to the pocket, and whereby they will thereupon resume their normal positions so as to prevent withdrawal of the binding tie.

It is an object of the invention to provide a tag of this general character wherein the binding string or tie is associated with the tag proper in a most efficient manner; and more particularly, it is an object to provide a tag wherein one end of the tie is inseparably associated with the tag proper so that, with respect to at least this end, the removal of the tie (by possible painstaking manipulation) is rendered practically impossible.

A feature of my invention lies in securing the superposed elements of the tag together by an arrangement of means which at the same time securely retains one end of the binding tie in engagement between the layers. A preferred embodiment employs adhesive material which not only secures the superposed layers together, but which also engages with and firmly retains one end of the binding string.

Co-ordinately, it is an object of the present invention to provide a method of manufacturing tags of this character, the method having features which render it particularly advantageous from the standpoint of quantity production and smallness of cost.

My invention contemplates the production of tags of this character in quantity; and a feature of my invention lies in providing a method whereby a large number of tags may be manufactured simultaneously. More particularly, it is a feature of my invention to provide a series of tags by the utilization of a single blank of material, certain steps of treatment producing at one time a large number of completed tags.

Although it will be understood hereinafter that my invention is particularly adaptable for the simultaneous production of a number of tags, nevertheless as to certain phases of my invention this is not essential; and in general, it is a feature of my invention to thread a binding tie through a blank in such a manner that the proper treatment of the blank thereafter will produce the finished article. More particularly, the binding tie is passed through the blank so as to position portions thereof on opposite sides of the blank, and the blank is then doubled upon itself to enclose one of said portions. This enclosed portion is securely held in position, and constitutes the engaged end of the binding tie of the finished tag. Where a multiple number of tags are made in this manner, a feature of my invention resides in the employment of a single binding tie for the production of more than one finished tag, this advantageous result being achieved by properly threading the tie

through the blank and suitably treating the blank thereafter.

A preferred method of carrying out my invention lies in threading a series of binding ties through a continuous blank in such a manner that the ends of each tie are disposed on one side of the blank, while a midportion of the tie is on the opposite side of the blank. Thereupon the blank is suitably manipulated and treated to engage the midportions, whereby the proper subdivision of the blank will result in the provision of a number of tags, entire sets of which will embody various portions of a single initial binding tie.

For the attainment of the foregoing objects and such other objects as may hereinafter appear or be pointed out, I have illustrated embodiments of my invention in the accompanying drawings in which

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a completed tag having the general characteristics of the tags referred to;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of a blank illustrative of the type which may be employed in the production of tags of the Fig. 1 type;

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2, showing further steps of the process; and

Fig. 4 is a front elevational view of the blank shown in Figs. 2 and 3, after certain steps of treatment have been effected.

Referring to the drawings, it will be observed that I have shown a tag comprising superposed layers 10 and 11, these layers being so arranged and constructed as to provide an inaccessible pocket or locking chamber 12 adjacent to one end thereof. In the illustrated embodiment, each layer is provided with a detachable stub 13 and 14, although the provision of such a stub is not an essential feature of the present invention. It will be noted that suitable indications may be printed upon either or both sides of the tag.

It will also be observed that I have shown a binding tie 15 extending from within the pocket 12 and having a tip 16 which is designed to be eventually positioned within the pocket 12 in an inseparable manner. Although this tip may be of a character which is most efficient when employed with a pocket having a preformed opening therein, I have, for illustrative purposes, shown a tip wherein the provision of such an opening has been rendered unnecessary. More particularly, the tip 16 is provided with a pointed end 17 which is adapted to pierce through unperforated material, such as the wall of the pocket 12; and in this manner the entire tip may be passed into the pocket 12 through a wall thereof, despite the fact that no provision in the nature of an opening has been made. The tip is of such a character that it will position itself transversely of the tie 15 after it has been inserted into the pocket, thereby preventing withdrawal of the tie.

