Nov. 15, 1932. P. P. LINDEN 1,888,090

IDENTIFICATION MEANS

Filed Jan. 7, 1932

Fig. 1.

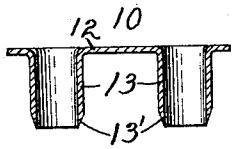


Fig. 2.

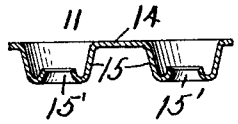


Fig. 3.

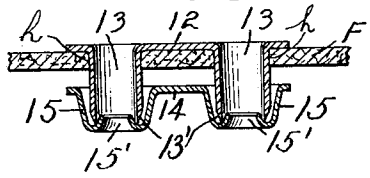


Fig. 4.

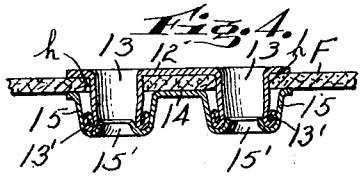


Fig. 5.

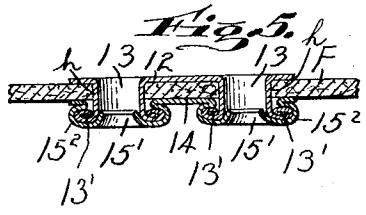


Fig. 6.

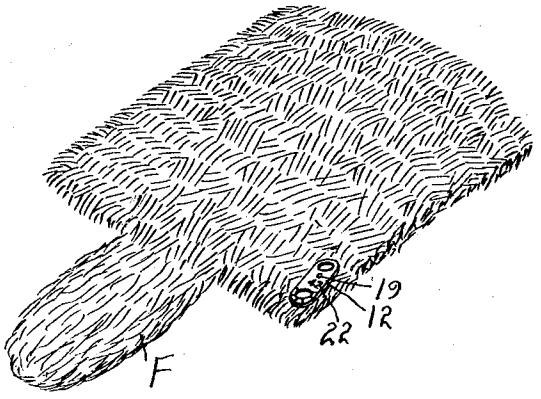
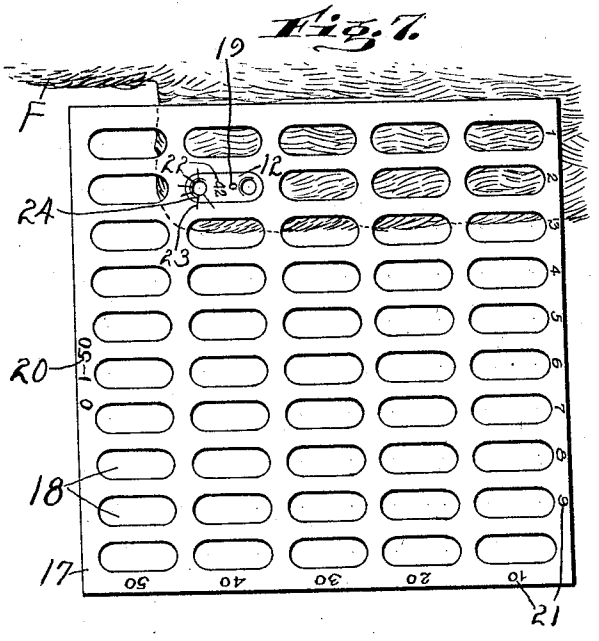


Fig. 7.



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Patented Nov. 15, 1932

1,888,090

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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IDENTIFICATION MEANS

Application filed January 7, 1932. Serial No. 585,225.

The present invention relates to identification tags or means of the kind disclosed in my U. S. Letters Patent #1,701,267. As therein stated, merchandise, such as furs, skins, hides, cloth, hats, fabrics and the like which in the course of manufacture, for the purpose of further treatment, as tanning, dyeing, bleaching or the like, is generally handled by different persons or concerns, may become commingled or confused with or in fact fraudulently replaced by inferior merchandise, as a result of which the owner may suffer irreparable damages. The so called "seals" described in my said earlier patent have proved to be insufficient and ineffective, inasmuch as they can comparatively easily be removed from the goods without being destroyed or without damaging the goods and be applied to substituted goods.

To render such identification means effective and absolutely dependable the same must be so constructed that when fixed to the goods there will be an interlocking of inaccessible parts of said tags and hence no way of removing and remounting the same without destroying the individual parts thereof or of the goods.

It is therefore the main object of my invention to provide a construction that will be absolutely effective and thus meet the aforestated requirement.

Another object is to provide an identification tag which is simple in construction and inexpensive to manufacture and which can be easily and quickly applied to the goods.

A still further object is to so construct the identification tag that when applied to the goods it will not damage the latter and when removed the traces left by it on the goods will be negligible.

With these and other objects in view my invention consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts as will be hereinafter more fully described and shown and defined in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawing which accompanies this specification and in which similar reference characters denote corresponding parts.

