July 4, 1933. F. F. PEACOCK 1,916,282

ART AND MEANS OF IDENTIFICATION

Filed July 16, 1928

FIG. 1.

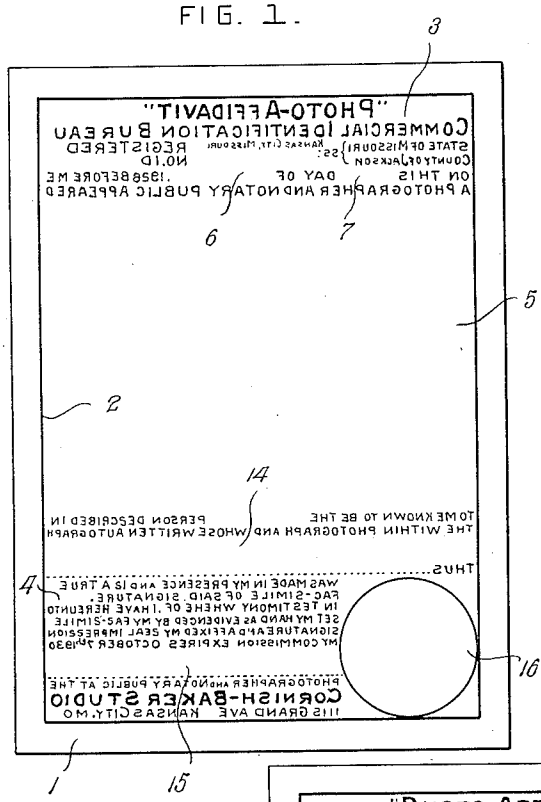


FIG. 2.



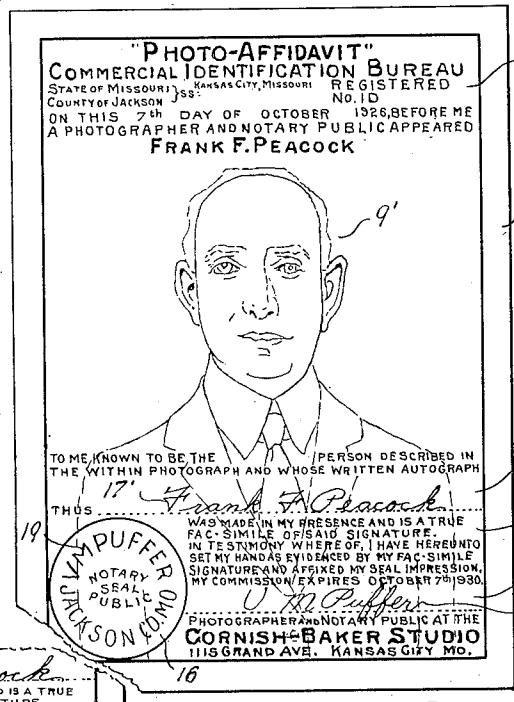
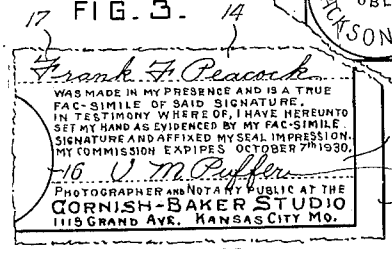


FIG. 4.

FIG. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ART AND MEANS OF IDENTIFICATION

Application filed July 16, 1928. Serial No. 293,109.

This invention relates to improvements in identification apparatus and the art of its production, and has as its essential object the combining of chirographic, photographic and official certificate identification so combined as to practically completely defy forgery.

The enormous utility of means of ready and effective identification is obvious in practically every line of life's activities, and while it has heretofore been proposed to use the signature of the subject and his photograph combined as a means of identification, as, for example, in the customary passports, and it has also been proposed to apply a notarial seal to a photograph, no instance is known to me of a combining of these means of identification in a manner preclusive of spurious reproduction or forgery; whereas the present invention is characterized by its novelty of method and of resulting product whereby substitution of photograph or of signature or of certificate becomes an impossibility.

The invention will become apparent in greater detail hereinafter and further and more detailed objects will in part be pointed out and in part become obvious.

The art or process of producing the novel structure may be set forth with greater facility by reference to specific devices as illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a negative print on transparent material of a fraction of the subject matter of the finished article, such fraction being chiefly in the form of wording, and being, therefore, properly designated as the literature negative.

