M. A. PLATT.

PIN SEAL.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 9, 1913.

1,125,915. Patented Jan. 19, 1915.

Fig. 1.

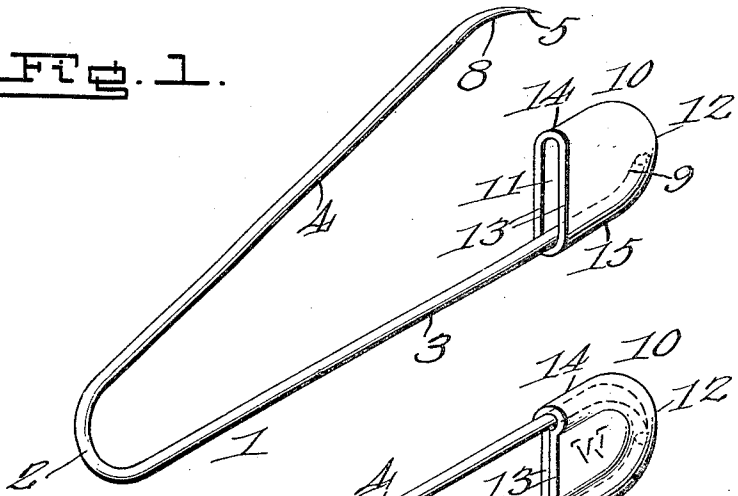


Fig. 2.

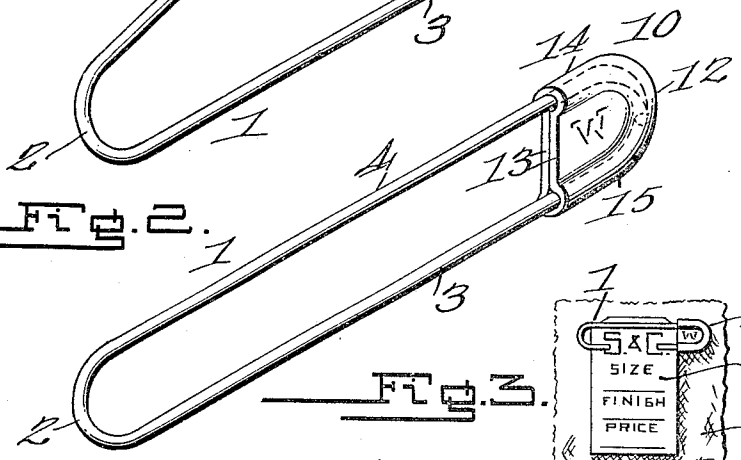
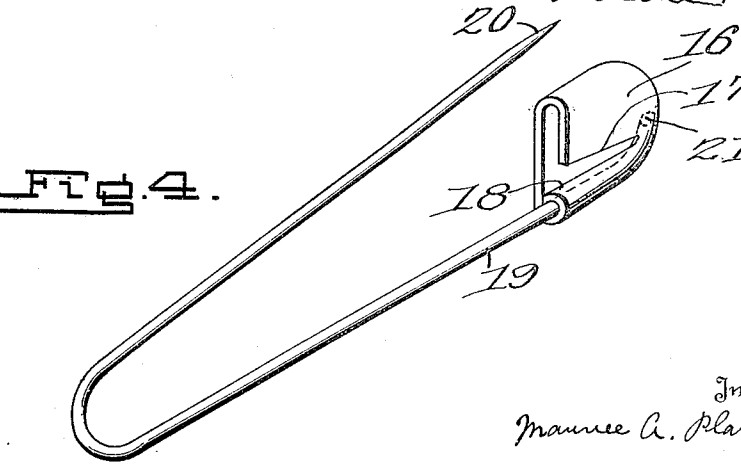


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.



Witnesses

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PIN-SEAL.

1,125,915. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 19, 1915.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MAURICE A. PLATT, a citizen of Great Britain, residing at New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pin-Seals, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a pin seal for attaching identification or sale tickets or tabs to goods of a penetrable nature.

Many forms of goods, such as hats, cloaks and wraps of different kinds are delivered to prospective purchasers on approval and are sometimes worn by such parties and thereafter returned to the merchant. It has been found that certain people make a practice of ordering expensive gowns and cloaks and hats sent on approval for the express purpose of wearing them on some special occasion and then returning them instead of purchasing the articles, the idea being that the party has free use of the article for wearing purposes on one special occasion.

It is therefore the object of my invention to seal a ticket, price slip or identification tab upon the article which is sent for approval, in a conspicuous place thereon, and in a manner so that it cannot be removed without destruction of the means whereby the ticket or tab is attached. The prominence of such a price tab on articles sent for approval would deter the purchasers from wearing the same and thereby insure the merchant against loss to the goods of that peculiar appearance of newness which characterizes goods before they have been worn. With the device of my invention, a merchant could feel perfectly free to send the most expensive goods on approval knowing full well that they could never be worn in public.

The device of my invention will be more fully described in connection with the accompanying drawing and will be more particularly pointed out and ascertained in and by the appended claims.

In the drawing:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of the preferred form of my pin seal showing the same in an open position. Fig. 2 is a perspective view thereof when the same is sealed in a closed position. Fig. 3 illustrates the manner in which the device of my invention is used in attaching a price tag to an article. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a modified form of my invention.

Like characters of reference designate similar parts throughout the different figures of the drawing.