Fig. 1 is a sectional elevation of one member or part of my identification means or tag shown in the condition prior to its being mounted on the goods.

Fig. 2 is a similar elevation of the other member or part of my identification means.

Figs. 3 to 5 inclusive are sectional views of the two members of the tag in cooperation with one another, illustrating their condition during the successive steps in the course of fastening said members together and to the goods.

Fig. 6 shows a piece of material such as fur with my improved identification tag attached thereto, and

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the master plate placed over a piece of fur or the like with the identification tag applied thereto and positioned in the opening of the said master plate.

Referring to the drawing more specifically and first to the construction shown in Figs. 1–5, the means embodied in the invention and adapted to serve as an identification tag or check is composed of two parts or elements 10, 11 of suitable material, such as metal or the like, which are adapted in cooperation with one another to be affixed to the goods in such a manner that the separation thereof from the goods could not be effected without destroying any one of the parts thereof and without damaging the goods.

To this end, according to the present embodiment of my invention the element 10 consists of a plate 12 of suitable shape, preferably rectangular and rounded at its ends, formed integrally or otherwise with two or more tubular male members or heads 13 projecting from said plate 12 and whose free ends are slightly tapered and rounded as at 13′ for the purpose to be hereinafter stated. The second element 11 consists of a plate 14 of similar material and shape and formed integrally or otherwise with an equal number of correspondingly spaced tubular female parts or members 15 extending from said plates 14 and capable of engaging the heads 13. The female parts or members 15 project in the same direction as the heads 13 and their free ends are curved inwardly to form reentrant branches in the shape of conical

frustums, as at 15', whose smaller diameters at the extreme ends are slightly smaller than the inner diameters of the tapered ends 13' of the corresponding male heads 13 of element 10 and whose larger diameters at the bases are larger than the outer diameter of the body portions of said heads 13. As a result of such construction, when the two elements 10 and 11 deposited one on top of the other are compressed the same become internally, i. e. in the space between said two plates 12 and 14, interlocked with one another so that no access can be had from the outside to said internally interlocked elements and hence no separation thereof can be effected without destroying the parts of said tag or check.

For the purpose of applying the said tag to the goods F, holes *h* are punched in the latter corresponding in size and spacing with those of the male members 13. The plate 12 is then applied to the goods by passing its male heads 13 through said holes *h* (Fig. 6). The second plate 14 is then applied by placing it over the opposite face of the goods so that the male heads 13 register with the female parts 15, (Fig. 3). By the use of corresponding dies (not shown) the two plates are then compressed as a result of which the male members 13 are forced over the female members 15 and the tapered ends of said heads are beaded or caused to curl up along the bases of the said female members (Fig. 4). On continuing the pressure the outer walls 15^2 of said female members 15 are caused to be curved inwardly and around the already curled portions of the heads 13 (Fig. 5). These curled or beaded portions of the projections being located on the inside of said plates 12 and 14, are inaccessible from the outside. As a result thereof the tag or check becomes permanently fixed to the goods and only by the destruction of any one of the plates or parts thereof can it be detached from the goods or its elements separated from one another.

It will readily be seen that owing to such construction my identification tag embodied in this invention is most effective and absolutely reliable.

Now, this identification tag or check is adapted to be used in cooperation with a master plate 17 (Fig. 7) to be retained by the owner when the tagged goods are handed over to another party for further treatment or for other purposes, in the same manner as the "seal" disclosed in my aforenamed Letters Patent #1,701,267. For the sake of clarity, however, I shall in the following repeat the construction and method of use of said master plate in cooperation with the improved identification tag.

The master plate 17 preferably made of soft metal is of square or rectangular shape and is formed with a plurality of holes or openings 18 corresponding in shape and size with the said identification tag or check. The tags or checks are each provided with a mark, such as a serial letter A, B, C, D, etc., as at 19, and the master plates 17 are each provided with a corresponding mark. These marks enable the owner of the merchandise to quickly pick out the particular master plate upon the return of the tagged goods. The master plates 17 in addition bear serial or consecutive numbers or other characters, as at 20, say from 1 to 50, according to the number of openings 18 therein, the openings 18 being consecutively marked by the serial numbers as at 21. Corresponding serial numbers or marks are applied to the tags as at 22. These marks will permit the owner of the mechandise to readily locate the particular opening in the master plate for the corresponding tag. Along or adjacent an edge of every opening of the master plate, and on the corresponding tag, while positioned in said opening, marks in form of lines or the like are made as at 23 and 24 respectively, which marks are continuations or complementary of one another as shown in Fig. 7. These marks when in juxtaposition will positively identify the tag as being the original one applied to the goods given out by the owner.

It may, of course, be possible to modify the construction of my tag in many ways without departing from the principle of my invention. I, therefore, do not wish to restrict myself to the details of the construction shown and described.

