No. 881,255. PATENTED MAR. 10, 1908.

T. McCAMPBELL.

COMBINED PATTERN POUCH AND SALES CHECK.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 18, 1905.

Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

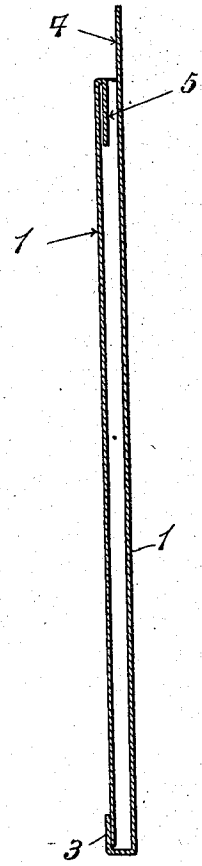
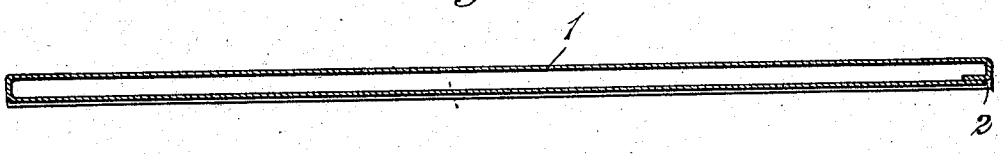


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
Edward C. Rowland.
Kathryn Chavers

Theron McCampbell
Inventor
By his Attorney H. Swackaye

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THERON McCAMPBELL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

COMBINED PATTERN-POUCH AND SALES-CHECK.

No. 881,255. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented March 10, 1908.

Application filed August 18, 1905. Serial No. 274,783.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THERON McCAMPBELL, a citizen of the United States, and residing at No. 153 East Eighteenth street, city of New York, borough of Manhattan, county and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combined Pattern-Pouch and Sales-Check, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has relation to an improved pouch or envelop for receiving paper dress patterns which serves at the same time to facilitate the methods of business found necessary under the peculiar circumstances governing the disposal of these articles.

The business of making and selling dress patterns is subject to unique conditions. Some of these it will be necessary to describe here, in order to make fully clear the usefulness of this invention. In the first place dress patterns are used in immense numbers in the great majority of homes all over the country. At the same time—since the fashions are continually changing—it is essential to success to be able to distribute new patterns rapidly just where they are wanted.

In each small town a certain merchant is given the exclusive agency for a given manufacturer, and when a certain style of pattern is sold out by him he must be immediately supplied with new ones or subsequent sales for that manufacturer will probably be lost in that particular locality.

What increases the importance of prompt reorders to merchants is the fact that relatively few of them can afford to keep in stock more than one pattern of each style and size. A single sale therefore puts that style and size out of stock and unless immediately reordered another demand for the same pattern cannot be filled. To the manufacturer prompt reorders are important because of the custom of taking back at the end of each season all unsold patterns and crediting the merchants with them at cost. Thus profit is realized only on resales.

In properly constructed stores there is an immediate entry made by each clerk in a reorder book of each pattern sold, noting style, garment, size and price; and at the end of the day orders are sent for these to the manufacturer. This entails a great deal of time and trouble both making the original entries and in copying the same. Besides this, many mistakes are liable to occur. Another difficulty constantly met with is that ordinary clerks not accustomed to the pattern business are constantly employed in selling patterns among other articles. These clerks do not realize the importance of making immediate entries in the reorder book and either by failure of memory or by total neglect in this regard reorders are wrongly made or not at all.

It is one principal object of this invention to supply means whereby there is provided a combined sales check and reorder check with every pattern, serving to remind the clerk, to reduce his labor to practically nothing, to avoid all copying of reorder entries and to absolutely prevent errors. Besides these major advantages my invention supplies a reinforced envelop or pouch not easily torn apart and saves a great deal of paper which has hitherto been wasted. This last item becomes important by reason of the large number of patterns sold.

My invention in its preferred embodiment is illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein

Figure 1 is a face view of my improved pouch as it appears just before removal of the reorder coupon, Fig. 2 is a median longitudinal section thereof and Fig. 3 is a transverse section thereof on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Each pattern is delivered complete to the merchant in a separate pouch or envelop 1, preferably made of thin cheap paper. The blank is folded over and gummed together at the side edge 2 and at the bottom 3. It is customary and preferable to supply an extension on one side of the bag, as shown at 4, which serves as an outside closing flap for the pouch. Hitherto in making pouches of this kind, the corresponding extension on the opposite side of the blank has been cut off and wasted.

It is one object of this invention to avoid this waste and to make said extension useful.

Another object of this invention is to utilize said extension to form a combined sale and reorder coupon so arranged as to reinforce the mouth of the bag and to be protected from handling until used so as not to become soiled. For this purpose I leave the extension flap 5 on the side of the bag opposite to the closing flap 4 and fold the same

inward as shown in Fig. 2. In this position the extension or interior flap 5 forms a reinforcement of the mouth of the bag preventing tearing by careless handling. This is the more important that cheap and flimsy paper is used in this connection to save expense. On the extension 5 is printed a statement of such items as serve to identify the style and size of the pattern to be inclosed and, as shown in the drawing, the price may also be here printed. The essential parts of this printing are duplicated upon some other part of the envelop or its flap, for instance near the edge as shown in the drawing. While not absolutely essential, I prefer to make the coupon 5 so narrow as not to extend as far as the gummed area 2. This makes it possible to fold down the flap 5 before gumming the envelop. A weakened line to facilitate removal of the coupon 5 is preferably provided as shown by the dotted line 6. These pouches are used as follows: When a sale is made, the infolded coupon is drawn out and torn off, being sent to the cashier with payment. After entry of the sale in the retailers book, this slip, which has served thus far as a sales check, is laid aside and is mailed with others to the manufacturer at the end of the day, thus serving in the additional capacity of a reorder coupon.

The particular arrangement shown and described is not essential to my invention broadly and I do not limit myself beyond the actual terms of each of my claims respectively.

What I claim is—

1. A combined pattern pouch and sales check comprising a thin flexible paper bag having a closing flap on one side of its mouth and bearing identifying printed matter on its body, a second reinforcing flap on the opposite side of said mouth, said second flap bearing printing substantially identical with that on the body of the bag, being limited by a tearing line near the mouth of the bag and being creased and turned into the bag, substantially as described.

2. A combined pattern pouch and sales check, comprising a thin flexible paper bag gummed down one side edge and having a closing flap on one side of its mouth, and a second reinforcing flap on the opposite side of said mouth, said second flap being limited by a tearing line and being so narrow as not to overlap the inner edge of the gummed area, so that said reinforcing flap may be turned inward before the bag is gummed together without danger of gumming it, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

THERON McCAMPBELL.

Witnesses:
ALBERT C. WIECHERS,
JOHN A. KEHLENBECK.