As illustrated, and referring more particularly to Figs. 1 and 2, 1 designates a strip of material, which may be wire of circular cross section, and which is bent between its ends at 2, to preferably form legs of equal length. For convenience of designation, I will refer to the leg 3 as the anchoring end and the leg 4 as the pin end. The terminal of the pin end is pointed, as indicated at 5, to facilitate penetration of a price tab and an article of penetrable material, as indicated at 6 and 7, respectively. The terminal 5 of the pin end is curved, as indicated at 8, the curved portion extending some considerable distance from the point of the pin terminal. The anchoring end 3 has a terminal 9 which is curved toward the curved pin end terminal so that if the pin and anchoring end were brought into close relation as shown in Fig. 2, they would form a substantillv continuous loop. I preferably form the pin structure of resilient wire which may be tempered so that the parts will normally assume the position shown in Fig. 1 when not under compression.

I employ a sealing shield, which may be of sheet metal, and which is indicated as a whole at 10. In its initial form, the shield is provided with an open entrance end 11, the other end 12 being closed. Such shield comprises side walls 13, which are initially flat and which lie in parallel relation and are connected by transversely rounded lengthwise edge walls, or wall portions 14 and 15. The closed end 12 comprises an edge wall which is rounded and which merges into the lengthwise edge walls 14 and 15, preferably in a manner to conform to and permit the curved ends 8 and 9 to seat against the curved and transversely rounded edge wall portions 12, 14 and 15, the straight portions of the anchoring and

pin ends lying in the straight portions 14 and 15 of the edge walls. The anchoring end 3 will preferably be secured in place as shown in Fig. 1, in any desirable manner such as by soldering the same and the ends 3 and 4, which are preferably equal in length, will take the position shown in Fig. 1 before the device is placed in use.

In using the device, the pin end will be inserted through the price tab and the article and back through the price tab, as shown in Fig. 3, and then the ends 3 and 4 will be flexed so as to retract the pin point 5 and telescope the same into the shield endwise, into the position shown in Fig. 2. After the pin end has been secured in the shield, as just described, the shield may be placed under compression by a suitable implement so as to compress the side walls of the shield about the pin end and anchoring end in the manner shown in Fig. 2. If desired, the initial or any commercial insignia of the establishment may be incorporated in the device for sealing the shield so as to appear on the surface, as indicated in Fig. 2 where the letter W is shown. It will thus be seen that when both ends are secured and the shield is sealed, it will be impossible to withdraw the pin end so as to detach the tab except by destroying the seal pin or cutting the same. The side walls 11 will preferably be compressed in flat abutting relation so as to completely surround the inserted end portions of the pin whereby the curved terminals thereof will lock the pin against withdrawal movement from the shield.

In Fig. 4 I have shown a modified form of the invention wherein the shield 16 is cut away as at 17, and one margin 18 of the cut away portion is folded about the anchoring end 19 of the pin. In this form the cut away portion 17 forms an entrance passage for projection of the pointed end 20, laterally into the shield 16. In this form of the invention the terminal of the end 19 is curved, as indicated at 21, but the pin end is continuously straight. In this form the shield will be sealed upon the ends of the pin, in the manner similar to that described in connection with the form shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

I desire to point out that one of the features of my invention which distinguishes the same from seals for doors and other purposes is the sharp pointed pin end terminal whereby my improved pin can be inserted through even the most costly and delicate articles and thereafter be sealed thereon, without in any way defacing such articles, and I desire it to be understood that the device of my invention is essentially adapted for sealing attachment to articles of a penetrable nature.

It will be seen that in the preferred construction I provide anchoring and pin ends having straight and curved portions which are locked in the shield by collapsing the walls of the shield about said straight and curved portions, thereby effectively anchoring the pin to the shield.

While it would be easy to remove the ticket by tearing the same off from the pin, such removal would be a notice to the merchant that the goods sent on approval had been used instead of being thoroughly inspected and therefore it will be seen that the device of my invention affords an effective deterrent against any tampering with the sealed ticket.

While I have herein shown and described specific forms of my invention, I do not wish to be limited thereto except for such limitations as the claims may import.

I claim:—

1. As a means for sealing sale or identification tickets on penetrable goods, a hollow sheet metal shield shaped from a single blank of metal to have one end thereof entirely open and the opposite end closed, a length of wire bent upon itself to form an anchoring end and a penetrating end to be received through the penetrable goods and the sale or identification ticket and all of said parts so formed and arranged that the ends of the wire may be inserted within the open end of the shield and the sides of the shield between the disposition of the ends therein bent down within the confines of these ends to draw the sheet metal of the shield around the wire and to secure said ends against removal from the shield.

2. A seal comprising a hollow sheet metal shield having a closed rounded end and the opposite end thereof left open, a length of wire bent upon itself to form anchoring and penetrating ends and curved on these ends to fit the rounded ends of the shield, said curved ends adapted to be entered in said shield and to lie in concentric relation with respect to the curved walls thereof, and the sides of said shield adapted to be bent down between the curved ends of the wire to close said open end and to draw the metal of the shield around said curved ends and secure these ends against removal from the shield.

3. As a means for sealing sale or identification tickets on penetrable goods, a hollow sheet metal shield provided with one open end and having the side thereof adjacent this open end cut away to form a slot, a length of wire bent upon itself to form anchoring and pin ends having bent terminals to fit and rest against the closed end of the hollow shield, and all of said parts so formed that the anchoring ends may be inserted within the shield and a portion of

the side of the shield adjacent said slot bent therearound to secure the anchoring end in place and the penetrating end to be inserted within the shield and to have the metal of the side thereof bent and clamped around this end to secure the penetrating end rigidly in place.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

MAURICE A. PLATT.

Witnesses:
CHARLES KALLMEYER,
ALFONS JUNGMANN.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."