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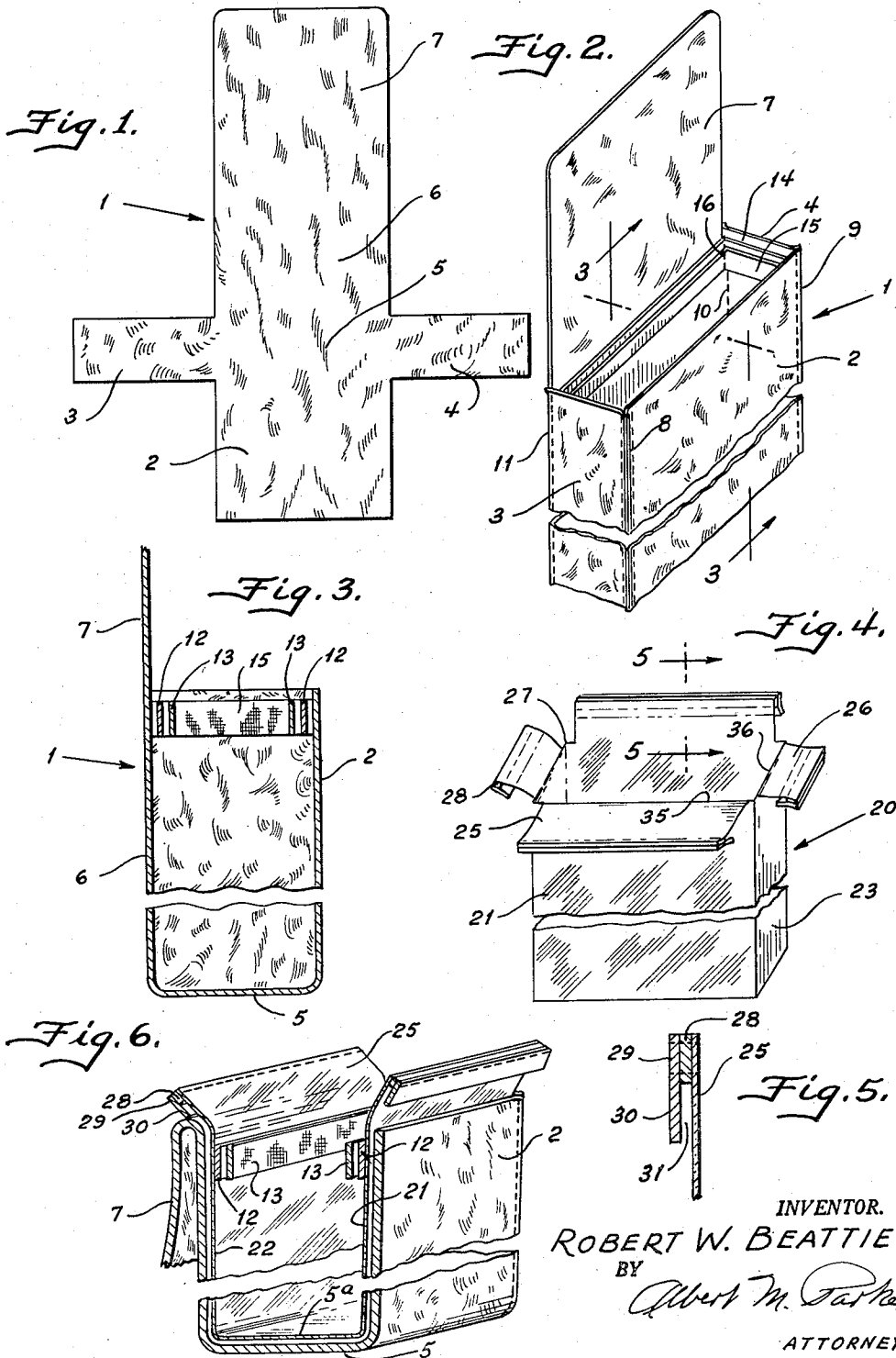
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2,880,775

TOBACCO POUCHES WITH REMOVABLE LINERS

Filed April 25, 1957

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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Fig. 7.

