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F. R. WALLICH
IDENTIFICATION BAND

2,561,894

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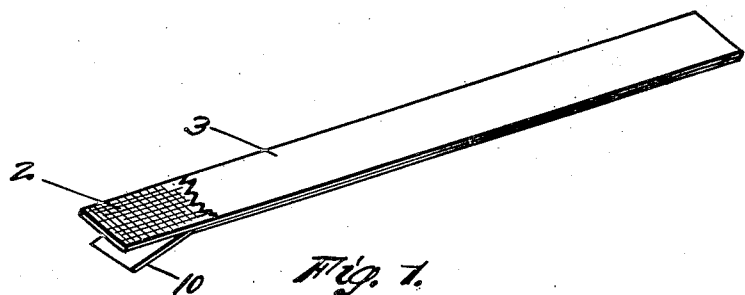


Fig. 1.

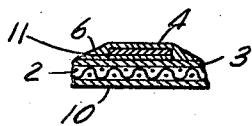


Fig. 4.

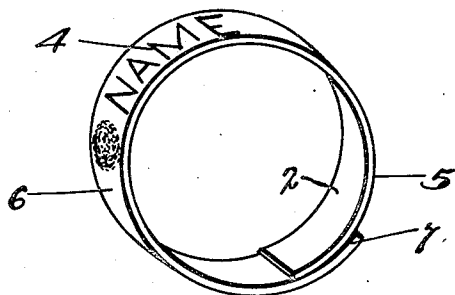


Fig. 2.

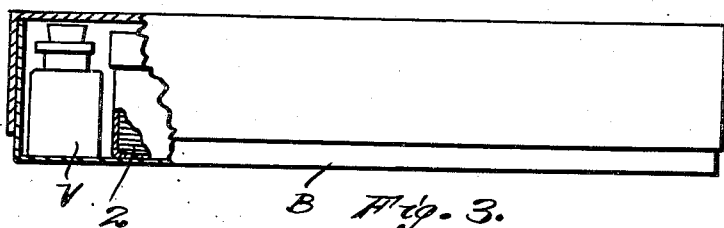


Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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IDENTIFICATION BAND

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1 Claim. (Cl. 40-21)

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This invention concerns the science of identification of individuals, and more particularly is a system for the safe labelling of new born infants for their reliable identification, especially in maternity hospitals.

It is well known that confusion often happens in the correct identification of new born babies; even in well regulated maternity institutions. Many attempts have been made to solve the numerous difficulties incident to the use of marking devices and systems in connection with the effective identification of babies.

The present invention has in view the provision of an organized system by the use of which a band can be applied to an arm or a leg of a new born child in a very short time after the birth.

A further intent of the invention is to provide a marking system in which is supplied a tough, flexible, water and oil resistive band, wholly free of metallic elements and which involves no harmful ingredients to possibly re-act with ill effect on the child's skin.

Additionally, it is in the ken of the invention to provide a marking band of such a nature that the mother's name, and her fingerprint as wanted, may be easily and quickly applied and then given a protective coat of durable, water and oil repellant substance to give a long and effective life to the band in withstanding frequent bathing and nursing of the infant.

Also, the invention has in purpose the provision of a strong textile band blank bodily saturated with a desired water and oil resistive substance in the nature of a varnishing liquid, several kinds of which are substantial equivalents and are available, and are herein in contemplation as especially effective for the attainment of the solution of the problems to be met in identification bands for infants; one such varnish being of the cellulose-acetate group.

The invention resides in certain advancements in this art as set forth in the ensuing disclosure and having, with the above, additional objects and advantages as will be hereinafter developed and whose constructions, combinations and details of means and the manner of operation will be made manifest in the following description of the herewith illustrative embodiment; it being understood that equivalents, variations, modifications and adaptations may be resorted to within the scope, spirit and principles of the invention as it is claimed in conclusion hereof.

Figure 1 is a perspective of the band blank.

Figure 2 is a perspective of an inscribed blank

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coiled into band form for closing about an infant's limb (wrist or ankle).

Figure 3 is a sectional view of a boxed solution and band kit.

Figure 4 is a transverse cross-section of the legend strip.

