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W. MILLER

1,852,255

TAG

Filed Feb. 26, 1930

Fig. 1.

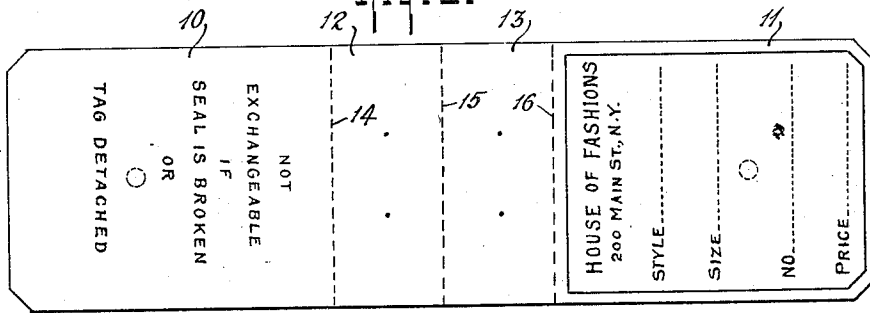


Fig. 3.

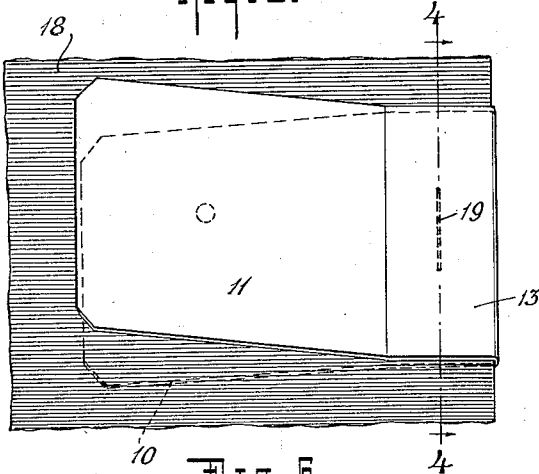


Fig. 2.

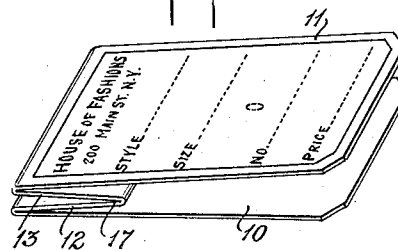


Fig. 6.

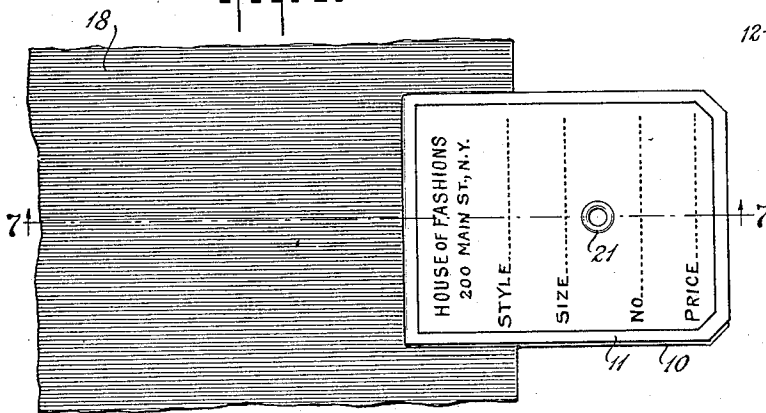


Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

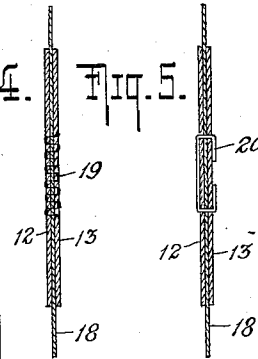
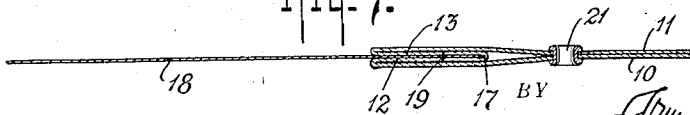


Fig. 7.



