Oct. 27, 1925. 1,558,780

W. R. BETHAM

RAILROAD BAGGAGE COUPON TICKET

Filed Jan. 22, 1923

CHICAGO & S. E. P R. CO.
CHICAGO

Prior to arrival at final destination Conductor must detach Coupon and hand to passenger holding check bearing same number, see Baggage-Coupon Rules, Baggageman must insert Check No. on Coupon naming destination designated by Ticket-holder of

TICKET Nº 4567 B A

C. & S.E.R.R.CO.
Ticket Nº 4567
Birmingham TO CHICAGO
C

BAGGAGE COUPON
C.&S.E.R.R.CO.
TICKET Nº 4567
Birmingham To CHICAGO G
Check Nº
Note - Only the Conductor or person delivering the baggage is authorized to detach this Coupon If detached by others this Coupon is void and will not be honored when claiming baggage C'

C.& S.E.R.R.CO.
SOUTHERN POST RY. CO.
Ticket Nº 4567
H
Jacksonville TO Birmingham
D K

BAGGAGE COUPON
C.&S.E.R.R.CO.
SOUTHERN POST RY. CO.
TICKET Nº 4567
Jacksonville To Birmingham D'
Check Nº
Note - Only the Conductor or person delivering the baggage is authorized to detach this Coupon If detached by others this Coupon is void and will not be honored when claiming baggage

C.& S.E.R.R.CO.
GEORGIA STATE R.R.CO.
Ticket Nº 4567
Palm Beach TO Jacksonville
E

BAGGAGE COUPON
C.&S.E.R.R.CO.
GEORGIA STATE R.R.CO.
TICKET Nº 4567
Palm Beach TO Jacksonville E'
Check Nº
Note - Only the Conductor or person delivering the baggage is authorized to detach this Coupon If detached by others this Coupon is void and will not be honored when claiming baggage K

C.& S.E.R.R.CO.
SOUTH BAY & MIAMI RY.
Ticket Nº 4567
Miami TO Palm Beach
F

BAGGAGE COUPON
C.&S.E.R.R.CO.
SOUTH BAY & MIAMI RY.
TICKET Nº 4567
Miami TO Palm Beach F'
Check Nº
Note - Only the Conductor or person delivering the baggage is authorized to detach this Coupon If detached by others this Coupon is void and will not be honored when claiming Baggage

Fig. 1.

L

BAGGAGE CLAIM CHECK
1456
Note - This Claim Check with Passenger's Ticket-Baggage-Coupon bearing above number, must be presented to Baggageman to secure Baggage The Baggage Coupon must not be detached from ticket except by Conductor or person delivering the Baggage.

Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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RAILROAD-BAGGAGE COUPON TICKET.

Application filed January 22, 1923. Serial No. 614,227.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM R. BETHAM, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Railroad-Baggage Coupon Tickets, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to improvements in railroad tickets, and more particularly to a railroad ticket having baggage coupons attached thereto, and it consists in the combinations, constructions, and arrangements herein described and claimed.

A great deal of loss is occasioned under the present methods of checking baggage due to unscrupulous employees. Thus one traveling by automobile, or persons desiring to ship merchandise and baggage to friend or associate, by conniving with the baggageman, have merchandise and baggage transported free, as the public carriers have no adequate means at present of detecting such fraudulent practices, and are therefore defrauded of vast sums of legitimate revenues. Many cases have occurred where the baggageman has been given a tip and checked a trunk or other piece of baggage to a far distant destination while the owner travels by automobile to the same destination, thus defrauding the railroad company. In other instances, one who is traveling on a legitimate ticket may lose his baggage check and the finder can claim the baggage, since he has the only thing by which to identify it.

An object of my invention is to limit the transportation of baggage to passengers actually entitled thereto.

A further object of my invention is to safe-guard and identify the owners of such baggage.

A further object of my invention is to provide a railroad ticket having a plurality of coupons, the use of which will form a complete and accurate check, which will enable railroad companies to obviate the losses mentioned above.

