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PAPER FOR PREVENTING TARNISHING OF POLISHED METALS.

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The object of the present invention is to provide an improved paper which will effectively prevent tarnishing of polished metal articles enclosed or wrapped therein. My improved paper will protect the metals wrapped therein against the tarnishing impurities, such as sulphur, of the atmosphere, the paper acting, so to speak, as a filter or screen.

The invention consists in a paper treated with zinc acetate.

The paper, which may be of any suitable kind, such as tissue paper, wrapping paper, kraft paper, etc., may be coated or impregnated with zinc acetate in any suitable manner and by following any desired method. For example, the paper, to which is to be given anti-tarnishing properties, may be passed through a solution of zinc acetate, or the paper may be dipped into the solution, or the solution may be sprayed onto the paper. The zinc acetate may be applied during the process of forming the paper, or the paper may be formed and then have the zinc acetate applied thereto.

My improved paper may be very economically produced, particularly so as the amount of zinc acetate required is relatively small and zinc acetate is relatively cheap. The use of zinc acetate is particularly advantageous in this connection because it will not affect the color of the paper to which it is applied, and the impurities of the air will not change or affect the color of the paper. I have found that white tissue paper, treated with zinc acetate and wrapped about silverware or other polished metal articles, will effectively protect, for an indefinite period of time, the articles against tarnishing in an atmosphere which contains a very considerable amount of tarnishing impurities and especially a large amount of sulphur. The zinc acetate will combine with the tarnishing impurities of the atmosphere to form zinc salts in the paper before the impurities get through the paper to the metal. The zinc salts, which are formed, however, do not in any way affect the color of the paper. For instance, in the case of white tissue paper treated with zinc acetate, the paper does not become yellow or otherwise discolored upon the formation of such salts.

I am aware, of course, that it is old to wrap or enclose polished metal articles, such as silverware, in tissue and other kinds of paper, and that it is also old to make such tissues chemically pure in that all tarnishing impurities are removed from the paper itself, but, in such cases, the paper, although chemically pure in the sense stated, will not protect the articles wrapped therein from the tarnishing impurities of the atmosphere, such impurities being able to pass through the paper.

I claim as my invention:

An article of manufacture for protecting polished metal articles against tarnishing, consisting of paper treated with zinc acetate.

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