Aug. 29, 1933. L. S. GRAFF ET AL 1,924,239

INDICATOR TAB

Filed Jan. 27, 1932

Fig. 1

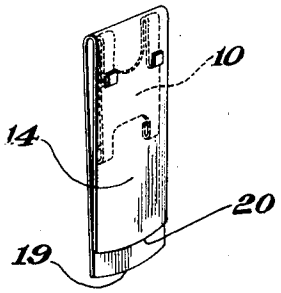


Fig. 2

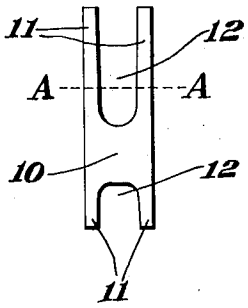


Fig. 3

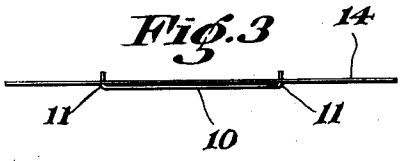


Fig. 4



Fig. 5

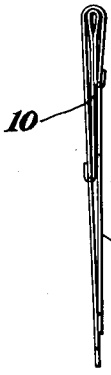


Fig. 6

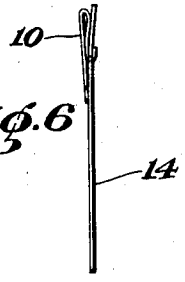


Fig. 7

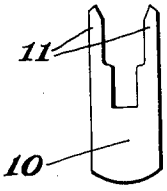
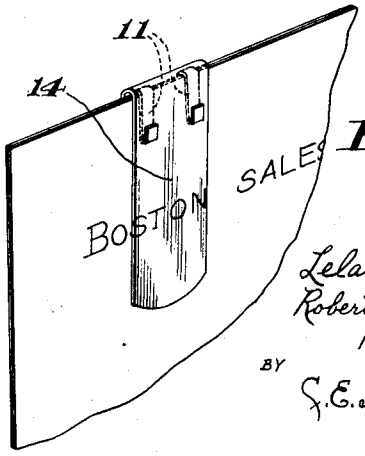


Fig. 8



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INDICATOR TAB

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13 Claims. (Cl. 40—23)

This invention relates to an indicator or signal tab and to the method of making the same.

Signal tabs of different colors, attachable to the edge of a sheet of paper, card, etc., find a wide field of usefulness. Such tabs have been made in the form of clips so that they may be detached and reattached.

To form an efficient clip, however, a material must have a strong tendency to return substantially immediately and completely to an original position or shape when distorted therefrom within the limit of its elasticity. The restoring stress should be large in proportion to the strain. This strong elasticity or spring gives to a clip formed from such material the ability firmly to grip a sheet of paper or the like over the edge of which the clip is attached. Materials which possess this ability to grip firmly will hereinafter be referred to as "springy" materials, and as an example thereof sheet steel may be mentioned.

In addition, it is often highly desirable that a signal tab be capable of overlapping the front of a sheet to which it is attached without obscuring characters on the overlapped portion of the sheet. Springy materials as above defined have been found to be opaque, and for this reason unsuitable for many uses. Transparent materials, such as transparent celluloid, while they are elastic, do not provide that springy grip which is esesntial to efficiency in a clip.

It is an object of our invention to provide an indicator tab which may be readily and securely attached to a sheet, card, etc., and may be readily detached and reattached any number of times, and which at the same time may overlap the sheet to which it is attached without materially obscuring the portion of the sheet so overlapped.

A further object is the provision of a construction by means of which non-springy materials especially suitable for use as signals or indicators may be so incorporated into a tab as to be readily attachable to a card or other relatively thin sheet in a particularly convenient form, and yet be readily detached and reattached.

Having in mind these objects, as well as the attainment of other advantages which will appear as the description proceeds, we construct a preferred form of our tab from a strip of transparent and relatively inelastic or non-springy material attached to a novel clip of relatively springy material. While the transparent signal portion overlaps the face of a card, sheet or the like to the edge of which the tab is attached, the main body of the clip portion is on the back side of such card or sheet. In our preferred form we provide a novel manner of attaching the signal or indicator portion to the clip portion.