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TAG

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My invention relates to identification tags and has for its object to provide a tag which is not removable from the object or material to which it has once been applied without detection of the fact that it has been removed.

The tag of my invention may be used in connection with merchandise such as dresses, suits, furs, and fabrics in general and is designed to forestall the practice of customers of retailers of dresses and like merchandise, of removing the tag, wearing the dress or other article for a period of time within the guarantee period, re-attaching the tag, and returning the merchandise to the dealer. The latter is not usually in a position to doubt the honesty of the customer demanding the refund of the purchase price, as such purchase price has been guaranteed to be refunded if the goods are returned to the dealer with the identification tag still attached thereto. My invention also makes it impossible to substitute an inferior grade of merchandise for that sold, or delivered for treatment as tanning, dyeing or repairing, by the transfer of the identifying tag from the original merchandise to such substituted goods.

Identification tags and seals for which the property of non-removability has been claimed have heretofore been on the market, particularly for use in connection with furs which in the course of their finishing are handled by various persons or agencies, the purpose being to prevent losses to the owner by the exchange or substitution of inferior merchandise for a high quality fur or by the removal, for instance, of a portion of a bolt of material by the dyer, who may then fraudulently explain that the loss of material was due to shrinkage; but such identification seals have the disadvantage that in all cases the goods or article to which they are applied are pierced by the seal, usually with the result that a hole of considerable proportions appears in some portion of the merchandise. While in raw furs, the presence of such a hole

does not materially affect the value of the merchandise, it is obvious that such an identification seal or tag is not applicable to merchandise like dresses, hats, or other finished articles of wearing apparel.

It is then a further object of my invention to provide a type of tag which can be attached to an article or fabric material without perforating the goods to such an extent as to affect the marketability of the merchandise, and which cannot be removed from the material without the fact of such removal becoming easily detectable. Further objects of the invention will appear from the description hereinafter, reference being made to the accompanying drawings in which a preferred modification of the invention is illustrated.

In said drawings, in which similar reference characters identify similar parts in the several views, Fig. 1 is a plan view of a strip which is to be folded into a tag in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2 is a view of the tag in its folded condition before being applied to the article to which it is to be attached; Fig. 3 shows the tag in its position upon the fabric or article when being attached, as by stitching, thereto; Fig. 4 is a section along line 4—4 of Fig. 3; Fig. 5 is a sectional view similar to Fig. 4 except that it shows the tag attached to the fabric by means of a clip or wire staple instead of by thread; Fig. 6 shows the tag attached to the goods and the fastening means applied to the leaves of the tag to lock the same together, completing the attachment of the tag to the fabric; and Fig. 7 is a section along line 7—7 of Fig. 6.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, my new tag comprises a strip of paper, cardboard, or similar material cut to any suitable size and shape and having two leaf portions 10 and 11 and intermediate sections 12 and 13. The strip is folded along the dotted or score lines 14, 15, and 16 into the folded condition shown in Fig. 2 in which the portions 10 and 11 overlap the portions 12 and 13

and the latter form the integral parts of a jaw member or tongue 17 positioned between such leaf portions. It is obvious that the score lines 14, 15, and 16 are provided on the strip merely for the guidance of the operator in folding the tag and may be dispensed with, but I have found it desirable to provide them in my preferred form of the invention. Upon the leaf portions 10 and 11 may be printed, as shown, any identification data or information for either the customer or the dealer.