In Figs. 2, 3, and 4, I have illustrated a preferred method of manufacturing tags of this character. I have shown a continuous blank 18 whose end edges 19 and 20 are of a length substantially twice that of the length of tag desired. My invention contemplates the folding over of the blank 18 along a substantially medial longitudinal line indicated by the dot and dash line 21. The blank will eventually be cut transversely of this fold so as to produce a series of tags, and it will therefore be understood that the length of the blank 18 may be of any desired magnitude, depending upon the width of tags desired and the number of tags being manufactured at one time.

In order to facilitate the formation of the pockets 12, the tag is scored or similarly treated along not only a straight line, but also along elliptical portions 22 which are designed eventually to constitute the top walls of the locking chambers. Where the tag is to be provided with detachable stubs 13 and 14, suitable lines of perforation 23 and 24 may be provided adjacent to the longitudinal edges, and in such an event, the attaching means for the superposed layers of the tag must obviously not extend further toward the longitudinal edges than these lines 23 and 24.

Thus, in Fig. 3, where I have illustratively shown the employment of an adhesive as the means for uniting the superposed layers, it will be seen that I have provided a layer of adhesive 25 in the medial band extending between the lines 23 and 24. It will also be obvious that for purposes of forming the pockets 12, the area covered by the adhesive is limited further by elliptical areas 26 encircling the scorings 22.

Either before or after the blank has been prepared as shown in Fig. 2, that side of the blank which is to constitute the outside of the tags is suitably imprinted. At any desired stage of the process the binding means, such as the adhesive 25, is applied as shown in Fig. 3; and at any other suitable or opportune stage, the binding ties are properly associated with the blank. I have shown a blank suitable for the production of six tags, and I have illustrated the employment of three initial binding ties 27, 28 and 29. Each tie is of an intial length which is at least twice the desired length of the completed tie illustratively shown at 15 in Fig. 1. Each tie is also preferably provided with locking tips 16, and it will be observed that I have shown the ties threaded through the blank in such a manner that a portion of each lies on one side of the blank, while another portion lies on the opposite side of the blank. Where one tie is employed for the production of two tags, as in the illus-

trated embodiment, the tie is threaded through the blank first in one direction and then in the other, this threading taking place at spaced points along the blank and resulting in the positioning of a mid-portion of the tie on one side of the blank and a positioning of the ends of the tie on the other side of the blank. Preferably, the spaced points are positioned along the line of fold, and reference to Fig. 3 will show clearly how each of the ties 27, 28, and 29 have been positioned in accordance with this plan.

More particularly, reference to the tie 29 will show how one end has been passed from the under-side of the blank through a point 30, and how this end is about to be passed back to the under-side through a point 31 presently to be formed by piercing the tip 32 through the blank. Reference to the tie 28 will illustrate a position slightly later in point of time; and reference to the tie 27 will illustrate the ultimate position of the tie with respect to the blank. It will be observed that the mid-portion 33 of the tie 27 has been rendered almost taut so that it lies substantially along the line of fold.

After all the ties have been positioned, the entire blank is doubled upon itself to enclose or embrace the mid-portions of which the mid-portion 33 is illustrative. The adhesive 25 will cause the superposed layers of tag material to adhere to each other, and at the same time the mid-portions of the ties will be securely engaged by the adhesive and retained in their respective positions between the superposed layers.

It will be obvious that the step of doubling the blank upon itself may at the same time be employed for suitably creasing and shaping the superposed layers so as to provide the pockets corresponding to the pocket 12 of Fig. 1. Thereupon the blank is severed transversely of the line of fold, and along lines intermediate the spaced points of threading, so that a series of finished tags will result. Referring to Fig. 4, it will be observed that a tag 34 has been provided by cutting the blank along a line 35 extending substantially perpendicularly thereof intermediate the points through which the binding tie 27 passes. Similarly, I have shown lines of severance 36, 37, and 38. It will be noted that every other cut passes through a mid-portion of a binding tie. Thus, the cut 35 severs the binding tie 27, the cut 37 severs the binding tie 28, and a cut (not shown) severs the binding tie 29. As a result, the tag 34 embodies a binding tie which is constituted of one half of the original binding tie 27. Similarly, the next adjacent tag will embody a binding tie constituting the other portion of the initial tie 27. Also, the next two adjacent tags will embody portions of the tie 28, and so on.