For a clear understanding of the construction of our tab, and of the method of forming the same, reference may be had to the accompanying drawing, in which

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of one form of the tab;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the blank from which is formed the clip portion of the tab shown in Fig. 1;

Figs. 3, 4 and 5 are side elevations showing the method of forming the tab;

Fig. 6 is a side elevation of another form of the tab;

Fig. 7 is a plan view of the blank from which may be formed the clip portion of the tab illustrated in Fig. 6; and

Fig. 8 is a perspective view showing the tab illustrated in Fig. 1 attached to a sheet of paper.

The clip portion 10 may, as stated above, be formed of any suitable elastic and springy material, such as sheet metal. A blank such as that illustrated in Fig. 2 is first cut from a sheet of such material. This blank has spaced extended leg portions 11 at each end, leaving between such portions the open spaces 12 and being longer at one end of the blank than at the other.

To form the tab, the blank 10 is laid flat and the extremities of the leg portions 11 are bent upward at right angles. A sheet or strip 14, preferably but not necessarily of a transparent material such as transparent celluloid, is placed over the blank and the upturned tips of the leg portions 11 are projected through the strip 14, as shown in Fig. 3. It is sometimes advisable to perforate the strip 14 before projecting the tips of the legs 11 therethrough, to prevent splitting of the strip 14.

The protruding tips or clenching portions of the legs 11 are then bent inwardly or clenched toward the center of the blank—that is, each tip end is bent toward the opposite end of the blank. This securely attaches the signal or indicator portion 14 to the clip portion 10. At the same time, the result of this operation is to spring upwardly the portion of the strip 14 between the projecting tips, as shown in Fig. 4.

The clip portion 10 together with the attached signal or indicator portion 14 is then bent upon itself as shown in Fig. 5, forming the indicator tab.

This folding is preferably done along the line A—A as indicated in Fig. 2. The line A—A crosses the longer extended leg portions 11 at points beyond the main body of the clip por-

tion 10. Thus the only parts of the clip portion which overlap the front surface of a card or sheet to which the tab is attached will be the bent-over sections of the longer leg portions 11. The card or sheet will therefore be exposed between the leg portions of the clip all the way to its upper edge. Additional strength at the folding point may be provided by tapering the end portions 11 from the body 10 toward their tips, as shown in Fig. 2, or by the "shoulder" construction of the legs, shown in Fig. 7. Since the extremities of the clip portion are bent around and back, when the tab is slipped over the edge of, for example, a sheet of paper, such portions will not catch on the edge of the paper but present a smooth sloping surface which readily slides over this edge.

The ends of the indicator strip 14 may be rounded as shown at 19, 20 in Fig. 1, and in this case the folding is preferably done so that one end 19 of such strip extends beyond the other 20, which also facilitates attachment of the tab to a sheet of paper, etc. Or the ends 19, 20 may be beveled, pointed or made in any desired form.

An alternative construction of our tab is shown in Fig. 6. In this construction, the indicator strip 14 is not bent around the clip portion, and thus it overlies only the front of the sheet to which the tab is attached. The blank for the clip portion 10 utilized in this form of the invention is illustrated in Fig. 7. The tips of the end portions 11 are projected through the body of the strip 14 and bent back thereon in the manner above described.

The signal or indicator portion 14 of our tab is not necessarily made of a transparent material. It may be opaque, being, for example, of an opaque celluloid on which notations may readily be made and as readily erased to permit the substitution of other notations. Although in this case the advantage obtained by not obscuring the face of the sheet to which the tab is attached will be lacking, other advantages of our invention will be obtained. Materials which, while particularly suited for use as indicator portions, are not adapted to form by themselves a satisfactory clip, may in our tab be incorporated into a practical and highly convenient form for such use.

Certain materials suitable for the indicator portion of our tab, for example celluloid which has been mentioned, are springy and elastic to a certain extent. The term "inelastic" in the appended claims is intended to include materials which, while they are to some extent elastic, are not capable of providing the spring grip heretofore referred to.

Our indicator tab may be firmly attached over the edge of a card, sheet, etc. and may be readily detached and reattached. Its novel construction permits the use as indicators of materials which are especially suitable for this purpose but are not satisfactory for the tab as a whole and makes such materials available in a particularly convenient and useful form of tab.

We claim:—

1. An indicator tab having an underlying clip member of springy material in the form of a strip of such material terminating in narrower extended end portions and folded upon itself, and attached thereto an overlying indicator member consisting of a strip of inelastic material, projections of the clip member piercing the indicator member and being bent back thereon to rigidly secure the clip member thereto.