Other objects and advantages will appear in the following specification, and the novel features of the invention will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings forming part of this application, in which—

Figure 1 is a face view of a railroad baggage coupon ticket constructed according to my invention, and

Figure 2 is a face view of a claim check to be used in connection with the railroad baggage coupon ticket.

In carrying out my invention I provide a ticket having a head or body portion A upon which certain general data, such as the name of the road and instructions to the conductor and baggageman are printed. This portion contains the number of the ticket as shown at B. Attached to the portion A are portions C, D, E, and F, these portions constituting the ticket proper, and being provided with data such as the name of the road, the number of the ticket, and particularly the names of the stations between which the ticket portion serves for transportation.

Attached to, and corresponding with, each ticket portion is a baggage coupon portion, such as those shown at C′, D′, E′, and F′. This baggage coupon portion corresponds to its adjoining ticket portion, that is to say, it has the name of the road, the number of the ticket, and the stations between which the transportation is intended. Each baggage coupon has, in addition, a blank space G in which is to be written the number of the claim check.

The baggage coupons are separated from their corresponding ticket portions by a perforated or scored line H, and they are separated from each other by similar perforated or scored lines K which are prolongations of the lines which separate the ticket portions proper from one another.

From the foregoing description of the various parts of the device, the operation thereof may be readily understood. Let us assume that a passenger is going from Miami, Florida, to Chicago. He buys his ticket, which is provided with the baggage coupons and is given a claim check, bearing a number, such as that shown at L in the drawings. The number of the claim check is written in the space G of the baggage coupon C′, i. e., that baggage coupon which contains the name of the destination of the passenger. The conductor on the first division will tear off the portions F and F′, on the second division the portions E and E′, and on the third division, the portions D and D′. On the last division the conductor will call for the passenger's

claim check. He will compare the number of the claim check with the number which is written in at G on the baggage coupon portion C′, and if they correspond, he will tear off the baggage coupon C′ and give it to the passenger, taking up the last ticket portion C.

In order to get his baggage, the passenger must present his claim check L and his baggage coupon C′. It will be seen that this will prevent baggage from being sent over a line which does not carry a passenger, since there will be no ticket having the baggage coupon attached thereto.

In case a party going from Miami to Chicago, desires to stop off at St. Augustine, which is not a division point named on the ticket, the baggage claim check number and the name "St. Augustine" will be written on the back of the baggage-coupon E′ reading Palm Beach to Jacksonville. The conductor will compare the number written on the back of said baggage-coupon with the number on the claim check held by the passenger, and if they correspond, will write the name "St. Augustine" on the back of the ticket portion E reading "Palm Beach to Jacksonville" and then hand the ticket with the baggage-coupon attached, to the passenger.

When claiming baggage at St. Augustine, the passenger will present ticket and baggage-coupon, attached, with the claim check, to the delivery baggageman, who will take up the claim check and record delivery of the baggage at St. Augustine on the back of said baggage coupon, leaving the same attached to the ticket portion, unless the baggage is to be rechecked beyond Jacksonville, in which case he will then detach the baggage coupon, writing the number of the new check on the baggage-coupon, naming the destination designated by the ticket holder. In case baggage is rechecked to Jacksonville, the number of the new claim check will be written in the proper place provided on the face of the baggage-coupon E′ reading "Palm Beach to Jacksonville."

It will be understood that the conductors taking up tickets having baggage coupons attached thereto, but not used for checking baggage, will send the ticket portions with the baggage coupons attached thereto to the general ticket auditor. The baggageman at a stop-over point, as stated, will detach the coupon designating the stop-over point, except when rechecked to the division point named thereon, in which case only the surrendered claim check bearing the requisite data will be sent to the general ticket auditor, as for instance, the coupon E′, and will send such baggage coupon and the surrendered claim check to the general ticket auditor.

When more than one baggage check is used, the additional check numbers and the total weight should be written on the baggage coupon, naming the destination designated by the ticket holder. To limit the transportation of baggage to a passenger entitled to such services, the delivery baggageman at the stop-over between division points and final destination points should, when in doubt, insist upon inspecting the passenger's ticket when making delivery, in addition to compliance with the prescribed baggage coupon ticket rules.