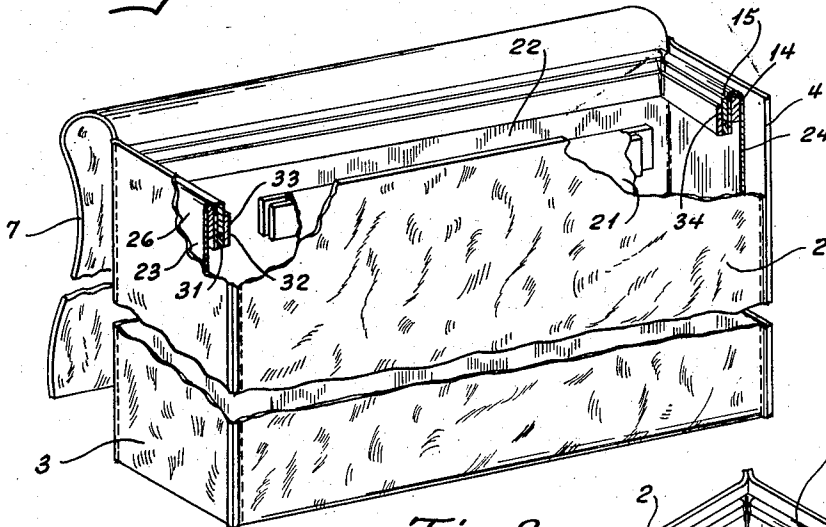


Fig. 9.

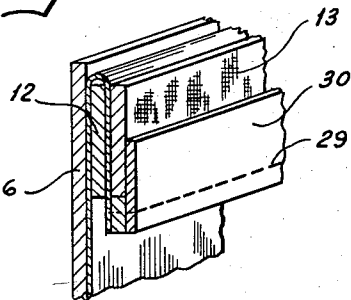


Fig. 8.

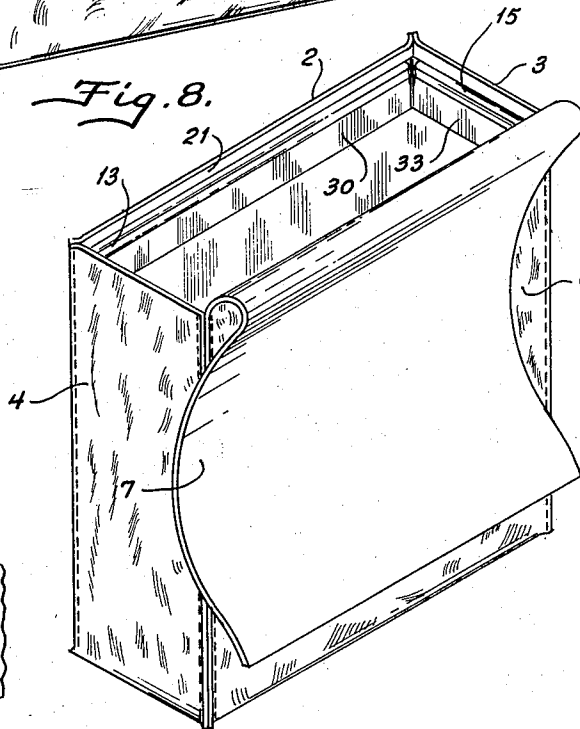
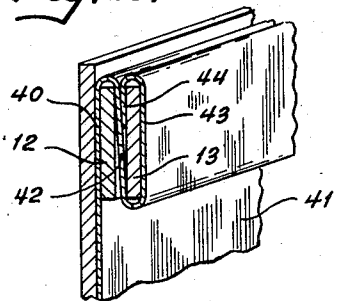


Fig. 10.



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TOBACCO POUCHES WITH REMOVABLE LINERS

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12 Claims. Cl. 150—28)

This invention relates to tobacco pouches having removable linings and is particularly concerned with the manner of securing the lining in place in the pouch.

