May 21, 1929. C. E. WAREAM 1,713,633

LAUNDRY MARKING TAG

Filed April 29, 1927

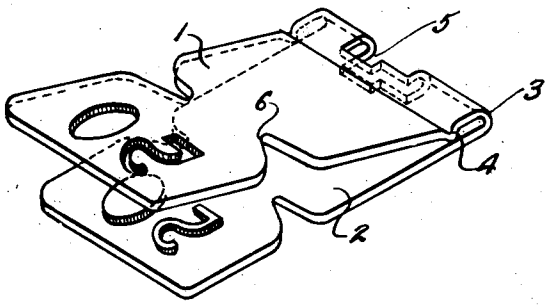


FIG.-1

FIG.-4

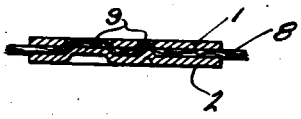


FIG.-3

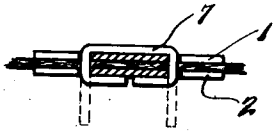
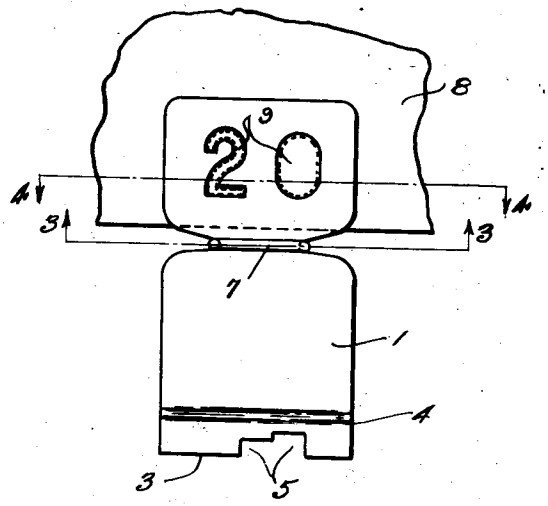


FIG.-2



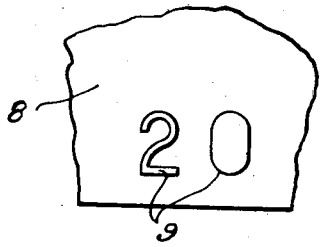


FIG.-5

INVENTOR

BY Charles E. Waream

Brockett & Hyde

ATTORNEYS

Patented May 21, 1929. 1,713,633

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES E. WAREAM, OF NORWOOD, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO THE AMERICAN LAUNDRY MACHINERY COMPANY, OF NORWOOD STATION, OHIO, A CORPORATION OF OHIO.

LAUNDRY MARKING TAG.

Application filed April 29, 1927. Serial No. 187,558.

This invention relates generally to fabric article identifying tags and particularly to that class of such devices utilized in identifying articles as they pass through the various steps of a treating process such as the laundry processes.

Heretofore fabric articles have been identified in various ways, sometimes with figures or marks placed upon the article with indelible ink; sometimes with clamped markers clamped or otherwise secured to the article and by numerous devices removably secured to the article. In some instances these devices have been of the self-clamping type which require special tools for opening them to remove them from the articles to which they are applied.

The present invention aims to overcome some of the difficulties accompanying the use of these other devices and to provide a new and improved type of marker of the clamp type arranged, in the preferred type, to be self-opening or releasing and to carry suitable identifying indicia which clearly marks or identifies the marker and which, through the structure of the device, leaves an identifying effect upon the articles after the marker is removed so that the article is permanently identified, in a sense, to the extent, at least, of having the indicia of the marker left on it for identification should the marker be removed too soon or should the article be misplaced after the marker has been removed. This feature adds great utility to any marker and especially the self-releasing spring marker because when such a marker is applied to the goods it is closed against its spring tendency to clamp the article and is held in this arrangement by some means which is afterwards removed to release the marker from the article. The mark left in the fabric while being more or less permanent does not disfigure the article and may be readily ironed out if its appearance is undesirable.