Having thus described the process of manufacture, the efficiency of the tag illustrated in Fig. 1 will be apparent. The superposed plies or layers are securely held together, thereby sealing the pocket 12, and at the same time firmly retain therebetween a portion of the tie 15. The end 39 of the tie 15 is shown securely held between the plies 10 and 11 by means of the adhesive which has been employed to hold these plies together. The production of the tag has entailed a minimum of material, time, and cost, and the finished tag is peculiarly efficient for the reason that the engaged end of the tie 15 has been rendered practically irremovable. That is, no amount of patience or painstaking efforts can withdraw this engaged end from the tag proper without in some way mutilating either the tie or the tag.

It will be obvious that many changes in the details herein described and illustrated for the purpose of explaining the nature of my invention may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as expressed in the appended claims. It is therefore intended that these details be interpreted as illustrative, and not in a limiting sense.

Having thus described my invention and illustrated its use, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. In a tag of the character described, superposed layers, means therebetween for attaching them together, a binding tie having a free threading end and having its other end extending between the layers and engaged by said means, and said layers being so constructed and arranged as to permit said free end to be subsequently interposed therebetween.

2. In a tag of the character described, superposed layers of tag material, said layers being arranged and constructed to provide an inaccessible pocket therebetween for the reception of ends of a binding tie, means for retaining said layers in superposed positions, and a binding tie having a free end outside of the tag and having its opposite end extending into said pocket and in engagement with said means.

3. In a tag of the character described, adhesively connected superposed layers of tag material arranged and constructed to provide an inaccessible pocket therebetween for the reception of ends of a binding string, and a binding string having an end extending into said pocket and into engagement with said adhesive.

4. A tag of the character described comprising a blank doubled upon itself to provide superposed layers having an inaccessible locking chamber therebetween for the reception of ends of a tie element, adhesive material between the layers to attach them

together and seal the chamber, and a tie element extending into the chamber and secured between the layers by said adhesive.

5. A device for severance into a plurality of tags of the character described, comprising in combination, superposed layers of tag material, said layers being arranged and constructed to provide a plurality of spaced inaccessible pockets therebetween, means for retaining said layers in superposed positions, and a series of binding ties each of which has its medial portion in engagement with said means and its ends extending outwardly through adjacent pockets.

6. A device for severance into a plurality of tags of the character described, comprising in combination, superposed layers of tag material, said layers being arranged and constructed to provide a plurality of spaced inaccessible pockets therebetween, means for retaining said layers in superposed positions, and a binding tie for each set of two adjacent pockets, said tie having its medial portion in engagement with said means and having its ends extending out of respective pockets, whereby severance of the device between the pockets will provide a plurality of complete tags having each an inaccessible pocket and a binding tie with one free end outside of the pocket and the other end extending into said pocket and into engagement with said means.

7. A device for severance into a plurality of tags of the character described, comprising in combination, superposed layers of tag material, said layers being arranged and constructed to provide a plurality of spaced inaccessible pockets therebetween, means for retaining said layers in superposed positions, and a binding tie for each set of two adjacent pockets, said tie having its medial portion disposed between said layers and in engagement with said means, and having one end extending out of one pocket and the other end extending out of the other pocket, each of said ends being of a character to permit only one-way threading thereof back into the pocket it emerges from, whereby severance of the device along lines intermediate of the pockets will sever the medial portion of each tie and thereby produce a plurality of complete tags having each an inaccessible pocket and a binding tie having one such threadable end emerging from the pocket.

In witness whereof, I have signed this specification.

HENRY E. KONDOLF.