In furnishing linings for tobacco pouches, it is desirable that they be applicable in such a manner that the user himself can apply and remove them in simple manner. In this way the user will be constrained to remove and replace the liner at reasonable intervals, instead of waiting until it gets all worn out and the pouch itself thus gets messy and worn. Furthermore, if removal and replacement of the liner is facilitated sufficiently and refills of tobacco for the pouch are sold right in the liners themselves, the merchandising of the particular tobacco will be facilitated.

The use of snaps or other metallic fastenings for the holding of liners in tobacco pouches is undesirable, for it is difficult to completely cover and conceal them so that not only are they out of sight, but also they are out of any possible contact with the tobacco. Further, they produce hard spots in elements which are preferably formed soft and yielding throughout so that they may be folded or rolled in various ways, depending upon the quantity of tobacco within them. In addition, any contact of metallic elements with tobacco tends at the least to tarnish the metal, as well as the possibility of building up green mold on and around the metal element and causing deterioration of the liner or pouch where engaged by the metal.

The pouch and liner combination of the invention eliminates the foregoing and other drawbacks of the prior art. It provides a simple, economical straightforward construction whereby the pouch may be formed neatly and simply and have the appearance of a pouch with an integral liner, yet the removable liner can be readily applied and removed, and combines with the pouch to retain full effectiveness and ease of handling.

It is, accordingly, an object of the invention to provide improved pouch and liner combinations.

Another object is to improve upon the securing of removable liners in tobacco and like pouches.

Another object is to provide such improvements in simple straightforward manner.

Still another object is to provide for the removable securing of liners in pouches without the use of metallic fastenings.

A further object is to provide for such securing by employing materials the same, or similar to, those out of which the pouch and liner themselves are formed.

A further object is to provide for the application of the liner retaining means to the pouch in the formation of the pouch itself.

A still further object is to provide for the assembly of pouches and liners therefor without detracting from the capability of utilizing the pouch by folding or rolling up as desired.

A still further object is to enhance the merchandising of tobacco pouch refills by providing such refills as re-

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movable liners and providing for the simple reception of such liners by the pouches.

Further and more detailed objects will in part be obvious and in part be pointed out as the description of the invention, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing proceeds.

In that drawing:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the blank for use in forming the pouch of the invention.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the pouch formed up from the blank, with the receiving means for the liner positioned therein and with the top flap open to show the construction of the open mouth.

Fig. 3 is a vertical section taken on lines 3—3 of Fig. 2 and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the liner in accordance with the invention ready for engagement with the pouch.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view of the securing means of the liner taken on line 5—5 of Fig. 4 and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view, partly in section, of a pouch in accordance with the invention having one end removed and showing the initial step of the application of the liner thereto.

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a complete pouch and liner with the mouth of the pouch open and with corners broken away to show the completed securing of the liner therein.

Fig. 8 is a perspective view of the liner and pouch combination as viewed from the back of the pouch with the mouth thereof open showing the liner fully secured in place therein.

Fig. 9 is an enlarged fragmentary perspective view showing the interengagement between the receiving means of the pouch and the securing means of the liner when the liner is fully secured in place; and

Fig. 10 is a view similar to Fig. 9 illustrating a modification of the securing of the liner within the pouch.

The pouch of the invention, as illustrated at 1 in Figs. 1-3, is preferably formed of soft pliable leather, or other material having similar characteristics, so that it may be flattened out for reception in the pocket without protrusion when there is a little tobacco in it, may be folded over, or rolled up, and will, in any event, yield to conform to the contours of a pipe inserted into it for filling. Though heretofore pouches having such characteristics have been similarly formed of a plurality of pieces of leather, it has been found that a satisfactory pouch in accordance with the invention can be made all out of one piece.