The folded tag shown in Fig. 2 may then be applied to the edge of the material or goods 18 by slipping the latter within the jaw 17 to which it may be secured as by stitching 19 as shown in Fig. 3 or by means of a thin wire staple 20 as shown in Fig. 5, the leaf portions 10 and 11 being first folded back against the surface of the goods. This operation may, of course, be simplified by first holding the strip along line 15 only, so that the surface of the leaves 10 and 11 shown face each other, then applying the stitching 19, as by needle and thread, and then folding the leaf portions 10 and 11 back into the position shown in Figs. 2 and 6. When the tag has been thus attached to the fabric or material 18 forming, for instance, the lower hem of a dress, an automatic machine or punch of any well-known type is applied to the tag to secure the leaf portions 10 and 11 together, as by the eyelet fastener 21.

Any automatic rivet or punch machine providing a secure locking together of the leaf portions of the tag may be used in connection with my invention. I have illustrated the ordinary eyelet fastener as the locking means as I have found that by using such a fastener, applied by any of the types of eye-letting machines now on the market, I obtain a permanent and secure locking action which cannot be tampered with without breaking the eyelet fastener or damaging the paper or other material surrounding it. Obviously, any other locking means may be employed for fastening the leaves of the tag together, so long as the fastening member cannot be removed from the tag and replaced without detection.

For attaching the jaw 17 to the fabric 18, I prefer to use the stitching 19 as by needle and thread, as the thread will not leave any appreciable perforations in the material, when the tag is finally removed by the owner of the goods or article. In lieu of thread, a thin wire staple 20 may be used which will likewise leave no substantial perforation marks in the goods or dress.

While I have described a specific embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood that various modifications thereof may be made without departing from my invention. For instance, the jaw 17, instead of being made shorter than the leaf portions 10 and 11, may obviously be made of substantially

equal length therewith, in which case the eyelet 21 would perforate said tongue as well as the outer leaves of my tag.

I claim:

1. An article of manufacture comprising a tag made of a single strip of paper, cardboard, or the like, adapted to be folded into sections including two outer leaf portions, a jaw member comprising two of said folded sections positioned therebetween, and adapted to have secured thereto the edge portion of the material to which said tag is to be applied, said outer leaf portions being of greater length than the sections forming said jaw member, and means for permanently securing together said leaf portions.

2. An article of manufacture comprising a tag made of a single strip of paper, cardboard, or the like, adapted to be folded into sections including two outer leaf portions, a jaw member comprising two of said folded sections positioned therebetween, and adapted to have secured thereto the edge portion of the material to which said tag is to be applied, said outer leaf portions being of greater length than the sections forming said jaw member, and an eyelet fastener for permanently securing together said leaf portions.

3. A tag comprising a jaw member adapted to receive the edge portion of a piece of material to which said tag is to be applied, two outer leaf portions of greater length than said jaw member and connected at their ends to said jaw member, and a perforating fastener to permanently secure said leaf portions to each other.

4. A tag comprising a jaw member adapted to receive the edge portion of a piece of material to which said tag is to be applied, two outer leaf portions of greater length than said jaw member and connected at their ends to said jaw member, and an eyelet fastener to permanently secure said leaf portions to each other.

5. An article of manufacture comprising a tag made of a single strip of paper, cardboard, or the like, adapted to be folded into sections including two outer leaf portions, and a jaw member comprising two of said folded sections positioned therebetween, means for temporarily attaching said jaw member to the edge portion of the material to which said tag is to be applied, said outer leaf portions being of greater length than the sections forming said jaw member, and permanent locking means for preventing detachment of said first mentioned means without destruction of said locking means or injury thereto or to the material.

6. An article of manufacture comprising a tag made of a single strip of paper, cardboard, or the like, adapted to be folded into sections including two outer leaf portions, and a jaw member comprising two of said folded sections positioned therebetween

means for temporarily attaching said jaw member to the edge portion of the material to which said tag is to be applied, said outer leaf portions being of greater length than the sections forming said jaw member, and means for locking said leaf portions together for preventing detachment of said first mentioned means without destruction of said locking means or injury thereto or to the material.

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