Figure 2 is a plan view of a similar negative including a portrait of the subject and of other parts located to cooperate and interlock with the subject matter of the showing in Figure 1, the part seen in Figure 2 being appropriately referred to as the portrait negative.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary plan view of the reverse side of the lower portion of the parts seen in Figure 1 with the signatures applied thereto.

Figure 4 is a plan view of a print from the literature negative and the portrait negative assembled and printed as a unit.

The present invention, as will be come apparent, lends itself readily to systematic organization of individual and group identification, and to that end it is very desirable to provide a community center or source of information in each large community at which will be kept complete records of each subject provided with the present improved means of identification. One such center is indicated in the drawing as Cornish-Baker Studio, 1115 Grand Ave. Kansas City, Mo., and this may be accepted for purposes of illustration as indicative of the character of information source for any of the numerous large centers throughout the United States. The name is used by consent and for purpose of illustration only.

In the carrying out of the invention in its preferred form, a transparent negative is prepared, preferably on cellophane or other thin flexible transparent sheet of a character adapted to receive and retain printer's ink. The transparent sheet is seen in Figure 1 at 1, and may be provided with a border or boundary line 2 and a group or portion of indicia 3, preferably at the upper part of the sheet 1 within the border 2, and a group or portion of indicia 4 spaced from and below the indicia 3 and preferably at the lower portion of sheet 1 within the border 2. The portions of indicia 3 and 4 are thus spaced to leave an unoccupied or clear area 5 of sheet 1 within the border 2, which clear area is adapted to be left clear for the introduction in the final product of part of the photographic means of identification. Not only is the area 5 left clear for this purpose, but other areas, such as indicated at 6 and 7, may and preferably are left vacant to be coincident with data to be received and applied to the finished article photographically from other sources than the sheet 1. It is to be observed also that the indicia 3 and 4 is preferably in the form of ink printed on the sheet 1 after the ordinary manner of printing on paper except that the type, whether lettering or other data, is set in the form of positive print rather than the usual negative arrangement of type. The

usual negative arrangement of type is employed for printing newspapers, books, and the like, so that, when a print is stricken off from the type, it will be positive, and, therefore, easily readable. But, in the present instance, the type for the indicia 3 and 4 will be so arranged and assembled as to give off a print that is itself negative, as clearly seen in Figure 1, so that the sheet 1 may be used as a negative for subsequent photographic printing.

Cooperating with the sheet 1 to carry out the present invention and produce the present improved product, I employ a sheet 8 of transparent material bearing the usual sensitized coating for photographic purposes. Obviously, the sheet 8 may be the usual photographic film or plate and the image or negative thereon is produced photographically. This image or negative may consist of a number of parts, and preferably does consist of a negative photographic likeness 9 of the subject and photographic indicia 10 and 11 adapted to cooperate and appear within the spaces on the finished product corresponding, respectively, to the blank spaces 6 and 7 of the sheet 1. Indicia 12 may and preferably is regularly employed and provided on the photographic sheet 8 and located to occupy a part of the space on the finished sheet corresponding to the blank space 5 of sheet 1, and particularly that part of said blank space 5 immediately above the photographic likeness 9.

It will be observed that while the blank space 5 is left for accommodation on the finished sheet of a print of the image or likeness 9, the said image or likeness preferably extends down on the sheet 8 through areas which correspond on the finished, printed sheet to areas occupied by the indicia 4, so that the indicia 4 may appear superimposed on the bust of the image or likeness 9, and there is, therefore, no defined line of demarcation in the finished article between the photographic negative and the printed negative, the former being represented by sheet 8 and the latter by sheet 1.

The parts being completed as shown and above described in Figures 1 and 2, and care being exercised to utilize a sheet 1 of as thin material as practical to be employed for preventing light diffusion, the sheet 1 is placed with its face, that is with the printer's ink, against a photographic, sensitized sheet 13, and the sheet 8 is inverted and superposed on the sheet 1, so that, when light is projected through the two sheets 1 and 8 simultaneously, the sensitized surface of sheet 13 will be affected substantially as if a single photographic negative had been superimposed and the subject matter on both sheets 1 and 8 will be printed on sheet 13, as seen in Figure 4 of the drawing, in which the indicia 3′ and 4′ correspond to the indicia 3 and 4, and the photographic print 9′ corresponds to the photographic image or likeness 9. But, in the finished sheet 13, these parts are assembled together to produce a unitary structure in which the indicia 4′ is superimposed on the bust or lower portion of the photographic print 9′. Also, the indicia 10, 11, and 12 of the photograph 8 will be properly distributed and located with respect to the indicia 3′ to produce a unitary result and the effect of a unitary printing.