The invention may be further briefly summarized as consisting in the construction and arrangement of parts as set forth in the following description, drawings and claims.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the device; Fig. 2 shows the device applied; Fig. 3 is a section upon the line 3—3, Fig. 2; Fig. 4 is a section upon the line 4—4, Fig. 2; and Fig. 5 is a view showing the impression upon the article to be identified.

In the embodiment shown in the drawings, the marker comprises two flat clamping portions 1 and 2 formed of the same piece of non-corrosive metal bent back upon themselves at 3 and crimped at 4 transversely of the marker so as to protect the bent end portion against undue flexing as shown in Fig. 1. The curved end portion 3 may be provided with suitable identifying notches 5 for cooperation with any suitable identifying system. Each of the clamping portions 1 or 2 is notched inward from each of its edges to produce a narrow waist portion indicated at 6 and these waists are in alignment and are adapted to receive a staple 7 which is bent around in a suitable stapling machine or the like for holding the clamping members on the article. In use the free outer ends of the clamping portions are used as jaws for clamping the article so that the staple does not penetrate the work.

In addition to the identifying notches 5 each of the clamping members 1 and 2 is provided with indicating indicia such as a number or the like, the number being cut out or pressed upward with respect to the member 1, for example, while the member 2 has a like indication extending in the same direction, the number or indication of the lower member nesting into the number or indication of the upper member 1 so that when the goods is clamped between these members and has passed through the several laundry operations, it becomes embossed to the extent of having an identifying figure or mark in it correponding to the marking device. Even when the marking device is removed it retains semi-permanent embossed marking similar to the marking of the marker. This is well shown in Fig. 5 wherein article 8 is provided with indications 9.

In use articles to be laundered are sent to the marking room where these devices are applied to the articles and held in place by a staple extending about the waists of the two marking members preferably beyond the edge of the article to which the marker is applied and bent up on the other side to retain it in place. The article with the marker applied passes through the several laundry processes where it becomes moist and finally dried so that a perfect embossed impression

is created and provided upon the article which will permit of considerable handling and yet will properly identify the article.

While the specific arrangement disclosed in this description is related more particularly to the first opening or releasing type of clamp, it is obvious that this embossing principle may be readily applied to any type of marker whether it be first opening, first closing, or indeed, of any arrangement where it possesses the necessary element capable of producing the embossing feature.

Having described my invention I claim:

1. Apparatus for distinguishing fabric articles to be subjected to laundry treatment, comprising a plurality of generally similar marking tags each adapted for releasable attachment to an article for accompanying the same through the laundry treatment, each tag being provided with means for producing in the article to which it is attached an identifying mark, the marks being produced by pressure only and without perforating the articles and each tag producing a different mark, whereby if a tag becomes detached from its article during treatment of the latter, the article will still bear its identifying mark.

2. Apparatus for distinguishing fabric articles to be subjected to laundry treatment, comprising a plurality of generally similar marking tags each having a pair of clamping portions to releasably receive an article therebetween, the tags being adapted to accompany the articles through the laundry treatment, the clamping portions of each of said tags being provided with means for producing in the article clamped therebetween an identifying mark, the marks being produced by pressure only and without perforating the articles and each tag producing a different mark, whereby if a tag becomes detached from its article during treatment of the latter, the article will still bear its identifying mark.

3. Apparatus for distinguishing fabric articles to be subjected to laundry treatment, comprising a plurality of generally similar marking tags each having a pair of clamping portions to releasably receive an article therebetween, the tags being adapted to accompany the articles through the laundry treatment, the clamping portions of each of said tags being provided with means for producing in the article clamped therebetween an identifying mark, the marks being produced by pressure only and without perforating the articles and each tag producing a different mark, the mark producing means of each tag including a raised part on one clamping portion and a correspondingly shaped depressed part on the other clamping portion for receiving said raised part, whereby if a tag becomes detached from its article during treatment of the latter, the article will still bear its identifying mark.

In testimony whereof I hereby affix my signature.

CHARLES E. WAREAM.