The pouch blank, as illustrated in Figs. 1-3, is, accordingly, formed generally as a cross. Thus the lower portion 2 of the body of the cross forms the front of the pouch with the wings 3 and 4 forming the sides thereof and the section extending across between the wings 3 and 4 forming the bottom. The lower part 6 of the remaining portion of the body forms the back and the upper portion 7 forms the integral cover, or flap, for closing the mouth of the pouch. Thus when the blank, as shown in Fig. 1, is formed up with the sides of the wings 3 and 4 being brought into contact respectively with the sides of the front 2 and the back 6, it is only necessary to stitch these contacting portions together at the corner edges 8, 9, 10 and 11 to form the complete pouch. For reception and securement in place of the liner, however, additional elements are needed.

These elements, in accordance with the invention, are pairs of overlying strips of material surrounding the pouch interiorly adjacent the open mouth thereof. They are preferably formed of substantially the same material as that out of which the pouch is made, thus retaining the necessary flexibility for the folding or collapsing of

the pouch. Their thickness and that of the pouch wall are exaggerated in the accompanying drawing for the purpose of illustration.

Preferably, the pairs of sections of overlying strip material extending across the front are identical with those extending across the back. Likewise such pairs at the opposite ends are identical with each other, so only one of each pair will be described, with the same reference characters being applied to their opposites. Thus across the back and front the inner strip section of each pair is illustrated at 12 and the outer at 13, while across the ends the strip sections are indicated at 14 and 15 respectively.

The strip sections 12 and 13 overlie each other throughout and extend into the corners at their opposite ends where they are secured in place in alignment with the ends of the strip sections 14 and 15, also secured in place in such corners. Hence the meeting ends of the various pairs of strip sections are respectively secured in place in the corners 8, 9, 10 and 11. Here, of course, it is well to note that the aligned strip sections can be made of a single piece commencing at one corner and continuing all the way around the mouth of the pouch to terminate back at the starting corner. Otherwise the strip sections can each be separate pieces of material or can be any combination of sections less than a complete continuous strip. All that is necessary is that where the strip sections reach the corners they be securely held in place therein as illustrated at 16 in the corner 10 of Fig. 2.

Though in the illustration, the strip sections of the respective pairs are shown as spaced from the adjacent wall of the pouch, this is merely to facilitate the illustration and is not necessarily true in the absence of the liner, for it is, of course, desired to avoid any great constriction of the mouth of the pouch. Moderate constriction is, however, no particular deterrent. On the contrary, it assists in keeping the tobacco in the pouch as one is using the pouch in the filling of a pipe and helps to keep the tobacco from working out of the pouch at other times.

The liner of the invention, as illustrated per se in Fig. 4 and as generally indicated at 20, is advantageously formed of a light weight readily flexible plastic impregnated fabric, or sheet plastic material. The liner as here illustrated is in the form of an envelope of a size to fit within the pouch for which it is intended and has normally identical front and back parts 21 and 22, and similarly identical ends 23 and 24 and a bottom part 5a.

The back and front are provided with identical upstanding tabs 25, of which only one need be described in detail. Similarly, the ends 23—24 are provided with identical upstanding tabs 26. The tabs 25—26 extend up free from each other as extensions of their respective body portions, being separated at the corners, as illustrated at 27, so that the liner can be properly secured within the pouch. Along their outer faces bordering the end edges thereof, the tabs 25 are provided with spacer strips 28 secured to those faces. Those spacer strips in turn have securing strips 29 secured to the outer surfaces thereof, which securing strips have tongue portions 30 extending free from the spacer strips 28 in opposed spaced relation with respect to the body of the tab 25. Thus, a space 31 is provided between the extending tongues 30 and the opposed portions of the tabs 25 for the reception of one of the strips 13 of the pouch, as will appear hereinafter. The members 25, 28 and 29 are shown to be of substantial thickness. This, however, as in the case of the pouch parts, is exaggeration for illustrative purposes, it being understood that thickness of these parts would be kept to a minimum.

The tabs 26 are similarly equipped with spacer strips 31 carrying securing strips 32 having extending tongues

33 to form a space 34 between them and the body of the tabs for the reception of the strips 15.