What I claim is:—

1. An identification means consisting of two interlocking members adapted to engage between themselves the material to be identified, one of said members having means to be pierced through said material and the other of said members having means to engage and on compression to deform said piercing means and itself be deformed so as to become interlocked with said piercing means in an inaccessible location to prevent removal of said identification means without destruction thereof.

2. An identification means consisting of two interlocking plates adapted to engage between themselves the material to be identified, one of said plates having means to be pierced through said material and the other of said members having means to engage and on compression to deform said first named means and itself be deformed so as to become interlocked with said first named means in an inaccessible location to prevent removal of said identification means without destruction thereof.

3. An identification tag or check comprising a member having a projection adapted to be passed through the goods to be identified, and means for engaging and on compression deforming said projection and itself being

deformed and interlocking with the extremity of said projection in inaccessible location to prevent separation of said two members without destroying or damaging any part.

4. An identification tag or check comprising a member having tubular projections adapted to be passed through the goods to be identified and a second member adapted to be mounted on said tubular projections on the opposite side of said goods and having means to deform the extremities of said tubular projections when compressed and themselves be deformed and become interlocked with said deformed extremities in an inaccessible location to prevent removal of said tag without destroying or damaging any part thereof.

5. An identification tag comprising a member having tubular projections adapted to be passed through the goods to be identified and whose extremities are capable of being beaded over, and a second member adapted to be mounted on said tubular projections on the opposite side of said goods and means on said second named member adapted on compression to bead over said extremities of said tubular projections and themselves be deformed and interlock with said beaded extremities in an inaccessible location to prevent separation of said two members without destroying or damaging said identification tag.

6. An identification tag comprising a member having tubular projections adapted to be mounted through the goods to be identified and whose extremities are capable of being beaded over, a second member having tubular projections of larger diameter than said first named tubular projections and adapted to be mounted on the latter, said second named projections having reentrant extremities which on compression are adapted to bead said first named extremities, said second named projections being themselves deformed and interlocking with said beaded extremities in an inaccessible location to prevent the removal of said tag from said goods without destroying or damaging said tag.

7. In identification means for materials such as fur or the like, a tag composed of two plates, each having projections, the projections of one of said plates being adapted to be passed through one face of the material and engage on the opposite face thereof the projections of said other plate, said two sets of projections both being deformed and becoming inaccessibly interlocked with one another when said plates are compressed, one face of said tag bearing identification means corresponding to those of a master plate for the purpose of identifying said tag.

8. An identification means comprising two elements adapted to engage between themselves the material to be identified, one of said elements having tubular elements adapted to extend through said material and the other of said elements having tubular elements to engage said first named tubular elements and on compression to deform the latter and be themselves deformed and interlock with said deformed first named tubular elements in an inaccessible location.

9. An identification tag comprising a member having tubular projections adapted to be mounted through the goods to be identified and whose extremities may be deformed, a second member having tubular projections of larger diameter than said first named tubular projections and adapted to be mounted on the latter, said second named projections having reentrant extremities which on compression are adapted to deform said first named extremities, said second named projections then being themselves deformed and interlocking with said deformed first named extremities in an inaccessible location to prevent separation of said members without destruction of said tag.

10. An identification means comprising a plate element having a tubular projecting element whose free end curves inwardly to form a reentrant branch in shape of a conical frustum.

11. An identification means comprising two elements adapted to engage between themselves the material to be identified, one of said elements having tubular projecting male members to project through said material, the free ends of said male members being reduced in diameter and capable of being beaded over and the other of said elements having tubular projecting female members extending in the same direction as said male members, the free ends of said female members curving inwardly to form reentrant branches whose minimum diameters are smaller than the diameter at the free ends of said male members whereby when said two elements are pressed together said female members will bead over said male members and be themselves deformed and interlock with said male members in an inaccessible location.

12. An identification means comprising a plate element having tubular male members projecting therefrom whose free ends are slightly tapered and rounded, a second plate element having a corresponding number of female members extending therefrom to engage said male members, said female members projecting in the same direction as said male members and having their free ends curved inwardly to form reentrant branches in the shape of conical frustums whose diameters at their ends are smaller than the inner diameters of said ends of said male members and whose larger diameters are greater than the outer diameters of said male members whereby when said two members are pressed together the male and female members become interlocked in inaccessible location.

13. An identification means comprising a member having a tubular projecting male element adapted to be mounted through the goods to be identified and whose extremity may be deformed, a tubular projecting female element of larger diameter than said male element adapted to be mounted on the latter from the opposite side of the goods to be identified, said female element having a reentrant portion at its lower end which on compression is adapted to deform said first named extremity, said female element on said compression being itself deformed and interlocking with said deformed male element in inaccessible location to prevent removal of said means from said goods without destruction of said means.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

PAUL P. LINDEN.