This ticket may also be used in connection with "trip" and "mileage" tickets, and also "annual" and "trip" passes. For "mileage" tickets the baggageman will write the number of the baggage check or checks on the back of the baggage coupons, also the total number of miles used and the name of the destination to which the baggage is checked. The conductors will make use of the ticket in the manner already described. The "trip" passes will have baggage coupons attached and are subject to the same regulations that apply to the regular passenger baggage coupon tickets.

In the case of "annual" passes, the name and the number of the pass holder and also the railroad must be written on the back of the claim check to enable the delivery baggageman to verify the ownership of the baggage. In this case also, the surrendered claim check must be sent to the general ticket auditor.

It will be obvious that by the use of this ticket, the frauds which are now of such frequent occurrence will be prevented. In order for a passenger to claim his baggage he must have the baggage coupon to present with his claim check, and such coupon of course, can be only gotten by the purchase of a ticket. Any connivance with the baggageman to forward baggage without payment to the road, as for instance, where the passenger is going by automobile, will be prevented. In case the claim check should be lost, no one else can get the baggage because he will not have the baggage coupon check. But this will not prevent the party himself from presenting the baggage coupon check and properly identifying the baggage.

In addition to preventing baggage frauds, my improved ticket prevents misuse of tickets such as "mileage" tickets. If a passenger who is a good friend of a conductor should go on his train from Chicago to St. Louis, there is nothing in the ordinary system which would prevent the conductor from tearing off twenty or thirty miles and permitting his friend to ride to St. Louis, the baggage having been previously checked to St. Louis. In the present instance, the baggage coupon, which is necessary for the passenger in order to obtain his baggage at St. Louis, would indicate that

the passenger had gone to St. Louis, and the conductor, knowing that this would be a check upon his acts, would, of course, tear off and forward to the auditor the mileage which would correspond to the trip indicated by the baggage coupon.

While I have shown a single trip ticket, and have explained the use thereof, it will be obvious that the scope of the invention would include round trip tickets, or tickets bearing a greater or less number of detachable portions than are given in the present illustration.

I claim:

1. A railroad ticket comprising a plurality of detachable ticket portions, each having indicia indicating transportation between designated points and the serial number of the ticket, and a series of baggage coupons bearing the same indicia.

2. A railroad ticket comprising a plurality of detachable ticket portions, each having indicia indicating transportation between designated points and the serial number of the ticket, and a series of baggage coupons detachably secured to said ticket portions and bearing the same indicia as said ticket portions.

3. A railroad ticket comprising a plurality of detachable ticket portions, each having indicia indicating transportation between designated points and the serial number of the ticket, and a series of baggage coupons equal in number to said ticket portions, each of said baggage coupons being detachably secured to one of said ticket portions and bearing the same indicia as the ticket portion to which it is attached.

4. The combination with a baggage claim check having a serial number, of a railroad ticket comprising a plurality of detachable ticket portions, each having indicia indicating transportation between designated points and the serial number of the ticket, and a series of baggage coupons equal in number to said ticket portions, each of said baggage coupons being detachably secured to one of said ticket portions and bearing the same indicia as the ticket portion to which it is attached, each baggage coupon having a blank space for the insertion of the serial number of the claim check.

5. The combination with a baggage claim check having a serial number, of a railroad ticket comprising a rectangular body portion, one end of said body portion constituting a ticket head, said body portion being divided by a weakened line extending to the opposite end of the ticket head and having a series of transverse weakened lines, said central lines and said transverse lines dividing the body portion up into a series of rectangular areas, the areas on one side of the line constituting ticket portions, each having indicia indicating transportation between designated points and the serial number of the ticket, and the areas on the opposite side of the ticket constituting baggage coupons, each of said baggage coupons having the same indicia as the ticket portion on the opposite side of said central line, and being detachable from said ticket portion, and each of said baggage coupons being provided with a blank space for insertion of the claim check number.

WILLIAM R. BETHAM.