Jan 3, 1931. C. A. WILLIAMS 1,788,004

IDENTIFICATION DEVICE

Filed Aug. 14, 1928

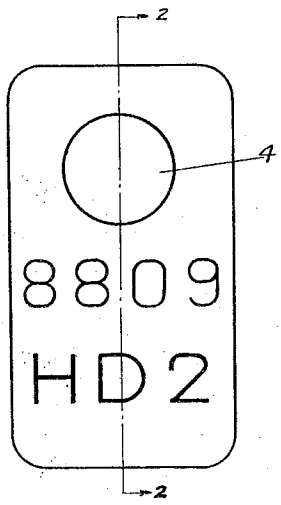


FIG. 1

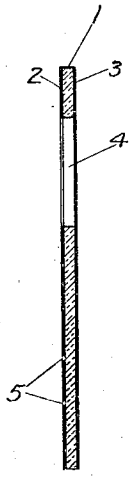


FIG. 2

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Patented Jan. 6, 1931 1,788,004

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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IDENTIFICATION DEVICE

Application filed August 14, 1928. Serial No. 299,536.

This invention relates to the design of an identification tag or device which may be used for a variety of purposes. In the past, it has been the practice in the construction of many tags, to stamp the indicia on one or both faces of the tag and then to fill in these indicia depressions with some suitable substitute of a contrasting color, usually white. Considerable time is required to fill in these indicia depressions on tags, labels, or identification strips made in the usual manner as described, and it is the principal object of my invention to eliminate the time of filling in these indicia impressions with the contrasting colored material, and also to save the time required for this material to dry; and while attaining the principal object of my invention, I have procured a device in which the indicia is more easily read, and one which does not soil so readily in handling. Other objects of my invention will be apparent from reading the specification taken in connection with the annexed drawing, wherein—

Figure 1 is a plan view of my invention applied to a certain form of tag.

Figure 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

In the drawing, 1 illustrates the body portion which may be referred to as a filler. 2 and 3 are facing strips or exposed facings preferably of a finished material that is practical to use. The facing strips or exposed facings 2 and 3 are of a different or contrasting color from the body or the filler portion 1, so this latter color will show through openings in the facings as will be presently pointed out.

In the preferred form of construction of my identification tag or device, at least one of the facing strips or exposed facings 2 or 3, or if desired both of them, are perforated with suitable indicia or identification marks, and then the facing strips or exposed facings are applied to the body or filler portion 1 in any satisfactory manner, as by the use of some adhesive which is preferably quick drying, or the facing strips or exposed facings may be applied under heat and pressure, or some other equivalent method may be used.

It is also within the scope of my invention to apply non-perforated facing strips to the body or filler portion 1 in any satisfactory manner as indicated above, thus first making a blank identification tag or device. Then by the use of suitable tools the idicia may be cut in the facing strips so as to expose the body or filler having a different color than the facing strips.

In some forms of tags or identification devices, the contrasting color may be even painted or sprayed on the body of the filler portion 1, and then by the use of a suitable tool, the indicia can be cut through this outer surface, so as to expose the body or filler portion 1 through the indicia openings. By way of illustration, but not of limitation, the body portion 1 may be of white material, and the facing strips or exposed facings 2 and 3, of black material, so that the white of the filler 1 shows through the openings 5 corresponding to the indicia.

For certain classes of work, for example in railway signal work, the tags can be made up of two contrasting colors as follows:

The facings 2 and 3 may be of black with a white filler for signal control circuits; or the facings may be yellow with a white filler for lock circuits; red with white for indication circuits; and green with white for clear signal circuits. Many other combinations of colors will suggest themselves and those given, are merely illustrative.

When my invention is applied to the construction of tags as indicated in the drawing, these tags may be made of any suitable material and of any size and shape, and the size of the hole 4 made suitable for stringing on the wires.

It will be clear that my invention may be applied to other forms of identification devices, and I therefore, do not wish to be unduly limited in the application of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. An identification tag composed of a plurality of layers of material having contrasting colors, one color covering the other, and indicia opening through at least one of the outer layers of the tag, so as to expose

an inner covered colored layer through the outer colored layer.

2. An identification tag composed of materials having at least two contrasting colors, one covered by the other, said tag having indicia openings in its surface so as to expose the color of the interior material through said openings.

3. An identification tag composed of a substantially stiff filler portion and at least a pair of facings on opposite sides of the filler, said filler being of a different color than said facings, at least one of said facings having indicia openings therein so as to expose the color of the filler through said openings.

4. An identification tag composed of a substantially stiff filler portion and a pair of relatively thin facings, said filler and facings being of contrasting colors and at least one of the facings having indicia openings therein so as to expose the filler through said openings.

5. An identification tag having a body part of a chosen color and thin facings of a different color on opposite sides of the body part and indicia openings in at least one of said faces so as to expose the body part through said openings.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature.

CADWELL A. WILLIAMS.