As already pointed out, the liners 20 may be supplied empty merely as replacement liners, or they may form the envelopes in which refills of tobacco for the pouch are marketed. In the latter case, the tabs 25 and 26 can be folded in on top of the tobacco with a suitable sealing band, or sealing cover applied thereover. Alternately, the tabs may be folded down against the outside of the liner with a suitable, readily removable or destructible cover being applied over the open end of the filled liner.

The manner of securing the liner in place in the pouch is illustrated in Figs. 6, 7 and 9. First, the liner 20 is dropped into the pouch, which it is formed to fit, with the lines of joinder 35 between the tabs 25 and the liner walls 21 lying just beneath the strips 12 and the lines of joinder 36 between the tabs 26 and the liner walls 23 lying just beneath the strips 14. Then the tabs 25 are fed up between the strips 12 and the walls 2 and 6, while the tabs 26 are fed up between the strips 14 and the walls 3 and 4. This position is shown in Fig. 6. Following that, the tabs 25 and 26 respectively are turned inwardly and their securing ends are pushed down between the pairs of strips 12 and 13 and 14, 15 respectively. All the parts of the elements are sufficiently flexible to enable the tongue parts 30 and 33 of the respective tabs to be moved into position lying part way up the outside of the strips 13 and 15, as seen in Figs. 7 and 9. If any tightening of the parts in this relation is necessary, it is merely necessary to push the liner downward, for it is apparent that with the tabs first extending up over the strips 12 and 14 and then down again, terminating in upwardly opening mouths inside of the tongues 30, any downward movement of the walls of the liner will tend to tighten the engagement of the engaging portions of the tabs with the respective strips.

Though all parts of the pouch and liner should be kept flexible to facilitate assembly and disassembly and subsequent use of the pouch, it is to be appreciated that the securing strips 29 and 32 carrying the tongues 30 and 33 can advantageously be made a little stiffer than the other parts in order to enhance the maintenance of the position of those tongues extending upwardly outside of the strips 13 and 15.

It will also be readily apparent that the reversing of the securing process enables the removal of the liners for replacement purposes.

Finally, as readily seen from the showing of Fig. 8, the securing of the liner in place around the mouth of the pouch is achieved in a neat even manner without more than the desired constriction of the mouth opening. All other fastenings are eliminated, for so long as the liner is in place the securing means of the liner when engaged with the receiving means of the pouch holds the pouch in desired position.

A somewhat modified manner of securing the liner in the pouch is illustrated in Fig. 10. Here no particular securing construction is applied to the end of the liner tabs. Instead, the tab 40 carried by the liner wall 41 has a portion extending up in back of the strip 12, a portion 42 extending down between the strips 12 and 13, another portion 43 extending up in front of the strip 13 and a terminating portion 44, which is turned down between the strips 12 and 13 in engagement with the upper part of the portion 42. This securing requires more working of the tab end to feed it around and between the strips, but it is also a fully effective manner of providing the necessary securing. It is of course applicable to both back and front as well as end tabs. Here again pushing downward on the liner tends to tighten rather than free the securing at the mouth of the pouch. This is due to the fact that as a first part of the tab 40 is pulled down, the tendency is to cause an upward pulling

action on the part 43. This pulls the strip 13 in towards the strip 12 and thus locks the parts together.

From the foregoing it will be apparent that, in accordance with the invention, the assembly and securing of liners within pouches is enhanced. Securing is effected in simple manner, which suggests itself to any user. Metallic fastenings and the unsightliness and other undesirable effects thereof are eliminated and the functioning of the pouch is facilitated. Also, the marketability of pouch refills are packages which also serve as replacement liners is enhanced.

Though the invention has been shown and described from the standpoint of certain structural details in which it is embodied, it is not however to be considered as being limited by such showing. Rather, as will be apparent to those skilled in the art, certain modifications or variations may be made in the structure as shown and described, without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention. It is, accordingly, intended that all matter contained in the above description and shown in the accompanying drawing shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A liner for a tobacco pouch in the form of an envelope formed of light weight flexible material comprising front and back portions, side portions and a bottom joining said front and back portions, tabs extending upwardly from the top edges of said front, back and side portions, said tabs being formed integrally with said portions and having the sides thereof separated from each other for the full height thereof, said envelope being formed with vertically extending corner edges between said portions and said sides of said tabs, throughout the length thereof, being spaced inwardly with respect to said vertical edges.