As will be understood by any photographer, the indicia 10, 11, and 12 is preferably obtained on sheet 8 in the most facile manner by the mounting or suspension of the requisite lettering above the head of the subject at the time of the photographing, so that the image or likeness 9 and the said indicia 10, 11, and 12 will be produced as a unitary negative, and, of course, the indicia 10, 11, and 12 will be varied each time with each new subject to correspond with the facts. This indicia 10, 11, and 12 is distinctive and characteristic with respect to the particular individual or subject, and, therefore, lends distinction and individuality to the indicia 3′ on the finished sheet 13.

To add to and accentuate such individuality, as well as to add chirographic identification, the indicia 4 of sheet 1 is provided with blank areas 14, 15, and 16, respectively, which appear on the finished sheet or print 13 as areas 14′, 15′, and 16′, respectively. The areas 14′ and 15′ are preferably merely elongated strips of blank spaces appropriate for the reception of signatures of the subject and of the notary public making the certificate.

The said signatures of the subject and of the notary, while adapted for application when desired directly to the finished sheet 13, are preferably applied to the sheet 1 as signatures 17 and 18, respectively, in the spaces 14 and 15, the said signatures 17 and 18 being signed by the respective parties directly on the face of the sheet 1 opposite the face on which the indicia 3 and 4 appears. In other words, when the sheet 1 is completed in the form seen in Figure 1, as by being produced in the printing press, it is taken by the subject who is to be identified and inverted to the position seen in Figure 3, and in that position the subject signs his name to produce the signature 17, and the notary signs his name to produce the signature 18 directly on the face of the sheet 1 opposite that bearing the ink comprising the indicia 3 and 4. By being on the opposite side, these signatures will become negative in effect when the sheet is inverted for printing purposes, as above described, and, therefore, the signatures will appear as signatures 17′ and 18′, respectively, on sheet 13.

The area 16′ is proportioned, located, and intended to receive the notarial or other

acceptable seal 19, preferably of the impression character, designed to be applied after the sheet 13 has been photographically completed.

It is important to observe that the indicia 3 and consequently the indicia 3′ is preferably so arranged and worded as not only to cooperate with and incorporate the indicia 10, 11, and 12, but also to in substance incorporate the print from the image 9 as a part of the subject mater of such indicia 3 or 3′, and it will be observed further that the indicia 4 or 4′ is continuous of and in that sense definitely in cooperative relation to the indicia 3 or 3′, and, furthermore, indicia 4 or 4′ includes the signatures 17′ and 18′.

In the carrying out and practicing of the invention, the preferred procedure includes, first, the production of the sheet 1, which, of course, may be prepared in quantities. The subject desiring a means of identification takes a sheet 1, inverts it, as indicated in Figure 3, and applies his signature 17 thereto. The notary applies his signature 18 thereto, and if the notary is also the photographer, as is preferable, he arranges the subject and the lettering in a manner to produce the photographic negative of sheet 8. Having completed this negative, the operator arranges the sheet 1 and negative 8 with the ink face of sheet 1 against the sensitized surface of sheet 13, and then places the sheet 8 with that face bearing image 9 in contact with the upper face of sheet 1, so that the sheets 8 and 9 may function as a unitary negative. The print on sheet 13 is effected photographically in the usual manner of taking a photographic print from any ordinary negative. When the print thus produced has been completed and dried, the photographer applies his impression seal 19 in the space 16′ of sheet 13.

The resulting product is a unitary structure in which the photographic likeness of the subject is incorporated as an actual part of the literary statement regarding the identification of the subject. This statement, of course, may vary widely without any departure from the present invention. One illustrative example of such statement is shown on the accompanying drawing to read as follows after the venue: On this 7th day of October 1926, before me a photographer and notary public appeared Frank F. Peacock (then the photograph of the subject as if to say "whose features appear as follows") to me known to be the person described in the within photograph and whose written autograph thus (signed Frank F. Peacock) was made in my presence and is a true fac-simile of said signature. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand as evidenced by my fac-simile signature and affix my seal impression. My commission expires October 7th, 1930. (Signed V. M. Puffer).

Thus, the final product includes certificate, photographic, and chirographic identification accomplished in the most effective manner to insure against alteration, mutilation, forgery, or other change.