In its preferred embodiment the invention consists of a suitable size piece of strip-like-material such as a light weight and sufficiently strong cloth 2. This strip is impregnated with a desired liquid which will dry firm and constitute a varnish coat 3 which will take an inscription in ink or other suitable material to provide a clearly viewable legend or name 4 to constitute a label for identification purposes. One of such impregnating substances is liquid cellulose acetate; this having been found to be particularly advantageous because it renders the strip 2 water and oil repellant and sufficiently flexible to be readily coiled into wrist or leg band form 5, Fig. 2.

At the time of birth of a baby three of the strips 2 are removed from a kit box B and the desired legend or name 4 is inscribed on one (the outer) face of the banding making strip, and then the outer face of the strip is coated with a mixture of cellulose acetate and acetone, known as having a strong affinity for the acetate impregnation as a varnish 6. For instant availability a vessel V of this acetone mixture is provided as a part of the band kit in the handy box B.

At the most opportune moment after the birth of the baby such end margins of the strip 2 as will lap one on the other to complete the band, when applied to the given limb, will be moistened by an application of the said acetone mixture as at 7 whereby to make a strong adhesive contact of the lapped band ends.

If desired, the impregnated band blank 2 may have a thin coating of any desired material, starch 11 for instance, to facilitate making the legend imprint.

The blank 2 may be made of a suitably soft or pliant vinyl or cellulosic plastic body without use of the reinforcing fabric, and which has the several properties of long life and desired cleanliness, and safety of the applied legend against tampering, and permanence as documentary evidence.

It is old to apply identification limb bands to new-born babies but heretofore such bands would not keep clean or remain applied and were therefore unsatisfactory. This invention provides a pliable, flexible soil resistant band whose lapped ends are adhesively attached by a strong and

reliable medium making them practically inseparable by wear and liquid attack, and which band will stay in useful condition for the confinement period, and is removable practically, only by actual cutting apart. Also, the invention provides a band which, when removed from the baby, can be used as actual documentary evidence for record purposes; a quality not heretofore available in identification bands for baby use. In using this system of baby marking, at birth, one band can be employed for the preservation of record by a parent, one can be used for a permanent doctor's or institutional record element, and one, by use on a baby's ankle, affords a protection against surreptitious tampering, as is possible if bands are applied only to wrists which are quickly accessible.

In this system the band is prepared, as to identification legend and mother's finger prints, at about the actual time of birth and as birth is occurring the band can be instantly coated at 7 with an adhesive, as of the acetone mix, which will quickly set under slight finger pressure and without heat, and as soon as the baby is handed over to the nurse she will wrap the band about the limb and clinch the lapped ends. Bands may be applied on as many limbs of a baby as desired; to give ample documentary record. An advantage had by this system is that the cost of identification insurance is greatly reduced.

The cellulosic nature of the band gives it great life; its adhered lapping ends will stay reliably in place for a long period; the varnished legend is fool proof and practically unalterable by oil or water action, and the band stays clean and attractive for the full period needed. The devices may be of any suitable color.

The basal strip 2, bearing the imprinted or inscribed legend, and the covering varnish coat constitute a safe, laminated band.

The system is economical; it gives the mother a strong sense of security of baby identification; it is fool-proof in employment, and it affords a reliable basis for legal, documentary evidence.

The mother's finger prints are applied to the obverse face of the plastics film at or about the time of labor and the inscribed legend and marks are at once coated by the quick drying acetone varnish for reliable protection of the markings.

A thin soft, cushion layer of appropriate material is shown at 10, but it is not essential in the plastics band.

What is claimed is:

A birth-record, band-blank adapted for inscription and application to a baby limb at the immediate time of birth and comprising a strip of fabric impregnated by a water and oil resistive solid filler of the nature of cellulosic acetate; one face of the impregnated strip having an additive coating of the same substance as the filler with an added abrasive for and to facilitate making a written inscription; and an inscription face protecting varnish of the same substance of the filler covering said coating and the inscription and bonding the applied inscription and said coating onto the impregnated fabric whereby to constitute a durable and reliable record device in which the inscription is sealed as an integral part of the band-blank, said varnish rendering the record water and oil resistive and substantially irremovable without evidence of destruction; the ends of the blank being adapted to be affixed in face-lapped position by an application of the protecting varnish.

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