2. A liner as in claim 1 and including, at least one of said tabs adjacent the free end edge thereof being formed with securing means for securing the same in place in a pouch.

3. A tobacco pouch comprising an envelope formed of flexible material and including front and back portions, side portions and a bottom, said front and back and said side portions being joined in vertical corner edges and means for securing a liner in place in said pouch, said means including flexible strip material extending around the mouth of said pouch entirely within the upper end thereof, said strip material extending completely around said mouth and means for securing said strip material to said pouch at spaced positions.

4. A tobacco pouch as in claim 3 and said securing of said strip material being solely at said corner edges.

5. A tobacco pouch comprising an envelope formed of flexible material and including front and back portions, side portions and a bottom, said front and back and said side portions being joined in vertical corner edges, said side portions joining said front and back portions at vertically extending corners, means for securing a liner in place in said pouch, said means including a pair of overlapping strips of flexible material, said strips extending across one of said portions inside the mouth of said pouch and said strips being secured in place at said corner edges.

6. A tobacco pouch as in claim 5 and said strips extending all the way around the mouth of said pouch across all of said portions.

7. A tobacco pouch and a liner therefor, said pouch comprising a receptacle formed of wall portions meeting at corner edges, said receptacle having an open mouth, and means within said open mouth for maintaining a removable liner in place in said pouch, said maintaining means including strips of flexible material in opposed generally parallel relation to said wall portions and secured in place at said corners, said liner being formed as an envelope for reception within said pouch,

said envelope having portions extending upwardly from the sides thereof at the upper ends of said sides, said envelope being seated in said receptacle and said upwardly extending portions being turned over said flexible strips to retain said liner in place.

8. Tobacco pouch and liner as in claim 7 and said strips being double overlying strips, said upwardly extending portions being turned up over one of said double strips and down under the other.

9. Tobacco pouch and liner as in claim 8 and said upwardly extending portions terminating in securing means, said securing means embracing said other of said strips.

10. A liner for a tobacco pouch in the form of an envelope formed of light weight flexible material comprising front and back portions, side portions and a bottom joining said front and back portions, tabs extending upwardly from the top edges of said front, back, and side portions, said tabs being formed integrally with said portions and having the sides thereof separated from each other for the full height thereof, at least one of said tabs adjacent the free end edge thereof being formed with securing means for securing the same in place in a pouch, said securing means including spaced tongue means secured to said tab adjacent the free end edge thereof and extending in spaced parallel relation with respect to the face of said tab inwardly from said free end edge.

11. A liner for a tobacco pouch in the form of an envelope formed of light weight flexible material comprising front and back portions, side portions and a bottom joining said front and back portions, tabs extending upwardly from the top edges of said front, back and side portions, said tabs being formed integrally with said portions and having the sides thereof separated from each other for the full height thereof, at least one of said tabs adjacent the free end edge thereof being formed with securing means for securing the same in place in a pouch, said securing means including a spacer strip secured to one face of said tab along said free edge, a securing strip secured to said spacer strip on the opposite side thereof from said tab and said securing strip including a tongue portion extending inwardly from said spacer strip in opposed parallel relationship with respect to said face of said tab.

12. A liner for a tobacco pouch in the form of an envelope formed of light weight flexible material comprising front and back portions, side portions and a bottom joining said front and back portions, tabs extending upwardly from the top edges of said front, back and side portions, said tabs being formed integrally with said portions and having the sides thereof separated from each other for the full height thereof, at least one of said tabs adjacent the free end edge thereof being formed with securing means for securing the same in place in a pouch, said securing means including a spacer strip secured to one face of said tab along with said free edge, a securing strip secured to said spacer strip on the opposite side thereof from said tab, said securing strip including a tongue portion extending inwardly from said spacer strip in opposed parallel relationship with respect to said face of said tab, all of said tabs being provided with said securing means.

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