It will be, of course, desirable for the notary public or identification center to require full data of the subject for purpose of identification, and to preserve that data to be available as evidence of the justification for the notary's certificate if question should ever arise. Also, the photographer or other source of identification service could profitably and should preserve appropriate indexes of all subjects to aid in identification in case of accident or other occasion requiring the determining or identification of an unknown person unable to himself furnish the information.

What I claim is:—

1. A method of production of means of identification comprising providing on one transparent sheet individually applied characteristic opaque indicia and providing on another transparent sheet photographic indicia located on the second sheet with due regard to the location of the indicia on the first sheet for providing interlocking therewith when the first sheet is superimposed on the second sheet and providing on each of said sheets further opaque identifying indicia, the said sheets being adapted to be superimposed with respect to each other for printing the indicia thereof as a unit, and the indicia on each being so located with respect to the location of the indicia on the other that when thus superimposed for printing the light restrictions of the combined indicia will effectively interlock to produce a unitary print, and photographically printing the indicia of said sheets as a unit.

2. A method of production of means of identification comprising providing two transparent sheets, printing with ink on one of the transparent sheets certain opaque indicia of identification, signing the printed sheet as identifying indicia, photographically developing on the other transparent sheet other identifying indicia of the individual involved, producing on the second transparent sheet further cooperative indicia of identification, arranging the two sheets for intelligent and cooperative display of the indicia of both simultaneously, and photographically printing the indicia of the two sheets as a unit on a sensitized surface.

3. A method of production of means of identification comprising printing indicia in the form of a reversely reading print or negative on a transparent sheet, inverting the sheet, signing the same on the side opposite that of the print as part of such indicia, and printing the sheet photographically with a photographic likeness of the subject identified.

4. A method of production of means of identification comprising printing indicia in the form of a reversely reading print or negative on a transparent sheet, inverting the sheet, placing on the opposite side to that of the print identifying signatures as part of such indicia, and printing the sheet photographically with a photographic likeness of the person so signing.

5. A method of production of means of identification comprising placing identifying reversely reading printed indicia with ink on one face of a transparent sheet, inverting the sheet and placing on the side opposite said indicia the signature of the subject identified in cooperative relation with said indicia, and printing said indicia and signature as a negative with a photographic negative as a unit, said photographic negative bearing additional indicia of identification of said subject.

6. In apparatus for producing means of identification, the combination of a plurality of negatives adapted to be printed as a unit, one of said negatives bearing coordinated photographically printable identifying indicia at both faces.

7. In apparatus for producing means of identification, the combination of a plurality of negatives adapted to be printed as a unit, one of said negatives bearing photographically printable identifying indicia at both faces, and the other negative bearing photographically printable indicia located to be coordinated with the indicia of the first negative when the two are printed as a unit.

8. In apparatus for producing means of identification, the combination of a plurality of negatives adapted to be printed as a unit, one of said negatives bearing photographically printable identifying indicia at both faces, and the other negative bearing photographically printable indicia located to be coordinated with the indicia of the first negative when the two are superimposed and printed as a unit, the indicia of the two negatives being located to interlock.

9. An identifying photograph comprising a photographically produced image of a subject to be identified, photographically produced indicia relating to and identifying said subject, and a photographically produced direct print of the actual signature of said subject.

10. The method of production of means of identification comprising employing two transparent sheets, printing with ink on one of said sheets universally usable indicia in the form of a negative or reversely reading print on said sheet, reversing the sheet and applying thereto individually characteristic indicia in direct reading order, such as the signature of the subject, producing on the second sheet a photographc negative of said subject and other indicia located to intelligently and effectively cooperatively interlock with the indicia appearing on the first-mentioned sheet, superimposing the sheets and photographically printing the two as a unitary photograph, and supplementally applying a verifying impression seal on the finished photograph..

11. A method of production of means of identification comprising applying to a transparent sheet having non-sensitized surfaces, identifying indicia on both surfaces thereof in cooperative relation, photographically producing on a separate sheet further identifying indicia arranged, dimensioned, and located to coincide with all of the indicia of the first-mentioned sheet, superimposing one of the sheets upon the other located in such relation as to have the data of the two thus coincide, and photographically reproducing from the two sheets while so positioned the whole combined indicia thereof as a unit.

12. A device for use in the art of producing means of identification comprising a translucent sheet, and indicia on both surfaces of said sheet, the indicia at one face being located with regard to that of the other face for enabling photographic printing of the two as a unit.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

FRANK F. PEACOCK.