2. An indicator tab designed to be clipped to sheet material, comprising an underlying strip of springy material terminating in a pair of narrower extended leg portions and folded upon itself to form a clip with gripping faces, a strip of transparent inelastic material folded over said clip to form indicator members overlying said gripping faces, projections at the extremities of said leg portions piercing the indicator members and bent back thereon to rigidly secure together said gripping and indicator members.

3. An indicator tab comprising an indicator member consisting of a sheet of inelastic material and attached thereto a clip member consisting of a strip of springy material terminating at each end thereof in separated leg portions, extremities of said leg portions piercing the indicator member and being bent back thereover.

4. An indicator tab comprising a clip consisting of a strip of springy material terminating at an end thereof in a pair of extended leg portions, projections on said leg portions being bent back over an indicator sheet which overlies said clip to attach said indicator rigidly to said clip.

5. An indicator tab comprising an indicator member and attached thereto a clip member consisting of a strip of springy material terminating in extended leg portions, said strip as a whole being folded upon itself to form opposed gripping portions of unequal length, projections on the shorter gripping portion piercing the indicator member of the tab and being bent back thereover.

6. An indicator tab designed to be clipped to sheet material, comprising an underlying clip of springy material in the form of a strip of such material folded upon itself to form gripping members, one of said members having separated leg portions, a strip of transparent material forming an indicator, said indicator being folded on itself and folded over said clip, means for rigidly securing together the adjacent folded over portions of said clip and said indicator, whereby when said tab is clipped onto sheet material one side of said material will be visible through said transparent tab except at the points of engagement with said leg portions of the clip.

7. A method of forming an indicator tab which comprises superimposing a flat sheet of inelastic material on a flat strip of springy material, projecting ends of said strip through said sheet, bending such projected ends toward opposite ends of said strip and then bending upon itself said strip with the attached sheet.

8. An indicator tab designed to be clipped to sheet material, comprising a flat strip of springy material terminating in narrow extended leg portions and folded upon itself to form a clip, a strip of relatively inelastic material forming an indicator adjacent and overlying said clip, and means for rigidly securing said clip to said overlying indicator.

9. An indicator tab adapted to be clipped to sheet material, comprising an underlying clip of springy material in the form of a strip of such material folded upon itself to form gripping members, and a strip of transparent material forming an indicator and rigidly attached to one of said gripping members so as to overlie a surface of a sheet to which the clip is attached, said one gripping member terminating in narrow separated leg portions, whereby when said tab is clipped to sheet material one side of said material will be visible through the transparent in-

dicator between said narrow leg portions of the clip.

10. An indicator tab comprising a folded indicator strip and a clip of springy material folded upon itself and presenting smooth opposed gripping faces for directly engaging a sheet and being enveloped within the indicator strip, said clip having spaced outwardly projecting clenching portions which pierce the body of the indicator strip and are bent back upon its outer face to attach said indicator to said clip.

11. An indicator tab designed to be clipped to sheet material, comprising a clip of springy material in the form of a strip of such material folded upon itself to form opposed gripping members which overlie surfaces of a sheet to which the tab is clipped, said clip being centrally cut out adjacent the fold thereof so as to leave narrow separated leg portions extending from the fold of the clip over a surface of the sheet, and a transparent indicator strip, rigidly attached to the clip and so positioned as to overlie the surface of the sheet over which the separated leg portions of the clip extend, whereby when the tab is clipped to sheet material a side of said sheet material will be visible through said indicator strip adjacent the fold of the clip except at the points of engagement with the narrow separated leg portions.

12. An indicator tab designed to be secured to sheet material, comprising a clip of springy material in the form of a strip of such material folded upon itself to form opposing gripping members between which a sheet may be inserted with a gripping contact, said clip being centrally cut out adjacent the fold thereof so as to leave narrow separated leg portions extending from the fold of the clip over a surface of the sheet when so inserted, an indicator member of transparent material overlying the surface of the sheet, and a projection on the clip which pierces said indicator member and is bent thereon to secure the two members rigidly together, whereby when the tab is clipped to sheet material a side of said sheet material will be visible through said indicator strip adjacent the fold of the clip except at the points overlain by the narrow separated leg portions.

13. An indicator for cards or sheets, comprising a flexible strip folded to present superposed tab members, and a clip of spring sheet material doubled upon itself and presenting smooth opposed gripping faces normally in contact with each other but adapted to be yieldingly separated by an interposed card or sheet, the clip having spaced outwardly directed clenching portions which pierce the body of the flexible strip and are clenched upon its outer face to bind the tab members to the clip.

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